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March 8th is significant as we mark the 99th anniversary of the start of East Carolina. We invite you to join us this month on campus during [Founders Week](#), March 27th – April 1st. If you are unable to return for Founders Week activities, you can show your Pirate Pride by wearing purple and gold on March 8th, Founders Day. Also, we will be sending an invitation for you to share your memories of East Carolina; participants will have a chance to win four tickets to an ECU baseball game this spring. Watch your inbox on March 8th for more details.

ECU Today

ECU Today introduces potential students to East Carolina University and brings them face-to-face with orientation and admissions staff. We invite alumni to participate by being available to answer questions about your East Carolina experience and help recruit new ECU students from your area. For locations and dates of this month's ECU Today events, see the [calendar of events](#) below.

Podcasting and RSS XML

Podcasting and RSS feeds are now available! The East Carolina Alumni Association offers free subscriptions to news specifically related to Pirate alumni using RSS technology. In addition, the Pirate Nation can subscribe (free) to receive "podcasts" of the Association's weekly Radio show, *A Pirate's Life for Me!*, and our monthly Pirate Career Call series.

Pirate Career Calls

Do you feel under compensated? Need a raise? Did you land a job offer and want to get the highest salary possible? Then join us on March 8th at noon for the next Pirate Career Call: Salary and Raise Negotiation.

Pirate Career Calls are sponsored by the East Carolina Alumni Association and The Career

A Look Back

Founders Day

Founders Day was the culmination of a six year campaign to establish a normal school in eastern North Carolina. The first bill was submitted to the state legislature by James L. Fleming in 1901 to create a school in Elizabeth City which was summarily defeated. The debate and legislative process continued on until March 8, 1907 when the state legislature passed the East Carolina Teachers Training School charter and began the process by which the school was located in Greenville on July 11, 1907. 1932 saw the first celebration of Founders Day at the 25th anniversary. A day long homecoming event was scheduled with six of the original faculty in attendance. As we enter the Centennial year we look forward to Founders Day celebrations with students, faculty, alumni and friends




First faculty on steps of "old" Austin Building

Share Your Memories

[Our Greenville, Yours if You Come](#)




Center. Regardless of your location in the Pirate Nation we invite you to participate in this one-hour, toll-free teleconference. Each call covers a key job search issue. You will have the opportunity to gain insights, engage in discussion, and get answers to your questions on a different topic each month. You can participate in this program regardless of where you are in the Pirate Nation. The Career Call on April 6th will focus on [Landing Your Dream Job: Tips from a Leading Headhunter](#). For more information or to register for Pirate Career Calls, please click [here](#).

Want to hear previous Career Call Sessions? Click [here](#) to access our archives or subscribe to the podcast. 

Chancellor's Tour Travels to Rocky Mount/Wilson

The next stop on the Chancellor's Tour takes place on Tuesday, March 14th at the Rose Hill Plantation in Nashville, near Rocky Mount and Wilson. The Chancellor's Tour series offers area alumni the opportunity to meet Chancellor Steve Ballard and learn of his vision for the future of ECU. For more information and reservations click [here](#).

A Pirate's Life for Me!

Tune in to *A Pirate's Life for Me!* for interviews with alumni about their time at East Carolina as well as what they are doing today and how they got there. Shows air at 10 a.m. Saturdays on Pirate Radio 1250 and 930 AM and for those of you not in eastern North Carolina, you can listen live online at [PirateRadio1250.com](#). Visit the archives section of [PirateAlumni.com](#) to listen to past shows or subscribe to the *A Pirate's Life for Me!* podcast  to have them delivered to you.

March's guests include:

- March 11: Mike Noble '92, sports announcer and actor
- March 25: Wendy Miller '87, 2005-2006 NC Teacher of the Year

University Archives Centennial Exhibit Reception

You are invited to attend a reception for the opening of Part 1, "The Founding of an Institution" of University Archives Centennial Exhibit: "A Century of Educational Impact: A History of East Carolina University." This four-part exhibit is presented as a tribute to East Carolina's growth into a nationally recognized research university and will be displayed during the two-year centennial celebration. The opening reception will be held



This symbol was used in the campaign to have a college in Greenville.

Were you a part of an organization on campus that helped coordinate Founders Day celebrations at East Carolina? Do you have a special memory of Founders Day or did you interact with a campus leader and have a memory you would like to share with the ECU archivist? If so, send it to us at alumni@PirateAlumni.com

Alumni in The Spotlight

James Slack '95



James "Jimmy" Slack graduated in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and moved to the La Jolla, CA area following graduation. For the past ten years he has lived on the southern coast of California. Slack currently works for Applied Biosystems in support of their Cell Imaging system and covers the western U.S. and Canada.

He learned of the *Pirates of the Pacific* East Carolina

Tuesday, March 28th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Special Collections of Joyner Library. For more information, click [here](#).

Buccaneer Returns!

The official student yearbook, the Buccaneer, has returned after a 15-year hiatus. Students graduating in May 2006 will have their portraits taken for the yearbook, and all student organizations may have group pictures included. We are pleased to see the return of the Buccaneer as we rely on past yearbooks for information on the history of East Carolina, particularly as we prepare for reunions. If you have a student attending East Carolina and would like to learn more or purchase the yearbook, please visit the Buccaneer [Web site](#). Orders must be placed by April 24th!

News @ ECU

- Ewen Edits Book, Pens Chapter on the Archeology of Piracy... [\[More\]](#)
- ECU Community Celebrates Life of Coretta Scott King... [\[More\]](#)
- Anthropologist Studies Views of Law, Justice in China... [\[More\]](#)
- ECU and Turnage to form an Alliance... [\[More\]](#)

This Month's Events

March 1

ECU Night at UNC-TV

Research Triangle Park, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 2

Health Career Fair

Carol Belk Building, ECU

[\[More\]](#)

March 5

ECU Today — Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach, VA

[\[More\]](#)

March 8

Pirate Career Call — Salary and Raise Negotiation

Via Teleconference

[\[More\]](#)

March 10-12

ECU vs. Cal-State Fullerton Baseball Series

Fullerton, CA

[\[More\]](#)

March 11

University alumni chapter in 1997 from a hometown friend, and then acting chapter President, Keith McKabe '85. In 1999, Slack was asked to take over the helm of the *Pirates of the Pacific*. Since then, Slack has worked closely with the Alumni Association to build participation of alumni in California. Over the years he has hosted game watches and events in San Diego, Orange County, and L.A.

This month on March 10-12, the *Pirates of the Pacific* chapter has several **events** planned in conjunction with ECU's baseball team, the Diamond Pirates, series against Cal-State Fullerton. In addition to attending the games and an end-of series social, Jimmy will be hosting an alumni cookout on Saturday evening at his home in Solana Beach.

If you live in the San Diego area and are interested in gathering with fellow Pirates of the Pacific, please contact Jimmy at slackerjb@aol.com by **March 3** for more information about these and future alumni activities across California.

If you or a fellow Pirate have a special achievement you'd like to share with the Pirate Nation, please e-mail alumni@PirateAlumni.com

Alumni Achievements

Lt. Col. Jon Sweet '88

A Pirate's Life for Me!

Featured Guest: Mike Noble '92, sports announcer and actor

[\[More\]](#)

March 11**San Diego Alumni Cookout**

Solana Beach, CA

[\[More\]](#)

March 12**After-Series Social - ECU vs. Cal-State Fullerton**

Brea, CA

[\[More\]](#)

March 12**ECU Today — Charlotte**

Charlotte, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 13**ECU Today — Asheville**

Asheville, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 14**Retired Faculty Association Social**

Willis Building, ECU

[\[More\]](#)

March 14**Chancellor's Tour — Wilson/Rocky Mount**

Nashville, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 14**ECU Today — Hickory**

Hickory, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 15**ECU Today — Greensboro**

Greensboro, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 19**ECU Today — Raleigh/Durham**

Research Triangle Park, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 20**ECU Today — Fayetteville**

Fayetteville, NC

[\[More\]](#)

March 21**ECU Today — Wilmington**

Wilmington, NC

[\[More\]](#)



Jon Sweet '88 is originally from Concord, NC. He came to East Carolina in 1983 and walked on to the football program his freshman year. Sweet transferred to Boston University the next year, but says, "having realized the error of my ways, I returned to ECU the summer of 1986 on an Army ROTC Scholarship." Sweet majored in Business Administration, and graduated in August 1988. Following graduation Sweet was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in May 1988 and attended the Military Intelligence (MI) Officer Basic Course at Ft. Huachuca, AZ.

His first assignment was at Ft. Campbell, KY with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Sweet deployed with the Division to Saudi Arabia in 1991 during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After the MI Advance Course, he was stationed in Hawaii for three years with the 25th Infantry Division (Light).

He earned his Masters of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College in 1998, followed by a two year assignment with the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he worked POW/MIA recovery issues from the Vietnam War. Upon graduation from

March 25***A Pirate's Life for Me!***

Featured Guest: Wendy Miller '87, 2005-2006 NC Teacher of the Year

[\[More\]](#)

March 26**ECU Today — Vienna**

Vienna, VA

[\[More\]](#)

March 27**ECU Today — Annapolis**

Annapolis, MD

[\[More\]](#)

March 28**Retired Faculty Association Board Meeting**

Willis Building, ECU

[\[More\]](#)

For a complete list of all upcoming events, visit Events.PirateAlumni.com or for more information on chapter events, please contact Lucretia King at Lucretia.King@PirateAlumni.com or by calling 800-ECU-GRAD.

the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, KS in 2001, he returned to Ft. Campbell and was promptly sent to Bosnia for a six month deployment. He returned to the Division and promptly deployed back to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom for a year.

Sweet graduated from the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, VA in October 2004 and joined the Joint Staff in the Pentagon, where he works today.

Sweet was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on March 1, 2005, and was selected to command a battalion beginning July 2006.

Jon met his wife, Ronda, during their freshman year at ECU. Rhonda is from Fayetteville and majored in elementary education, graduating in December 1987. They were married three days after Rhonda's graduation. They have two children, Steven (15) and Rebecca (13).

Jon contacted us recently with his special achievement and stated that "everything I have today began at East Carolina, the foundation of my personal and professional successes." We congratulate Jon on his promotion and thank him for his service and for being an excellent representative for all East Carolina alumni.

If you or a fellow Pirate have a special achievement you'd like to share with the Pirate Nation, please e-mail alumni@PirateAlumni.com.

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