



East Carolina University | Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee Meeting | November 20, 2014
Agenda

- I. Approval of September 18, 2014 Minutes Action

- II. Health Sciences Division - Dr. Phyllis Horns Discussion
 - A. Legislative Update – Ms. Michelle Brooks

 - B. ECU Physicians Update
 - 1. ECU Physicians Financial Performance Update – Mr. Brian Jowers and Dr. Rick Niswander
 - 2. Progress on Hunter Partner’s Efficiency Recommendations – Mr. Brian Jowers and Dr. Nick Benson
 - 3. Update on Vidant Health CEO Search - Dr. Libby Baxley

 - C. Telepsychiatry Presentation - Dr. Sy Saeed

- III. Closed Session

- IV. Health Sciences Informational Updates Information
 - A. College of Allied Health Sciences
 - B. College of Nursing
 - C. School of Dental Medicine
 - D. Brody School of Medicine

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Steve Jones, Chair – Health Sciences Committee
Agenda Item	I.
Item Description	Approval of September 18, 2014 minutes
Comments	
Action Requested	Approval
Disposition	
Notes	

**Health Sciences Committee – Open Session
ECU Board of Trustees
September 18, 2014
Mendenhall Student Center**

Board Members Present:

Robert Brinkley
Edwin Clark
Mark Copeland
Deborah Davis
Vern Davenport
Steve Jones
Max Joyner
Carol Mabe
Bob Plybon

Others Present:

Michael Abramowitz
LaKasha Alston
Chancellor Ballard
Libby Baxley
Nick Benson
Bill Bagnell
Sylvia Brown
Greg Chadwick
Jody Cook
Paul Cunningham
Brian Floyd
Glen Gilbert
Phyllis Horns
Brian Jowers

Kathryn Kennedy
Chris Locklear
Cheryl Marsh
Ron Mitchelson
Rick Niswander
Lisa Ormond
Donna Payne
Marcy Romary
Mary Schiller
Mary Schulken
Dan Sweat
Steve Thomas
Stacie Tronto

Recorder: Cindy Reaves

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., and read the conflict of interest statement required by the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. The minutes of July 17, 2014 were approved.

College of Allied Health Sciences Update:

Dr. Thomas gave an update on the College of Allied Health Sciences. The enrollment and application data was shown and he reported pass rates of 100% in several departments for 2013 and 2014. New Certificate Programs that have been added are the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) certificate and Military and Trauma Counseling certificate. The new Research website features a monthly interview with a research faculty member from the College along with links to useful resources. The monetary total of awarded grants has increased significantly from 2013 to 2014. Dr. Horns announced his retirement party will be on October 13th and more information will be sent out to the Board.

Medical Malpractice Insurance:

A report from Internal Audit concluded that the complaint that the BSOM did not solicit bids for the School's malpractice insurance since 2002 did not reveal any evidence that the University's process for engaging an insurance broker and purchasing medical malpractice insurance violates any applicable statutes or policies. Due to the recommendations set forth from the audit findings, a Professional Liability Insurance Program and Plan was presented for approval by the Board of Trustees. Ms. Jody Cook presented an overview of the Program Plan which included the areas of authority, confidentiality, program management, program oversight, requests for proposals for brokerage services, requests for proposals for professional liability insurance, feasibility study for self-insured retention program, periodic reporting, and annual program evaluation.

Action Item:

A motion was made to approve the Professional Liability Insurance Program and Plan as presented to the Board with an amendment to add a sentence or clause to expressly allow for collaborative insurance arrangements. Motion Approved.

ECU Physicians Financial Performance Update:

Dr. Niswander and Mr. Jowers reviewed the financial year-to-date information as of the end of August 2014. The net income from operations is significantly better from last year. For FY 14-15, there is \$31.8M cash on hand covering 72.3 days. This will improve with the receipt of \$3M of UPL funds by October 31st. The ECU Physicians Practice Management Indicators showed improvements in several areas including a 42.7% change in pro-fee collections and 28.8% change in procedures as compared to August 2013.

Progress on Implementation of Hunter Partner's Report:

Mr. Jowers outlined the efficiency measures that are underway for ECU Physicians including activities with direct fiscal impact and clinical enterprise transformation activities.

Division Updates:

Additional informational updates on the College of Allied Health Sciences, College of Nursing, School of Dental Medicine, Laupus Library and the Brody School of Medicine were included in the board packets.

Closed Session:

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Jones that the Health Sciences Committee go into closed session. Ms. Davis read the motion to go into closed session:

1. Prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information);
2. Consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or conditions of appointment of one or more prospective and/or current employees and/or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against one or more individual employees;
3. Consult with an attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege; and
4. Prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to law or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, specifically to:
 - (a) Prevent the disclosure of financial terms and/or other competitive health care information directly related to the financial terms in a health care services contract between a hospital or medical school and a managed care organization, insurance company, employer, or other payer, as provided under N.C.G.S. § 131E-99; and
 - (b) Prevent disclosure of one or more reports regarding assessment of information technology networks under N.C.G.S. § 147-33.111 and to maintain the confidentiality information related to security features of networks and/or systems as provided in N.C.G.S. § 132-6.1(c).

Action: Motion passed.

At approximately 4:30 pm the meeting returned to Open Session.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Ms. Michelle Brooks, Director, Strategic Initiatives
Agenda Item	II. A.
Item Description	Legislative Update
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Mr. Brian Jowers, Executive Director, ECU Physicians Dr. Rick Niswander, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance
Agenda Item	II. Ó. 1.
Item Description	ECU Physicians Financial Performance Update
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Mr. Brian Jowers, Executive Director, ECU Physicians Dr. Nick Benson, Vice Dean, Brody School of Medicine
Agenda Item	II. Ó. 2.
Item Description	Progress on Hunter Partner's Efficiency Recommendations
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Dr. Libby Baxley
Agenda Item	II. B.3
Item Description	Update on Vidant Health CEO Search
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Dr. Sy Saeed, Chair, Department of Psychiatric Medicine
Agenda Item	II. Ô.
Item Description	Telepsychiatry Presentation
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	

Health Sciences Committee of the ECU Board of Trustees

November 20, 2014

CLOSED SESSION MOTION

I move that we go into Closed Session:

- 1. to prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information) and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; and**
- 2. to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or appointment of prospective and/or current employees and/or to hear or investigate a complaint or grievance by or against one or more employees.**

East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Dr. Phyllis Horns
Agenda Item	III.
Item Description	Closed Session
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion / Approval
Disposition	
Notes	

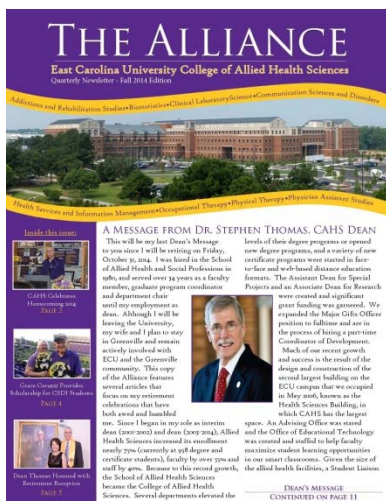
East Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 20, 2014

Session	Health Sciences Committee
Responsible Person	Dr. Phyllis Horns
Agenda Item	IV.
Item Description	Health Sciences Informational Updates
Comments	N/A
Action Requested	Discussion
Disposition	
Notes	A. College of Allied Health Sciences B. College of Nursing C. School of Dental Medicine D. Brody School of Medicine

ECU HEALTH SCIENCES BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES UPDATE

Following is the Health Sciences Division Board of Trustees update from the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) since the September 18, 2014 meeting.

Latest Issue of Alliance Newsletter Released



The latest issue of the Alliance quarterly newsletter was released Oct. 28. Along with several stories about recent College events, staff and student accomplishments, and updates, this issue also contains the final "Dean's Message" from Dr. Stephen Thomas before his retirement. You can view the latest edition by visiting <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/ah/upload/Alliance-Newsletter-Fall-14.pdf>

44th Annual Meta Downes Symposium a Sold-Out Success



The 44th Annual Meta M. Downes Speech-Language and Hearing Symposium was not only a great opportunity for those interested in the speech, language, and hearing fields but also a successful, sold-out event. With 247 students, professionals, and faculty registered to attend the symposium, held Oct. 17 in the East Carolina Heart Institute, a satellite location had to be added in the Health Sciences Building.

The annual event is truly a student-run event with the East Carolina University Chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) taking the helm in organizing raffle items, arranging speakers, and executing the symposium.

This year's event focused on developing evidence-based treatment for childhood articulation disorders and vocabulary and literacy development in Latino preschoolers. Those in attendance heard presentations from faculty members Dr. Lucia Mendez and Dr. Yolanda Holt, and also utilized the new information in development activities such as using the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association evidence map for speech sound disorders in children and discovering the impact of variations in classification of disorders on therapeutic approach.

The Meta M. Downes Speech-Language Hearing Symposium began in 1970 as the ECU Speech-Language Hearing Symposium. Following the death of dedicated faculty member Meta Downes, who had been with the Department for 36 years and advised the ECU Chapter

of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, the student organization voted to re-name the event in her honor in 2010.

The event is sponsored by the East Carolina University Chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) in cooperation with the ECU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and Eastern AHEC.

Dr. Brinkley Invited to Join Customer Advisory Board



Dr. Jason Brinkley, assistant professor in the Department of Biostatistics has been invited to join the Customer Advisory Board for the JMP division of SAS Institute. The JMP Customer Advisory Board is a 16 member panel that serves in a consultative role to provide feedback regarding future directions, product features, and marketing and communications initiatives. The board consists of 16 members mostly coming from industry with current representation from Procter & Gamble, Archer Daniels Midland, Pacific Gas & Electric, Eastman Chemical Company, Bank of America, GlaxoSmithKline, and others. Dr. Brinkley is only one of three university affiliates on this year's board. Responsibilities include conference calls and on site meetings which will feature demonstrations of new features in JMP, lively roundtable discussions about best practices in analytics, and the future of the analytic marketplace.

The College of Allied Health Sciences Celebrates Homecoming 2014



The College of Allied Health Sciences celebrated homecoming weekend at East Carolina University Oct. 3 with a reception held in the Health Sciences Building lobby with over 150 alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the College registered to attend. The event began with a reception in the lobby where guests were treated with a performance from the ECU women's a Capella group, The Magnolia Belles. Following welcoming remarks from Dean Stephen Thomas and Sydney Humphreys, student liaison to the Dean, Director of Development Pat Frede took the podium to present Dr. Thomas with a surprise. The CAHS Advancement Council along with the Medical and Health Sciences Foundation has renamed the Student Leadership Legacy Fund to the Dr. Stephen W. Thomas Leadership Legacy Student Fund. Dr. Thomas said he was made "speechless" by the honor and was grateful that a fund he feels so passionate about now holds his name.

Guests toured through the College and learned more about each department through presentations from faculty and students. Alumni also used the homecoming event to meet up with fellow members of their graduating class. The Department of Physical Therapy class of 1984 had a reunion after the general reception with around 20 members of the class and faculty from that time enjoying a tour of the PT labs before gathering for dinner.

Grace Williams Ceruzzi Creates Legacy of Learning for CSDI Students



Though she isn't an alumna, Grace Williams Ceruzzi recognized the passion of East Carolina University's alumni and faculty through her husband Frank's infectious love for his alma mater. Ceruzzi was so inspired by his generosity towards ECU and impressed with the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders' dedication to the field of speech pathology that she has established a scholarship for students concentrating in Assistive Technology Learning. By designating the Department as the recipient of a portion of a life insurance policy, Ceruzzi will assist others in a field of study that she served in for 49 years.

PA Students Receive Hands-On Training with New Patient Simulator



The Department of Physician Assistant Studies has added a new tool to its lab, the Laerdal SimMan Essentials patient simulator. This newest simulation tool effectively prepares PA students for their field by allowing them to act out patient scenarios in a controlled environment. The simulator, which has been named "Sammy" by the the PA department, can present several different types of symptoms including dilated pupils, increased heart rate, strange lung sounds, and many other diagnosable issues. With pulse points in five different locations, eyes that blink, and several other life-like features, "Sammy" is as "real" as a patient can be without actually being alive.

Once a faculty member has used the wireless, touch-screen monitor to give the simulator a certain ailment, PA students then actually perform a physical examination, diagnose the problem and carry-out a treatment plan. With this method of learning, PA students can learn skills hands-on such as how to intubate, treat a pneumothorax (collapsed lung), perform an intraosseous infusion into the bone marrow of the simulator's knee and chest, and administer drugs intravenously.

The patient simulator monitor tracks the heart rate, oxygen stats and blood pressure of the SimMan, similar to that of a hospital monitor. With this advanced technology, PA students are able to actually carry out diagnoses and treatments with a "patient" that reacts to their courses of action versus simply planning and discussing them.

Also with the monitor, faculty is able to change and customize the SimMan's condition at the touch of a button during the treatment, such as increasing his heart-rate, decreasing his oxygen levels or distending his abdomen.

With interchangeable and customizable parts, the SimMan can allow for several different types of scenarios that help prepare PA students for obstacles in the medical field, whether that is a swollen tongue making intubation difficult or a sudden need for CPR.

HSIM Collaborates with Four Universities for HI Career Fair and Symposium



Through a collaborative effort between the College of Allied Health Sciences Department of Health Services and Information Management, Duke Center for Health Informatics, East Carolina University College of Business, the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central University, the Carolina Health Informatics Program at University of North Carolina, and the Health Informatics Professional Science program at UNC-Charlotte, 239 registrants and 23 exhibitors attended the Health Informatics Career Fair and Symposium at the EC Heart Institute Oct. 24.

Spear-headed by the Department of Health Services and Information Management at ECU (HSIM), this event provided a venue for students and the general public to learn about practicum opportunities, the latest research trends and developments in health industries and job opportunities in the health informatics field. At the fair, students also had the opportunity to meet and get to know potential employers.

Along with hearing from keynote speaker Lynne Thomas Gordon, chief executive officer of the American Health Information Management Association, those in attendance participated in panel discussions on topics such as transitioning into health informatics, careers in health informatics and perspectives in health informatics. Panelists and moderators included faculty from all participating universities as well as employers and students.

East Carolina University
College of Nursing Updates
November 2014

- The College will host visitors on November 5-7 for evaluation to re-accredit its baccalaureate and masters degree programs and post-masters certificates, and to accredit its doctor of nursing practice program. The visitors will be representing the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the accrediting body associated with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.
- A self-study was submitted to CCNE on September 24 for re-accreditation purposes. Faculty and staff have undertaken a variety of additional activities in preparation for the college's accreditation, including updating student and faculty handbooks and preparing numerous documents for the visitors' resource room.
- The college held a ceremony and dinner at the Greenville Hilton Hotel on September 5 to honor scholarship donors and recipients. One hundred and four students received scholarships totaling \$220,070 for the 2014-2015 academic year. Read more at <http://bit.ly/1tdYgS6>.
- Homecoming festivities at the College were highlighted by a reunion among members of our first graduating class. In addition to a reception and a parade-watching party, members of the first class were invited to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation at a special luncheon. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/1tdYFnt>.
- Visit the College of Nursing's new website at www.nursing.ecu.edu. Launched September 12, the website was reorganized for easier navigation and redesigned to include more photos and to improve user friendliness. It was created through partnership between college staff, ECU Creative Services and ITCS.
- Our faculty and students are part of the solution to the problem of unsafe drinking water in Guatemala, where more infant and child illness and deaths can be attributed to unsafe drinking water than any other cause. Faculty and students work to bring water filtration systems to families there. See a new video highlighting the project at <http://bit.ly/1n2S0qG>.

Students also have partnered with Wilson elementary school children on the project. More on that effort in a recent newspaper article at <http://bit.ly/ZsYavo>.

- The college launched its newly redesigned e-newsletter, *Pirate Nurse Notes*, which was sent to more than 3,600 faculty, alumni and friends on October 28. See the publication at www.bit.ly/PNNfall2014.
- The North Carolina Nurses Association honored Assistant Clinical Professor Wanda Lancaster on October 9. She received the 2014 Eunice M. Smith Scholarship, which was created to support nurses who pursue additional education.
- The College of Nursing Hall of Fame recognizes the accomplishments of exemplary nursing leaders. We are accepting nominations for 2015 inductees until November 1. More on the Hall of Fame is available at www.nursing.ecu.edu/HOF.cfm.

East Carolina University
School of Dental Medicine (SoDM)
ECU Board of Trustees Update
November 2014

Community Service Learning Centers

Ribbon cutting ceremonies to officially open three more community service learning centers in underserved areas of North Carolina are scheduled on these dates:

December 2, 2014 – CSLC-Robeson County

December 15, 2014 – CSLC-Davidson County

January 30, 2015 – CSLC-Spruce Pine

Community service learning centers are serving patients daily in Ahoskie, Elizabeth City, Lillington, and Sylva. A CSLC is scheduled to open in Brunswick County in spring 2016.

Another Milestone

Faculty and students added orthodontic screening and treatment to the list of services provided in the Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics Clinic in Ross Hall in October. Though the school focuses on educating primary care dentists, students receive hands-on experience in most areas of specialization.

Recent Speakers

Dr. Gloria C. Mejia of the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health, School of Dentistry, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia, spoke on *“Dental Visiting: Unequal. Inequitable. What Next?”*

Dr. Lorena Baccaglini of the Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, presented *“Top 10 Applications of Epidemiology to Clinical Practice.”*

Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi of Nova Southern University, College of Dental Medicine, Fort Lauderdale, FL, presented *“Levels of Evidence Based Clinical Knowledge and Attitudes Among Dentist on Appropriate Use of Pit and Fissure Sealants.”*

Research

Dr. Raymond Dionne, research professor, School of Dental Medicine and Brody School of Medicine; Dr. Cory Brewer, Brody School of Medicine; and Dr. Stefan Clemens, Brody School of Medicine, received a seed grant to conduct the study *Proof-of-Concept Evaluation of Dopamine D3 Receptor Modulation of Opioid*

Tolerance in a Clinical Model of Pain and Analgesia that will be a first-in-humans study evaluating the translational potential of a D3 receptor agonist to ameliorate the development of tolerance to opioid drugs.

Dr. Sharon Gordon, associate dean for research and chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences, received a seed grant from the American Association of Women Dentists to conduct a project: *Investigating Risk Factors for Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction*.

East Carolina University

Board of Trustees

Health Sciences Committee

Brody School of Medicine Updates and Highlights

October 31, 2014

Education

- Dr. Walter Pories, professor of Surgery, Kinesiology, and Biochemistry at Brody, was elected to serve as Second Vice President of the American College of Surgeons.
- According to a recent American Association of Medical Colleges annual survey, 97% of the 2014 graduates of Brody School of Medicine report being satisfied overall with their medical education, as compared with 87% of graduates of all US medical schools.
- Current M4 (senior) medical students are busy with applications to residency programs and interviewing at selected sites. We are optimistic for an excellent match year for these students.
- Brody's Interprofessional Patient Safety and Simulation program is growing dramatically – in the 2013-2014 academic year, the center saw over 8,000 encounters with learners from the Brody School of Medicine; our graduate medical education/residency programs; Vidant Medical Center employees as part of their continuing education; and outside entities, such as Pitt Community College and local EMS and military groups. We are seeking to expand the business model to support further growth of this method of training medical and other health professions students.
- Our REACH (Redesigning Education to Accelerate Change in Healthcare) Initiative's Teachers of Quality Academy is nearing the end of its first year, and 29 faculty from BSOM, the College of Nursing and the College of Allied Health are completing their quality improvement projects and beginning to design elements of the medical school's newly planned curriculum. This effort is being supported through a \$1 million grant from the American Medical Association.
- Brody educational leaders and faculty, with support from the Executive Curriculum Committee, are working on the development of Distinction Tracks. These tracks will allow interested and qualified students to select from one of four areas of added emphasis in their training and complete additional course and project-related work that would result in earning distinction at the time of graduation. The Distinction Tracks under development are: Research, Community Service, Medical Education, and Healthcare Transformation and Leadership

Research

- After several years of suspended activity, The Brody Brothers again received applications to fund research projects. More than 20 applications requesting a total of more than \$700,000 were submitted. Approximately \$250,000 in awards were made.
- In the recent "Three Minute Thesis" competition, Brody Ph.D. students were selected as 3 of the six finalists. Both the judges' grand champion (Nate Holland, Physiology) and the "audience champion" (DanLadin, Pharmacology and Toxicology) were BSOM doctoral candidates. Nate will advance to represent ECU at regional competitions.
- Dr. Warren Knudson, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, was awarded a \$356,950 grant from the National Institutes of Health to study genetic mechanisms that could influence self-repair of osteoarthritic cartilage tissue.
- Drs. Dave Brown, Department of Physiology, and S. Raza Shaikh, Department of Biochemistry, recently landed a \$366,744 grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate new ways to protect the heart during a heart attack. Both researchers are members of the East Carolina Diabetes and Obesity Institute.
- An emphasis on scientific collaboration has taken hold in research labs around the world and across ECU. Called research networks, they are helping scientists solve more complex problems and gain research funding by bringing together experts in disparate fields who work together to answer specific questions. Examples at the Brody School of Medicine include biochemistry professors Tonya Zeczycki and Lance Bridges collaborating across disciplines in their research on inactive enzymes in the human body; and biochemist Joe Chalovich teaming up with chemists Anne Spuches, Yumin Li and others to study calcium binding in heart muscle.
- 16 medical students and 6 residents/fellows made research presentations at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Medical Society. In judging, BSOM students placed 1st (Dioval Remonde) and 3rd (Vanessa Dorismond and Jason Yan) in the student competition, and BSOM/Vidant residents placed 2nd (Dr. Anthony Mozer) and 3rd (Dr. Julie Gauss) in the resident research competition.



Clinical Practice

- The ECU Physicians Neurosurgery practice was successfully transferred to Vidant Medical Center in October.
- A well-attended Internal Town Hall was conducted to address questions of the faculty and staff regarding transformations at the Brody School of Medicine. A recording of the internal Town Hall meeting and additional questions were posted on the regularly updated “Preserving the Mission” webpage: <http://www.ecu.edu/news/preservingthemission.cfm>
- Forty-seven physicians from the Brody School of Medicine have been chosen by their peers for inclusion in the 2014 “Best Doctors in America” list. The annual list is compiled by Best Doctors Inc., a Boston-based group that surveys more than 45,000 physicians across the United States who previously have been included in the listing, asking whom they would choose to treat themselves or their families. Approximately 5% of the physicians who practice in the United States make the annual list. A partial list of the state’s best doctors will be in the December issue of “Business North Carolina” magazine.
- ECU Physicians plans to transition the gastroenterology clinical service to Vidant Medical Center in December 2014.
- Productive negotiations continue with Vidant regarding cardiovascular sciences. The plan is to transition cardiovascular sciences in April 2015.

Community Service

- Dr. Charlie Sang Jr., pediatric cardiologist, and Dr. Koh Takeuchi, pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon, provided life-altering surgery/cardiac care to two Bolivian children through a partnership with the Samaritan’s Purse Heart Project. The international organization matches children around the world who need heart surgery but don’t have access to it in their home countries with medical centers that can provide the surgery.
- Drs. Bill Oliver and Peter Kragel, Department of Pathology, were interviewed by WNCT for a segment on N.C. legislators’ proposed improvements to the state’s medical examiner system.
- ECU Physicians psychotherapist Sean Pumphrey was interviewed by The Daily Reflector for an article about the common causes of teen suicide and possible warning signs.
- The Brody Office of Health Access, in partnership with Eastern AHEC hosted two conferences to educate eastern North Carolina providers about Accountable Care Organizations. Over 140 people registered and attended the events held in Greenville and New Bern.
- Experts from East Carolina University offered their perspectives on Ebola during a panel discussion open to the public. Participants from Brody School of Medicine included Dr. Paul Cook, Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, and Kristina Simeonsson, Public Health.