

gila gram

EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE

EAC & ASU Kick Off New Partnership

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Scholarships

at the Eastern Arizona College Foundation

The Eastern Arizona College Foundation was created in 1967 to support the success of the College and help bring financial support to its students and programs. Through the years, the primary focus has been scholarship assistance for students. This has meant financial assistance to thousands of students since 1967.

Scholarship assistance at Eastern comes in several different ways. A couple of times each year, the Foundation sends appeals by mail sharing the need for scholarship funds. Sometimes these mailings ask for support of our general scholarship fund and other times they are for a specific project like scholarships for the nursing program. An envelope has also been added to the GilaGram newsletters to provide a convenient opportunity for alumni and friends of the College to support student scholarships.

A number of individuals, service clubs, and businesses have expressed the desire to sponsor a scholarship on an annual basis. They have established scholarship criteria with the EAC Foundation, including a selection committee such as the Alumni Association Scholarship committee or EAC faculty. They send a donation annually and a student is chosen each year who meets the criteria. The scholarship donors are able to meet the recipients and receive updates on their progress at school, as well as attend recognition events here on campus.

Some donors have chosen to create "endowment" scholarships. In these cases, larger donations are made to the Foundation. The endowment assets are invested such that scholarships are funded from only earnings on the investments. This enables the scholarship to continue in perpetuity—honoring the individual(s) the donor wished to name with the establishment of the scholarship.

Recently, three new scholarships were established: The Dennis Braithwaite Memorial Scholarship, the Paul Lemons

Memorial Scholarship, and the National Bank of Arizona Scholarship.

Dennis Braithwaite Memorial Scholarship

The Dennis Braithwaite Memorial Scholarship was funded by a life insurance policy naming the EAC Foundation as one of its beneficiaries. This scholarship will provide tuition assistance to students majoring in vocal music. Recipients are chosen by the music faculty and should exhibit an enthusiastic love for music, people, and life. They should demonstrate active involvement in musical and other organizations and maintain a 2.5 gpa.

This scholarship is an endowed scholarship that will be awarded year after year with earnings from the original donation.

The Dennis Braithwaite family loved their experiences with the EAC Choral program and the College. Dennis played the organ to accompany the audiences of many EAC Commencement programs as they sang the Alma Mater.

The Paul Lemons Memorial Scholarship

The Paul Lemons Memorial Scholarship was started by friends and family of Paul Lemons. Paul was a member of the Class of 1953. He had a memorable experience at Eastern, including playing football. He enjoyed returning to campus for reunions and was a regular supporter of student scholarships. The scholarship was created because of his love for the school and a desire to help other students obtain the wonderful opportunities available.

Paul served as a teacher, administrator and superintendent in Morenci and Miami, Arizona. Accordingly, the Paul Lemons Memorial Scholarship will give preference to students from Miami and Morenci. This scholarship is annually funded with

expectations that a student from both Miami and Morenci will receive the award each year.

The National Bank of Arizona Scholarship

The National Bank of Arizona Scholarship was started because the bank was very interested in partnering with people and organizations in projects that improve the quality of life in our communities. The bank was created with an emphasis on



The National Bank of Arizona has established a new business scholarship to assist Eastern Arizona College students to achieve a degree in business. Pictured here, from left, are bank employees Suzan Fonda, Vicki Rolfson, Lisa Clifford, Crystal Torrio, Dulce Fajardo, Connie Ciancimino, Angelina Romero, Marietta Berryhill, and Tami Evans.

building local relationships and providing great customer service.

Funded annually, this scholarship provides business students a full tuition scholarship at EAC. Preference is given to students who exhibit financial need and who are continuing at Eastern for their sophomore year.

We wish to thank all those who make scholarships possible at Eastern Arizona College. Whether you contribute through our annual fundraising drive or sponsor a scholarship directly, your assistance is greatly appreciated. Most students attending Eastern are from backgrounds that require financial aid to make a college education a reality. With your generosity we have been able to provide the life-changing opportunity of education to many students. Thanks again for sharing.

Class of 1962

50th Year Reunion

Remember Hot Springs? Picnics? Snow hikes on Mt. Graham? Come join alumni and friends who attended EAC from Fall 1960 through Spring 1962. The date is Friday, May 11, 2012, so mark your calendars and head this way. Whether you graduated or attended even one semester, come back and renew friendships made so many years ago. Catch up on the last 50 years with your classmates and see the many changes that have been made to campus.

The day will be full of exciting events. The class will have the opportunity to participate in the EAC Alumni Association Banquet and be honored at the 2012 Commencement ceremony. For questions or to receive a reunion packet, please call (928) 428-8295, (800) 445-2472, or email alumni@eac.edu.



EAC CELEBRATES ITS 75TH DIAMOND JUBILEE

MESSIAH PERFORMANCE

On Sunday, Dec. 18, 1936, eighty-two singers presented Handel's Messiah in the old Thatcher LDS Church located on the corner of Church Street and College Avenue. This was a bold undertaking for musicians in rural Arizona, but the love of music has been a part of the culture of the Gila Valley

the EAC Symphony Orchestra combined under the baton of Dr. Bruce W. Bishop to continue this holiday tradition. EAC A Cappella Choir, Men's Chorus, and vocalists from the Gila Valley rehearsed throughout Nov. to prepare the challenging choruses. Soloists from the College and the community sang the recitatives

and arias that present the drama of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Choir alumni were invited to the performance and encouraged to bring music to the "Hallelujah" chorus. Dr. David Lunt took the podium while that movement was performed, and directed all those who knew the "Hallelujah" chorus in the audience as they

to sing. It was really exciting to me." She was invited to join the Messiah choir during her junior year in high school. "I was so excited to think that I could sing Messiah. I loved it from the first time that I heard it." Mrs. Whetten has sung continuously in the Gila Valley performance of Messiah since 1939, "except for three years when we lived in New Mexico and one other year right after I had a baby. I sang as many times as I could." Eunice Whetten once again took her place on stage in the alto section for the performance.

The community was invited to make Messiah part of their Christmas tradition. Messiah was performed as a gift to the Gila Valley without charge. Those in attendance to this packed house were treated to a wonderful evening of Christmas tradition and fantastic talent.



The community choir readies for the Dec. 1941 performance of Handel's Messiah in the old LDS church across the street from the College.

from the time settlers first arrived. That bold undertaking has continued and even flourished to become one of the longest running traditions of *Messiah* performances west of the Mississippi River. Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011, marked the 75th annual performance of this beloved master work in the Gila Valley. Area singers and

joined the orchestra and stage choir. Eunice Whetten, long-time Thatcher resident, was in attendance at the first performance. "I sat on the benches along the side of the chapel because I could hear better there," she said. "I remember attending Messiah for several years before I was old enough



EAC & ASU kick off partnership

Partnership provides new model for bachelor's degree completion in Arizona

The EAC Fine Arts Auditorium was filled nearly to capacity last week, as EAC welcomed Arizona State University to campus in celebration of the new partnership between the two colleges.



ASU President Michael Crow speaks at the kickoff event for the new partnership between EAC and ASU.

Speakers at the EAC-ASU partnership kickoff event included EAC President Mark Bryce, ASU President Michael Crow, EAC Provost Jeanne Bryce, ASU Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Elizabeth Capaldi, and ASU Vice Provost Dr. Maria Hesse.

President Bryce told the crowd, "We live in an age with great challenges, but we also live in an age with the greatest opportunities. A great education will [help you] take advantage of those opportunities and allow you to make a difference for the positive."

"For ASU, the agreement is about access, meeting community needs and improving

the state of Arizona," said Crow.

"We are here to help expand access to education in Arizona," Crow said. "ASU is committed to the success of the state, the community and to this college."

Students will be able to complete several bachelor's degrees entirely on-site at EAC's Thatcher campus, starting with two degrees in the fall of 2012. A bachelor of science degree in nursing (BSN) and a bachelor of interdisciplinary studies (BIS) in organizational studies are the initial offerings.

"For nursing, we set up this program with an eye on students currently enrolled at EAC," said Hesse. "But we also want to attract local nurses who are interested in going back to school to

get a BSN and continue with their education."

"The BIS degree is good for business organizations, faith-based organizations, non-profits and government," said Capaldi. In the fall of 2013, two additional degrees – one in elementary education and another in operations management – will be added.

Over time, students will have the option to complete

their associate and bachelor's degrees at EAC in nursing, business/organizational studies, elementary education, operations management, and more. All of these majors have been specifically targeted to address employment needs in eastern Arizona.

"EAC provides high quality college programs in beautiful facilities, with wonderful faculty," said Hesse. "By sharing resources, we can offer the degrees at a lower cost so we anticipate this new model will be appreciated by parents and community leaders."

Playing off the two schools mascots (Sun Devils and the Fighting Gila Monsters), Crow added, "Monsters and Devils are finally together."

For more information about the ASU-EAC partnership and the degree programs available, visit transfer.asu.edu/eac.



EAC President Mark Bryce and ASU President Michael Crow. The partnership between the two schools will help bring on-site Pac-12 quality bachelor's degrees to EAC students.

Monster Alumnotes



Melvin Hannah, '58, Phoenix, Arizona, attended Arizona State College (Northern Arizona University) on a football scholarship after graduating from EAC. He was starting fullback for the undefeated Lumberjack team that played in the NAIA National Championship in Florida in 1958. Mel Hannah has over 35 years of involvement in a variety of community outreach and citizen advocacy issues. These

experiences began in 1973 after being the first African American elected to serve on the Flagstaff, Arizona, City Council, (elected to three, four-year terms). Subsequently, by serving on the Coconino County Board of Supervisors, concurrent with his elected positions in Flagstaff, Mel served as Assistant Director for the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG). As assistant director,

Mel had program responsibilities for a majority of NACOG's human services programs, such as Community Action Agency, Title XX Planning, Area Agency on Aging, Job Training and Employment, and the Affirmative Action Office. After relocating to Phoenix in the early 90s, Mel worked for the Greater Phoenix Urban League 14 years before retiring as the Director of Community Outreach and Job Development.

Monster Alumnotes

Currently, Mel is a consultant in a variety of governmental and private endeavors under the banner of his company of which he is founder and CEO, Hannah and Associates.

Melvin is currently involved in numerous community affiliations such as the Arizona African American Leadership and Legislative Council, the City of Phoenix, Environmental Quality Commission, and Arizona Fair Housing Center, to name a few. He is married to **Shirley R. Stingley, '71**.

John Mitchell, '71, began his football career at EAC playing positions on both offensive and defensive lines from 1969-1970. He was named a Junior College All-American in each of his two years as a Gila Monster. While at EAC, Mitchell was able to add the physical bulk he was lacking to play at the Division I level, and received an associate degree in social work.

Based on his performance at Eastern Arizona College and his increase in size, he was recruited by several major Division I programs and eventually chose the University of Alabama where he played for legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. He was recruited by Bryant, even though at the time, Alabama had no African American players on their roster. "He had to be pretty strong just to walk in not knowing what was going to happen when he got there," said Jeff Beard, who played with Mitchell on Alabama's defensive line. "And I guess the way integration had gone in Alabama, he would have had a right to be reluctant." Mitchell played all 24 games during his two seasons at Alabama and earned a bachelor's degree in social welfare.

Despite his success on the field, John is most known for his coaching career. Shortly after graduating he was offered a full-time coaching position by Coach Bryant at Alabama. After gaining valuable experience under Bryant, Mitchell accepted a position at the University of Arkansas as defensive coordinator under another well-respected coach, Lou Holtz. Mitchell worked at the University of Arkansas for five years.

Mitchell would later go on to coach at Temple University in Philadelphia for one year, and Louisiana State for two years before taking a position with the Cleveland Browns from 1991-94.

From Cleveland, Mitchell was hired by the Pittsburgh Steelers where he continues to coach today. He is in his 18th season as the Pittsburgh Steelers' defensive line coach/assistant head coach, making him the longest tenured member of the Steelers' coaching staff.

Mitchell plans to retire in the next few years and return with his wife, Joyce, to Birmingham, Alabama, where he can go watch the University of Alabama play football.

"I'm going to drive down there to Tuscaloosa, watch them play, sit in the stands, eat a hot dog, yell and scream," he said. "It will be great."

Susan A. Holland, '81, received high honors when she graduated from EAC earning an AA degree. She continued her education and received a BA in anthropology from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, in 1984. Then it was on to Pima Community College in Tucson, where she received a certificate in archaeology fieldwork.

Susan has enjoyed a very rewarding career traveling while doing fieldwork, lab work, and research in the Great Plains, the western and southwestern US, and Hawaii. Years of research resulted in the 2010 publication of her book, *Symbolism of Petroglyphs*

and Pictographs Near Mountainair, New Mexico: Gateway to Ancient Cities.

Susan is semi-retired and lives in her native home of Topeka, Kansas. She is indebted to Tom Scott who was her advisor at EAC and encouraged her to return to school and pursue her interest in archaeology.

Neal Williams, '86, Highland, Utah, recently sold his company, Corda,

to Domo Technologies. He is now a member of Domo's board of directors and serves as chief strategist. Neal is responsible for identifying new and emerging technologies that enhance and extend their service capabilities. An entertaining funeral was held for his company, Corda, as employees celebrated their change to the new company name. It's available on YouTube searching, "Corda funeral."

Kim Fowler Johnson, '89, recently graduated with distinction from Northern Arizona University where she received her master's degree in secondary education. Kim currently teaches at a junior high school in Chandler, Arizona, where she also serves as the special education department chair. She lives in Chandler with her husband and five children.

Susan Marshall, '01, Vero Beach, Florida, graduated from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona, Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in nursing in October of 2011. She has been employed with the Visiting Nursing Association for over nine years in Vero Beach. She is a nationally certified hospice and

palliative care nurse. Susan and her husband, Peter, recently celebrated her graduation and their 30th wedding anniversary by taking a trans-oceanic cruise.

Czerina Garcia, '07, graduated last May from Arizona State University with a master's degree in nonprofit studies. Czerina is now working for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



Czerina Garcia, '07, with Dr. Carl Yoshioka, Brian Spicker and April Maguire (Photo courtesy of ASU)

Phyllis Haynie Mortensen, '51, Orem, Utah, is 80 years young and was a freshman and homecoming queen during the 1949-50 school year. She is from Pima; her husband from Virden, New Mexico. They met while attending Eastern Arizona Junior College.

Daniel Mortensen, '06, Albany, California,

recently graduated from Brigham Young University with a bachelor of science in chemistry. He shares, "I feel very appreciative of my time at EA. While there I worked as a TA for Joel Shelton in general chemistry. It was there that I first got a taste for becoming a chemist. Also, I would like to point out, that when I was at BYU, I mentioned EA to a couple of chemistry professors who immediately recognized it as the work place of **Phil McBride, '84**, who had just received an award for excellence in teaching. Both Dr. McBride and Mr. Shelton helped influence me to become a chemist. The

experience I gained as a TA at EA helped me to become a TA at BYU and pay for my schooling. Also, my transcript from EA got me full tuition scholarship for my first year at BYU."

Daniel was a lead author in a study published in a

respected chemistry journal and is now studying in one of the world's top chemistry programs at University of California Berkeley.

He is currently researching the life time of an electrospray droplet. This is a tiny droplet, usually of water or methanol, that helps carry molecules of interest into a mass spectrometer.



Phyllis Mortensen, '51, (center) is pictured with her daughter, Kathleen Mortensen Arnett, and son-in-law, Larry.

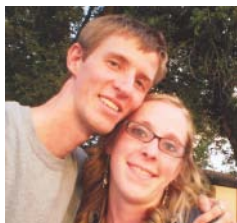
Wedding Bells Rang

July 9, 2011—Allyson Vaughan & **Billy Orr, '04**
 July 9, 2011—**Rebecca Willis, '11** & Casey Jones
 July 9, 2011—**Megan Ashley Hall, '08** & **Ryan David Rood, '08**
 July 15, 2011—**Leseli June Pearson, '10** & **Jared Ritter Judd, '11**
 July 22, 2011—**Deserai Webb, '11** & **Carson Hatch, '11**
 July 30, 2011—**Jessica Stacy, '05** & **Adrian Aguilera, '04**
 Aug. 5, 2011—**Caroline Perkins, '11** & Tevis Esplin
 Aug. 6, 2011—**Krisanna T. Watson, '11** & **Marcus A. Clonts, '11**
 Aug. 13, 2011—**Darleen Weech, '09** & Jonathan Frost
 Aug. 13, 2011—**Natalie Jean Allred, '10** & **Cheston Thatcher, '11**
 Sept. 1, 2011—**Lisa Hancock, '06** & Jeremiah Heath
 Sept. 2, 2011—Kelsey Marie Carpenter & **Jason Whetten, '10**
 Sept. 10, 2011—**Audrey Kartchner, '07** & Nickolas Carpenter
 Sept. 10, 2011—**April M. Thomas, '02** & Seth Redding
 Sept. 10, 2011—**Shelby Hockersmith, '07** & Jeffrey Boothe
 Sept. 10, 2011—**Pamela Rininger, '11** & **Christopher Morris, '08**
 Sept. 10, 2011—**April M. Adams, '11** & David E. Carpenter

Sept. 12, 2011—**Louisa C. Perea, '06** & Michael S. Overall
 Sept. 30, 2011—Nellie Garcia Campos & **Arlen E. Rennels, '93**
 Oct. 1, 2011—**Mindy L. Knight, '04** & J. Everett Knight
 Oct. 7, 2011—**Aleisha B. Johnson, '10** & Shane Dunn
 Oct. 8, 2011—**Lyndee L. Hancock, '08** & **Sterling Chad Beus, '07**
 Oct. 8, 2011—**Stephanie J. Lunt, '09** & **Ashton P. Allen, '11**
 Oct. 29, 2011—**Amanda Smith, '03** & Jake Black
 Nov. 11, 2011—**Amanda Lunt, '05** & Brandon Burnham
 Nov. 11, 2011—**Daron Shiflet, '11** & Kaitlyn Baker
 Nov. 19, 2011—**Tori Rye, '12** & **Jarom Burell, '11**
 Nov. 26, 2011—**Orinda A. Herring, '02** & **Lane A. Mullenau, '05**
 Dec. 23, 2011—**Heather N. Vaughn, '12** & **Garrett Rhodes, '11**
 Dec. 29, 2011—**Aryianna T. Vincent, '12** & **Tucker L. Brown, '12**
 Dec. 30, 2011—**Shaka Orr, '09** & **Morgan Seale, '09**
 Dec. 31, 2011—Jillian K. Curtis & **David K. Claridge, '10**
 Dec. 31, 2011—**Mackenzie Fields, '12** & **Stanley K. Crockett, '12**
 Dec. 31, 2011—**Allison Goss, '12** & **Stuart Bjarnson, '12**



Tori Rye, '12 & Jarom Burell, '11



Allison Goss, '12 & Stuart Bjarnson, '12



Amanda Smith, '03 & Jake Black



Stanley K. Crockett, '12 & Mackenzie Fields, '12

In Memoriam

Layton Byron Jones, '33—June 15, 2011
 James O. Segreaves, '86—July 3, 2011
 Lawrence Paul Lemons, '53—July 4, 2011
 Edward J. Postek, '91—July 5, 2011
 Evans Kitcheyan, '58—July 6, 2011
 John Lamar Mosley, '54—July 6, 2011
 Thomas Benjamin Blair, '80—July 14, 2011
 Otto G. Santa Anna, '80—July 16, 2011
 Boyd Linn Crick, '97—July 21, 2011
 Leigh Ann Trammell, '99—July 24, 2011
 B. Harry Goodman, '36—July 27, 2011
 Isaac J. High, '68—Aug. 2, 2011
 Thella Elizabeth Hancock Montierth, '24—Aug. 2, 2011
 Verna Rae Cluff Colvin, '71—Aug. 7, 2011
 Annette C. Simon, '89—Aug. 10, 2011
 Jerry Mortensen, '51—Aug. 18, 2011
 Ozella Sartin Hale, '70—Aug. 19, 2011
 Lawrence D. Sabin, '83—Aug. 21, 2011
 James L. Wiler, '75—Aug. 30, 2011
 Alva J. Bishop, '68—Aug. 31, 2011
 Clint Merrell, '67—Sept. 4, 2011
 Mildred Cluff Kerby, '36—Sept. 8, 2011
 Bobby Joe Wolfe, '06—Sept. 8, 2011
 Ellen J. Hansen Allen, '43—Sept. 14, 2011
 Mark W. Lundell, '73—Sept. 19, 2011
 Charles Ruck, '57—Sept. 19, 2011

Harriet Carter Felix, '67—Sept. 21, 2011
 Andrew Louis Monfred, '69—Sept. 23, 2011
 JoDean Blair Glover, '38—Sept. 26, 2011
 John David Gray, '65—Oct. 1, 2011
 Armando Ogas, '69—Oct. 1, 2011
 Thomas William Smith, '85—Oct. 2, 2011
 Yolanda Moreno Ibarra, '72—Oct. 7, 2011
 Helen Kathryn "Sue" Forsyth, '52—Oct. 15, 2011
 Henry DeVar Saline, '83—Oct. 16, 2011
 Junior Hugh "Butch" Martin, '49—Oct. 24, 2011
 David Henry Aston, '89—Oct. 25, 2011
 Del Scott Adams, '70—Oct. 31, 2011
 Gary Charles Kish, '52—Nov. 4, 2011
 Mary L. Ramsey Teague, '89—Nov. 5, 2011
 Debra "Debbie" Patten, '98—Nov. 8, 2011
 Frances "Fran" P. Hoffman, '94—Nov. 9, 2011
 Gilbert Ramos Jaquez, '82—Nov. 13, 2011
 Stephen Lynwood Mann, '68—Nov. 13, 2011
 David Isidoro Vizcarra, '70—Nov. 23, 2011
 Roger R. Ramirez, '62—Dec. 3, 2011
 Orion K Wilkins, '96—Dec. 7, 2011
 William Amos Packer, '54—Dec. 8, 2011
 Mary Costner Merrell, '49—Dec. 16, 2011
 Farrel Ralph "Jake" Layton, '57—Dec. 20, 2011
 Robert M. "Bob" Dempster, '56—Dec. 24, 2011

EAC Foundation Donors

We express our heart-felt thanks to alumni & friends who have shared generously to provide scholarship & program assistance for the students at Eastern Arizona College. The individuals below have made a wonderful difference in the lives of more than 100 students seeking the opportunities made available at Eastern Arizona College. The following donations were received between July 1, 2011 & Dec. 31, 2011. Thank You!

\$10,000 or More

The Dennis Braithwaite Family
Mr. Max Bennett

\$1,000 or More

Pres. & Mrs. Mark & Cindy Bryce
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To be included in the Alumni Association's monthly emails with EAC updates, or to receive your copy of the Gila Gram as an Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) file, send us your email address at alumni@eac.edu.

EAC gets ready to celebrate!

The Fall of 2013 marks Eastern Arizona College's 125th Anniversary. Watch for announcements in upcoming issues of the Gila Gram or visit the EAC Alumni website at www.eac.edu/alumni

Directors, EAC Alumni Association:

George Lord, '66, President
Larry Rapier, '57, Treasurer
Becky Johnson, '70, Secretary
Mark Bryce, '74, *EAC President & Alumni Adviser*
William Bone, '50
Lois Ann Moody, '58
Cindy DeVaney Olvey, '74
Nolan Reed, '55
Molly Boyd Steffens, '64
Mary Kim Titla, '80
Dudley Welker, '52

Emeritus Directors, EAC Alumni Association:

Nellie Plasencio, '45
Terry McCollum, '64

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Dudley Welker, President
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