

Report of the Ad Hoc Centennial Committee – March 6, 2006

Plans have been finalized and details set in motion for two special events in recognition of the ECU Centennial.

Event I.

An Emeritus Tea, in honor of our retired faculty is planned for Monday, March 20, 2006. There will be two sittings, of the elegantly prepared and presented formal tea in honor of our ECU faculty retirees – one at 1 PM, and another, at 3 PM.

After being welcomed in Walnut Hall to the exquisite sounds of the ECU Student String Quartet, guests will be given a brief overview of the order of the Tea Service. Guests will then move to the banquet room upstairs in Keen Johnson, where they will be treated to a beautifully arranged and elegantly prepared four-course Tea, catered by the proprietors of the Bennett House Teas, of Richmond, KY.

President Glasser, Carolyn Siegel, and others yet to be named, will give remarks at strategic times during the tea service. Kentuckians, Bruce and Shelley Richardson, of Elmwood Inn Teas, nationally and world recognized authors of books on Tea and Tea Rooms in Europe and in Asia, and who are also purveyors of the finest teas from around the world, have made a special tins of ECU Centennial Blend. The tins, imprinted with the official ECU Centennial Logo, will be presented to each guest in attendance. The tins will also be available for sale during the year, with the proceeds going to the ECU Faculty Senate's Faculty Development Fund for new faculty.

All in all, this ECU Centennial event promises to be one of elegance, gentility, and sincere appreciation for those retired faculty who have served our university and therefore, countless numbers of students with dignity and compassion.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dot Kirkpatrick, President of the ECU Retirees association, who scoured and compared list upon list of names and addresses, invitations have now been mailed to all members of our retired faculty for whom we can find an address.

Event II.

What is being hailed **The Capstone Event** of our ECU Alumni Weekend, beginning on Friday afternoon at 2:30 PM, April 28, 2006, is the Re-Dedication of Keen Johnson Hall, with its newly renovated Faculty Lounge. Program personalities for this event, to be held outside on the front steps of the Keen Johnson Hall, include President Glasser, Merita Thompson, (hopefully) Lt. Governor, Steve Pence, and other state and national dignitaries.

Highlighting this ceremony will be a performance of the Centennial Chorus, consisting of ECU singers - past, present, and future. Over 700 invitations have been mailed to alumni who have participated in the University Singers, the Concert Choir, the countless Messiah Choruses, the Show Choir, and the Madrigal Singers. Additional invitations are being mailed to surrounding area high school chorus directors. The singers will come together for lunch in the Centennial Chorus Dining Room, attend a brief rehearsal, and then will perform the ECU Alma Mater and Handel's "Hallelujah" from MESSIAH, at the Re-Dedication ceremony.

A printed program for the event will be developed to include a complete reproduction of the original dedication program of Keen Johnson Hall. In addition, the new publication will include the event program, the historical comments by Charles Hay, former university archivist, and a listing of the ECU Centennial Chorus members.

A reception for an estimated number of 250-300 attendees, including faculty in academic regalia, will be held in Walnut Hall. Music for the reception in Walnut Hall will be provided by the ECU Classical Guitar Ensemble, under the direction of Dennis Davis.

All members of the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Centennial Committee are appreciative of the opportunity to work on such delightful projects.