

EDITORIAL

Legacy of Excellence

By Artelia Covington
Editor

Welcome back fellow Vikings, faculty, staff, and friends of Elizabeth City State University, and welcome to this first edition of The Compass for 1998-1999 school year.

With this inaugural edition of The Compass, under the leadership of Mr. Kip Branch, the paper's new advisor, we are continuing a legacy and beginning what we hope will become a trend which will continue into the next century and beyond: providing coverage of our campus family, our alumni and our supporters both in our immediate area and throughout the nation.

Since 1959, The Compass has reported news and events that have affected our campus. For a refreshing look back at how important a vehicle we have been, one only needs to skim through some of the back issues available in our offices. They reveal not only how wide an area of campus and community coverage we have provided for three decades, but also sharp and incisive reporting by students of local, state and national events.

We stand on the shoulders of those student writers, editors, and advisors from "back in the day," particularly Mr. Stephen March who served as the paper's advisor for 11 years.

Change has always characterized life at ECSU and it continues to be in the air. We have a new chancellor, new programs, new facilities underway, and

most importantly, new students with new attitudes. In the not too distant future, they will form the nucleus of the leaders for the next millennium.

Our Compass staff has changed, too. We have new editors, new reporters, and other new students who have the daunting challenge of carrying on the legacy of excellence handed down to us.

We know we have a big responsibility; our task will not always be easy as we learn how to write, report, edit and get our product out. But that's what learning is all about - trying hard, making mistakes and trying again.

We intend to do our best, and we will. We not only hope that you, our readers, will understand, but that you will also share your comments, ideas, and suggestions with us so we can continue to learn and grow.

It is my deepest and most sincere wish that The Compass you see today offers the ECSU students an outlet through which they may hurl ideas and opinions. Hopefully, through combining our ideas and aspirations, we will truly catapult into the next millennium, undaunted and ready for the tasks and challenges that the world outside of ECSU's campus will certainly give us.

As your new editor, I am constantly aware of the perils that face us every day, but I am ever hopeful that this year will be a productive and a fruitful one and bear gifts for all that are unimaginable for all.

Telephone Numbers You Should Know

Emergency	911
Campus Police	335-3266
ECSU Infirmary	335-3267
Elizabeth City Police Dept.	335-4321
Sheriff's Office	338-2191
Student Counseling	335-3276
Albemarle Hope Line	338-3011

New Compass staff now on assignment

There is much work that goes into the publication of any newspaper, be it a student one or a daily publication. Over the years Compass reporters and writers and editors have worked diligently to get the paper out while at the same time balancing their other academic interests. In doing so a number of them have found out that working in journalism and media was the career path for them.

With this issue we want to take the opportunity to introduce you to this year's staff so that you'll not only know who they are when you meet them on campus but also be responsive when you see them on assignment.

Artelia Covington, Editor.

Ms. Covington is a junior English major from Warrenton, NC. In addition to journalism her interests include reading and music.

Monique Boyce, Assistant Editor.

Ms. Boyce is a senior English major from High Point, NC. When she is not honing her skills as a reporter she enjoys reading and attending plays. She is a member of the Lady Vikings basketball team. After graduation she plans to either attend graduate school or pursue a career in media.

Marty Jacobi, Editor-at-Large.

Ms. Jacobi is a special student pursuing her liberal arts degree at College of the Albemarle. A "seasoned" journalist, she is also a correspondent for the *Daily Advance*. When not on deadline or assignment, she enjoys spending time with her two children.

Following graduation in August she plans to pursue a career as a journalist and writer.

Ronel Brewer, Features Editor.

Mr. Brewer is a senior English

major from Hampton, VA. He specializes in arts reporting. He is active in a number of campus organizations.

Xavier Wise, Reporter.

Mr. Wise is an English major from Charlotte. A basketball player and a scholar, Mr. Wise specializes in general assignment reporting. Following graduation he plans to pursue his interests in sports, media and working with children.

Al Randolph, Sports Reporter.

Mr. Randolph is a member of the University's football team.

Jermayne King.

Mr. King is an English-News Media major. He is a "veteran" staffer, having worked on *The Compass* last year. In addition to sports his interests include radio and broadcasting.

Je'aime Powell, Photographer.

Mr. Powell is a sophomore Computer Science and Technology major from Portsmouth, VA. He is "another" veteran staffer who worked on the Compass staff last year. He is a self-described "inventor, photographer, computer specialist and musician."

Mike Lampart, Photographer.

Mr. Lampart is a sophomore majoring in Graphic Art. He is from Newport News, Virginia. He recently finished a six year Navy tour of duty in Puerto Rico.

Roshawn Lucas, Photographer.

Mr. Lucas is a freshman who has not decided on a major. He is the youngest member of the staff.

Sochiameya Humphreys, Office Manager.

Ms. Humphreys is majoring in English and is from Jacksonville, NC.

Jacquie Casey, Copy Editor.

Ms. Casey is a senior majoring in English with a minor in secondary education. She hopes to teach high school students in the western part of the state.

THE COMPASS

Editor.....	Artelia Covington
Assistant Editor.....	Monique Boyce
Editor at Large.....	Marti Jacobi
Sports Editor.....	Jermayne King
Copy Editor.....	Jacquie Casey
Features Editor.....	Ronel Brewer
Photographers.....	Michael Lampart, Roshawn Lucas, Jamie Powell
Staff.....	Al Randolph, Xavier Wise, Maria Phelps, Meya Humphries

The Compass is published by Elizabeth City State University students under the direction of the Department of Language, Literature, and Communication; Dr. Velma Blackmon, Chairperson; Mr. Kip Branch and Mr. Stephen March, faculty advisors (editorial); Dr. Karl Terryberry, advisor for business affairs and technical support. Elizabeth City State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Baccalaureate degrees.

The Compass welcomes letters to the editor. Please send letters to The Compass, Campus Box 815, Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, NC 27909.