

## EDITORIAL

## It's Your Investment

Stacy Brock

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I've always believed that we are all where we are meant to be. However, I didn't believe that when I matriculated at Elizabeth City State University. When I graduated from high school, I was very indecisive about what I wanted to do. At first I wanted to get a job, then I decided I would enlist in the Army until my mother insisted that I come to college and work toward obtaining a degree, which I'm glad she did.

Many of us attend college and choose colleges for different reasons. Some of us attend college because we are persuaded to do so by family members and others, and there are those of us who attend on our will. However, no matter what our reasons are, we're here and should make the best of our college experience.

Vikings, I'd like to encourage each of you to enjoy yourselves and excel academically. Make new friends and expose yourselves to new experiences. And utilize the resources that are available for you to better prepare yourself for your field of study. This includes your instructors and peers, University facilities, which may all not be sufficient right now, but are; nevertheless, adequate, organizations on campus and in the ECSU community.

Lastly, take pride in your University. When you pay a lot of money for certain clothing items, you make sure when you step on the yard that the brand of your clothing is known because many of us are convinced that 'more money' means 'better quality.' We need to treat our University the same way. Now that we've decided to invest in a college education at ECSU, which is not cheap, when we step on or outside of the University, we should have something to show for the time and money we've put toward our education because if we do, we're dictating to others that we're getting our money's worth; we're getting a quality education.

Viking family and community, I've enjoyed sharing my perspective on different issues with you. However, it's now time that I sign off as editor of your paper, a job I thoroughly enjoyed. I thank you all for your continued support and wish you all the best.

## THE COMPASS

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.

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## ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate degrees.

## Poetry Corner

## I HATE YOU FEAR

All my life  
 YOU STOPPED ME FROM LIVING MY DREAMS  
 I NEVER APPROACHED MY CRUSH  
 I NEVER PLAYED ON THE BASKETBALL TEAM

EVERY TIME I TRIED TO GET UP  
 YOU WERE THERE TO KEEP ME DOWN  
 I KEPT MY THOUGHTS TO MYSELF  
 MY MIND WAS NEVER SOUND

SO MUCH I HAD TO GIVE TO THE WORLD  
 BUT BECAUSE OF YOU I NEVER GAVE  
 I STAYED TO MYSELF  
 ALONE LIVING INSIDE OF THIS CAVE

MANY PEOPLE WERE NOT ABLE TO SEE MY BRIGHT SIDE  
 BECAUSE YOU KEPT ME IN THE DARK  
 MANY SAW MY ACTIONS  
 BUT NEVER HEARD MY HEART

I HATE YOU, I HATE YOU  
 SO MUCH YOU HAVE STOLEN FROM ME  
 I'M A MAN WHO SITS ALL ALONE  
 IN A HOUSE THAT IS EMPTY

FOR SO LONG, I THOUGHT YOU WERE MY FRIEND,  
 BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS SHOWED ME AN EASY WAY OUT  
 AND BECAUSE I NEVER WALKED THROUGH THE RAIN,  
 MY HEART IS FACING A DROUGHT

I HATE YOU FEAR  
 I HATE YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART  
 THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE STOLEN  
 AND THANK YOU FOR KEEPING ME IN THE DARK

...it's NOT OVER FEAR, I'll be back

By: James Hill

## Faith Is:

Faith is believing in something you CAN'T imagine

Faith is LETTING GO of all logic and reason

Faith challenges STATISTICS and breaks RULES

Faith is living in a world of UNCERTAINTY and having a GUARANTEE you will SURVIVE

By: C. Knight  
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Please send your poetry, Dear Vike questions and Letters to the Editor today to *The Compass*, Campus Box 815 or bring to Room 111 in Johnson Hall.