

## Jose Gil Wins Teacher of The Year for the UNC System

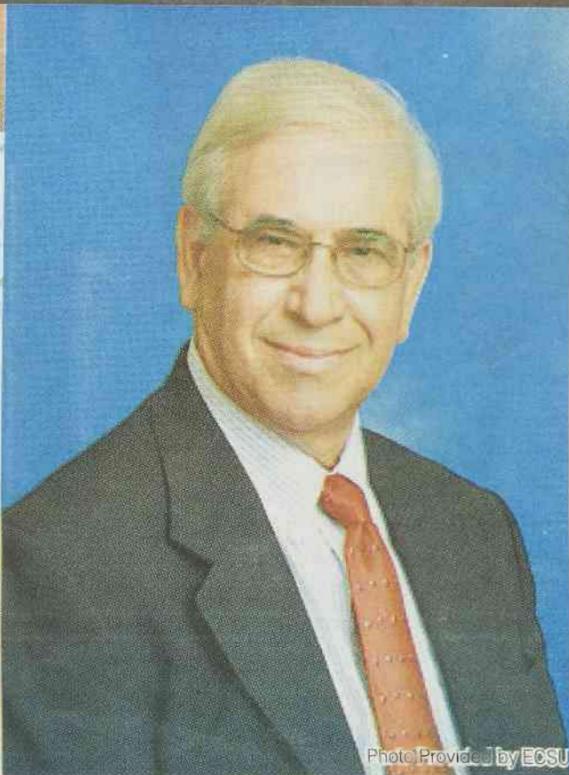
By JEANRI MILLER

The 2011 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching was awarded to Dr. Jose S. Gil, professor at Elizabeth City State University in the Department of Language, Literature and Communication. According to [ecsu.edu](http://ecsu.edu), Gil and 16 other recipients at the University of North Carolina institutions were given a bronze medallion and a stipend for \$7,500.

The Spain native is a seasoned educator that teaches Spanish and world literature. He is a nationally and internationally recognized scholar, publishing numerous international peer-reviewed journals and books in Spain, Belgium, Italy, the United States and Australia, stated [northcarolina.edu](http://northcarolina.edu).

"Teaching is not just transferring knowledge. We are all students as human beings. Everything is a learning process. As an educator, you are supposed to prepare the student for life," said Gil.

Proudly, Gil has been an educator for 34 years,



(Above) Dr. Jose Gil, Professor of Languages and Literature at ECSU wins 2011 UNC Teacher of the Year.

teaching in Spain and Washington, D.C. He first served as the Dean of Arts and Humanities at ECSU in 2000. He also served as Dean of a public institution in Washington, D.C. for 14 years. As well as his many academic accomplishments with a masters and doctoral degree, Gil is also proactive in the community. He also serves on countless committees at ECSU and the University of North Carolina system. He served on the Red Cross board for over five years and was honored for his admirable service. He currently translates for Hispanic services at the Holy Family Church in Elizabeth City, NC. "I was shocked to hear the good things and beautiful letters faculty and staff wrote and had to say about me. I am very honored. This award recognized education and the importance of education. Teaching is not a glamorous job and most of the times, educators are unnoticed," said Gil.

His passion for teaching came at an early age and his desire to help people and impact lives has always been his motivation. As a professor in the Language, Literature and Communication Department, Gil encourages students to keep pushing, to strive for the best and never to settle.

## Commuter Students Make ECSU Their Home

By BENJAMIN MCBATH

Many students at Elizabeth City State University come from surrounding areas or counties such as Pasquotank, Perquimans, Currituck, Camden, Gates and Chowan. Fifty-one percent of commuter students graduate from ECSU. Not only do they graduate—they are inducted into the Elizabeth City Alumni Associations.

To help with its drastic growth, ECSU has so much to offer including its financial aid for students. ECSU has included many financial aid programs such as work-study. Students are able to work for a department in the school and earn money to pay for tuition.

Many of these jobs consist of working at the bookstore, cafeteria or with a department head as an office assistant. By offering many of these jobs, ECSU helps students gain real life experiences. There is also a University of North Carolina scholarship that is awarded to incoming freshmen who meet specific

requirements. Eligible students must have graduated with above a 2.5 grade point average from a high school in North Carolina and have made a 17 on the ACT or a 1200 on the SAT.

Anthony Price, Admissions and Recruitment overseer said, The placement average GPA for this year and the next year are a 2.3 or a 2.5 average, and a 16 on the ACT for in-state students a 17 for out of state students, a 750 for SAT in state and a 800 out of state. The minimum [class] admissions requirement include: four Englishs, four maths, Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry; you will also need three sciences, which include biology, physical or Environmental science with a lab, two histories, U.S. or other, foreign language part one or two, specifically Spanish or Japanese.

ECSU features a rural setting, large town (10,000 – 49,999) and commuter campus. Moreover, the school is located 50 miles from Norfolk, Virginia. In addition, the university has many unique facilities such as a recording studio, a radio station, boardwalk in nature preserves/wetlands and a golf driving range.

Students should also note the housing policies: First-year students are guaranteed on-campus housing. Seventy-nine percent of first-year students live in college housing. Fifty-two percent of all undergraduates live in college housing, co-ed housing, men's housing, women's housing, apartments for single students or wellness housing (alcohol/drug/smoke-free). The housing deposit is \$100. First-year students are allowed to have a car. There are many things that also attract commuters, such as the on-campus activities that include: basketball, volleyball, bowling, softball, tennis and basketball. Twenty-five percent of students that have applied are commuters. Their parents may be alumni. ECSU provides a shuttle service to help commuter students get to and from of campus.

Whether you are looking to feel more at home here at ECSU or need assistance in searching for off-campus housing, Anthony Price and the ECSU Commuter Club are here to assist you. Additional information can be requested at [awprice@mail.ecsu.edu](mailto:awprice@mail.ecsu.edu).

**Congratulations Graduates of May 2011!**