

tapestry

FALL 2021

an Edwards College publication



The Edwards College: 2001-2021

a letter from the dean



What an honor it is to be leading the Edwards College during this exciting time in its history. While the past year has surely delivered unprecedented challenges, we are taking this moment to think more broadly and reflectively about the past. As a preview to the 20th anniversary of the Edwards College, officially observed on Sept. 21, 2021, we have created an institutional timeline to mark important college milestones and highlights.

As you read these pages, you will notice the phenomenal growth of the college during its first 20 years. The size of its faculty, student body, curriculum, and very footprint on campus – having expanded from one building to three buildings – has increased exponentially. The notches on the timeline represent a narrative about thousands of lives that have been enhanced through an education based in the liberal arts.

It is fitting to note that Robin Edwards has been an integral, consistent presence within the Edwards College throughout its tenure, having served on the board of visitors the entire two decades of its existence. We are indebted to her, and to our entire board of visitors, for their vision, support, and dedication to the operations and direction of the college.

We have a year of exciting events planned to mark and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Edwards College. From a full slate of cultural arts events, to a homecoming celebration (Nov. 12-13 – save the date!), to a formal gala in February 2022, to an anniversary issue of *Tapestry* in Spring 2022, there are many opportunities and many reasons to gather, enjoy, and participate in the life of the Edwards College.

Yours truly,

Tapestry Production Team

Sara Sobota is head writer and editor of *Tapestry*, publications editor for the Edwards College, and senior lecturer in the Department of English.

Abby Sink is art director for *Tapestry* and graphic designer for the Edwards College. She also designs the Cultural Arts Calendar and promotions for all Edwards College departments.

Sam Ikner '18 is a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies student, graduate assistant for Edwards College publications, and assistant editor for *Tapestry* as well as for *Grand Strand Magazine*.

We want to hear from you! Send your ideas, comments, and questions to tapestry@coastal.edu.



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In 2001, a crowd gathered in the Edwards Courtyard for a toast to the new college. That toast – a tribute to the late Tom Edwards offered by David Millard, then-professor of theatre – conveys the collective expectations for the future of the Edwards College.

“I remember you for your eccentricity, impatience, and kindness. I hope that those are the very traits that will become hallmarks of what goes on in this building: the eccentric thinking that leads to new and better ideas about what it is to be a human being; impatience with tired ideas; and the kindness that joins people with open hearts wanting to teach and learn,” Millard said. “As this building gets formed and shaped by the teachers and students who come here, you and Robin will have fashioned something exceptional and enduring beyond any of us here tonight.”

2001

Edwards Building/College est.

Lynne Franken is dean of the Edwards College.

Ron Ingle is president of CCU.

B.A. in music est.

2002

B.A. in philosophy est.

2004

Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values est.

2006

Bill Richardson becomes dean of the Edwards College.

B.A. in communication est.

Paul Rice Poetry Broadside Contest est.

2007

David A. DeCenzo becomes president of CCU.

2008

Waccamaw literary journal est.

2005

English department's Words to Say It Visiting Writers Series est.

2009

Tapestry alumni magazine est.

2010

B.A. in graphic design est.

B.F.A. in theatre est.

M.A. in writing est.

2012

B.A. in intelligence and national security studies est.

Physical theatre program begins partnership with Accademia dell'Arte in Arezzo, Italy



To learn more about the Edwards College people, places, and events in these pages, scan your phone over the QR code to visit *Tapestry+*, our online *Tapestry* supplement.

2014

M.A. in liberal studies est.

Edgar Dyer Institute for Leadership and Public Policy est.

WCCU Radio Lab facility est. in Brittain Hall

2016

Hurricane Matthew hits South Carolina coast

B.A. in digital culture and design est.

B.A. in art history est.

Edwards Digital Production Studio est.

Edwards Publication Group est.

Charles Joyner Institute of Gullah and African Diaspora Studies est.

James Michie professorship filled; partnership with Brookgreen Gardens begins

2018

Hurricane Florence strikes the South Carolina coast

M.A. in music technology est.

B.A. in commercial music and jazz est.

2020

COVID-19 pandemic begins in March

B.F.A. in visual art est.

B.F.A. in visual communication design est.

B.A. in religious studies offers concentrations in religion in public life and textual studies

2013

Dan Ennis becomes dean of the Edwards College

Athenaeum Press est.

Brittain Hall opens

2017

B.A. in anthropology and geography est.

B.A. in Hispanic studies and multiple languages est.

2019

Claudia Bornholdt becomes dean of the Edwards College

The Department of Communication offers a concentration in sports communication

The Department of English offers new concentrations

M.A. in communication est.

2021

Department of Intelligence and Security Studies est.

B.M.E. in music education est.

Center for Inclusive Excellence est.

Intercultural Language Resource Center est.

Interdisciplinary Studies moves to Edwards College, offering a B.A. and B.S.

Michael T. Benson becomes president of CCU

2021



On a clear fall evening in 2001, as the largest building on the CCU campus was dedicated, the Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts was born.

The event marked not only the fulfillment of a gift and a promise from the Edwards family, but also an investment in CCU faculty and students dedicated to making humanities and fine arts – the creation of art, music, writing, theatre, language, and prioritization of critical thought—a cornerstone of the University. The Edwards College, designed to gather all related departments under one roof, has over the course of two decades built an identity that synthesizes its creators, artists, and thinkers into a cohesive whole.

President Ron Ingle, Dean Lynne Franken, and leaders from the University and community gathered on Sept. 21, 2001, to celebrate the generosity of Robin and Tom Edwards, the latter of whom had passed away months before, and the timeless importance of humanities and fine arts. Festivities included a butterfly release, musical and theatrical performances, and an appearance by the Edwards grandchildren, one of whom would go on to graduate from the B.F.A. musical theatre program in 2020. Much like the Edwards

family itself, the college was embarking on the creation of its own legacy that night.

The Edwards building boasts a 20-year history of confounding newcomers with its labyrinthine corridors and ostensibly secret corners that house essential administrative offices. Along with its unique layout and stunning interior courtyard, the new building brought with it state-of-the-art facilities such as the Edwards Theatre, Edwards Recital Hall, and Rebecca Randall Bryan Art Gallery. Proximity of complementary departments allowed for heightened interaction among faculty and students, and convenience of office space facilitated the unprecedented expansion of the college that was to occur in coming years.

In her address to the crowd convened that evening, Franken posed a classic rhetorical question: Do the arts and humanities matter? Her own answer offered a basis and a goal for the future of the college.

"In this place, the wise old philosopher speaks. The youngest dancer pirouettes en pointe. From this place, a dozen bright-eyed students head out for a semester in Tokyo," said Franken. "To the

attentive eye, these things form a rich tapestry of surpassing beauty; to the sympathetic ear, the motives of a grand symphony. And they do matter, now more than ever. As together we compose new symphonies for a new world in a new century, as together we make a future for our college, we will be asked to return the providential favor that has brought us so far. We will be asked fair recompense in whatever coin we possess, whether hitting the books, striking the set, polishing the term paper, writing yet another tuition check, or dancing on air."

As the Edwards College grew into its physical space and emerging character, faculty worked to fulfill that challenge, achieving disciplinary excellence while crafting collaborative new dimensions within the college. Programs in philosophy, communication, and graphic design grew out of existing departments, while innovative learning environments such as the Athenaeum Press, the Digital Commons, and the Charles Joyner Institute for Gullah and African Diaspora Studies were created to give students new pathways for research and creativity.

From 74 faculty, eight majors, and 517 students in 2001, the Edwards College has blossomed to its current 201 faculty members, 19 majors, and 1,825 students. It has produced Broadway musicals, on-campus



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"To the attentive eye, these things form a rich tapestry of surpassing beauty."

– *Dean Lynne Franken*

Gullah conferences, a literary journal, award-winning musical compositions, a student-run intelligence agency, and groundbreaking historical discoveries. Its students, alumni, and faculty have won Fulbright awards, Rotary scholarships, Critical Language Scholarships, Emmy Awards, roles in films and television, a Guggenheim, and dozens of national scholarly distinctions. College evolution has included the establishment of five experiential learning centers, four graduate programs, and scores of global study opportunities. In addition, learning facilities have expanded over the years, including the WCCU Radio facility, the Digital Production Studio, a working foundry, and the Intercultural Language Resource Center.

When the crowd gathered in 2001 raised a glass to toast the fledgling college, no one could have predicted the scope of the institution's impact. In his invocation, the Rev. Bobby Wilkes offered thanks for its potential, including "all the marvelous things that happen when curiosity and imagination meet: All the gifts that will be developed, all the minds that will be awakened, all the lives that will be enriched, and the character that will be forged, enriching not only individuals but communities, our nation, and our world."

Twenty years later, the Edwards' trust, placed in a group of makers and learners, still shines with richness and potential.





A Vision Becomes Reality

Plans are one thing, but the laying of bricks and mortar is another. From logistics to supply chain to coordination of facilities management teams, the construction of the largest building on campus was a sizeable endeavor.

Building Stats

- 31 classrooms
- Edwards Theatre - 120 seats
- Recital Hall - 147 seats
- Bryan Art Gallery - 1,445 sq. feet

Building materials

- 376 truckloads of concrete
- 1.7 million pounds of steel
- 2,300 light fixtures
- 70 miles of electrical wire
- 364 tons of slate roofing
- 603,521 bricks
- 168,823 blocks
- 9,261 bags of mortar
- 2.6 million pounds of sand
- 3,120 gallons of paint

2001

Lynne Franken is dean of the Edwards College

Franken leads the Edwards College through its establishment and first four years of operation. Her role as dean spans Fall 2000 through Fall 2004.

Music programs established

Concentrations offered in general studies, performance, and teacher prep.

Ron Ingle is president of CCU

Ingle is the first president of Coastal Carolina University, overseeing its establishment as an independent, public university. He serves as president through May 7, 2007.

2002

B.A. in philosophy established

The philosophy and religious studies department existed years before, offering minor programs. The development of the B.A. program, under Claudia McCullough, brings new courses and expanded potential to faculty and students.

2005

Words to Say It Visiting Writers Series established

A program of the Department of English, the Words to Say It Visiting Writers Series features critically acclaimed authors and recently published CCU English faculty for readings and discussion.

2006

Bill Richardson becomes dean of the Edwards College

As second dean of the Edwards College, Bill Richardson leads the college through development of its first graduate program, the Master of Arts in Writing, and the creation of several B.F.A. programs.

B.A. in communication established

This popular program grows and evolves consistently, currently offering a selection of five concentrations: communication studies, interactive journalism, health communication, public relations/integrated communication, and sports communication.

2007

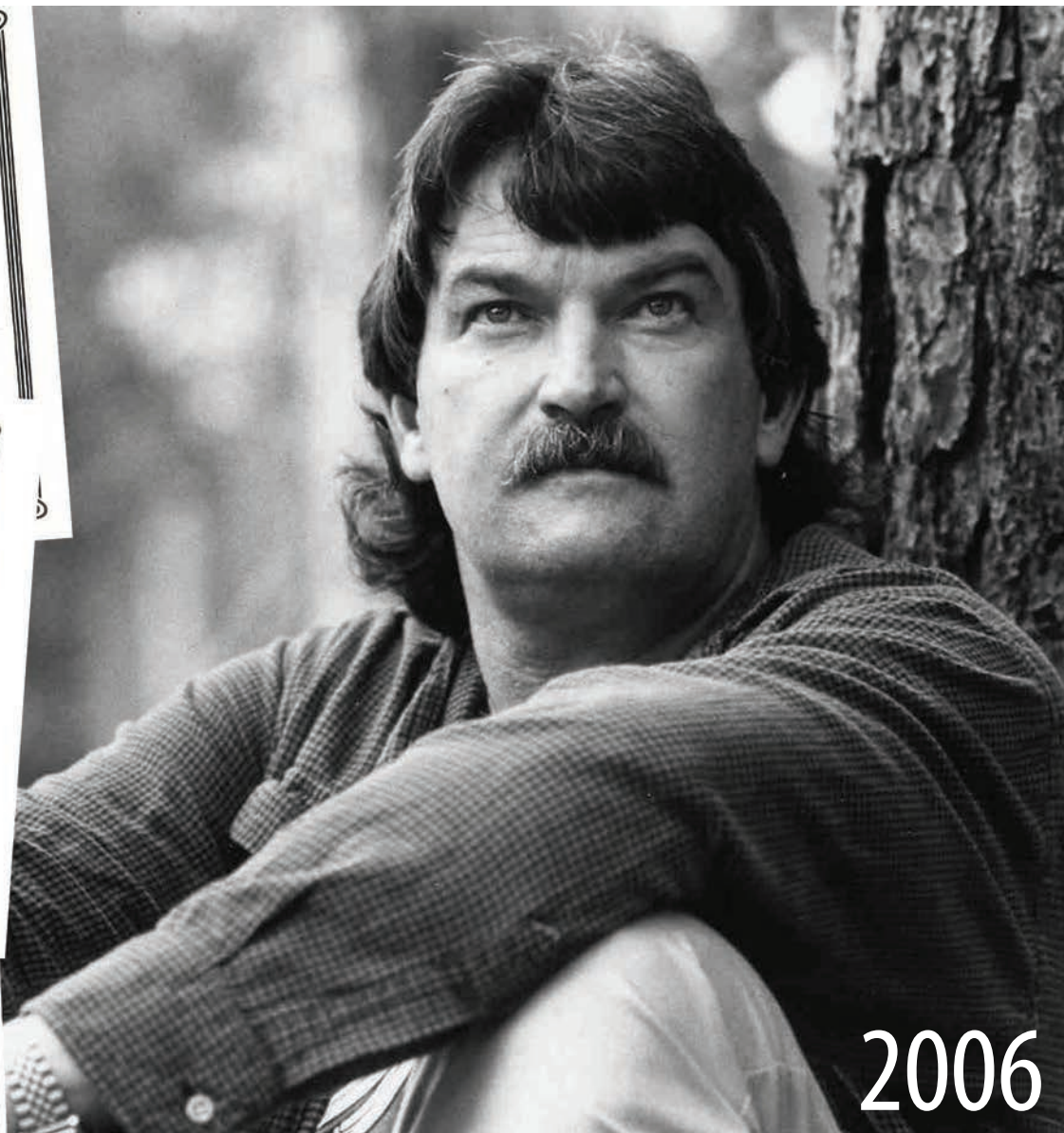
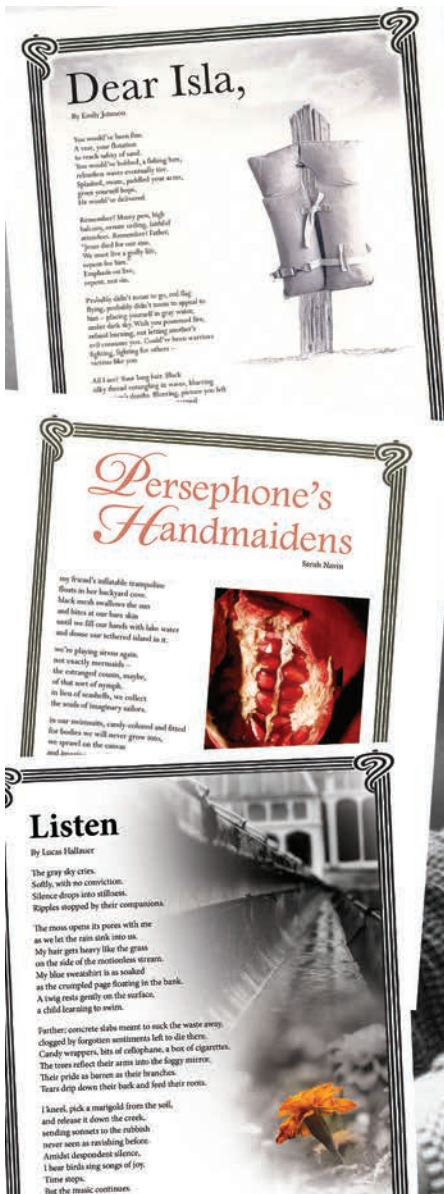
David A. DeCenzo becomes the second president of Coastal Carolina University

DeCenzo joined CCU in 2002 as dean of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business. DeCenzo's tenure as president saw extraordinary growth of CCU academic and athletic programs.



Jackson Family Center established

The Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values is established with a gift from the Nelson and Mary Emily Jackson family. Founding director Claudia McCullough, professor emeritus and longtime chair of the Department of Philosophy, leads this first Edwards College experiential center with a mission of cultivating ethical awareness within the University and the surrounding community. Ongoing programming designed to foster inclusive conversations on important contemporary issues includes the Tea & Ethics discussion series, the Jackson Scholar Program, an annual After-School Ethics Academy for local middle school students, and an annual visiting ethicist. Multiple members of the Jackson family continue their involvement with the center by sitting on the board of directors.



Paul Rice Poetry Broadside Contest established

The Paul Rice Poetry Broadside Contest is established in honor and memory of Professor Paul Rice, who taught in the Department of English from 1987-2004. In addition to being a beloved member of the faculty, Rice was a poet, a songwriter, and a syndicated antiques columnist. A 2005 memorial concert featured 12 family members, friends, and faculty members, including Rice's son, award-winning singer-songwriter Jesse Rice. The biannual contest is open to all CCU undergraduate students, and winners are determined by a nationally-renowned outside judge. Recent contest winners from a variety of majors have gone on to perform, present, and publish their selected works.

2008 |

Waccamaw literary journal established

The award-winning online literary journal, a faculty-student collaboration within the Master of Arts in Writing (M.A.W.), is published biannually and draws up to 1,000 submissions each issue. M.A.W. students drive each step of the reading, editing, and publishing process.

2009

Inaugural issue of *Tapestry* published

The annual Edwards College alumni magazine, traditionally produced by associate deans and a rotating group of faculty members, becomes a project of the newly formed Edwards College Publications Group in 2016.

2010

B.A. in graphic design established

Developed by Paul Olsen and Daryl Fazio, the B.A. in graphic design offers an alternative to traditional visual arts. The program focuses on visual communication through image and type, involves technical skills, and crosses multiple media platforms.

B.F.A. in theatre established

CCU's B.F.A., offering a more specialized degree than the B.A., is among the first program of its kind offered in the state. B.F.A. programs are created in musical theatre, physical theatre, acting, and theatre design/technology.

"Social Landscape" art exhibit wins award

Collaborative art exhibit between CCU and Nanjing Arts Institute (China) art students, facilitated by Easton Selby, wins Academic Prize at Li Shui International Photography Festival.

M.A. in writing established

The M.A. in writing, developed by Jason Ockert, covers a wide range of writing genres including creative writing, composition and rhetoric, professional writing, linguistics, and literature. Students may also participate in teaching, editing, and publishing opportunities.



Master of Arts in Writing established

The Master of Arts in Writing is established, marking the first graduate program within Edwards College. Over the years, the program features several graduate directors, including Jason Ockert, Joe Oestreich, and currently, Christian Smith.

“The program would not exist without the support from the entire English department, the college, and the University,” says Ockert, who co-founded the program with current Provost Dan Ennis. Created to appeal to writers in creative, professional, and academic genres, the program attracts 17 students in its first year. It produces writers who move on to publish their work in literary journals, become college-level instructors, and enroll in M.F.A. and Ph.D. programs and law schools.

2012

Intelligence and national security studies major established within Department of Political Science

The program, developed under Holley Tankersley, offers experiential opportunities including the Chanticleer Intelligence Brief, an intelligence and analysis news outlet, and National Intelligence Studies (NIS), an annual travel program in Washington, D.C.

Elise Testone returns

American Idol finalist and Edwards College music major Elise Testone '05 performs at Wheelwright Auditorium with former mentors.

2013

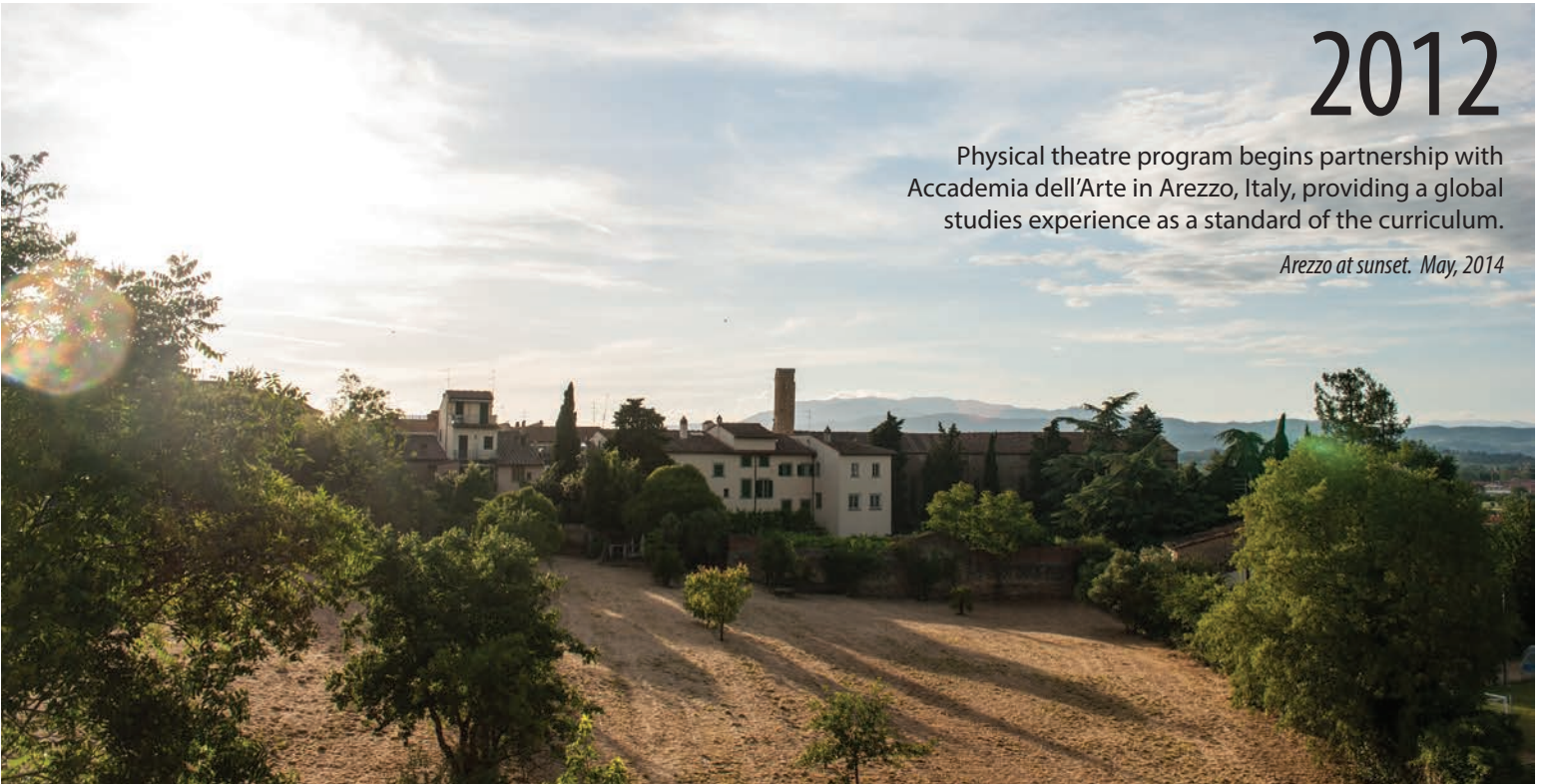
Dan Ennis becomes dean of the Edwards College

Hired as an assistant professor of English in 1999, Dan Ennis served in roles including department chair and interim dean before becoming the third dean of the Edwards College.

2012

Physical theatre program begins partnership with Accademia dell'Arte in Arezzo, Italy, providing a global studies experience as a standard of the curriculum.

Arezzo at sunset. May, 2014



10-year anniversary brings an updated look

As the Edwards College, and the Edwards building, approach their 10th anniversary, Interim Dean Dan Ennis notices an architectural feature that is a bit worse for the wear. The central ornamental metal grid has become rusty and misshapen. It is a perfect opportunity, Ennis thinks, to refresh the building's look with a new focal point.

Ennis, together with the Edwards board of visitors, commissions Charleston Architectural Glass to create a stained-glass window mounted to the building's frontal pediment. The window is revealed at the Edwards College 10th Anniversary Gala.



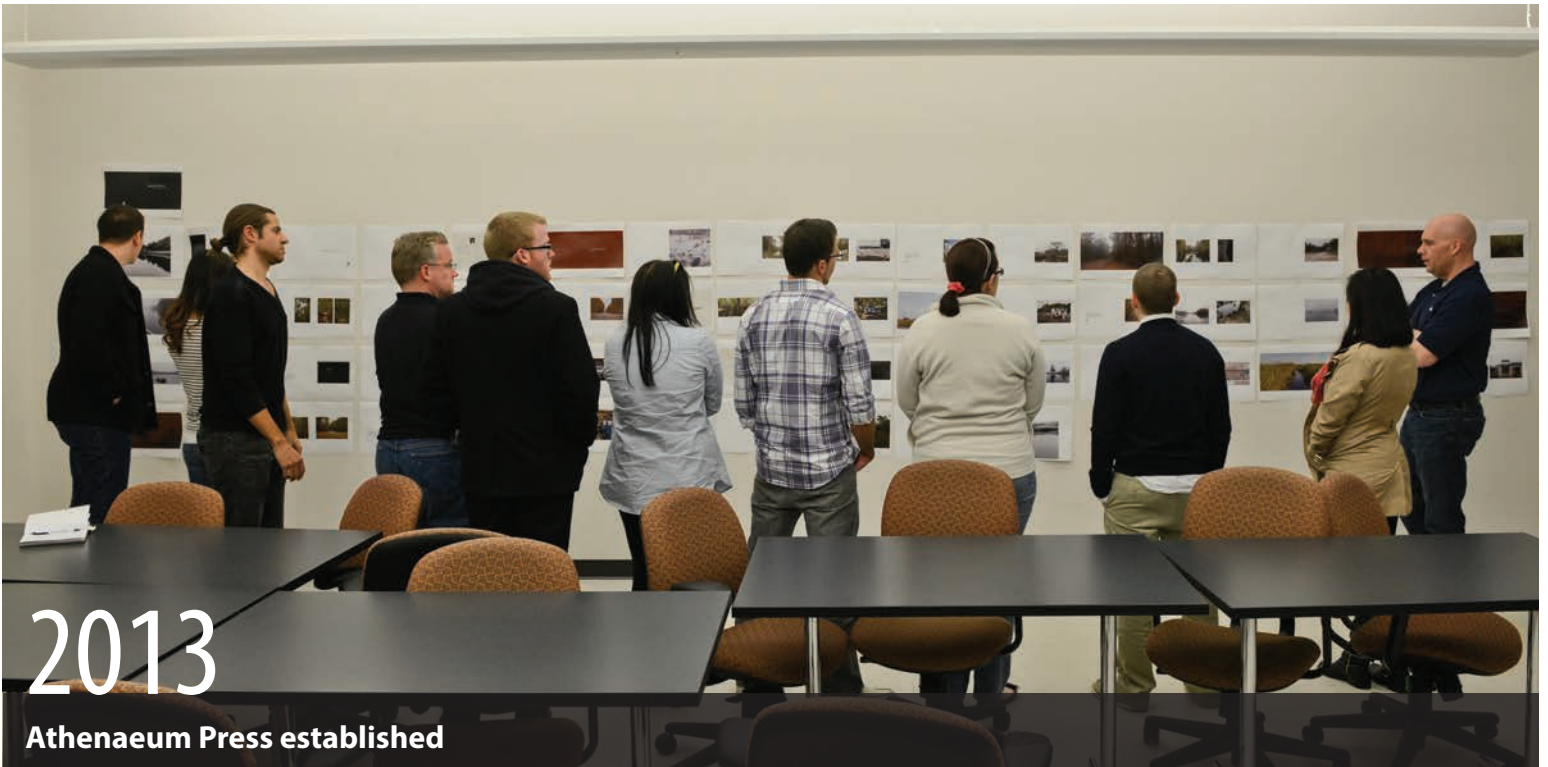


2012

New York Theatre Senior Showcase

In April 2012, Coastal Carolina University's first Senior Showcase takes place at the York Theatre in Manhattan. 10 B.F.A. senior theatre majors put on the performance of a lifetime, presenting scenes from shows such as *True West* and *Rumors*. Directed by Monica Bell and choreographed by Barbara Hartwig with music direction by Steven Gross, this inaugural event sets the stage for the Senior Showcase to become an annual highlight and tradition within the theatre B.F.A. program.

Amelia Dobbs performs at the 2019 New York Senior Showcase.



2013

Athenaeum Press established

The Athenaeum Press, CCU's student-driven publishing lab, is established under director Patricia O'Connor. Dedicated to telling local stories of history and culture by engaging an interdisciplinary group of students, faculty, and community, the press completes its first multi-media project, titled *Chasing the Paper Canoe*. The press continues to produce annual, award-winning projects under the direction of Alli Crandell.



2013

Brittain Hall opens

Brittain Hall opens, expanding the Edwards footprint across campus. Departments of anthropology and geography; communication, media, and culture; history; languages and intercultural studies; and politics move into Brittain Hall.

2014

Department of Theatre presents *Metamorphoses*

This play, requiring construction of a pool measuring 30 feet by 20 feet and 36 inches deep, is a sizeable challenge for all: technical director Greg Buck and his B.F.A. design/tech students, who designed and created the pool; and director Ben Sota and his B.F.A. physical theatre students, who moved in and out of the water throughout the performance.



2014

M.A. in liberal studies established

The flexible, interdisciplinary M.A. in liberal studies allows students to enhance their current careers or explore a new field of interest.

Carolyn Cox Annual Music Education Scholarship established

An icon of the Department of Music, Carolyn Cox founded the program in 1973. The scholarship, designed for a music major in the field of music education, is created in Cox's memory upon her passing.

WCCU Radio Lab facility established in Brittain Hall

WCCU Radio was formed in 2009 but lacked a consistent campus space. Located in Brittain Hall, the WCCU Radio Lab provides the station a state-of-the-art facility and a permanent home.

EDGAR DYER INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC POLICY

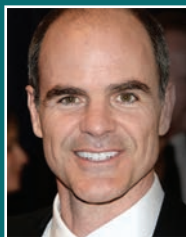


2014

The Edgar Dyer Institute for Leadership and Public Policy established

The Edgar Dyer Institute for Leadership and Public Policy is established, named after Eddie Dyer, longtime faculty member in the Department of Politics and later CCU executive vice president. The institute engages students, faculty, and the community in analyzing public problems and finding public solutions that have positive and measurable impacts.

2015



Theatre alum Michael Kelly '92 earns the first of four Emmy nominations

Michael Kelly, a.k.a. political fixer Doug Stamper on Netflix's *House of Cards*, earns his first Emmy nomination. Kelly goes on to earn three more Emmy nominations for this role. He is also known for roles in the films *Dawn of the Dead*, *Now You See Me*, *Everest*, and Amazon's *Jack Ryan*.

2016



James Michie Professorship first awarded in Department of Archaeology and Geography

In 2012, the James L. Michie Endowed Professorship in Historic Archaeology is established to honor the late history professor and archaeologist, known for his investigations of plantations in Georgetown County. The endowment is fully realized in 2016, when David Palmer becomes the first James Michie Professor and archaeologist-in-residence at Brookgreen Gardens.

2015





President Emeritus David A. DeCenzo and artist Logan Woodle with Chauncey.

The Making of Chauncey

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 "Logo, mascot, and tradition: those developed the narrative."
 - Logan Woodle

CCU's first life-sized statue of Chauncey is erected in September 2015, the brainchild of President Emeritus David A. DeCenzo, who envisioned a bronze mascot as the perfect centerpiece to the newly constructed TD Sports Complex. However, Arne Flaten, chair of the visual arts department, takes the vision one step further: why commission an outside firm to create Chauncey when the Edwards College has talented artists of its own? Administration and faculty together develop a plan to build a sculpture studio that gives birth to Chauncey, also allowing the visual arts program to expand its offerings and potential. Logan Woodle, project leader, designs and models the statue, provides input on the studio, and guides the Edwards College's first group of metalworking students through the process of casting our fearless mascot.



2016

Hurricane Matthew hits South Carolina coast

Students, faculty, and staff evacuate, with many students taking shelter in Clemson University residence halls. The area is impacted by major flooding.

B.A. in digital culture and design established

Developed by Jen Boyle, this program allows students to hone liberal arts-based skills with experiential learning projects.

B.A. in art history established

This program applies critical thinking and research skills to visual and material cultures of past civilizations.

Edwards Digital Production Studio established

Under director Michael DiGiorgio, the Edwards Digital Studio is home to high-quality production hardware. The space allows students, faculty, and staff to produce live shows, interviews, and newscasts.

Edwards Publication Group established

Created by Dean Dan Ennis, the Edwards "pub group" combines the talents of multiple faculty and staff to produce college-level digital and print publications and projects.



2016

Jazz ensemble wins international recognition

The CCU Student Jazz Combo, under the direction of Matt White, assistant professor of music, is awarded for "Outstanding Performance as a Blues/Rock/Pop Group" from *DownBeat* magazine as part of its 39th Student Music Awards. The group is also invited to play in a variety of international events, including the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, Jazz à Vienne in France, and Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy.

2017

B.A. in anthropology and geography established

Carolyn Dillian becomes chair of this inaugural department and program that focuses on the intersections between cultural and physical worlds.

B.A. in Hispanic studies and multiple languages established

Both developed by Gary Schmidt, the Hispanic studies major focuses on language and cultures of North and South America, Europe, and the Caribbean, while the multiple languages major allows students to study any of the seven languages offered in the LIS department.



Charles Joyner and former CCU President Ron Ingle.

A Celebration of Gullah Geechee Scholarship

The legacy of Gullah Geechee outreach and research within the Edwards College began long before the college was officially established, and its impact is perpetually expanding. The creation of the Charles Joyner Institute for Gullah and African Diaspora Studies in 2016 was a formal acknowledgement of work that had been proceeding for decades and a commitment to its eminence within the college.

Joyner (1935-2016) was an internationally acclaimed historian whose groundbreaking work *Down by the Riverside: A South Carolina Slave Community* (1984) established the standard for Gullah scholarship by adopting the perspective of Gullah people themselves. As Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Southern History and Culture

who taught at CCU for more than three decades, Joyner's thread of scholarship has been shared and continued by colleagues including Veronica Gerald, director emeritus, and Eric Crawford, director, both of the Joyner Institute; Alli Crandell, director of the Athenaeum Press; and many others.

CCU's location at the northern tip of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor perfectly situates it as a national center for academic research, and the Joyner Institute exists as the only interdisciplinary institute dedicated to a critical understanding of Gullah Geechee people and other descendants within the global African Diaspora.

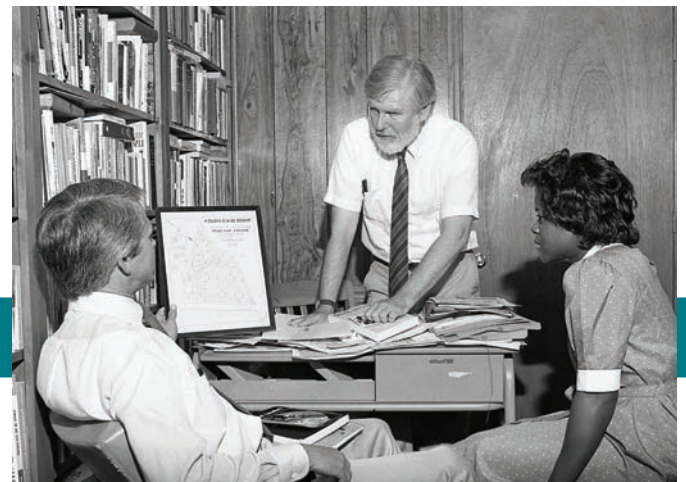
In its first five years, the Joyner Institute has involved faculty,



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“You’ll find more the same in us despite the many wars that have been fought over the differences.”

–Charles Joyner



students, community members, and internationally-recognized scholars in its exploration of Gullah Geechee history and culture. Acclaimed guest speakers have included Cornel West, political activist and Harvard University professor of philosophy; Nikky Finney, National Book Award-winning poet who lived in Conway, S.C., as a child; Benjamin Dennis, Charleston-based celebrity chef of Gullah-Geechee cuisine; Sunn m’Cheaux, Gullah Geechee language instructor at Harvard University; and Amadu Massally, documentary filmmaker from Sierra Leone. In addition, the institute has established an annual International Gullah Geechee and African Diaspora Conference (2019, 2020) that establishes Coastal Carolina University as a leading center for Africana studies.

The Joyner Institute also facilitates collaboration among students and faculty within other Edwards College experiential centers. The Athenaeum Press has been central to Gullah Geechee scholarship, with numerous multi-media projects focusing on this culture’s music, language, food, history, and art: “At Low Tide: Voices of Sandy Island,” “A Little Chicken and Rice,” and “A Hushed Thrill” all allowed for direct interaction between Edwards College students and faculty and Gullah people, places, and culture. These projects, in fact, led

to two significant grants for continued research, preservation, and archiving of Gullah Geechee cultural resources.

In 2017, the National Park Service awarded the Sandy Island Cultural Initiative grant, totaling more than \$104,000, to preserve the heritage of the unique Sandy Island community. The Gullah Geechee Digital Project grant, totaling more than \$270,000, was awarded by the National Archives in 2019 to make Gullah historical records accessible to the public and available to the community members who produced them.

Other branches of the Joyner Institute’s work includes the development of a minor in African and African Diaspora Studies and numerous study abroad trips that will allow students to travel to global locations from which the Gullah culture evolved. The addition of Ashlyn Pope, who is of Gullah descent, as associate director of the institute in Fall 2021 will bring a fresh perspective to its leadership.

As an author, musician, folklorist, anthropologist, and Southerner, Joyner gave a clear expression of the impetus behind his life’s work studying Gullah culture:

“You’ll find more the same in us despite the many wars that have been fought over the differences.”

Learn local Go global

with the
Edwards College

For its entire history – even before its official inception – the Edwards College has had an eye on the global stage. Faculty have conducted scholarly research, led study abroad excursions, and collaborated with international students in locations ranging from Afghanistan to South Africa to China to Trinidad. Even when the CCU student population hovered around 4,000, select programs were finding ways to connect international people and cultures to form scholarly, mutually educational relationships.

Today the Edwards College has adopted a more intentional, comprehensive, and multi-faceted approach to ensuring that faculty and students build an active and engaged global perspective. Dean Claudia Bornholdt has formalized her intention of raising the college's collective vision to a global scope with new initiatives and a catchy tagline: Learn Local, Go Global.

The phrase originated from Bornholdt's impression with faculty scholarship when she first arrived at CCU in 2019.

"Here we are, this very local/regional public institution, and when I came as dean, I noticed that there's so much world-class scholarship happening and so many global engagements already," said Bornholdt. "We're bringing students on study abroad trips, we're bringing

Fulbright faculty here, and we're sending out faculty and students on Fulbrights around the world. It struck me that CCU is a local gem, a regional institution with a global reach. The impetus was here, but nobody had articulated it. It was something I could easily build on."

Bornholdt has taken that impression and run with it, seeking to standardize global engagement for, ideally, every Edwards student.

"My vision involves sending more students abroad, by finding ways to increase the numbers of students who can enjoy this very affordable education here and have opportunities to go out into the world," said Bornholdt.

Curriculum and steering committees are also key elements in Bornholdt's implementation of the Learn Local, Go Global motto. The college added five minors in 2019 and 2020, essentially dividing the former global studies minor into study areas that reflect specific regions and cultures around the world, including African and African Diaspora studies, Middle Eastern studies, and Asian studies. The latter, in particular, is growing quickly, largely through the work of Xinyi Tan, assistant professor of Chinese.

"Within one semester, there were 14 students in the minor," said Bornholdt. "That's rapid growth, and it shows how much interest there is."



"It's about sending people physically into the world, but also having a global mindset and more open mind, embracing different cultures and traditions."

– Dean Claudia Bornholdt

The college has also instituted a Global Engagement Committee, with representation from every department, to ensure that a broader perspective permeates all corners of faculty and student scholarship and activities.

"It's about sending people physically into the world, but also having a global mindset and more open mind, embracing different cultures and traditions," said Bornholdt.

The "Learn Local" half of the equation also involves engaging Edwards faculty and students with local communities. Bornholdt pointed to the creation of the Teal Alley public mural in Conway; the creation of public art boxes scheduled for installation on campus and in Conway and Georgetown in Fall 2021; and the Myrtle Beach theatre, scheduled to open in 2022-23, as evidence that the Edwards College is dedicated to building a fully integrated relationship with local audiences.

The refreshed focus is also about empowerment and the recognition that the world-class work of Edwards' faculty and students should be acknowledged by a broader audience.

"We need to let the public know that we're doing the same, and even more exciting, work than universities with much higher profiles than CCU," said Bornholdt. "We're not a research 1 institution; we're not a flagship institution; we're a little bit off the beaten path; we're not in a big urban area, but we are doing all these things an impactful university ought to be doing. That's what makes us special."





2017

Sandy Island Cultural Initiative wins grant

Eric Crawford, musicologist and director of the Joyner Institute, and Alli Crandell, director of the Athenaeum Press, are awarded a 2017 National Parks Service grant for \$104,798 to support the Sandy Island Cultural Initiative. The project provides for preservation of the Sandy Island School and refurbishment and restoration of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church. Located within the Waccamaw River near Pawleys Island and accessible

only by boat, Sandy Island is a key locale for cultural and historical research of Gullah people in Horry County.

The three-year project, which involves undergraduate and graduate students as well as affiliated faculty, continues an Edwards College legacy of Gullah culture research originally begun by Charles Joyner himself with his book *Down by the Riverside: A South Carolina Slave Community*.

2018

Hurricane Florence strikes the South Carolina coast, closing CCU for three weeks due to extensive flooding.

Students, faculty, and staff evacuate CCU campus under hurricane threat on Sept. 11, 2018. Hurricane Florence causes catastrophic damage due to flooding throughout Conway and surrounding counties.

M.A. in music technology established

Headed by Tim Fischer, the M.A. in music tech blends music production and design by enhancing students' technological, professional, commercial, and media skills.

B.A. in commercial music and jazz established

Commercial music and jazz offers courses, ensembles, and professional experiences. Developed by Tim Fischer, the program prepares students to become performers, recording engineers, composers, and commercial arrangers.



Peter Seifarth becomes first CCU student to be named a Fulbright Scholar

The Edwards College Department of Theatre claims CCU's very first student Fulbright Scholar. Physical theatre major Peter Seifarth '17 earned the award in 2017, traveling to Nepal in 2017-18 to further his study. Seifarth discovered his passion for physical theatre during his residential experience at the Accademia dell'Arte in Italy, where he worked with mentor Roshan Mehta.



2018

Bunnelle Foundation Grant

In January 2018, the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation awards \$707,715 – the largest grant award in the history of the Edwards College – for the Georgetown RISE project, submitted by Pam Martin of the Department of Politics.

The project creates a series of 35 internships in Georgetown, S.C., to promote sustainable business practices.

In 2017, Martin founded “A United Nations Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development,” shortened to Georgetown RISE, through a collaboration with the North-Inlet Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) and Georgetown County. The program focuses on Resilience, Innovation, Sustainability, and Education in and around the Georgetown community.

The program continues each spring and summer semester, employing students in sustainability-focused internships.

2019

Claudia Bornholdt becomes dean of the Edwards College

Bornholdt's key goals include expanding global experience opportunities, developing interdisciplinary programs, and strengthening ties with area communities.

The Department of English offers new concentrations

Creative writing; literature and culture; and composition, rhetoric, and linguistics are newly available concentrations, while English studies offers a more generalized disciplinary experience.

Matt White, associate professor in the Department of Music, receives Guggenheim Fellowship.

White is the first CCU faculty member to receive this honor. White uses the grant to compose a synthesis of Gullah and jazz music, incorporating Gullah community musicians.

The Department of Communication offers a concentration in sports communication

This concentration focuses on skills needed to work in advertising and corporate roles, athletic departments, or sports media outlets.

M.A. in communication established

Students choose from two concentrations: communication leadership and communication advocacy. Developed by Deb Breede, this program prepares students for positions in for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.

Hannah Hamelman '18 is awarded Critical Languages Scholarship (CLS)

Hamelman travels to Tbilisi, Georgia, to study Russian for 10 weeks in Summer 2019. She is the first CCU student to earn this prestigious U.S. State Department scholarship.

Roger K. Johansen First-Year Writing Awards established within the Department of English

The department honors longtime Senior Lecturer Roger Johansen (1954-2019) (BA '09/MAT '10/MAW '15) by renaming the longstanding First-Year Writing Award contest in his memory.

World-renowned Vienna Boys Choir sells out Wheelwright Auditorium.

The Vienna Boys Choir makes its first CCU appearance in Fall 2019, performing to a sold-out crowd in Wheelwright Auditorium.



2019

Barbara Astrini wins Emmy Award

Barbara Astrini '11 uses her B.A. in graphic design to launch herself right into a high-profile career in television entertainment. Employing skills she learned from the “holy trinity” of the Edwards College visual arts department – Paul Olsen, Scott Mann, and Jeff Case – Astrini reaches a career milestone when her “Color Song: Red,” produced for Nick Jr., wins a 2019 Emmy Award for Outstanding Short Format Children’s Program.

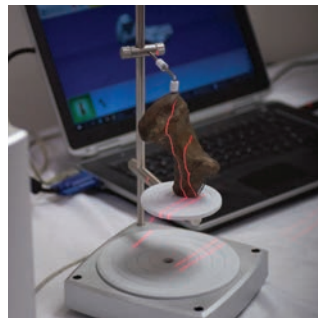


2019

Gullah Geechee Digitization Project

Gullah scholarship in the Edwards College hits another high note when Alli Crandell, director of the Athenaeum Press, and Eric Crawford, musicologist and director of the Joyner Institute, receive a 2019 National Archives grant, in the amount of \$270,327, for “The Gullah Geechee Digital Project.” The project will make Gullah historical records available to the public and accessible to the community itself, which is often left out of formal archival activities.

The grant work involves digitizing current collections at the Library of Congress, the South Carolina Historical Society, and the Association for Cultural Equity – including 6,900 pages of text, 90 hours of video, and six hours of films – and creating a user-friendly website for materials. The grant, which will conclude in June 2022, also provides for making connections with family members to inform them of and involve them in handling of the holdings.



2019

“Printing the Past” interdisciplinary project wins multiple awards

Katie Clary, assistant professor of history, and Carolyn Dillian, professor of anthropology, lead an interdisciplinary group of students in creating an award-winning experiential project. The “Printing the Past: SC in 3D” museum exhibit incorporates 3-D renderings of artifacts that are fully accessible to individuals with sensory differences. The exhibit wins multiple awards at regional and national levels, including the History in Progress Award from the American Association for State and Local History.

2020

COVID-19 pandemic begins in March

Students, faculty, and staff are moved off campus and all instruction is moved online amid a global pandemic that brings social distancing, masking, and technology to prominence in daily life.

B.F.A. in visual communication design established

This program allows students to fine-tune technical design skills in a holistic, conceptually-driven curriculum.

B.F.A. in visual art established

This degree focuses on the mastery of diverse technical skills, the development of dynamic visual communication across multiple media, and an understanding of contemporary art practices.

B.A. in religious studies offers concentrations in religion in public life and textual studies

Religion in public life focuses on historical and socio-political influences. The textual studies concentration focuses on a single sacred text and its societal and cultural impacts.

2021

Department of Intelligence and Security Studies established

The intelligence and security studies major moves out of the Department of Politics and becomes its own department with a new name that reflects its global scope.

Michael T. Benson becomes third president of Coastal Carolina University.

Benson begins his leadership as CCU president and professor of history on Jan. 1, 2021. Benson previously served as president of Eastern Kentucky University, from 2013-2020.

Center for Inclusive Excellence established

With undergraduate research fellows, affiliated coursework and faculty, and programming, the CIE highlights diversity and inclusion within the Edwards College.

B.M.E. in music education established

The creation of this new program prepares students to become music educators for K-12 programs. Many students find employment in South Carolina schools.

Interdisciplinary Studies joins Edwards College

This program allows students, guided by faculty mentors, to create a customized course of study to earn either a B.A. or B.S. degree.



2021

Grant helps create the Intercultural Language Resource Center

Gary Schmidt receives a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program for \$181,636 to create the Intercultural Language Resource Center (ILRC). The center allows students to enhance and apply their acquired foreign language to practical, real-world matters.

Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts STATISTICS - FALL 2001 AND FALL 2020

	FALL '01	FALL '20	% of Change
Departments 2001			
Department of Art	517	1,825	↑ 253%
Department of English and Journalism			
Department of Foreign Languages			
Department of History			
Department of Philosophy and Religion			
Department of Music			
Department of Politics and Geography			
Department of Theatre			
Departments 2021			
Department of Communication, Media, and Culture			
Department of Digital Culture and Design			
Department of English			
Department of History			
Department of Intelligence and Security Studies			
Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies			
Department of Music			
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies			
Department of Theatre			
Department of Visual Arts			
Master's programs:			
Master of Arts in Liberal Studies			
Master of Arts in Writing			
Master of Arts in Music Technology			
Master of Arts in Communication			
Undergraduate Student Enrollment	517	1,825	↑ 253%
Graduate Student Enrollment	–	63	↑ 630%
Number of Undergraduate Majors	8	19	↑ 137.5%
Number of Graduate Majors	–	4	↑ 400%
Number of Full-time Faculty	74	201	↑ 171.6%
Number of Part-time Faculty	38	46	↑ 21.1%
Number of programs (majors)	8	19	↑ 138.0%
Number of programs (including minors)	20	64	↑ 320%
Number of experiential centers	–	5	↑ 500%
Number of students studying abroad	25	85	↑ 340%

Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts Board of Visitors

Dean Claudia Bornholdt has been expanding and enriching the Edwards College board of visitors (BOV) membership. These alumni and community leaders participate in philanthropy, program and event planning, and decision-making related to community involvement in the life of the college.

Timothy Bardlavens • Johnnie Bellamy • Robin Edwards • Linda Fry • Amy Hall • Sally Anne Kaiser
Joyce Karetas • Page Kiniry • Henrietta Malizia • Penny Martin • Lineta Pritchard • Michelle Russo
JouJou Safa • Richard Trout • Amber Nicole White • Janet Witte



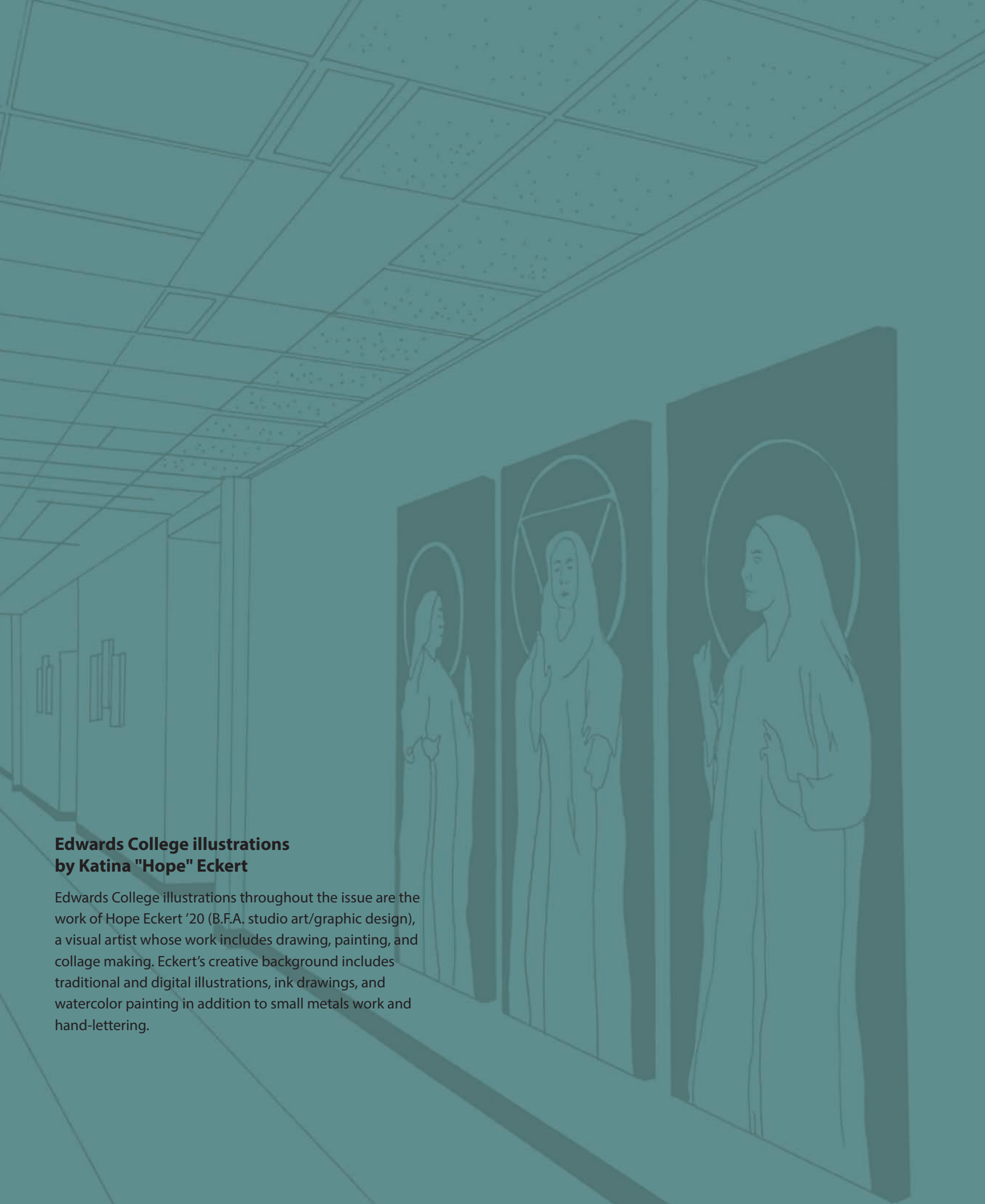
Edwards College Homecoming 2021: *We Want You Back*

SAVE THE DATE: NOV. 12-13, 2021

Please come visit! The Edwards College extends a warm welcome for homecoming weekend, and we hope to see you there. Events include a signature concert, an Edwards tailgate party before the Nov. 13 football game against Georgia State, and a series of alumni talks on topics of expertise. Check coastal.edu/humanites for details.

Stroll through the Edwards building, where even a simple walk through the halls brings back the sights, sounds, and aromas of art in action. Enjoy a special art exhibit in the Rebecca Randall Bryan Gallery or tour one of our experiential learning centers. Stop by the dean's office to meet Claudia Bornholdt, or look up your favorite professor. Take a trip to downtown Conway to view Teal Alley. Your homecoming experience is yours to create; make the people and places of the Edwards College a central part of your visit.





**Edwards College illustrations
by Katina "Hope" Eckert**

Edwards College illustrations throughout the issue are the work of Hope Eckert '20 (B.F.A. studio art/graphic design), a visual artist whose work includes drawing, painting, and collage making. Eckert's creative background includes traditional and digital illustrations, ink drawings, and watercolor painting in addition to small metals work and hand-lettering.



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College of Humanities and Fine Arts**
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Engrave your name into Coastal Carolina University's history

Money raised through the "Name-A-Seat" program will go toward supporting student scholarships and programs in the Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts. Your donation is tax-deductible.

To name a seat or for more information, please contact the Dean's Office at 843-349-2444 or email bornholdt@coastal.edu.

