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**ECU SCHOOL OF  
COMMUNICATION**

**YEARBOOK**

**FALL 2020**

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# FALL 2020 ECU SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION YEARBOOK

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# A MESSAGE FROM **THE SOC DIRECTOR**

My sincerest congratulations to the graduates of the ECU's School of Communication!

This has been an incredible and unprecedented year to be sure. In these unsettling times in particular, I am incredibly impressed with your hard work, determination and perseverance.

You have had to deal with a lot this year. Many of you have either been ill or taken care of a friend or family member who has suffered. You have moved in and out of dorms, apartments, houses and towns. You have gotten jobs, changed jobs and lost jobs. But these things did not deter you. You continued to persevere.

Your classes moved online. They were in semester; they were in blocks. They were 15 weeks long; they were eight weeks long. Amid this chaos, you persisted.

You impress me. Graduates, we in the School of Communication are all so proud of your hard work and your achievements.

Even before the stress and change that came with COVID, you impressed us. You have met and exceeded our expectations of you and our requirements for you.

We know that it hasn't all been easy. Throughout your years at ECU, you have worked tirelessly to earn this degree. Some of you have juggled classes and jobs and careers and families and injuries or illnesses. Some of you have struggled as you pulled all-nighters and gave up your weekend time to complete multiple demanding assignments in your classes. When we asked you to make the most of your time spent here in the School of Communication, you responded enthusiastically. You embraced class assignments, met with professors outside of class, and participated in organizations such as PRSSA. You attended guest lectures and programs in the evenings or on weekends. You immersed yourselves in challenges and in opportunities and benefited from them all.

You graduate today as savvy and confident individuals with the credentials you need to excel in a variety of professions in communication. On behalf of our faculty and staff members in the School of Communication, I commend each of you for all that you have done to make this important day a reality.

Whatever your plans are next, please know that we are cheering for you. And, here are my closing words of wisdom to each one of you:

Be confident in your degree.

Be confident in the knowledge you have.

Be confident in the skills and the abilities that you now possess.

Be confident that you are ready for the next step in your journey—whatever that step might be for you.

From all of us in the School of Communication, we wish you good luck in your journey. Congratulations!

Linda Kean, PhD  
Director, School of Communication

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# MESSAGES FROM THE SOC FACULTY

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Congratulations graduates! I wish your graduation could be in person and I know that your final year was different from what you expected. But, in spite of everything, you did it! So, please enjoy your special day and be proud of your accomplishments! As you go forth and continue to experience personal and professional success, please know that I have enjoyed being a part of your learning experience and that I learn much from my students in turn. Please keep in touch.

Barbara Bullington

Congratulations to our Fall 2020 graduates! You have all persevered during challenging times! Congrats on this wonderful achievement!

Dr. Prividera

Congratulations class of 2020! You're well on your way to success! The Pirate Nation is a community, and although you're leaving the campus, you will always be a part of us! Cheers!

Dr. Mary

Congratulations, Class of 2020! You have already proven your resilience by finishing your final year of college with all the challenges and losses of a global pandemic. Despite those losses, we know that you will have so much to gain in the months and years ahead. Go out and contribute to the world – but please remember the good times and all that you learned in the School of Communication and at East Carolina University. We love our students, are proud of you, and look forward to hearing how you'll make a difference in the world.

Dr. Cindy Elmore

Congratulations! I am proud of your accomplishments and wish you great and continued success in your life and in your careers.  
Dr. Pam Hopkins

Congrats SOC Grads! You are the class of 2020 and have persevered through the weirdest and often most challenging academic year ever! I know that this is just the beginning and the best is yet to come. Enjoy this huge accomplishment! As an SOC graduate and Pirate for life....welcome to the best group of alumni out there.

Go Pirates!  
Dr. Nikki Nichols

Congratulations graduates! You have worked hard, learned a lot, and are ready to take on the world!  
Best of luck in the future!  
Mike Catalano

Graduates, what an accomplishment! No matter what else happens in your life, you've got your degree. Yay for you!  
Dr. Rebecca Dumlao

Congrats grads!!  
Dr. Johnson

Congratulations and best wishes to all of the Fall 2020 SOC graduates! You deserve to be celebrated. Go Pirates!  
Kelsey Sands

Congratulations on graduating! Use what you have learned to bring positivity to your life.  
Dr. Keith Richards

Congratulations to the class of 2020! It's been a joy working with you all over the years. I wish you the best in all that you do!  
Brittany Wood



Congratulations at this important milestone in your life. John Dewey stated, "education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." Hope you continue to learn, grow, and explore. Wishing you all the best for your future endeavors!  
Dr. Sachiyo Shearman

I know this year and fall 2020 semester are not at all what you would have hoped for or imagined long ago when you were brand new Pirates. It has been a roller coaster that seemingly hits a new turn every day. What I can say is that you all truly have been resilient and never wavered in your work and dedication. This tenacity and toughness are ingrained in you and something that will remain with you entering any of your next endeavors. I am so proud of you all and wish you all the best!  
Daniel Wiseman

Congratulations, Pirate graduates! Wishing you all the best on your next adventure.  
Jennifer Cabacar

You have worked so hard to get to this moment. Enjoy it and celebrate your accomplishments. Your hard work, determination, and perseverance have made this moment possible. I am so proud and wish you the best on your next journey. Congratulation! #PirateStrong  
Brittany Thompson

# CONGRATULATIONS,

## FALL 2020 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION GRADUATES!

### Graduate Students

Rachel Mauriene Alligood  
Brenna Nicole Barber  
Chloe Alexandra Blackmon  
Caitlin Michelle Brewington  
Kirie Danielle Cheek  
Trina Marie Davis  
Elizabeth Marie Earnhardt  
Chayton Moon Jordan  
Gregory Kreamer  
Laura Ashley Lamm  
Courtney Allison McNair  
Emily Hunter Demarest Ruiz  
Carty Ann Beaston

### Undergraduate Students

AnnaMarie Lourdes Allen  
Taylor Brooke Allen  
Cindy Claros Arriagada\*  
Kelly Francis Ashworth  
Owen Fisher Bond  
Victoria Lee Bridgeman  
Tureq Brown  
Randolph H Christian III\*\*  
Jessie Layne Cockrell  
Hayden B. Cork  
Kelly A Couse  
Autumn Beth Cranford  
Havanna Kennedy Deaver  
Gabriella Eniya Delcampo  
NeTyra Drake  
Kayla Christian Dudley  
Adam Lee Earnhardt  
Brandon O'neal-Ellenburg-Johnson  
Conor O'Donnell Ferns\*\*  
Faren Frizzelle  
Zachary H Gardner  
Mackenzie Elizabeth Garle\*\*\*  
Bernell Sawyer Gaskins  
Brendan Patrick Gillespie  
Bianca Rose Grande  
Peyton Owen Gray\*\*  
Stephanie F Hanley  
Damani A. Harrison



Mason Elizabeth Hedgecock  
Matthew Davis Henley  
Ashlea Megan Hetrick\*\*  
Conner Blue Hillgrove  
Terrence Holland  
Chandler Brooks Honeycutt  
Stevi Michelle Jacobs  
Erika Symone Johnson  
Jenna Jordan  
Griffin James Julian  
Tiffany Nicole Kessler  
Hannah Elizabeth Knott  
Nathan James Lilly\*\*  
Andrea Maria Loy\*\*  
Kelly Marie Lux  
Allison Grace McAuley  
Nicole Elizabeth McCormick\*\*  
Jodie Diamond McKee\*\*\*  
Joseph Elijah McLaughlin  
Brianna Marie McNair\*\*\*  
Kameron Tysean McNeill\*\*\*  
Anise McNellie  
KeAndre LeRoi Mitchell  
Marcus Dylane Moore  
Julia Rose Morris  
Yakira Samira Muhammad\*  
Gerald Nesmith Jr  
Mac Vu Nguyen  
Sheila P Nicholson  
Hannah Grace Nixon  
Leslie Anne Nixon  
Cheryl Ann Peek\*\*  
Gillian Nicole Pena  
Kyle Andrew Peterson\*  
Kelby Elizabeth Porter  
Christian Blake Proehl\*  
Katelyn Rose Queen\*\*

Julie Ann Quinn  
Courtney Alexandra Ragland  
Sarah Grace Ramsey  
Kathleen Michelle Riggi\*\*  
Elizabeth Kelly Roland  
Audrey Dare Rouse  
Kira Aaliyah Lynnette Royal  
Aimee Adair Sarbinoff\*\*\*  
Ondrea Shaw  
Sydney Autumn Shaw\*\*  
Sullivan James Shea  
Daniel Taylor Shepard\*\*\*  
Ronald Aumont Smith III\*\*  
Olivia Paige Spencer  
Anna-Gray Stallings  
Carter Austin Stephenson  
Barbara Sue Stevenson\*\*  
Darkeisha Roshawn Suggs\*  
Amari-EL Mehkya Thompson  
Nathanael David-Hugh Torbett  
Deshaunda Sherrelle Venable  
Savannah Marie Walker\*\*  
Trey Richardson Wells  
Jordan Leigh Whinnery  
Nicholas Alexander Whitlock  
Noah Mikhail Wilkerson\*\*\*  
Hallie Royster Williams  
Sierra RaeLynne Williams  
Suzanne Cathleen Williams  
Michelle May Wilson  
Janiya Moné Winchester  
Elena Marie Woodall  
Michael Kyle Wooley  
Jacqueline Andrea Yearde

\*\*\* - Summa Cum Laude

\*\* - Magna Cum Laude

\* - Cum Laude



# FALL 2020 ECU SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION GRADUATES

Graduate Students



## RACHEL ALLIGOOD

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory of ECU was the Pirate Nation spirit and tailgating for home games every Saturday during football season.

**Student Involvement:** In undergrad I was a member of the Kappa Delta sorority and I am now a Kappa Delta alumna.



## BRENNA BARBER

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory of being a part of the School of Communication is the 4 years of building relationships with all the people in the school. I have made so many close friends and memories that I will cherish for a lifetime!

**University positions:** Graduate teaching and research assistant.

**Student Involvement** I was a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, a service sorority for a year!

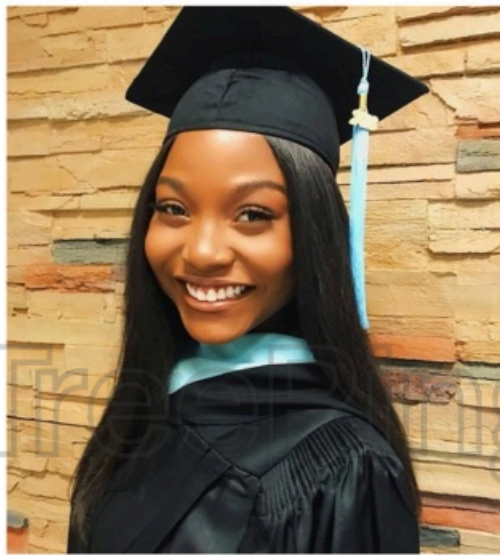
**Awards and honors:** A publication with Dr. Kang for her study regarding: How Newspapers Cover E-Cigarette Controversy: A cross-national study of the US, UK, and South Korea. Public Understanding of Science Journal.



## CARTY ANN BEASTON

### Graduate Certificate in Health Communication

**Favorite Memory:** I absolutely LOVED Media & Health Comm and Health Comm Campaigns (currently enrolled in that), but my favorite memory includes re-creating a Peloton commercial with my husband for my final Media & Health Comm project. I learned so much and got to work out with my husband, which I truly love doing in my free time.



## CHLOE BLACKMON

### Master of Arts in Communication



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## CAIT BREWINGTON

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory in the School of Communication is going to class with my friends in our Halloween wigs. I cannot thank the faculty and my friends in the program enough for everything they have done for me.

**University Positions:** SOC Graduate Student Admissions Liaison; Teaching Assistant



## KIRIE CHEEK

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Student Involvement:** I was an SOC Ambassador in undergrad for two years.

I will miss being a Comm student so much!



## TRINA DAVIS

### Master of Arts in Communication

While I never attended a face-to-face class on campus at ECU, attending as a distance-learning student still afforded me with school spirit and pride and the opportunity to learn from all my amazing professors. I will be forever grateful to my undergrad and graduate advisors who both provided me with the guidance and directions needed for the success of my educational journey. To all my classmates I met and worked with throughout the past two years, thank you for all the experiences we shared through teamwork, partnerships, and discussion boards. What an awesome way to end 2020!! Best Wishes to you all!



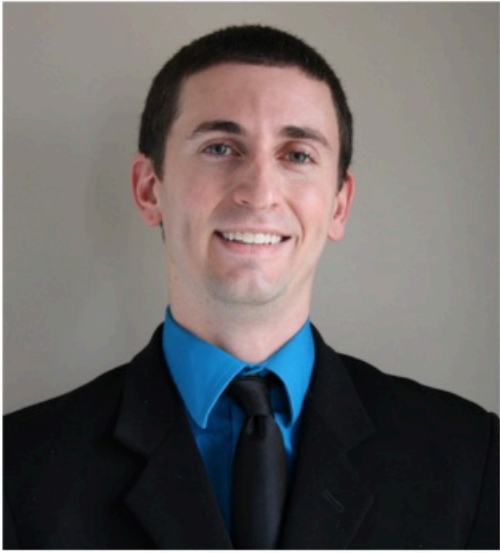
## CHAYTON JORDAN

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite memory:** My favorite memory of my time at ECU, was when I got the job at WZMB 91.3, I had the time of my life working at the radio station on campus. It helped prepare me for so much, and I met so many interesting people!

**University Positions:** Radio Host at WZMB 91.3 and TA for the School of Communication.

**Student Involvement:** I was a part of ECU Student Media



## GREG KREAMER

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory from grad school was the day I got my results from my comp exams. I was sitting in my office at work when I noticed the email, and I couldn't help but let out an audible "woo!"



## LAURA LAMM

### Master of Arts in Communication

In my family, I'm proud to be a third-generation ECU Pirate and fifth-generation educator in North Carolina. With so many academic, leadership, service, and cultural opportunities as a member of the Pirate Nation, we've been fully prepared to sail forth successfully in our careers and community. Every day is a great day to be a Pirate!

**Favorite Memory:** Traveling to Poland and the Czech Republic with the School of Communication to study abroad in the summer of 2019 was the highlight of my academic journey at ECU. Meeting classmates, experiencing diverse cultures, visiting historical sites, and delving deeper into the field of communication made for a memorable educational experience.

**Student Involvement:** I am a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Society.

**Awards:** I was the recipient of the School of Communication Scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year.



## EMILY HUNTER DEMAREST RUIZ

### Master of Arts in Communication

**Favorite Memory:** The faculty are incredible and each teacher I worked with helped my graduate experience. I am a distant education student who didn't feel distant from my ECU Community. Go Pirates!



**CONGRATULATIONS  
FALL 2020  
SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION  
GRADUATE STUDENTS!**

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# FALL 2020 ECU SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION GRADUATES

Undergraduate Students



## MALERY ABDELAZIZ

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory is walking to class with the beautiful colors and trees, I'm really going to miss being on our campus. I hate that COVID took that away for my last semester, but I am grateful we got to be on campus for a short time in the beginning!

**Student Involvement:** I have been part of Phi Mu Fraternity since 2017

East Carolina was my first choice of schools and I am eternally grateful for the opportunities I had at this university. I will be sad to leave, but I have so much to take with me on my journey in life!



## CINDY ARRIAGADA

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication



## KELLY ASHWORTH

**Concentration:** Public Relations with and emphasis in Hospitality Management

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory of my time at East Carolina University has been creating lifelong friendships and relationships with professors who have shaped me into the person and young professional I hoped to become.

**Student Involvement:** A member of the Chi Omega, Rho Zeta Chapter at ECU





## OWEN BOND

**Concentration:** Public Relations

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory at ECU is connecting with new friends through my Communication major. I will never forget my friends and memories I made at ECU



## GABRIELLA DELCAMPE

**Concentration:** Media Studies

**Student Involvement:** I was a member of the East Carolina Chapter of Queen in You. I became President during my senior year. I have also been a member of SAB.

**Awards:** I maintained my position on the Dean's List for several semesters, and I am also an ALANA recipient.

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory from the School of Communications is the semester I took Public Speaking. My TA/Teacher was great. All I can remember are the laughs that we shared as a class.



## MACKENZIE GARLE

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** Interacting with classmates and professors in discussion boards and feeling like I'm part of a community even as a distance student.

**Student Involvement:** Phi Kappa Phi Honor society, President of East Carolina University's Odyssey community



## BRENDAN GILLESPIE

**Concentration:** Media Studies

**Favorite Memory:** One of my favorite memories during my time at ECU was learning about sports in Chuck Twardy's Sports Media Survey class and having several of my friends who worked with me in the class. I also loved hanging out with my friends outside of Joyner East before and after class.

**Student Involvement:** I have held several positions at The East Carolinian Newspaper, with the most notable being the Sports Editor.





## PEYTON GRAY

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Student Involvement:** Involvement with media at ECU athletic events and Sports Commentator at WZMB 91.3 FM

**Awards:** ECU Excels Spring of 2018



## ASHLEA HETRICK

**Concentration** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory is a favorite teacher. I had the pleasure of taking several of Dr. Dumlao's classes over the last two years. I enjoyed every class she taught. It is evident that she loves what she does, and it translates to her students.

**Student Involvement:** I am a member of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi of East Carolina University Chapter 114.



## CONNER HILLGROVE

**Concentration:** Public Relations

Go Pirates!



## ANDREA LOY

**Concentration:** Public Relations

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory in the School of Communication is watching the movie Sully in Dr. Jin-Ae Kang's class and having donuts to snack on during the movie.

**Student Involvement:** I'm a member of Phi Kappa Phi, a member of PRSSA (Public Relations Student Society of America), and a past member of the ECU Figure Skating Club.

**Awards & Accomplishments:** I won The Thomas W. Rivers Foreign Exchange Scholarship in the Spring of 2020. I took Japanese Levels 1-4, Spanish Level 3, and American Sign Language Level 1 during my time at ECU.



## ALLISON MCAULEY

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite memory:** Meeting so many great people

**Student Involvement:** Captain of the Club Field Hockey team



## NICOLE MCCORMICK

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite memory:** My favorite memory at ECU would be when we beat UNC in football my sophomore year!

**Student Involvement:** I was the Fundraising Chairman for my sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha





## JODIE MCKEE

**Concentration:** Public Relations major with a minor in Fashion Merchandising

**Student Involvement:** Member of the ECU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society.



## KAMERON MCNEILL

**Concentration:** Double Major - Public Relations & Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite memory:** Some of my favorite memories are from attending guest speaker presentations and just being able to hear about their experiences in the field of communication as professionals.



## ANISE MCNELLIE

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication



## MARCUS MOORE

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Favorite Memory:** When I became a DJ at WZMB 91.3FM (The college radio station at ECU!)

**Student Involvement:** WZMB 91.3FM DJ and Pirate Media 1 Orientation Assistant

I am an ECU Transit bus operator and supervisor, and I have my Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL).



## YAKIRA SAMIRA MUHAMMAD

**Concentration:** Biology major with a concentration in Journalism

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory is taking photos with a photographer for my Pirate Profile I did in October. It was a fun experience to be in front of the camera. I was happy that I had an article all about me and my aspirations.

**Awards:** Featured as a Pirate Profile in October 2020.



## CHERYL PEEK

**Concentration:** Media Studies

**Favorite Memory:** Ziplining through a cloud forest in Costa Rica for SOC Study Abroad!

**Student Involvement:** SOC Ambassador Spring 2019

**Awards:** I'll be graduating with Magna Cum Laude.

The School of Communication has opened so many doors and created such wonderful opportunities for me! Every professor here is amazing. I'm so excited that I can continue to see them while I attend Grad School for Health Communication!





## KYLE PETERSON

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication



## KATELYN QUEEN

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication.

**Favorite Memory:** I really enjoyed my Small Group Class, with Dr. Thomson, when we did group games and the egg drop!

**Student Involvement:** Younglife Leader (2018-2020)

**Awards:** Certificate of Academic Achievement, Spring 2018

I will be attending graduate school at ECU for a Master's in Health Communication!



## KATHLEEN RIGGI

**Concentration:** Media Studies

**Favorite Memory:** I loved my Gender and Communication class because it was one of the first classes I took that didn't feel like a class, and I felt that I really bonded with people in there.

**Student Involvement:** I was an Orientation Assistant for two summers and Communications Chair of Students' Treasure Chest. ECU Football Student Equipment Manager.

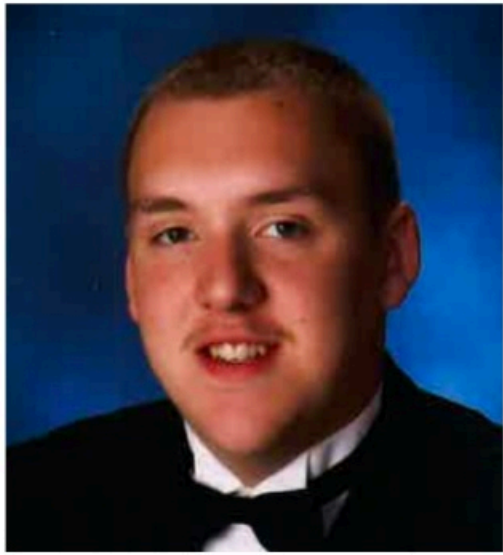
**Awards:** ECU Excels Program Honoree



## SYDNEY SHAW

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Student Involvement:** I am a member of Delta Zeta Sorority.



## DANIEL SHEPARD

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Student Involvement:** Sports Chief at The East Carolinian, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

**Awards:** Honorable Mention in Sports Writing from the North Carolina College Media Association (2019)



## RONALD SMITH

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Student Involvement:** Pirate Media 1 Member as DJ Righteous Ron of WZMB 91.3FM





## ANNA-GRAY STALLINGS

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication



## CARTER STEPHENSON

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Favorite Memory:** Beating NC State at Dowdy in 2016

**Student Involvement:** WZMB 91.3 FM



## BARB STEVENSON

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory is working as the Editor In Chief for ECU's Odyssey online magazine. I loved working with all the students producing content for the magazine, working together to get the stories out. It was so great knowing we were being read by students from all over the country, and being able, as well, to read their submission. It connected us all together as a team of writers, hoping to change the world.

**Student Involvement:** Member of Sigma Alpha Lambda.

**Awards:** Graduating Magna Cum Laude



## DARKEISHA SUGGS

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** Being part of a great university was my best memory. I enjoyed my time at ECU, and I appreciate all the efforts from everyone who helped me get here.



## SAVANNAH WALKER

**Concentration:** Public Relations, minor in History

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite thing about the SOC is how close knit everyone is and how supportive and caring the professors and staff are.

**Student Involvement:** Chair of the ECU SGA Elections Commission in 2019, member of Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority, PRSSA, intramural soccer.

**Awards:** Chancellor's / Dean's list for every semester I have attended ECU.



## TREY WELLS

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication

**Favorite Memory:** My first ECU football game in the Boneyard. I will never forget that feeling of involvement and excitement.

**Student Involvement:** National Honors Society of Leadership and Success - ECU Chapter



## SIERRA WILLIAMS

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Student Involvement:** Head Editor and Chief of Expressions Magazine and Anchors Away through Pirate 1 Media, 2019-2020; ECU Gospel Choir

"Everything takes time, and my time just so happens to be now. Grateful to graduate from this prestigious university."



## SUZIE WILLIAMS

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory from the School of Communication is in Media Writing and Reporting, to study for the final exam, we split into two groups in class and competed for cheesy prizes. It was fun and worked because I aced the final!



## NIYA WINCHESTER

**Concentration:** Journalism

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite memory of my time at ECU would have to be hanging out with my friends after long weeks of studying for finals!

**Student Involvement:** University Communications Intern at Health Sciences Campus/Brody, W.O.M.A.N., Student Leadership Board, Alpha Kappa Psi

**Awards:** Dean's List and Honors List



## KYLE WOOLEY

**Concentration:** Interpersonal / Organizational Communication





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