

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Non-Profit Adds Jobs to Assist with Growth

ERC Broadband Is Announcing a New Chief Operating Officer, Additional Staff in Facilities, Tech and Administration Departments

ASHEVILLE, NC. April 4, 2013 – The Education and Research Consortium of the Western Carolinas, Inc., known as ERC Broadband (ERC), is announcing the promotion of one team member as well as several additions to the team to meet their growing needs.

Bradley Cain was promoted to the position of Chief Operating Officer as of January 2013. Since joining the ERC, Cain has been able to create significant growth opportunities in the organization, and contributes to the overall strategic efforts. Bradley joined the ERC in 2010 after serving as the Director of IT for the YMCA of WNC and spending 10 years in enterprise telecom across the US prior to moving back to North Carolina.

Additionally, the ERC is proud to announce that it has added three new staff members. Paul Ebbs joined the technical team as a Network Administrator in October 2012. Ebbs served in the United States Air Force for 6 years providing telecommunications for a joint tactical squadron. While serving in the military, Ebbs obtained his B.S. in Information-Systems from Strayer University. After his time in the service Ebbs was assigned to the White House Communications Agency in Washington D.C. then went on to work for the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department.

Bobby Hough joined the Facilities team as the Junior Plant Engineer in December 2012. Hough came to the ERC with 25 years of enterprise telecom experience including significant network operations, maintenance, and direct implementation of communications equipment. Hough's leadership skills are equally evident through direct oversight of teams and interactions with all levels of core technical personnel, project management, and customer service.

Jessica Stavish is the newest member of the ERC team, joining as the Project Manager for the group. She has worked for several non-profit organizations over the last 10 years including the American Red Cross, and the YMCA of WNC. Her previous experience in operations and department management will help with operational efficiency and organize the growing demand for services.

The expansion of this technology based team is a testament to the continued growth the ERC is experiencing and will continue to experience in the future. "We are very pleased to see personal growth in our organization as well as adding these talented individuals to the ERC team," says ERC's Executive Director, Hunter Goosmann. "This growth is a direct result of the trust that communities across western North Carolina have placed in the ERC, its team, and its network."

The Education & Research Consortium of the Western Carolinas, Inc. (ERC) is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves western North Carolina as a middle mile network and data center

providing broadband Internet access (and more) to our customers. Based in Asheville, the ERC network spans from Franklin to Boone, and serves four primary groups including education, healthcare, government services, and economic development. The ERC team also serves as technology advocates for the region.

In addition, the ERC is also a partner to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Organization (NOAA), the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), and the National Weather Service (NWS) by being a top tier provider of NEXRAD weather data for the country as well as by supporting NCDC as a wide-area networking partner.

Online Resources:

ERC website: www.ercwnc.org

Twitter Social: [@gunterhoos](https://twitter.com/gunterhoos) (twitter ID for Hunter Goosmann)

Contact Information:

Phone: (828) 350-2415