

MOVE-IN EDITION



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

**Established 1974
Volume 52, Edition 1**

Elon News Network is a daily news organization that includes a newspaper, website, broadcasts and podcasts. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to enn@elon.edu as Word documents. ENN reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of ENN and will not be returned.

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ENN seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty, as well as serve as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.

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ENN is committed to accurate coverage. When factual errors are made, we correct them promptly and in full, both online and in print. Online corrections state the error and the change at the top of the article. Corrections from the previous week's print edition appear on this page.

Contact
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WHEN WE PUBLISH:

The Pendulum
publishes weekly on Wednesdays

Elon Local News
broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.

ELN Morning
broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.

ENN On Air
broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.

elonnewsnetwork.com
publishes daily

CORRECTIONS

There are no corrections from the last edition of The Pendulum.

Summer news briefs: elonnewsnetwork.com

6/30/22 | 5:37 PM

Elon University Center for Access and Success selects new executive director

Travella Free comes to Elon from Kentucky State University, will begin role July 1

Miranda Ferrante
Managing Editor of elonnewsnetwork.com

Travella Free has been named the new executive director of Elon University's Center for Access and Success and will begin the role July 1.

Free comes to Elon after five years at Kentucky State University, where she led the state's 4-H youth organization.

The Center for Access and Success helps

students from all backgrounds gain access to higher education and succeed academically, according to its website. The center serves both the university and surrounding communities, from pre-K students to adults, through its initiatives such as the It Takes a Village Project, Elon Academy, Odyssey Program and First-Generation Student Support Services.

8/1/22 | 6:10 PM

Elon University establishes Department of Engineering

The transition comes alongside the opening of the first two buildings of Innovation Quad

Miranda Ferrante
Managing Editor of elonnewsnetwork.com

Elon University took a step forward in its Boldly Elon Strategic Plan, officially establishing its Department of Engineering Aug. 1.

The formation of this department corresponds with the opening of the first two buildings in Elon's Innovation Quad — a "state-of-the-art" center for engineering and physics research and cross-disciplinary collaboration, according to a university news release.

The transition to a department comes as the program is expanding to offer more courses and degree concentrations.

According to the release, Elon's engineering program has been part of the university's Physics Department since 1999. This was when the university partnered with North Carolina State University to offer a dual-degree engineering program. That program then grew to count nine partner institutions.

8/11/22 | 5:18 PM

Elon University extends, expands partnership with TimelyCare

New services available this year include scheduled counseling, health coaching, group sessions and psychiatry

Miranda Ferrante
Managing Editor of elonnewsnetwork.com

Elon University will continue its partnership with TimelyCare, the virtual telehealth portal that provides students with free 24-hour access to medical and mental health hotlines, into the 2022-23 academic year.

Originally launched on campus October 2021, the service will be offered again this year and include additional services — all free of cost to students — according to an Aug. 11 email from Vice President for Student Life Jon Dooley.

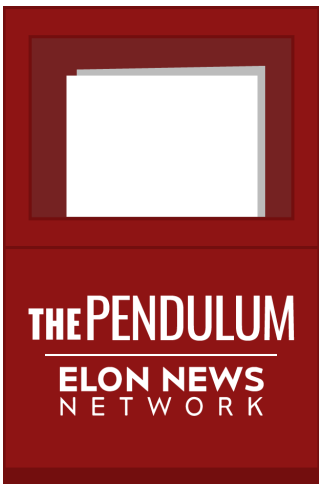
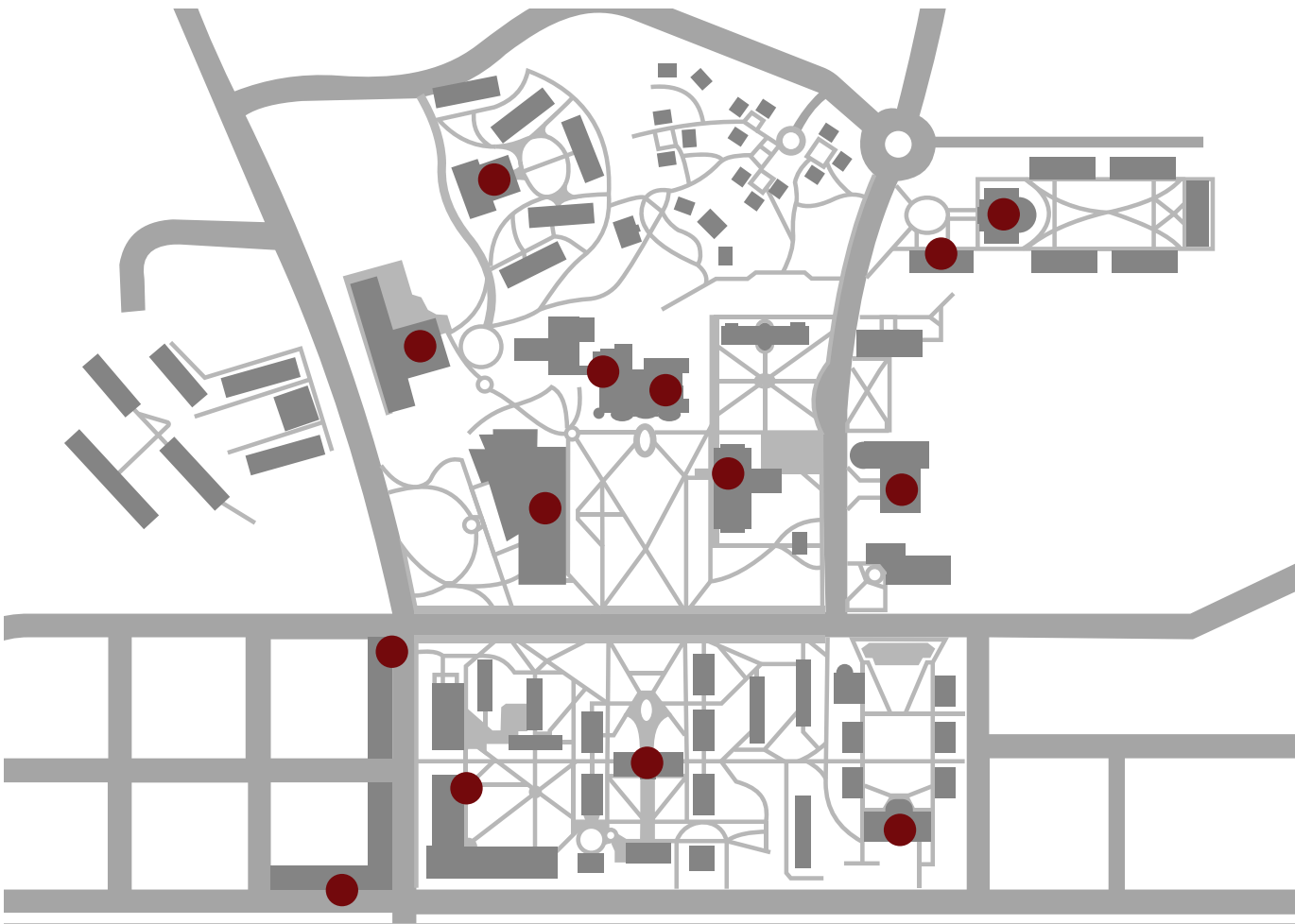
More than 1,000 students accessed these

services last year and Dooley wrote the response to the service was "overwhelmingly positive."

The continuation of services available last year includes 24/7 on-demand or scheduled access to a medical provider as well as TalkNow, 24/7, on-demand access to a mental health professional.

New services that will be available this year include scheduled counseling, health coaching, group sessions and psychiatry, available by referral only.

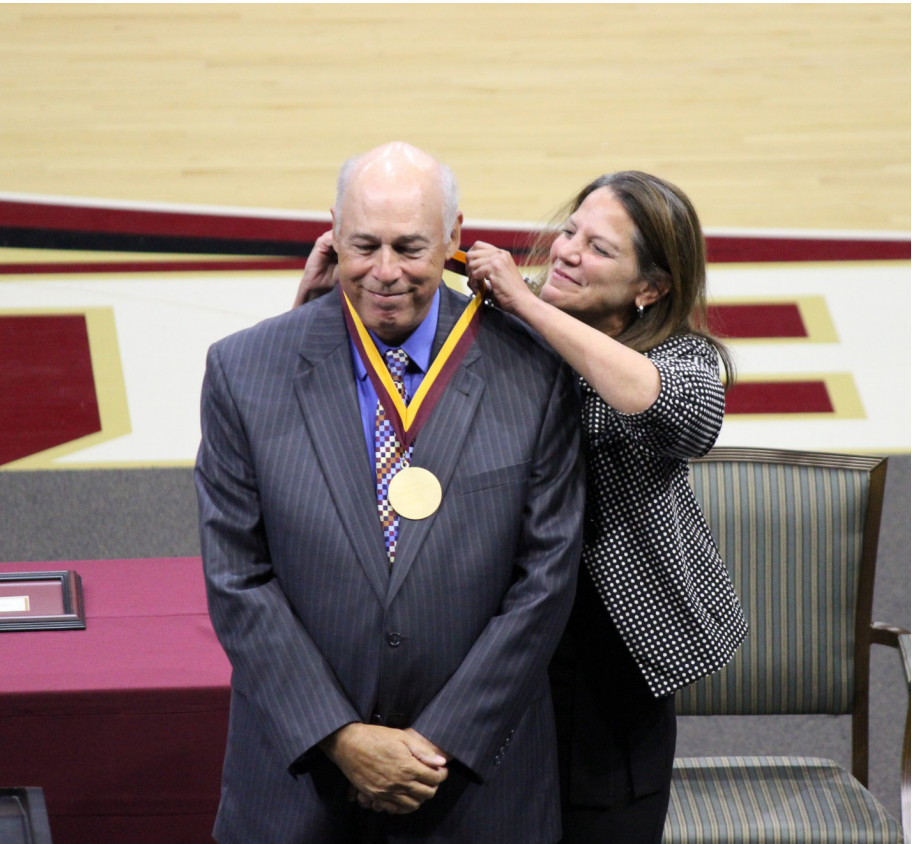
Where to find The Pendulum on campus



Find print editions of The Pendulum at these locations on campus. Keep an eye out for other editions scattered across academic buildings and study halls.

Locations not pictured:

- Skids Restaurant of Elon
- Danieley Commons
- The Station at Mill Point



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University President Connie Book awards Dean Emeritus of the School of Communications Paul Parsons the university's highest honor, the Elon Medallion.



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A landscaper from High Rock Land & Hardscapes digs holes for new plants on campus behind the Martin Alumni Center.



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A newly-constructed outdoor classroom is located between Belk Library and the Martin Alumni Center.

SCAN TO FOLLOW ELON NEWS
NETWORK'S MOVE-IN DAY
COVERAGE
OR VISIT
BIT.LY/3QWRIW8



1. Open your phone camera
2. Focus on the QR code
3. Click the pop-up link



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A Facilities Management employee sets up chairs Aug. 16 ahead of New Student Convocation.



Buffie Longmire-Avital, director of the Black Lumen Project, speaks at the session "Black Lumen Project: A Focus on Black Labor" Aug. 16 in the Moseley Center.

AVERY SLOAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Letters from **CAMPUS LEADERS**



BEN MUSE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HELLO!
Whether you are returning to campus or about to embark on your first year, I am excited to welcome you into the 2022-2023 academic year. I am Nadine Jose, and this year I have the honor and privilege of being your Student Body President.
On behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA), I want to express how much we value each and every one of your diverse identities and the great depth of experience and knowledge you bring onto this campus. SGA is eager to serve and uplift you and to actively listen and amplify your voices. While we cannot always guarantee a certain outcome, we believe that our peers

SGA

Student Government Association

LEARN MORE

are our priority, and we will never stop trying to make Elon a better place.
If there is anything that I, or any SGA member, can do to improve your college experience or strengthen your bond with Elon, please do not hesitate to contact us. We have an open door policy in Moseley 213 and in our inboxes.
Finally, amidst the start of classes, take a deep breath. Pause. Stop. Breathe. Reflect on why you came here, who you want to be and how you hope to grow during the incredible journey ahead of you. We are so grateful that you are a part of the Elon community, and we cannot wait to meet you all!

“
NADINE JOSE
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

WELCOME TO ELON, CLASS of 2026! I want to be one of the first to welcome you to Elon and wish you a smooth transition. As you have stepped onto campus, you are planting so many seeds of growth for your time here. And the idea of that can be both exciting and nerve racking.
Being a first-year in college is a unique experience, and I personally will not forget my first year. This is a big step, and I can relate to those worrisome feelings. I was quick to find out that my expectations of college were quite different from the reality of being at Elon. I envisioned myself being in an episode of A Different World, with a lot of new friends and close knit community.
But instead I was nervous, struggled to find friendships and I thought I was failing at “doing college.” I truly felt like I was on a different planet all alone. With patience and stepping out of my comfort zone, I began to blossom and open up. I danced to my own beat and made my path at Elon. This time it was all about me being in

“
CHRISTINA CARR
BLACK STUDENT UNION PRESIDENT

the moment and accepting instead of focusing on who I thought I should be. Happily, I made connections with my peers, formed great friendships and found a place with people that I could relate to in the Black Student Union, CREDE and the African Diaspora LLC.
My experience was different from my roommate, people in my class and my friends from home. And your experience is likely to be different from mine. We are coming all from different backgrounds and have found ourselves in the same place, so always remind yourself that you are never alone. Carve your own path, be daring, patient and don't forget that you have so many people around you to serve as your support system.
So please, enjoy yourself, get involved and take some time to connect with others! The connections I have made in my years at Elon have been the most impactful. Take up space, don't be afraid to walk into rooms for events, wave on your walks from class and just be yourself. You are going to be amazing. Welcome and good luck!

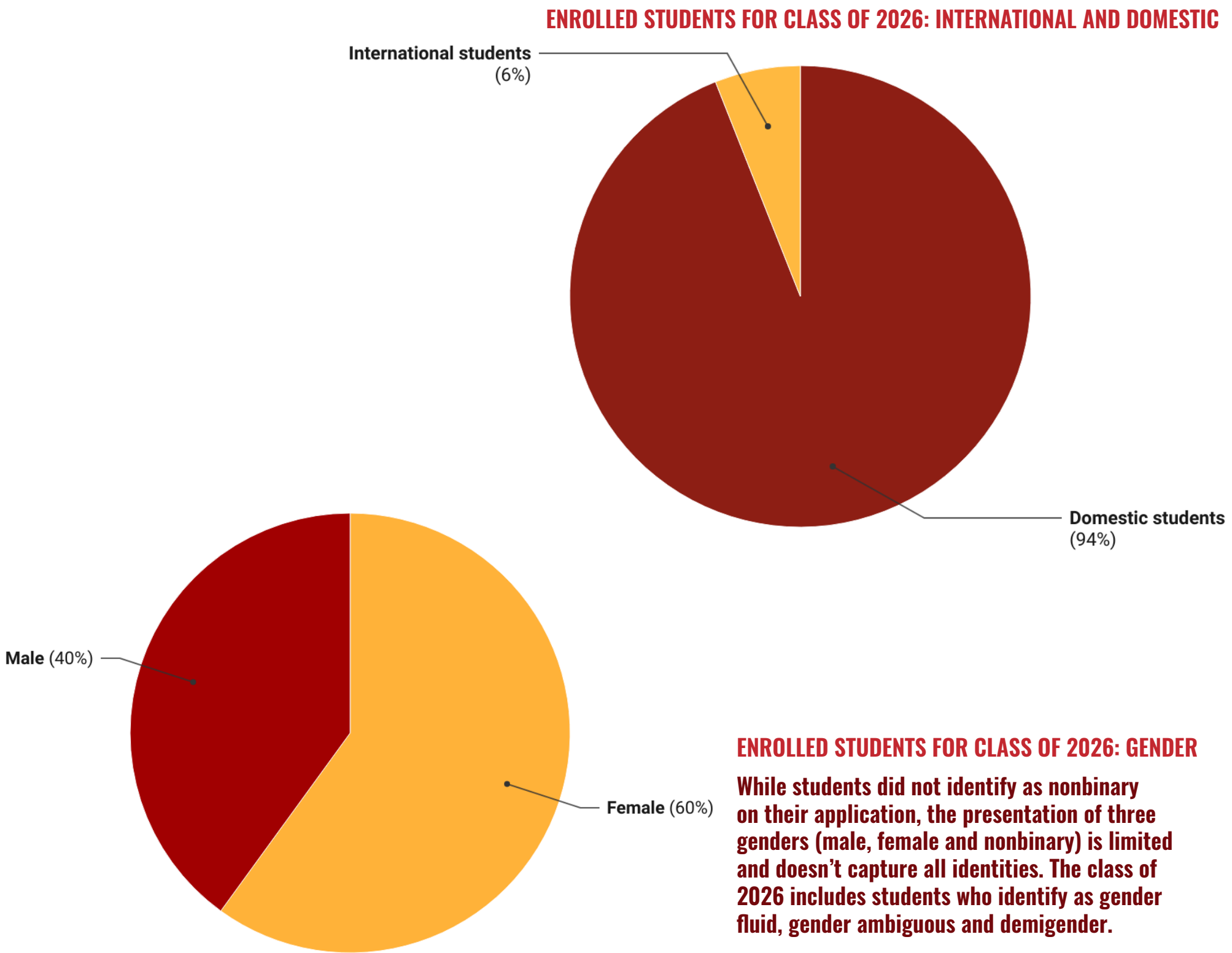


COURTESY OF CHRISTINA CARR

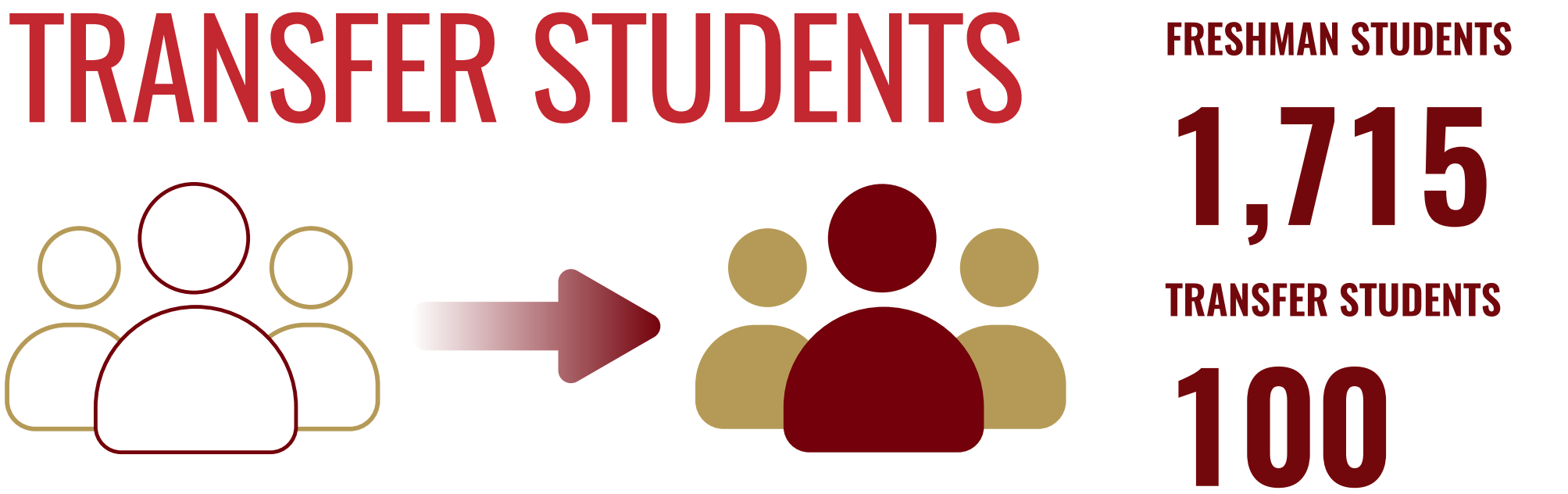
MOVE-IN WEEKEND DAYS TO KNOW

Aug. 19	Aug. 20	Aug. 22	Aug. 23
<p>Move-in day</p> <p>All new students, first-years and transfers are assigned a unique time to come to campus for their Schar Center Orientation Check-In and to move into their residence hall.</p>	<p>New student convocation</p> <p>Join President Book, administrators, faculty and the Student Government Association president as they share reflections and advice for making the most of the next four years.</p>	<p>Call to Honor</p> <p>Join in this university tradition that allows campus leaders and faculty to share with new students the core Honor Code principles the university community expects its members to live by.</p>	<p>First day of class</p> <p>First day of classes and Well Connected begins</p>

CLASS OF 2026 DEMOGRAPHICS



BY THE NUMBERS			
ALANAM	JEWISH STUDENTS	INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS	FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS
19%	11%	6%	10%





With construction of the Innovation Quad coming to an end for the fall 2022 semester, Founders Hall and Innovation Hall stand tall between McMichael and Sankey.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The newly constructed Founders Hall is connected to Innovation Hall and is part of the new Innovation Quad.

Engineers find home

With the opening of the Innovation Quad this fall, students and faculty are excited to strengthen the engineering program and expand upon it in the future

Ryan Kupperman
Elon News Network | RyAndKup

Students in the fall 2021 Engineering Design for Service class watched through the window of their McMichael classroom as the first brick was laid for Elon's new Innovation Quad.

A sophomore at the time, engineering major and engineering scholar Vivian Krause said the engineering class was in tears over the excitement of getting their own space next fall.

"It's cool to see that the building went up so fast, and now we get to move in and I still have two more years here at the university to take advantage of it," Krause said. "Having everything in the same space will add to the tight-knit community of

engineers here ... it's a big step up from the basement of McMichael."

As of Aug 1., Elon established its own Department of Engineering in tandem with the opening of the new center of engineering and physics research.

Before opening this fall, Krause had a couple of opportunities to see the inside of the quad — including participating in a hard-hat tour of the building last spring with Elon's engineering advisory board.

"It was really cool to actually go inside," Krause said. "The only thing we'd seen before was drawings ... The excitement was through the roof, and the professors were like, 'Oh, that will be my office,' or, 'I'm going to teach in there.'"

Krause also got to hear about the thought that went into designing the building in relation to surrounding buildings on campus — like being in between McMichael Science Center and Sankey Hall.

"Everything was very intentional with where it is on campus and the buildings it is between," Krause said. "It's supposed to be the connection between business and science to make innovation."

Director of Engineering Outreach



“THE BUILDING IS TOP NOTCH. IT’S VERY MODERN AND HAS A LOT OF GREAT STUDY SPACES. IT’S REALLY PRETTY, WHICH IS A PLUS, AND THE CLASSROOM SPACES AND THE LAB SPACES ARE REALLY GREAT.”

VIVIAN KRAUSE
JUNIOR

A look up Innovation Hall's main staircase toward the skylight.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The view from the second floor of Founders Hall where the many design labs, seating and lounge areas and well-lit spaces can be seen.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Connecting Founders Hall and Innovation Hall is a hallway containing photos of students and faculty.



New Innovation Quad dedicated to Engineering and Physics.

ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Innovation Quad contains many new design labs, including an engineering design lab, engineering prototype lab and advanced prototype lab in which students will get to work with a variety of electronic tools and machines.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Home sweet home

John Ring also said the new space will do wonders bringing Elon's engineering programs together and expanding upon them in the future. According to Ring, Elon had about 100 engineering students by the end of the 2021-22 school year, with roughly 48 incoming engineering freshmen this year — Elon's biggest incoming engineering class yet.

Coming up on his third year at Elon, Ring will have a new office in the Innovation Quad. Both Ring and Krause said they were most excited about getting everyone in the same building this fall, as opposed to being spread throughout McMichael, Duke and Alamance.

"We've all been really excited about it for — I guess this past year when they've been working on construction — but this is something they told us would be happening when we were applying," Krause said. "Now it's two years later, and it's actually built, and teachers are moving in, and we're going to have classes there in the fall, and it's just really exciting."

Krause said her favorite parts about the new space are the patios on the second floor because she loves doing her work outside, and it's a large spacious area with

tons of light.

For students and faculty who are not in the engineering field but want to experience the new space, Ring said he recommends visiting the staircase in the middle of the building which is directly under a natural skylight and partnered with glass walls on two sides that change color throughout the day based on ambient light.

While Krause is excited that the engineering opportunities are growing and evolving at Elon, she said she still values Elon's small class sizes and appreciates that the university went through the effort of maintaining that environment with the new engineering building.

"It means a lot. It shows that we're growing to the point where we have our own building," Krause said. "I have had a really great experience with engineering here ... it's exciting that we're growing and Elon is still working hard to make sure that we still have that small-school feeling with our engineering program, but this will bring us up to the next level in terms of research and the classroom spaces that we have."



RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Director of Engineering Outreach John Ring looks into his new office located in Innovation Hall. As a part of Elon's new engineering department, professors within the department relocated to the Innovation Quad.



Students and faculty engaging in innovative, hands-on projects.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



“THEY’LL JUST BRING OUR WHOLE ENGINEERING PROGRAM TO THE NEXT LEVEL.”
VIVIAN KRAUSE
JUNIOR

New classrooms located in the Innovation Quad contain many flexible rooms designs including portable power outlets hanging from the ceiling, rolling chairs and spacious table tops.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NAMES TO KNOW

on Elon University's campus



CONNIE BOOK

University President

Connie Book is Elon University's ninth president. Previously, she was a faculty member for 16 years. Book became university president four years ago in 2018. As university president, Book has focused on launching the 10-year Boldly Elon strategic plan and Elon LEADS campaign. Her office is located in the Powell Building. She is often spotted around campus, such as on a walk or at College Coffee.



JON DOOLEY

Vice President for Student Life

Jon Dooley's name often pops up in student's inboxes. As vice president for student life, Dooley sends many emails out to students with a variety of relevant information, from weekly community health updates to local crime and safety issues. He oversees the Office of Student Life, which covers many campus services and centers. In addition to this role, Dooley is a professor of education.



JEFF STEIN

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

As the head of Elon's COVID-19 response, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives Jeff Stein became a well-known figure in the last two years. Stein, also a professor of English, oversees a variety of campus initiatives. He leads the implementation of the Boldly Elon strategic plan and works with many offices across campus, such as the Student Professional Development Center and Cultural & Special Programs.



JANA LYNN PATTERSON

Dean of Students

Dean of Students Jana Lynn Patterson supports students with a variety of opportunities, services and experiences. Patterson has worked at Elon since 1986 and is familiarly known to many as "Dean P." The Office of the Dean of Students is a resource for students in areas such as health and wellness and care and outreach.



RODNEY PARKS

University Registrar

Rodney Parks is the university's registrar, helping maintain student records and course registration. The registrar's office is where students can go to request transcripts and course changes. Parks also sends emails out to students recommending courses that fulfill various requirements.



RANDY WILLIAMS

Vice President and Associate Provost for Inclusive Excellence

Randy Williams serves as the chief diversity officer in his role as the vice president and associate provost for inclusive excellence. Williams works directly with Book and helps guide Elon's diversity, equity and inclusion goals. He is also a professor of education.



SYLVIA MUNOZ

Director of the CREDE

As the director of the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education, Sylvia Muñoz works to create a supportive environment for students of color and has been leading university efforts to increase equity across campus. Her office is in the CREDE in upstairs Moseley, a center open to all students. She also created El Centro, the Spanish-language center on campus.



KIRSTIN BOSWELL

University Chaplain

Kristin Boswell is the university chaplain and dean of multifaith engagement. Her role is to guide students in their religious faith and facilitate religious and educational experiences. She is there to serve the entire community, regardless of faith.

University prepares for COVID-19, monkeypox outbreaks

The messaging for both infectious diseases focuses on prevention

Ellis Chandler

Executive Producer of ELN | @ellis_chandler

Elon University is preparing to combat both COVID-19 and monkeypox this academic year.

As families travel to campus to move in and classes begin, Dean of Students Jana Lynn Patterson said she doesn't expect monkeypox outbreaks on campus to be as large as COVID-19 ones.

"We don't expect that monkeypox will be like that," Patterson said. "We certainly expect we will have some cases. We have developed protocols that have been approved by our local health department that would allow for easy access to testing for our students or faculty."

Most of the university's messaging regarding COVID-19 and monkeypox is focused on prevention as students come in contact through dorm living and parties.

Elon was one of the first collegiate institutions to administer the COVID-19 vaccine and booster to its students. The Infectious Disease Response Team hopes to do the same with the monkeypox vaccine if enough doses become available.

Monkeypox

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services defines monkeypox as a rare but potentially serious, viral illness. Monkeypox typically involves flu-like symptoms, swelling of the lymph nodes and skin lesions that fill with fluid before scabbing over. It is transmitted from person to person through close, skin-to-skin contact. Infections usually last two to four weeks.

COMMON READING

Professors find ways to teach Elon's common reading

As a part of the Global Experience, professors discuss different ways they plan on incorporating the common reading, "Factfulness"

Avery Sloan

Politics Director | @Averylsloan

Elon University's common reading signifies incoming students' first experience with the Elon Core Curriculum, as professors across disciplines incorporate the text into their freshman Global Experience classes.

This year's common reading is "Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World – and Why Things Are Better Than You Think," written by Swedish physician Hans Rosling. The book highlights common misconceptions about the world and uses data to prove the world is better off than one would expect, including being healthier, less dangerous and less poor.

The title alludes to the practice of only holding opinions which can be strongly supported by facts, something Elon philosophy professor Martin Fowler said was easily incorporated into his existing Global Experience class.

"Factfulness for philosophy teachers is like a red flag in front of a bull," Fowler said.

The discipline of philosophy lends itself to most common reading, according to Fowler, and he said he has no issue relating most texts to his field. He said because "Factfulness" gets to the root of misconceptions of our worldview, he considers it to be a philosophical thesis applicable in each student's life.

Sandy Marshall, professor of geography, said he hopes to make a

similar impact on his Global class by using "Factfulness" to improve students' critical thinking skills. But rather than approach Factfulness from a philosophical perspective, Marshall plans to use his academic background to emphasize the data Rosling presents and lead students to greater understanding of the world around them.

According to the Alamance County Health Department, there are no confirmed cases of monkeypox as of yet. Patterson said students who become symptomatic should make an appointment with Student Health Services to receive guidance from a healthcare provider. If the case is determined to be monkeypox, the ACHD will be contacted and it will guide the student through the next steps regarding contact tracing and vaccination.

"We're going to spend some time helping folks understand how they can reduce their risks, what the symptoms are and where they can get access and how they can get tested if they feel like they need to be tested," Patterson said.

Patterson said the infectious disease response team is encouraging students to travel home if they are infected because the isolation period is so long. If students are unable to travel safely, Student Health Services will assist them.

"We want them to be comfortable but they've got to be able to travel safely and not risk anyone else's infection," Patterson said.

As for academic support, faculty and staff will work with students around coursework the best they can.

"Realistically though, for some students we may have to withdraw them from a class or two," Patterson said.

COVID-19

The indoor mask optional policy is still in place for all of campus this year.

Masks are still required for: everyone in Student Health Services, the asymptomatic testing center at McCoy Commons, the Faculty/Staff Health & Wellness Clinic, the School of Health Sciences medical outreach programs, anyone experiencing COVID-like symptoms or any other respiratory illness and five days after completion of a five-day



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University Health Services Aug. 15, where students can receive symptomatic COVID-19 testing.

isolation period after a positive test.

Asymptomatic testing is available throughout the semester with an exact schedule to be determined. Sick visits, including diagnostic testing for those with COVID-19 symptoms, will remain available by appointment at Student Health Services.

The university is following CDC guidelines regarding quarantine and isolation. Those who test positive must be isolated for five days before returning to work or class and must continue to wear a mask for another five days.

There is not a uniform plan in place for academic and educational support for students in isolation or quarantine.

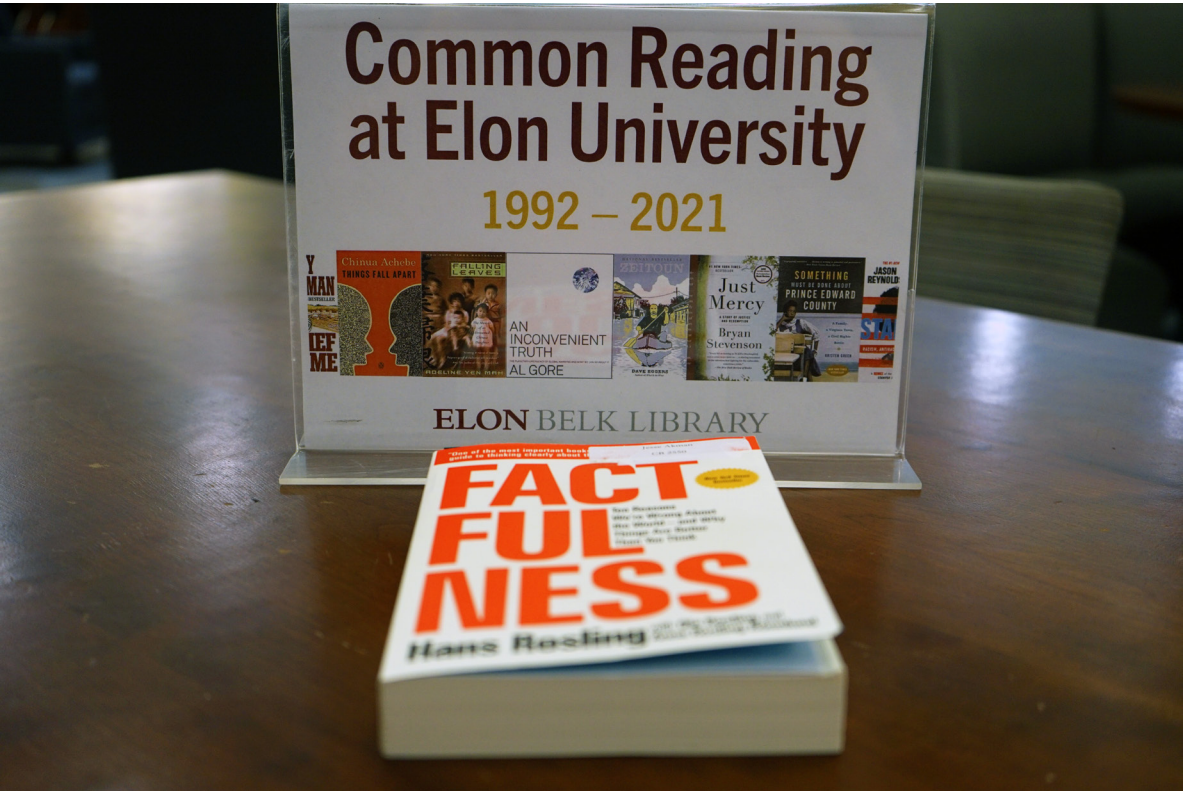
Elon has not indicated if students, faculty and staff will be required to get a second booster shot.

Other measures

Students, faculty and staff are also encouraged but not required to get their annual flu vaccine when it becomes available this fall. The university plans to hold flu vaccine clinics on campus this fall and winter.

The HealthEU website is live and includes information about COVID-19, monkeypox and other illnesses pertaining to the Elon community. Patterson said updated information and transparency is key.

"If you give people good information and you're transparent, it will reduce stress anxiety, and it also reduces people's need to create their own narrative," Patterson said. "Transparency and providing that information is important. Following and cooperating with your local health department is extremely important."



ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Since 1992, the common reading has been a staple of Elon's First-Year Foundation curriculum.

understanding of the world, and he plans to emphasize Rosling's argument that overly negative views of the world serve only as scare tactics.

"People sort of like to emphasize the negative sides of things so that people will be aware and do something," Tucker said. "But in some ways, I think that that's kind of a paternalistic, sort of an immature way of doing things. It's as if people can't just be told the truth and then be relied upon to make reasonable decisions."

However, not every professor plans to teach "Factfulness" so rigidly. Bilal Ghandour, professor of psychology who has taught several Global Experience classes since 2017, said the common reading is

not something he typically includes.

Ghandour said his class mainly consists of watching films that expand students' worldviews, then fostering discussions, and while he might allude to the common reading, he generally keeps the structure of his class the same.

He said the goal of his class is similar to ideas presented in "Factfulness," but he has a different way of presenting the information.

"One of the objectives of the common reading is to get out of your bubble," Ghandour said. "See different opinions, be able to step out of your comfort zone, and appreciate perspectives that are different from your own. See what ways in which you can find yourself matching what you thought was different in other

cultures."

Across disciplines, professors said they are drawing upon the common reading's potential to expand students' worldviews and improve their critical thinking skills. But from there, Fowler said the burden to implement the practice of factfulness is placed on the students.

"The main challenge that global students will have in dealing with the common reading is coming to terms with the idea that they're not just naive observers, that everything that hits their eyeballs is the truth," Fowler said. "There are some obstacles or detours along the way to getting at what the facts are. Also, getting at the facts isn't just overcoming bad instincts — no, it's a kind of discipline."

New student orientation to focus on community



JOSEPH NAVIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University President Connie Book speaks to orientation leaders in August 2021. After two years of modified programming, 2022 orientation will pull from lessons learned during the pandemic.

This year’s programming will pull from lessons learned during pandemic

Miranda Ferrante
Managing Editor of Elonnewsnetwork.com

Director of New Student Programs Emily Krechel said after two years of modified programming, she is using the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to focus further on building a sense of community through orientation. New student orientation was modified most drastically in 2020. That year, programming was in person but done in small groups, and orientation leaders would play videos for the students and facilitate conversation. However, the entire class never came together in one big group. “From that summer, we learned a lot about things that worked really well in the small groups, and the things that work better together, in community,” Krechel said.

Krechel said this summer, New Student Programs is thinking more permanently, looking at what pieces of the programming from the last two years it wants to keep and how it wants to shape Elon’s orientation experience going forward.

“We’re living with COVID. We know that it’s going to be something that we just have to manage,” Krechel said. “But we need to keep moving forward.”

Krechel said keeping programming in smaller groups will emphasize the focus on community building.

“This thing that we sell students and families is this really intimate experience,” Krechel said. “I’m in a smaller group, I’m not one of 1,800 people in Alumni Gym. We want to keep some of the smaller experiences.”

Freshman Anjolina Fantaroni is most excited about furthering the connections she has already made on social media.

Fantaroni remembers when acceptance letters were released — she was at a rehearsal for a theater performance.

“Somebody texted you can go see your decision, and I had no service,” Fantaroni said. “I had to run a half mile down the road to hold my phone up a hill. I was so excited,”

The Massachusetts native comes to Elon as a leadership fellow, and her orientation group will consist of other new students in the program. Fantaroni said she is used to leading in her high school and looks forward to the opportunity to continue, in a new way, while at Elon.

“I know that when I get to orientation, I’ll meet people just like me who share the same traits, qualities of a leader,” Fantaroni said. “I’m excited for our mentor to show us new ways to approach leadership and really just learn the ways of Elon. It’s a brand new community.”

Finding communities where students feel a sense of pride and belonging is one of the main points of this year’s I Am Elon session. It’s in partnership with the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education and will be held Aug. 20 in remote, small groups.

Groups will watch recorded monologues of students talking about their intersecting identities with opportunities for orientation leaders to facilitate conversations with their groups.

“It’s a session to get students thinking about their own identities, how they might show up at Elon and how they might experience privilege, or how they might experience bias or how they themselves might have some implicit biases,” Krechel said. “It gets them to start to think about living in an inclusive and diverse community.”

When done in person at Alumni Gym in 2019, Krechel said trying to have small group conversations was ineffective because of the large grounds. She said this year’s format does allow for intimate and authentic conversations.

“We found that’s really provided a space for new students to really open up, to explore, to ask questions, to share and dive deeper into getting to know one another with folks in their group,” Krechel said.

Krechel said she had a lot of ideas for orientation programming to enforce the community connection since her arrival in April 2017. Being forced to change the model in 2020 due to COVID-19 set these ideas in motion.

“

IT’S A SESSION TO GET STUDENTS THINKING ABOUT THEIR OWN IDENTITIES, HOW THEY MIGHT SHOW UP AT ELON, AND HOW THEY MIGHT EXPERIENCE PRIVILEGE, OR HOW THEY MIGHT EXPERIENCE BIAS OR HOW THEY THEMSELVES MIGHT HAVE SOME IMPLICIT BIASES.

EMILY KRECHEL
DIRECTOR OF NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

“We have this experience where we had to make this giant pivot to doing everything in small groups, and then had an opportunity to really take a step back and say, ‘What did we learn from that?’” Krechel said. “We were able to figure out a way to do small, intimate things. So I think without COVID, we would have gotten there, but I think it would have taken longer.”

The Speak About It session Aug. 21 focuses on consent and healthy

relationships. Since the partnership with Speak About It began in 2020, this will be the first time the acting troupe will be in person at orientation.

The scripts are adapted to the university, its policies and its culture to make the topics discussed resonate more with students.

“This is their bread and butter, doing this session for large groups of people, for large groups of students in particular,” Krechel said. “We’re really excited to see how they engage students because what we were finding was that wasn’t working remotely.”

University traditions like New Student Convocation and Call to Honor support the concept of community Krechel hopes to center the programming around. She said athletics is another big driver of community.

While there aren’t any football games during orientation, Krechel said they are doing a tailgate that will lead into the Aug. 21 soccer game, where the team will play in Rhodes Stadium.

“We’ve got the marching band that’s going to do a Phoenix Walk to basically help the new students understand this is part of our community, this is part of our culture, this is what we want you to do,” Krechel said.

New students will go with their orientation groups, which is also their Elon 1010 group. Krechel said the tailgate, one of the newer additions to orientation programming, will have yard games and inflatables.

“We’re trying to provide more time and space for them to just hang out with one another and focus on finding their peers and finding their people,” Krechel said.

Krechel said a one-stop check-in process will happen for the first time this year. Students will still go to Schar Center first to make sure all health requirements are met. Here, they will get keys, passes and other orientation materials.

Orientation will begin Aug. 19 and will continue until the first day of classes Aug. 23.

Getting to know William Disсен: a new addition to Elon Dining



A rendering displays what Billy D's Fried Chicken will look like in the space formerly occupied by Pei Wei Asian Kitchen. The quick-service restaurant offers Southern fried chicken sandwiches, baskets and side dishes.

Billy D's Fried Chicken will open at the beginning of the fall semester

Ellis Chandler
Executive Producer of ELN | @ellis_chandler

Chef William Disсен has chased restaurant jobs all across the country. He's worked in a number of states, from as far away as California and closer to home in South Carolina. He owns two fine dining restaurants of his own in Asheville and Charlotte, but his latest venture is right here on Elon's campus.

Billy D's Fried Chicken — a partnership between Disсен and Elon Dining — is the replacement for Pei Wei Asian Kitchen in upstairs McEwen Food Hall.

The quick-service Southern restaurant opened its only other location in 2018 at the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro. The menu features southern fried chicken sandwiches and baskets with sides such as macaroni and cheese, waffle fries and coleslaw. Billy D's will be a retail dining option on campus, and the Chicken Shack downstairs in McEwen Food Hall will be discontinued.

Disсен opened The Market Place in Asheville and Haymaker in Charlotte prior to opening both Billy D's locations. He is the head chef and owner of all his restaurants.

A West Virginia native, Disсен currently lives in Asheville. He said he's always enjoyed cooking, and his first jobs as a teenager and college student were in restaurants. He was unsure about his career path after graduating from West Virginia University but knew corporate life wasn't for him.

"When you're in college, it's like, what do you want to do, what do you want to be when you grow up?" Disсен said. "That's a tough thing, especially in the world today. There's so many options and types of jobs out there."

CHEF'S PICK
Chef Disсен recommends the classic fried chicken sandwich with coleslaw and pickles. He's also a fan of the banana pudding.

After earning his undergraduate degree, Disсен attended the Culinary Institute of America, starting his career as a chef and graduating with honors. He said he was inspired by time he spent on his grandparents' farm in rural West Virginia as a child. As he got older, he became fascinated by the way they lived off the land, using honeybees to help pollinate their garden and forging in the woods for mushrooms and ginseng.

As a chef, he found himself connecting more with the land around him too.

"You get to do that by default because you're dealing with fresh produce and fresh seafood and meats and seeing, touching, feeling things on a daily basis," Disсен said.

Following his graduation, Disсен worked in restaurants around the country before going back to school a third time at the University of South Carolina. He earned his master's degree of hospitality with concentrations in restaurant and tourism management, which he thought marked the end of his restaurant career.

"I was kind of on this path of saying, I'm done with restaurants, independent restaurants, I'm going to get a corporate job and work nine to five, get a Volvo, have 2.5 kids, all those silly American dream things they put in your head," Disсен said.

He took a job as an executive chef after graduation and used it as a placeholder before deciding to get back in the business and open his first restaurant in Asheville. All of his restaurants carry a farm-to-table ethic, and he said his time working in California connected him to his grandparents and made him realize that to be a great chef, he needed to use the best ingredients.

"My grandmother just cooks such delicious food, and it's because you pull it right out of the garden," Disсен said. "You're eating ingredients that are still living and breathing, so to speak. To me, those best ingredients were sourced right from the farm and right from the source."

That ethic is what brought Disсен to Elon. He was on a tour of Tidewater Grain Company in Oriental, North Carolina, when he met former Elon Dining executive chef Jay Vetter. The two realized they

shared the same passion for locally-sourced food, and Disсен was able to become the community partner Elon Dining was looking for at the time.

Both students and faculty wanted a fried chicken restaurant on campus, according to Disсен. To test out the partnership, Elon Dining held a pop-up with the restaurant on March 10, 2022 where community members could meet Disсен and sample some of the menu items.

All of the chicken at the restaurant is locally-sourced from Joyce Farms in Winston-Salem, and Disсен said this opportunity was a chance for him to grow his brand.

"Americans certainly love quick-service style food because of our fast lives," Disсен said. "It's an opportunity to help push local food and community-based agriculture across more outlets. It's an opportunity to hopefully do some better things for our communities, create a more sustainable food movement and try to get more good food into the hands and mouths of hungry eaters."

“
IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO HOPEFULLY DO SOME BETTER THINGS FOR OUR COMMUNITIES, CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD MOVEMENT AND TRY TO GET MORE GOOD FOOD INTO THE HANDS AND MOUTHS OF HUNGRY EATERS.

WILLIAM DISSEN
OWNER OF BILLY D'S FRIED CHICKEN

Disсен said he considers his brand to be open-minded, whimsical and appealing to everyone. He said opening the location at Elon has been a streamlined process because

of help from Elon Dining and Harvest Table, as well as the decision to keep the menu the same as the Asheboro location.

Once the restaurant gets underway, Disсен is excited to offer seasonal side dishes, specialty chicken sandwiches and Billy D's merchandise.

"Hopefully, at some point, everything keeps moving ahead in a good way," Disсен said. "We hope to implement a brunch or breakfast menu also. We make these really delicious buttermilk jalapeno biscuits at our fine dining restaurants, and they make really delicious fried chicken biscuits."

The restaurant's opening date is undetermined due to the general contractor's schedule. Disсен knows they are pushing to be open as close

to the beginning of the fall semester as possible.

Because he lives in Asheville, Disсен said he will be on campus on and off throughout Billy D's opening, but he hopes to be present as much as possible to say hello to everyone. Disсен said he's excited to be back on a college campus.

"I've been in school three different times for different degrees. For me, there's something really invigorating about education," Disсен said. "Being on campus is just stimulating in terms of being in a place where people are there to learn and grow. I feel like that's something I'm trying to do in my life every day. I'm excited to meet lots of new faces, meet the students and faculty and do our best to make some delicious food for everyone."



William Disсен is the executive chef and owner of The Market Place in Asheville, Haymaker in Charlotte, Billy D's fried chicken at the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro and soon to be at Elon University. Disсен has a passion for locally-sourced food and hopes to encourage community-based agriculture at Elon.



Members of the Elon University football team help students move in on Aug. 20, 2021.

COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY

Elon student-athletes help new students move in

Fall athletes have assisted with move-in since 2019 and will participate again this year

Jacob Kisamore
Elon News Network | @jacob_kisamore

On this year’s move-in day, Elon University will again renew a tradition that began in 2019, as the school’s varsity fall sports teams will assist with new-student move-in.

Elon’s dance team has been a part of this tradition since it began three years ago. For junior Isabella Venezia, who first participated last year, helping new students and their families get settled on their first day at Elon is a rewarding experience.

“It’s funny seeing all the parents super excited to just get their kid moved in,” Venezia said. “It was kind of a funny thing to bond over and reminisce on how we had done it a year prior, but doing it together and helping everyone get set up was really nice.”

This will be the third time Elon fall sports teams will participate in new-student move-in, as they did not partake in 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns. Responsibilities for athletes extend beyond just moving furniture and boxes into residence halls, as they also answer questions, share their experiences and help direct families to spots on campus, which Venezia remembers doing often in 2021.

“Everyone was looking for the mailroom,” Venezia said. “I feel like that was one they got stuck on. No one knew how to get there. I think it was funny trying to explain, ‘you’ll go here and get this and that.’”

While having athletes assist with move-in helps new students, it can also help the teams. Fall sports athletes

arrive on campus in late July and early August and participate in team bonding activities to prepare for their seasons.

“

IT’S DEFINITELY A GOOD TIME TO BOND AND JUST SPEND MORE TIME WITH EACH OTHER. IT’S A GREAT WAY TO START THE SEASON AND HAVE ANOTHER EVENT WHERE WE ALL CAN KIND OF COME TOGETHER AND DO SOMETHING FOR ATHLETICS AND ALSO FOR OUR TEAM.

ISABELLA VENIZIA
JUNIOR

According to Venezia, participating in move-in last season and other pre-season activities helped the dance team grow closer to each other, which she said was a key to the team’s national

championship victory in the spring.

“It’s really great for new members or people who haven’t been there to get integrated into the team,” Venezia said. “It’s definitely a good time to bond and just spend more time with each other. It’s a great way to start the season and have another event where we all can kind of come together and do something for athletics and also for our team.”

Director of New Student Programs Emily Krechel said partnering with Elon Athletics for move-in day also helps introduce new students to the sports culture at Elon.

“Having our fall sport athletes help new student move-in begins getting our new students excited about supporting Elon Athletics,” Krechel said. “The athletes can talk about their experience and encourage the new students to attend their games.”

For Krechel, the partnership with athletics has been a success, as the participating teams can efficiently assist families move into the dorms and help create a positive atmosphere.

“Having the athletes help with new student move-in is always a positive experience,” Krechel said. “The students truly appreciate the assistance, and the athletes help make quick work of their move-in experience.”

Venezia said she is excited to help with move-in again this year and is glad she and her teammates can offer their assistance on what can be a long and emotional day for families.

“It can sometimes be high stress, but I think it’s nice to have other people around to help everyone navigate it way easier,” Venezia said. “It helps to have athletics incorporated in move-in since we’re all already on campus, and it’s nice to be there to help support. So I think that it’s a nice tradition that Elon does.”