

**EARTHQUAKE JOLTS JAPAN**  
Thousands dead after earthquake and tsunami. See how three Elon students are faring while there.  
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# THE PENDULUM

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## TENURE TROUBLES

### REVIEW PROCESS raises questions from faculty, students and alumni

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Students have raised concern that Lisa Peloquin, assistant professor of sociology (far right) is being used as an example of engaged learning on Elon's website, despite being denied tenure from the university.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

**Rebecca Smith**  
Managing Editor

Elon University faculty and students have recently publicly spoken out against the school's decision to deny tenure to professors, including Lisa Peloquin, assistant professor of sociology, and Rebecca Olmedo, assistant professor of Spanish.

Each time a new faculty member is hired, he or she is presented with a faculty handbook that outlines the guidelines to obtain tenure. Despite this, the process of deciding who receives tenure is not a simple process.

When faculty members are hired, they receive the title of assistant professor for six years and then apply for tenure. At this point, assistant professors are expected to turn in a portfolio, emphasizing teaching,

service and scholarship, to be judged by the Promotion and Tenure Committee, the dean of the school they are employed by and Provost Steven House. Some professors believe the teaching aspect does not receive substantial consideration in the tenure application process.

An e-mail was sent out to faculty and staff about the decision to deny tenure for Peloquin. Five tenured professors in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology endorsed the e-mail.

"It was never the intention of the Task Force on Scholarship to destabilize the delicate balance between teaching, scholarship and service at the university," the e-mail read. "Nor was it imagined that excellent teaching should be trumped by publication activity."

There have also been several complaints from the students about

the recent decision to deny Peloquin tenure.

The university has a policy of not releasing the reasons why professors are denied tenure.

"I have been writing e-mails to the president and provost about the effect Lisa has on her students, the change she brought out in me, her passions for her subjects and her students, and her endeavors outside of school and even the office," said Justin Franklin, Class of 2007.

Several students have mentioned Peloquin's teaching skills as the reason she should have received tenure.

"Peloquin is the absolute model of the Elon teacher-scholar and it will be a sore loss for the university not to employ her exceptional writing and teaching skills," said Laura Rose Heymann, Class of 2008. "I cannot possibly understand how

the individuals who made this poor decision regarding Dr. Peloquin, can continue to uphold their judgment."

Another e-mail, sent to faculty and staff, was sent out last week from five professors, four from the department of foreign languages and one from the department of math, regarding a similar decision to deny tenure to Olmedo.

"There is no intent to question the extended and thoughtful deliberations completed by the Promotion and Tenure Committee," the e-mail read. "We also believe that such incidents may point to a problem in how Elon University understands and evaluates the teacher-scholar model."

The Promotion and Tenure Committee is made up of eight faculty members who meet almost once a week

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## Proposed changes in general studies will expand required student experiences at Elon

**Becca Tynes**  
Senior Reporter

Elon University's general studies curriculum is currently being revised for the first time since 1994.

The changes are in order to provide better integration among classes, according to Janet Warman, director of general studies. All faculty members must discuss proposals for revision before they are finalized in May.

"Our student body has changed a lot since 1994," Warman said. "Students are much more academically prepared. We've sort of outgrown our former curriculum and we need to move ahead. We really need to stay cutting-edge."

Changes proposed to the General studies program include redefining the distribution of core classes as well as requiring students to complete coursework beyond a single major. The qualifying second academic experience

must be a second major, a full semester abroad, a minor in the College of Arts and Sciences or a pathway.

Pathways, a new concept, are a set of four integrated classes taken from multiple disciplines within and outside of the College of Arts and Sciences. Pathways are 16 credits, fewer hours than a minor, and seek to provide students with well-rounded and in-depth knowledge about specific topics.

"Every product has a shelf life, and our current curriculum's shelf life is simply up," said Rosemary Haskell, professor of English and general studies review committee co-chair.

Currently, students are required to complete classes in Expression, Civilization, Society and Science and Analysis. Under the proposed changes, classes in the Schools

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## Study abroad tendencies present problems for upperclassmen living off campus, subletters

**Gabriela Szewcow**  
Design Chief

Sophomore Shannon Smith and her two future roommates have been looking for subletters for next spring semester, and they've yet to find any.

"We've had no luck thus far finding people to sublet for us, but we had to go ahead and sign the one-year lease because we were going to lose the house," Smith said.

The three students are all studying abroad in the spring, and need three people to fill their spots while they are gone. They aren't alone. There are around 166 Elon students studying abroad in the spring, and a large majority is in the same boat as Smith and her roommates. As a result, Elon is considering creating a living space on campus specifically designated for students studying abroad.

Fall semester seems to be a more popular time for students to study abroad compared to spring semester,

according to Woody Pelton, dean of international programs and director of the Isabella Cannon International Centre. Last year in particular, there was a big difference between the number of students who studied abroad in the fall versus the spring, 230 compared to 159, respectively.

Pelton said he doesn't know the exact reason for this disparity, but the ICIC has seen less of a difference this year.

"In some ways, we think last year may have been somewhat of an aberration," he said. "But we don't know what to attribute it to."

This aberration is one that causes many students stress, according to Smith.

"You're constantly trying to balance school and extracurriculars and friends, and jobs, and as if that's not enough, there's always a constant cloud

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# New early childhood education major allows Elon students to help kids get head start

Kassandra Cloos  
News Editor

Starting in the fall, Elon University will offer a new early childhood education major. In the making since 2009, the program features many classes designed specifically for the major and the education department is in the process of hiring a new professor.

"There was always that vision that we would go from birth all the way up to grade 12 for teaching in the department of education," said Mary Knight-McKenna assistant professor of education. "The time was right now."

Knight-McKenna said there has been an interest in the program for some time. Although the major consists of a total of 70 credit hours, including two eight- and one 10-hour experience-based courses, she said the hope is that some current students may be able to switch majors and still graduate on time.

The new early education major will come at a time of many budget cuts to early education programs nationally and around the state of North Carolina, which is why students will need to be politically active, Knight-McKenna said.

"When people are looking for places to cut the budget, they think 'well maybe this is frivolous' or 'this is extra,' or 'this is not needed,'" she said. "They're not really understanding the fundamental importance of this. The outcomes of early childhood education are astounding."

One of the courses, Early Childhood Research, Policy and Practice, is also required for students wishing to minor in the program. It will give students the foundation they need to be able to be activists for their students when the time arises.

"It's designed to get students to focus on the policies in the area of early childhood (and how they) match up with the research," Knight-McKenna said. "We have legislators who are making important



Mackenzie Paul, 5, plays at the park. Paul attends Nathanael Greene Elementary in Greensboro. Top right: Elysia Mejia, 8, played at the park this past Saturday. Mejia attends Sedalia Elementary in Gibsonville. Bottom right: Diego Mejia, 6, slides down the slide. Mejia, who is autistic, attends Irving Park Elementary. A new early education major at Elon will provide students with the necessary skills to work with young children in the classroom.

decisions about funding and they don't know what the research says."

For every dollar invested in early childhood education, taxpayers save \$7, research has shown. Knight-McKenna said this estimate is a conservative one, and studies have shown that early childhood saves tax dollars by having fewer students go into special education, fewer individuals ending up in jail and more people having gainful employment.

"All of these things can be traced back to early childhood education," she said. "But, not every politician knows that."

Freshman Katie Johnson, a Teaching Fellow currently majoring in special education, said she is excited about the new program and would like to try to pursue a minor.

While she does not have enough room in her course schedule to easily complete both a special education major and an early childhood education minor, she said the combination would be ideal.

"I'm excited about this opening up," she said. "Having an early education minor makes me more marketable as a teacher because I can work in any department."

One of the programs



Johnson said she is interested in pursuing following graduation is "More at Four," a state-funded pre-K program for disadvantaged four-year-olds.

"Most people come to this with a deep love, a hunger, a desire and really wanting to have the best outcomes for children," Knight-McKenna said. "People come to it with real excitement. They really want to do this."

Students wishing to sign up for classes for the major or minor can do so during spring registration.

## MORE ONLINE: NEWS

VIDEO: Hear Mary Knight-McKenna share her hopes for the early education program.

<http://bit.ly/TPOeducation>

## Elon students spur change in handicap parking policies

Eva Hill  
Copy Chief

The recent complaints and persistence of two Elon University students has brought about a new awareness of handicap parking on campus. Senior Maggie Castor and junior Jessica McDonald recently challenged Campus Safety and Police in order to draw attention to parking policies and regulations at Elon.

Castor said she first noticed the Campus Safety and Police cars parking in handicap spaces when she was helping McDonald get around campus with a broken leg.

"I only saw one police officer, but Jess saw catering services and other university vehicles," Castor said. "I started spreading the word and talking to people, and I received a lot of verbal support."

McDonald received a temporary handicap parking pass from Disability Services after she broke her leg, and said on one occasion she noticed security cars parked in handicap spaces between Colonnades Dining Hall and Colonnades residence hall. Castor and McDonald then reported this incident to the police.

"A few days later, a friend was driving me to campus for a meeting in Belk Pavilion," McDonald said. "There are two accessible parking spaces between Spence and Belk Pavilions, so I was hoping to park there, but there

was an Elon Catering vehicle in one accessibility parking space and the other was legally occupied, so I had to park elsewhere. Luckily, I'm able to walk longer distances without too much trouble, but I was still irritated with the Elon Catering vehicle."

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said he asked the officers about the incidents after he received a complaint from Castor. He said one of them admitted to parking in a handicap space.

"The officer explained the poor judgments, and we immediately put out a memo to campus police and campus security," he said.

After the reported incidents, Gantos said a written directive was created and any future incidents will be a violation of departmental policy. He said it was an incident that shouldn't have occurred, and Campus Safety and Police will fix the problem.

Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology, also sent out a memo to all departments, staff and personnel, according to Gantos.

Gantos said parking enforcement security officers patrol the campus and reinforce parking rules during the day, and security officers enforce it at night.

"It was an incident that shouldn't have occurred and we'll fix it, now there's a written directive so it would be a violation of departmental policy,"



When students Maggie Castor and Jessica McDonald noticed university vehicles parking in handicap parking spaces, they immediately brought the matter to the attention of Elon administration.

he said. "If we are responding to an emergency we will park in a fire lane or wherever, but if it's a routine response it's not acceptable."

Castor said Brooke Barnett, assistant to the president, played an important role in the process of bringing the issue to the university's attention.

"The administration has been very supportive," Castor said. "Even the police department has been very supportive. Chief Gantos said a written

mandate didn't exist before, because it was a common knowledge, but now there is an actual written mandate."

Barnett said Castor did an important service to the university by reporting and recording the specific times and places where the incidents took place.

"She (Castor) carefully documented times and places, and I assured her that this is not an Elon practice that we were aware and proud of," Barnett said. "We take it seriously, and this was clearly inappropriate."

# Available need-based scholarships to increase

Sam Parker  
Senior Reporter

With only 52 students currently provided with need-based scholarships, Elon University plans to expand its financial aid opportunities next fall.

Elon will double its number of Watson scholars with the help of donors Leon and Lorraine Watson, Flinn said, as part of the Elon Commitment to get more students from need-based backgrounds. She said the university usually accepts eight Watson scholarship students every year, but next semester, Elon will take 18.

Elon's Odyssey and Watson scholarship programs serve as the only need-based funds on campus. The two programs serve as the umbrellas to six different scholarships that provide financial aid ranging from \$7,500 to \$12,000 a year as well as \$4,000 in study abroad grants, said Lauren Flinn, assistant director of the multicultural center.

"All other scholarships, like the presidential scholarship, are merit-based. So it's hard - we need a lot

more," Flinn said.

Flinn said criteria considered for these scholarships include students who are the first people in their families to go to college, students who have overcome unusual obstacles, students who have high financial needs and students who show great potential in both leadership positions and academics.

The Odyssey and Watson scholarship programs provide cohorts that serve as support systems for students, Flinn said. Scholars are often given mentors as well as designated administrators to help them adjust to college life and then navigate their journeys at Elon.

"These students are coming into a wealthier environment than they're used to," Flinn said. "So we talk about, 'Who are you here?'; 'Who are you at home?'; 'How do you maintain your identity and not have to assimilate?' We have a lot of workshops that allow the students to really get to know themselves."

Flinn said the programs also focus on topics such as leadership during students' sophomore year, study abroad opportunities junior

year and personal and professional development senior year. She said these workshop topics are new to Elon because both programs have recently been remodeled.

"Before, last year, the institution didn't really do a program for these students," she said. "It was more of sticking them in the ICLP (Isabella Cannon Leadership Program) or other places - it wasn't as comprehensive, so now we've really come up with our model."

Senior Jerry Staples, a Watson scholar, said the opportunities presented to him through his scholarship have helped him to become more involved in leadership positions on campus.

"(Watson) gave me an opportunity to actually get involved in the multicultural center which then gave me the opportunity to get involved in the things I do now, as the student program coordinator for most scholarship programs," Staples said. "It also helped me to get to know another group of people that are interested in me and care about me. Having my Watson cohort helps me to

## Learn more about the Watson and Odyssey Scholar Program

First year curriculum: Identity Development and Acclimation

Second year curriculum: Active Leadership

Junior year curriculum: A Global Perspective of Social Justice

Senior year curriculum: Personal and Professional Development

Information courtesy of Multicultural Center website.

know I have a friend in them even if I don't get to see them a whole lot."

Sophomore Deanna Fox, a Watson scholar, said her scholarship provided her with a support system that has helped her both academically and personally.

"For me, (Watson is) more about the support from my cohort and (Flinn), especially this year, academically, by just giving me the different steps I needed to get to where I am," Fox said.

## Additions, revisions announced to GRE general test

Becca Tynes  
Senior Reporter

Students applying to graduate school within the next year will be affected by the recent changes made to the Graduate Record Examination General Test. Beginning Aug. 1, the GRE revised General Test will replace the current GRE General Test.

"It's an opportunity to make the GRE more relevant to prospective graduate students and to the prospective graduate schools that will be evaluating it," said Art Fadde, director of graduate admissions.

The two major changes taking place involve the structural makeup of the test as well as how the test will be administered, according to Sharon Gaskin, dean of admissions at the Elon University School of Law.

"The test length will increase from three hours to four hours," Gaskin said. "This is a tremendous difference."

Because of the time increase, the test will be a test of endurance and will impact the test taker, she said. The revised test will also be equipped with a new design which Gaskin said she believes will be to the benefit of the test taker.

The current test uses computer-adaptive testing methods that automatically change the difficulty of each question as the test taker proceeds with the exam, depending on the number of correct or incorrect answers given.

"The new test will change based on how you respond to a series of questions," Gaskin said.

The new design will allow the student to skip around and change answers to certain questions, she said.

"I think it will give the student more flexibility, so that they won't have to respond in sequential order," Gaskin said.

Another new feature the revised test will offer is an

students with the Quantitative Reasoning section.

"This feature will definitely level the playing field for the test," Gaskin said. "All students will now be using the same calculator."

The revised test will also feature a new scoring scale that will make it easier for schools to compare students' GRE scores with the scores of other candidates, Fadde said.

The Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning sections currently have a scale of 200 - 800, scored in 10-point increments. The revised test will include a new scale of 130 - 170, scored in one point increments.

"The score will be the most noticeable change," Fadde said. "It's a pretty radical change, but in the end, I think it will benefit everyone."

The change in scoring will make it easier for those in admissions at graduate universities to compare the scores of each candidate, Fadde said.

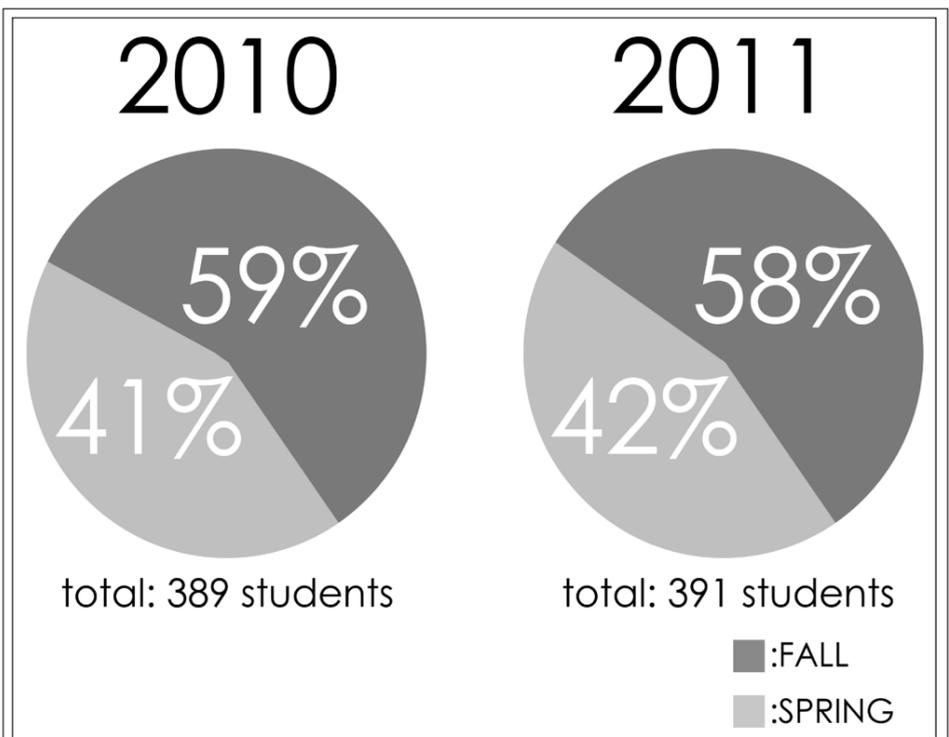
They have not made changes to the test in decades, Gaskin said. The GRE has been in its current form since it was first administered.

"We'll find out how the new test goes in August," Fadde said. "The College Board will be monitoring results very closely during the first few months."

Those in admissions at graduate schools will also be looking at initial results closely, measuring the changes for impact and fairness, Gaskin said.

"I do know they have made changes to the test in an effort to make it better for students, and I think that ultimately it will prove to be a change for the better for all concerned," Gaskin said.

The GRE is a standardized test that is an admissions requirement for many graduate schools in the United States and other English speaking countries. It measures verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and analytical writing skills that are not related to any specific field of study.



## Discussions underway about study abroad living space

STUDY ABROAD from PAGE 1

with 'subletters' written on it," she said.

There are many factors that contribute to students' choices regarding which semester to study abroad, including the economy and commitments students have on campus.

Pelton said one of the factors the study abroad office has identified is Greek Life.

"Within Greek Life, fall seems to be a better time to leave campus than spring," he said.

He said the culture within sororities is to study abroad, but fall is likely more popular because of recruitment.

Elon's study abroad tendencies differ from national trends. Pelton said nationally, spring tends to be a more popular time for college students to spend a semester abroad.

"A lot of schools are bemoaning the reasons that they can't get kids to study abroad in the fall," Pelton said.

These schools attribute

this trend to football season.

The Isabella Cannon International Centre is working specifically with academic departments to create a logic to the semester abroad programs for a given discipline, Pelton said. He believes this will help distribute students studying abroad more evenly between fall and spring semester.

Smith said she believes local landlords and realtors need to compromise with college students in order for this problem to be solved.

"Since the majority of off-campus housing around here is occupied by Elon students anyway, it seems like all of this chaos and confusion could be solved if the landlords would do six-month leases instead of one-year leases," she said.

Pelton said he has also spoken with Residence Life about trying to develop a space within campus that would be for students studying abroad.

"It would be kind of

a swap-out program," he explained.

The study abroad office will eventually move to North Campus because of the construction taking place on Elon's campus in the near future.

"We hope that within our (new) building, the floors above us will have learning communities that will be internationally-oriented," Pelton said.

With more off-campus and on-campus housing options catered toward students studying abroad, students will be less likely to run into problems such as Smith's.

"My personal situation is that if I don't find a subletter, I can't go abroad because I can't pay for studying abroad and a house I'm not living in at the same time," Smith explained. "So pretty much I'm going to miss out on an incredible experience all because of housing. It's a risk I decided to take, but it's one that no one should have to take in the first place."

# New housing option allows for themed, coed flats

Natalie Allison  
Senior Reporter

Students interested in Learning Communities will now be offered a new option. Next year, Elon will allow the creation of themed housing around any topic of interest, beginning next year.

Groups that apply for the new "student-directed, themed housing" will live in eight-person flats in Danieley Center and select a faculty adviser related to their field of interest, according to Brian Collins, assistant director of Residence Life.

Each group will be allotted a \$500 budget to support its chosen programs and activities, and then present their findings

to the residential area around them, Collins said.

Senior staff at Elon University approved that the student-directed flats could be coed, though the new housing initiative was not just intended to be a trial for combined male and female housing.

"The Danieley Center pilot was initiated by the administration," said Brian O'Shea, assistant to the vice president of Student Life. "It really didn't come from the coed side at all. It came from the idea of student-initiated programming—that's why there hasn't been a change anywhere else in coed housing."

For students living in the flats, bedrooms and the two bathrooms will be designated for each gender, said Smith

Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life. But all students will share a common area and kitchenette.

The reason senior staff allowed the suites to be coed, O'Shea said, was to make it easier for students to form groups around very specific topics.

"One of the reasons we're doing this is because it allows students to participate in the learning community model, but it could be for a very small interest," O'Shea said. "There might not be 30 students who want to live together around that interest, but there could be eight."

The interests, Collins said, could range from exploring the concept of diversity to working on a research or service project

together.

Jackson said that, as the student-directed housing will be a pilot for the 2011-2012 academic year, the administration would take into consideration feedback from participants to decide whether to expand the program.

Though applications have been available for the flats since housing selection began, assistant dean of students Niki Turley said no students have applied yet. Turley said the themed housing has been marketed through Resident Student Association, student organizations and directors of student life.

"If we had more time, we could have done more face-to-face presentations," Turley said. "I know students have great

## What are Learning Communities?

"A group of students residing in the same residential area, interacting academically and socially with each other and with faculty and with sharing the same academic major, program of interest."

Information courtesy of Elon's learning community website.

ideas—or maybe (the idea) is just kind of out there."

Turley said Residence Life is planning to reserve two flats in hopes that, throughout the housing selection process, some students will still apply.

# Elon progresses on solar panel project to reduce gas, electricity use

Melissa Kansky  
Assistant News Editor

Elon University is preparing to build solar panels on the roof of Colonnades Dining Hall and residence halls as well as Danieley I and K in hopes of reducing carbon dioxide emission and the demand for gas and electricity.

The solar panels are expected to produce between 4,000 and 5,000 gallons of hot water per day, said Ed Eng, staff facility engineer. He estimates dining halls require an average of 14,000 gallons and residence halls require about 1,000 each day.

"The goal was just to make hot water that would be used," he said. "We wanted to put them in buildings where there will be a concentrated use of hot water."

The university finalized the contract with F.L.S. Energy, Inc. in December and is currently in the design process. Eng anticipates construction will start on

the Colonnades Dining Hall in April and will conclude before commencement in May.

Construction will not disrupt students' use of the dining hall, said Robert Buchholz, director of Physical Plant.

"As far as food preparation and students using the facility, there should be no impact," Buchholz said.

The majority of the construction will occur outside the building on the roof. The project requires additional piping in the ladies' restroom, which requires work inside the dining hall.

Solar panel construction on the residence halls will not begin until the summer when students vacate the dorms.

Physical Plant selected Colonnades A and B as well as Danieley I and K for the

**"The goal was just to make hot water that would be used. We wanted to put them in buildings where there will be a concentrated use of hot water."**

-ED ENG, STAFF  
FACILITY ENGINEER

project because solar thermal panels work best with buildings that have an inclined roof facing east.

Danieley I and K were not originally included in the plan, but the consideration of the two buildings enabled Elon to maximize the available grant, Buchholz said.

North Carolina State Energy Office offered a matching grant up to \$200,000, he said.

"We saw an opportunity to leverage our funds with grant money and move forward with sustainability," Eng said.

Elon received the \$200,000 grant, which covers slightly less than half of the cost.

Based on the current cost of gas, Elon would not receive a return on the institution's investment until 20 or 25 years, Buchholz said. The cost of hot water

factored into the calculations as well.

"I think the reason why a lot of people may not be doing (solar panel projects) is because the return on investment is many years," Eng said. "But our commitment is to be sustainable."

Despite the cost of the solar panels, once the construction is complete the resources are free.

"Sunlight is free, so we might have a goldmine here," Buchholz said.

While sunlight is an unlimited resource, the solar panels do not last infinitely. Presently, solar panels have a life expectancy of 20 to 25 years and the efficiency of the product is predicted to degrade over time, Buchholz said.

"At an academic institution, money is not always the major decision factor," he said. "Money is an issue, but we're getting something here we can show students. From an academic point of view here is a great opportunity for students, faculty and staff to understand solar thermal (energy)."

**the elon network**

**who's in your network? april 4, 2011**

more info: <http://bit.ly/hPdguv>

# It's the shot heard 'round the world:

## International studies professors, students see value in teaching current events

Melissa Kansky  
Assistant News Editor

Professors agree that the recent political unrest in North Africa and the Middle East provide international studies students with a greater understanding of course material, prompting them to integrate current events into the curriculum.

Following the protests in Tunisia and Egypt, revolutionary groups have organized in Libya in an attempt to end Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's 40-year rule over the nation. Unlike the revolt in Egypt, which was met by relative neutrality on behalf of the military despite a violent response from police, the Libyan military is pushing back hard on protestors.

"The difference that Libya has the power to really go after these revolutionaries could be the difference between them toppling the government, as in the case of Mubarak in Egypt," said freshman David Oleksak, an international studies student.

Incorporating discussions about these recent events

enables students to see ideas as tangible products, said Rudy Zarzar, professor of political science.

"It seems to me, when I teach political theory, for example, people tend to think that theory is up in the sky and not relevant to the real world," Zarzar said, "but we want to show how theory can help us understand and explain things going on in the world."

When teaching classes concerning the theory of nonviolence and international terrorism, Zarzar frames the recent events to explain instances when nonviolent revolutions are effective and when they fail.

Ismail Lagardien, assistant professor of political science, calls upon recent events to illustrate international politics and global issues in terms of political hegemony.

And in Oleksak's international relations class, he said Sean Giovanello, assistant professor of political science, reserves time to focus on current events.

The marriage between academics and news helps students better understand

both the theories and foreign relations, Oleksak said.

"Prior (to the international studies class) I had an understanding of what was going on in the world," he said, "but now I see how the pieces fit together."

While placing current events in the frame of international relations theory helps students comprehend theoretical explanations of international relations, the melding of the two also illuminates individuals' own influence regarding world events.

"We have seen the potential our generation has with all the communication and social networking," Oleksak said, "and how we can utilize it and make our voices heard in the world in general."

Lagardien also approaches international studies courses as a way to enhance students' awareness of world events and acknowledgement of human possibilities.

"When the students leave my class they go back into society," he said. "Part of my teaching is to empower them to better deal with issues in the social world."

The unrest in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya demonstrated the disjunction between the citizens and the political leaders, and this over-arching belief enables Lagardien to incorporate it into most of his international relations classes, he said.

"It challenges the assumption that international relations is only about super power politics or the politics of great powers," he said. "The voices of the poor and the marginalized and the weak have to be heard in international relations, and this is the reason why I think it is important (to teach)."

Zarzar said he interprets the series of reactionary forces as a movement toward democracy. Oleksak said he also views these events as monumental historical moments.

Given the influence of the revolutionary groups, both argue that not only international studies students should have an interest in the current political climate.

"It is important for anyone (to understand) because this is going to be the world we are inheriting in five, 10 years," Oleksak said.

POLITICAL UNREST IN THE MIDDLE EAST

DEC. 17, 2010: Tunisian citizen, Mohamed Bouazizi, 26, sets himself on fire to demonstrate his dissent concerning unemployment.

DEC. 19, 2010: Bouazizi's death ignites protests in Tunisia.

JAN. 25, 2011: Egyptians take to the streets, calling "Down with Mubarak."

JAN. 27, 2011: Thousands in Yemen protest 32-year rule of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

FEB. 14, 2011: Demonstrations begin in Bahrain.

FEB. 17, 2011: Libyan revolutionaries organize protest against Muammar Gaddafi.

Information courtesy of CNN and Al Jazeera

# Chemistry professor receives national grant

Rachel Southmayd  
Opinions Editor

Joel Karty, associate professor of chemistry, was recently awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation for his research in the field of chemistry.

Karty's project is titled "Resonance and Inductive Effects in Fundamental Chemical Systems" and will study two phenomena that occur during chemical reactions.

"When they take place together, we can know what the sum total effect is but we don't know what each one is doing in its own part," Karty said.

Karty said \$36,000 will go toward stipends for three undergraduate research assistants for three summers.

The money will also go toward purchasing new computers to accomplish computations more quickly, both during the summer and the school year.

After a month of writing the proposal, Karty receives the NSF grant on the first attempt.

If it hadn't been awarded, he

would have been forced to wait another full year to re-apply.

He said the organization looks at an applicant's past performance and the proposal to make a decision.

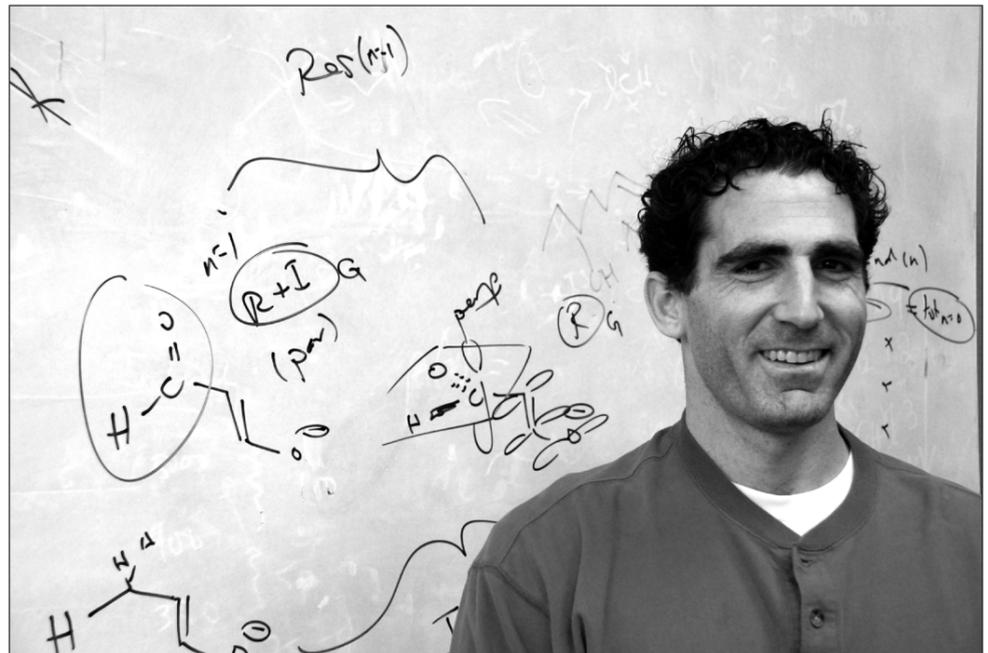
"It's much easier to convince them that this is going to be a good project if your track record is solid," he said.

What Karty is doing is known as fundamental, or basic research. This is different from applied research, which Karty said most people are more familiar with.

"Basic research, fundamental research does not have an immediate societal problem to solve but is taking place for the primary reason of better understanding of the science," he said.

While there are no immediate implications for this research, Karty said they could have greater effects later down the road because applied research is often based on, or utilizes, fundamental research.

"It's important to be able to keep contributing to the fundamental research without having an immediate problem



Joel Karty, associate professor of chemistry, will use the \$36,000 he received to study two phenomena that occur during chemical reactions.

to solve so that later on, a problem we don't know about now might be tackled using the stuff we learn about today," he said.

Karty said one of his incentives for applying was creating quality educational experiences for students.

"The grant-getting stuff

itself I think stems from what it is that we do as professors. It all goes part in parcel with undergraduate research," he said.

# University deans challenge requirement changes

GST from PAGE 1

of Communications, Business and Education will not fulfill these requirements.

Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, said many classes in the School of Communications have value as general studies courses and he has written a letter asking the review committee to consider this.

"Our philosophy is very akin and consistent with arts and sciences," Parsons said. "I believe we have courses that appropriately belong under the general studies banner."

The challenge the revised curriculum poses is that all students would potentially be required to either major or minor in the College of Arts and Sciences, which could be very difficult to do, said Kenn Gaither, associate dean of the School of Communications.

"Our belief is that the importance of communications should be a part of this proposal more than it is," Gaither said.

"The School of Communications is very much left out of this proposal."

Such a requirement would mean more advanced planning for students, according to Mary Gowan, dean of the School of Business.

"This new proposal may require that students begin planning their majors and minors a little earlier," she said. "It will require students to make choices earlier if they wish to study different subject areas."

The proposed curriculum opens doors for many interdisciplinary opportunities, Gowan said.

"We believe it's important for students to be able to discuss topics other than

business," she said. "We value the arts and sciences and by taking courses in that area, you become more aware of what's going on in the world."

**"This new proposal...will require students to make choices earlier if they wish to study different subject areas."**

-MARY GOWAN, DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Tom Mould, associate professor and general studies review committee co-chair, said he believes there is always room for improvement.

"The changes we are proposing will allow students to make connections within each class they take," he said. "It will encourage integrated learning."

If the proposed curriculum is finalized by a faculty vote in May 2011, the committee would expect to see changes develop within the school in the fall of 2013.

Another proposed revision is to

increase the foreign language proficiency from the 122 level to the 221 level.

"To better prepare Elon students to become global citizens, they truly need a higher proficiency in foreign language," Warman said.

The committee is also proposing to change the distribution in the arts and sciences categories and hours. While 32 credit hours in the arts and sciences are currently required under the current general studies curriculum, 24 are required under the proposed curriculum.

The last major change proposed in the general studies curriculum is expanding the Experiential Learning Requirement so students are required to complete at least two of the Elon Experiences. One of the completed requirements must involve diversity or community engagement.

Kassondra Cloos contributed to this article.

# Diversity conference explores inequality

Neima Abdulahi  
Reporter

The second annual Diversity Leadership Conference, hosted by the Multicultural Student Council, will take place April 1 and 2 at Elon University.

The theme of the conference is "Exploring the Essence of Power, Privilege, Oppression & Inequality." Tim Wise, an award winning anti-racism author and national speaker, has been selected as the keynote speaker of the event.

Wise was selected because of the message behind his work.

"He's a white male who brings in a different ideology and perspective about race," said Jessica Turner, student program coordinator. "This conference will show that diversity does affect everyone."

The registration cost for the two-day conference is \$40. Alicia Johnson, president of the Multicultural Student Council, said the cost is appropriate

based on the amount of sources the event provides.

"It pays for the gifts that each attendant will receive as well as their meal," she said. "The registration price gives each attendee the ability to hear from phenomenal speakers such as corporate executives, graduate students and other wonderful people that will offer a great network of connections."

On the first day, prospective Elon students and registered members will attend pre-conference workshops that will provide a wide variety of topics such as transformation, accountability, intelligence, micro-aggression, discrimination and race relations.

Elon alumna Tina Loveless will then give a presentation.

"She will talk about power and privilege and how it relates to society," said Melissa Jordan, assistant director of the Multicultural Center.

The day will end with dinner

**"(Diversity conference keynote speaker, Tim Wise) is a white male who brings in a different ideology and perspective about race."**

-JESSICA TURNER, STUDENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

and entertainment by Belly Dance Troupe, a group based in Greensboro.

The second day will consist of an opening session with Dr. Dennis Kennedy, president of the National Diversity Council.

"Mr. Kennedy provides experiences from his professional career as well as others as a person of diverse background and the challenges that come with it," said Tyrice Johnson, vice president of the Multicultural Student Council.

Three workshops, incorporating four presentations that from attendants may choose, will follow Kennedy's speech. The final event will be Wise's keynote speech, at Whitley

Auditorium.

"There's no other opportunity where there's a wealth of knowledge about many different diverse topics," Jordan said.

He said he believes that this conference will educate those that register and attend.

"Students not only have the opportunity to gain a better understanding for themselves, but they also have an opportunity to become more self aware and develop ways to improve the social climate of their communities," Johnson said.

The deadline for registration is March 25. Anyone interested may register online or visit the Moseley tables.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Campus association hosts golf tournament

The Elon MBA and Elon MBA Student-Alumni Association will sponsor their 4th annual golf tournament Saturday, April 30 at Mill Creek Golf Club in Mebane. The benefits from the tournament will go toward the Elon Academy.

Registration ends April 16 with an \$80 entry fee per solo player or \$75 per player on a team. The fee includes a gift bag and dinner.

### Elon's business program ranked among nation's best

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business was rated among the nation's top undergraduate business programs in 2011 rankings released by Bloomberg Business Week.

Elon ranked #60 out of a total of 113 schools, the first time Elon has appeared in the annual rankings.

## Students, faculty share positive experiences working with professors denied tenure

TENURE from PAGE 1

from October to January.

The committee and the dean responsible for the tenure of the applicant make separate recommendations on whether the assistant professor should get tenure.

The recommendation from the dean comes with a one-page explanation, according to House.

"After they have made the recommendations, I bring both of these bodies together," House said. "If they are in an agreement we write an easy 'yes,' but if they both say 'no,' or if they are not in agreement, then we discuss for a

long time."

House, the Promotion and Tenure Committee and the deans met in January to discuss whether the people in question fit all of the qualifications that need to be met in order to qualify for tenure.

From this discussion, House makes a recommendation to President Leo Lambert who then makes a recommendation to the board.

"At Elon we are primarily a teaching institute," House said. "But while teaching is most important, good teaching, while necessary, is not sufficient."



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS  
Rebecca Olmedo, assistant professor of Spanish.



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Lisa Peloquin, assistant professor of sociology.

### Corrections

In the article titled "Book by Grameen Bank creator selected for freshman common reading," Amelie Busch was misquoted.

The correct quote should read: "What Dr. Yunus has created is a large network of microfinance institutions that work with the poorest of the poor and provide fair interested rates, savings programs and financial education."

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## ELON RESPONDS TO DISASTER IN JAPAN

# Elon students studying in Japan safe after 8.9 magnitude earthquake

Anna Johnson  
Editor-in-Chief

The three Elon University students studying in Japan are safe after an 8.9 magnitude earthquake and tsunami struck the country, said Eric Townsend, director of Elon's News Bureau.

The five Japanese international students studying at Elon all have reported their families are fine, according to an e-mail sent by Smith Jackson, dean of Student Life.

The Japanese media has reported that the quake has killed thousands, and hundreds of thousands more are left displaced.

Juniors Sarah Naiman, Dina Hilaris and Kenny Tamres are studying at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, Japan, 502 miles from Miyagi Prefecture, the epicenter of the quake.

Naiman said she felt the earthquake on the fifth floor of her apartment complex but was one of the few in the area who did. Later in the night she learned how serious the quake was.

She said she doesn't know anyone personally affected by the disaster but there are students from the area impacted. The students' classes have not been disrupted, she said.

Senior Joe Siler studied at Kansai Gaidai last semester.

He said he has sent out Facebook messages checking on his Japanese friends.

"I sent out a massive message to my friends to see how they are doing," he said. "All the replies say they



The earthquake, which struck March 11, also created a tsunami. Currently, concerns are being raised about the state of damaged nuclear plants. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAM

are OK but one girl said her father is in Tokyo, so she's worried about him."

The Elon Alumni Association updated its Facebook page stating 2005 alumna Amy Jo Jenkins, the director of aquatics at the U.S. Naval Base in Yokosuka, Japan, was all right and there were no damages.

"We are OK on Yokosuka base," Jenkins' Facebook message read. "No injuries that I heard of and no major damage here."

It is unknown how many alumni are currently in Japan.

President Barack Obama called the disaster a heartbreaking situation and the United States

would offer the Japanese government any assistance needed.

"The main struggle is the loss of loved ones," Si said. "It will take time to recover, but the deep part is the loss of friends and relatives for everyone over there. My heart and prayers go out to them."

There was a moment of silence at 10 a.m. at Colle Coffee where three students from Japan spoke about the crisis. A meeting was held later in the day brainstorm fundraising ideas.

Individuals can send a \$10 donation to the relief efforts in Japan through the Red Cross by text "Red Cross" to 90999.

## AN OUTSIDE PERSPECTIVE:

# Monitoring the Japan earthquake from afar

Junko Aoyama  
Columnist

My name is Junko Aoyama. I'm a sophomore broadcast journalism major here at Elon. I'm also an international student from Tokyo, Japan.

On March 11, a devastating 8.9 magnitude earthquake and tsunami hit Japan, claiming more than one thousand lives with countless still missing. The Tohoku region was damaged the most. The aftershock tremors are still rocking Japan as I write this.

The tsunami waves submerged cities and forced many people to evacuate to higher ground to avoid being swallowed by the waves and the fissured grounds caused by the quakes. Many are without electricity, running water and are low on food and supplies. With only a blanket to warm them in the cold Tohoku nights, many are living in the dark facing uncertainties, worried about their homes, their missing family members and losing sleep wondering when the next aftershock tremor will come.

Electricity and phone lines are some of the biggest issues surrounding the quake. With many people trying to contact their loved ones, from the people in Tohoku to overseas family members (like me), the lines became all jammed up, increasing frustrations and worries.

Many major networks and cell phone providers are providing free broadcasts of news channels and Wi-Fi to assist everyone. Facebook and Twitter became the main modes of communication and spreading information. Celebrities opened up their blog comments sections and Twitter accounts to assist people reaching out to their loved ones.

The power reactors in the Fukushima prefecture were also damaged by the quake, leading to power outages in many homes and less distribution of energy. The reactors also emitted some radioactive substances, forcing many people in

proximity of the plant to evacuate to avoid radiation poisoning. The power plants are urging many people to conserve as much power as they can and will start administering periodical blackouts to make sure the power goes to those who need it the most.

My native Tokyo was also affected by this earthquake, though not so much compared to those in Tohoku. Public transportation was halted until late midnight, forcing 12,000 people immobile until it was safe to travel home. It was quite chaotic. Highways were closed off, causing traffic jams that lasted from three to eight hours. I know that in my K-12 school, the last bus didn't complete their route until 1:30 a.m. the next day.

My father was one of the 12,000 people in Tokyo who were rendered immobile from their workplaces because of the shutdown of public transportation. He works inside a tall skyscraper in the Tokyo bay area. He was in his office with 19 co-workers when the earthquake struck that afternoon. Each worker hid under the tables for protection, also wearing the helmets and gloves provided by the company.

Even after the first wave of the earthquake ceased, the building was still shaking slowly due to the building's structure. Three hours passed and the floor was still shaking. Because some of the workers appeared sick from the continuous shaking and the roads seemed to be OK, my father led the group outside and onto level ground because it was no use staying in the building.

Fortunately, a small restaurant bar near the office was open and took my father and his group in, providing shelter and food until the public transportation was back. When the system was operating again, all the workers were able to get home, including my father, who reached the house at around 2:30 a.m.. While most of metropolitan Japan was in chaos, I'm proud that even my father stayed calm and took leadership of a group of



CARTOON BY JUNKO AOYAMA

people relying on him.

All of my immediate family and extended family members reside in Tokyo and are currently safe. I contacted my mom through Skype Friday morning. Most of my friends I know that are in Japan have told me they're safe, although some had to spend the night in emergency shelters. Despite this relieving piece of news, I know there are thousands of other families who aren't as lucky as I am. In fact, some of my friends have relatives up in Tohoku.

It's been tough for me the last couple of days. All I've been doing is watching the Japanese news, contacting people through Skype, Facebook and e-mail and constantly praying that the worst will be over soon. Watching the nightmarish footage unfold in front of me makes me sick to my stomach.

Even now, I feel like I don't deserve being at Elon and feeling safe when so

many people back home are feeling sad and traumatized. Even though I'm not going home for spring break, if I had the money, I really want to go home right now. Even with midterms coming up, I have trouble concentrating or studying. I hate feeling so powerless and being so far away in this dire situation.

To everyone who liked, commented on my statuses and left messages on my wall on Friday, thank you all so much. It really meant a lot to my family. They're glad that there are people out there who care about what's happening. I am grateful to be a part of this Elon community.

Please keep Japan in your thoughts and prayers. With all your support, we can bounce back from this tragedy and people can resume their normal lives. It's going to be a long process, but I know we will make it eventually.

# Editorial

## THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and e-mailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. You can reach The Pendulum by e-mail at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu). If you have questions or concerns about an article, contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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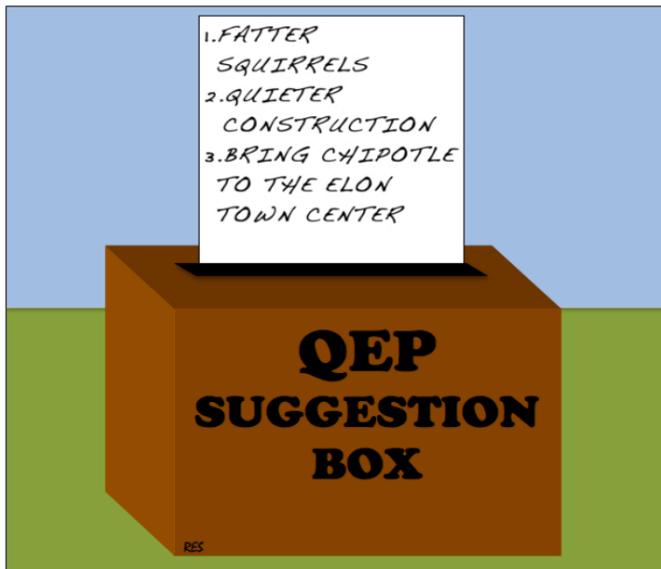
## Input crucial to success of future programs

No matter how many new dining halls Elon constructs, the number of student organizations available or the variety of housing offered, there is one key facet of college life that should dictate every decision and interaction that takes place on campus—learning.

In recent months, students have been particularly vocal about activities happening on campus. Those living in West Area have expressed frustration with the noisy construction taking place in downtown Elon. Others have spoken out against the recently introduced options for meal plans next year.

Where student response has been lacking is in regard to the Quality Enhancement Plan. Elon is developing this plan in preparation for a 2013 visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the university's accrediting body.

The final QEP will be narrowed down from submitted ideas and is an initiative meant to enhance student learning. It could include anything from a required course for incoming freshmen to a mandatory experience for the senior class. This plan will redefine



RACHEL SOUTHMAYD | Opinions Editor

learning and transform the direction of Elon's campus for years to come.

Students are often quick to point out the flaws they find in educational programs. When the teacher evaluation forms are released at the end of every semester, they relish the chance to express their displeasure with a particular teacher's methods.

What is puzzling, then,

is the lack of response when given the chance to directly influence the current learning model on campus. Sharing an idea is as easy as submitting an e-mail or filling out a slip of paper. Though only one final idea will be selected for implementation, the best ideas will be reviewed and combined, so every submission matters.

Rather than taking

the easy road and complaining, students have the opportunity to use experiences and knowledge from their time as a student and put them to good use. The university administration is not creating this initiative and then simply introducing it to the student body; they are appealing to the students for ideas and want student support throughout its development.

The committee members, professors in their own right, may have led courses on campus but have never experienced the modern Elon classroom from the other side. They are working off their assumptions and understanding of student life on campus, which many not be complete without additional student input.

As students, we should strive not only for our own personal gain in school, but for everyone to have access to great teachers, programs and resources. It's about taking what works and sharing it to make the student experience better for everyone on campus. It's time to show the university administration that students care about their learning and are striving to make it even better.

## There's a whole world beyond these brick walls

Elon University exists as a little entity unto itself. There are places to eat, sleep, socialize and even shop. And while that is all well and good, every now and again, we have to look outside of the bubble and realize that there is a big world out there, and it isn't always pretty. But it does us no good to live like ostriches with our heads buried in acorn-covered sands.

When a major world event happens, we at The Pendulum try to balance what we feel is a need to inform and educate the public with the specific needs of our target audience: members of the Elon community.

When protests broke out in Tunisia and then Egypt, we provided coverage of students and faculty directly impacted by these events. In 2010, we ran stories about the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, supplemented with material written by

students who happened to be there at the time or had a personal connection to the tragedies.

And this week, we bring you the story of the disaster in Japan.

As of now, the number of people dead is still unknown. No monetary amount has been placed on the damages yet, and there really can't be a figure assigned to the value of the countless homes, families and lives destroyed.

But that's all "over there," right? It doesn't affect us here in school.

Wrong.

There are three Elon students in Japan right now, witnessing the aftermath of the devastating earthquake, tsunami and nuclear fallout. Elon Sophomore Junko Aoyama, an international student from Japan, who knows people directly affected by the disasters, was kind

enough to share her story with us and illustrate her feelings through a cartoon.

The Earth's axis has shifted more than four inches, Japan's coastline slid more than eight feet and the length of the day has been shortened by almost two microseconds.

This tragedy isn't limited to a nation of islands thousands of miles from North Carolina. Its scope is gigantic.

Give money, give blood, give other forms of physical support but most of all, give a damn.

We may live in a bubble, but we cannot forget the world that exists and spins all around us. We cannot forget that first and foremost, before we are residents of Elon or our home states or the U.S., we are members of the global community. And it is our duty to step up and help our fellow citizens of the world.

### MORE ONLINE: OPINIONS

We're halfway through the semester! See how well five Pendulum staffers are sticking to their resolutions at: [pendulumresolutions.wordpress.com](http://pendulumresolutions.wordpress.com)

There's so much going on that we can't contain it all in one newspaper section. Check out more at: [www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com](http://www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com)

### TO COMMENT ...

We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback of 500 words or less can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the editor and columns can be e-mailed to [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244. Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

A message board also accompanies each article online at [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum) where commentary can be quickly posted.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Recently, Elon announced its latest group of tenured professors. Receiving tenure at Elon is the goal of every professor on that track, as it solidifies job security and symbolizes the pinnacle of a career.

I read the list of names and was pleasantly surprised to see several black professors on that list. I am interested in the progression of Elon's number of tenured black professors because freshman year, I helped lead a movement to highlight the lack of black tenured professors at Elon. Black professors serve as mentors on campus, and provide invaluable support for black students.

I applaud Elon for their efforts in increasing diversity, but I am still jaded: Elon shouldn't have been in this position to begin with. During my matriculation, Elon did not tenure two black professors who were outstanding and highly regarded by their students: Dr. Ocek Eke and Dr. Norris Gunby. I still feel the pain of seeing those professors' lives turned upside down by losing the teaching positions they worked so hard for.

Elon's number one goal in

its strategic plan is to increase diversity, and that is slowly occurring. But what if this goal had been present all along? Would Dr. Eke and Dr. Gunby be tenured?

Having diverse professors is paramount to Elon becoming better. Diverse backgrounds are part of what makes a great community. Currently, there are not any black male professors tenured in the School of Business. This fact affects me especially because I am a marketing major.

There is still a large disparity in the number of tenured black professors, but Elon has a chance to continue to change for the better. Also, the newly tenured black professors have a chance to continue to show the school their merits and talents. They will set the standard for black professors of the future.

Everyone should respect and realize the struggle Drs. Eke and Gunby faced and continue to face. Hopefully, in the future, Elon will continue to make progress and recognize the worth of diverse professors.

Trevor Wynn  
Class of 2011

# Opinions

## Elon's little eccentricities: hidden gems on campus



**Kayla Warfield**  
Guest Columnist

I was in shock and awe the first time I walked into Arts West. The walls and floors were covered with beautiful works of art—paintings, photographs and drawings—that many will never see, all of which were created by Elon students.

Even though there are places around campus where art is displayed, it still seems to be hidden. Portraits of people who donated money to the university, pieces in glass cases in Lindner, displays in the library, the "sculpture walk" connecting Arts West to the main campus and the giant structure in front of McMichael are some examples where visual art is displayed in plain sight but many may not notice.

A lot of people who visit these galleries or displays are art students, roommates and friends of art students, according to Fine Arts professor Shawn Tucker. Those who don't know art students usually don't

go to see these wonderful creations.

Other organizations could also be affecting the lack of publicity.

The huge presence of Greek organizations overpowers the ability of other groups to advertise, said Sophomore Elliot Luke.

The arts are also separated from the rest of campus geographically. Even though the distance is inconvenient, it allows art students to do different things that they would not be able to do on the main campus.

"If Elon were to have a piercing, it would be Arts West," Tucker said.

Once a gallery of "tasteful and artistic" nude photographs was displayed across from Yeager Hall, but were taken down because of concerns, Tucker said. A class once decorated the restrooms in Arts West, something that can't be done on main campus.

"We don't have to self-censor," Tucker said. "Here at Arts West, we don't need to be careful."

Tucker said the new global neighborhood may include an art gallery.

It's a problem that art students don't have the ability to express themselves to the rest of campus. But wouldn't it be great if Elon actually did what its brochures say it does? Students have to take initiative.

If they'd like to try and take



**A digital art class displays its text projects on a wall of Arts West. Most Elon students will never see these works, or others, because they are separated from most of campus.**

DAVID KIM | Photographer

advantage of more artistic events on campus, students should check out its Open Mic Night at the Arts and Letters house on Trolling Avenue on the first Thursday of every month.

"People read original and previously published works, present art, tell stories, sing, play music, anything," sophomore Nicole Tower

said. "It's amazing."

Clearly, art needs to be better appreciated at Elon. If students really want to cherish their time at college, they need to take more advantage of what students do, whether it be creating beautiful artwork, singing, dancing or acting. Want to know why? It's actually a lot of fun.

## Scholarship created for white males only, raises questions about racism



**Alex Moss**  
Columnist

The Former Majority Association for Equality is a new nonprofit organization with a controversial mission: providing financial scholarships to white males.

Several Texas State University graduate students started the scholarship as a way to reach out to a demographic they feel has been excluded from financial assistance. The organization has received more than \$3,000 in contributions and plans to give money to five white males starting in fall 2011.

It may seem natural for some to label the founders as racists, but logical reflection forces a feeling of ambivalence. A large number of scholarships and nonprofits are available to assist racial minorities of both sexes. Should the founders of those organizations be deemed racist?

The transcript of a recent discussion published in Psychology Today provides some insight into race-based scholarships. The conversation was between Dr. Mikhail Lyubansky and race blogger Tami Harris.

Lyubansky pointed out that white students certainly face troubles when it comes to success.

"But those obstacles are not related to their whiteness," he said.

Harris agreed, saying race-based scholarships are created to diminish imbalances of opportunity that exist based on race.

"These scholarships do increase the number of POCs (people of color) in higher education," she said. "What is rarely discussed is that diversity is

a good thing for all students."

Both agree the racial disparities that exist in higher education start well before college.

"There will be a need for affirmative action in colleges until we fix the inequities in K-12 education," Harris said.

In the United States, K-12 education is funded by property taxes. Racial minorities tend to come from a lower socio-economic status, so school districts in minority neighborhoods perform worse than those in predominantly white ones.

This can be traced to the days of slavery. Families of minorities have had far less opportunities to amass assets and create generational wealth. The Civil Rights Act, which aimed to combat social inequalities primarily in the South, was enacted less than 50 years ago.

Unless attempts to create a fairer country are pursued, the cycle of poverty that exists within many communities will continue to revolve. These attempts should include scholarships that, yes, may cater to certain demographics.

No empirical evidence suggests one race is more intelligent than others. In fact, some scientists reject the notion of there even being different human races—we all belong to the same subspecies, homo sapiens. Academically speaking, this shows an instance where nurture outweighs nature.

But given common social and economic conditions, it is no mere coincidence that so many more black and Hispanic Americans drop out of high school than Caucasians. But in the right environment, we all have the ability to succeed.

The white male scholarship, offered by a small group of white males in Texas, is legal and shouldn't necessarily be presumed as the result of pure racism.

That said, I still have no intention of donating to its cause.

## New residential policy to go in effect at Rutgers

### Gender-neutral housing may provide a temporary solution but won't prepare students for the real world beyond college



**Rebecca Cummings**  
Guest Columnist

Recently, Rutgers University joined the list of colleges and universities nationwide that have started gender-neutral housing programs.

Next year, students will be able to choose a roommate regardless of gender in select dormitories.

Rutgers made this decision in response to a recent suicide by a gay student, Tyler Clementi. His untimely death was in reaction to his roommate and another female student putting a video of him having sex with another man online. But is this new housing plan a good idea?

Angel Garcia, the assistant director of residence life in East Area at Elon, said it's an innovative idea, but it opens up a "Pandora's Box" of issues.

"Men and women are biologically different and have different needs," he said.

Gender-neutral housing would require strict guidelines and a strict application process. If men want to live with women, fine, but problems could arise if men start posing as something they're not to get to live with women, or vice versa.

Gender-neutral housing promotes identifying people's sexual orientation and promotes the idea of fostering tolerance. But isn't it possible that this lesson is better learned in single-sex dorms? If students cannot learn

tolerance in college, they will still be intolerant 10 years from now in the real world.

There may be other reasons why gender-neutral housing would be problematic.

"I would feel awkward, and I would not want to share a bathroom with boys," freshman Kate Andrew said.

Yet, some women may have no problem living in a suite with men, as long as in Andrew's case, they don't share a bathroom. Sharing an apartment or a suite where bedrooms are single-gender seems like it would work.

Garcia said that gender-neutral housing would work if there were a curriculum, an adviser and an educational purpose. This would prevent people from trying to cheat the system for personal gain.

But how far a school will go to give students a choice of who they live with becomes a problem when applications start allowing student to choose by race, religion or sexuality for their roommate, which becomes similar to segregation.

On statepress.com, freelance journalist Jessica Stone wrote, "By enacting programs that emphasize students' differences instead of their similarities, dorms will become a place to shelter students from diversity rather than expose them to it."

By introducing gender-neutral housing for the sake of homosexuals feeling uncomfortable, it gives them a place to feel safe. That can be good, but it doesn't give them the life skills to deal with intolerant people.

As students, we need all the experience we can get. In the real world, we can't hide behind other people that are like us.

# DanceWorks showcase to feature diverse styles

Stephanie Butzer  
Reporter

The Elon DanceWorks Concert doesn't revolve around a specific idea, and therefore its performances are without restrictions.

"We open it to any creative input from our members," senior Meg Ralston-Asumendi said. "We look for a lot of different styles to represent different genres of dance. We try and do master classes throughout the year by students and by professionals in the dance world in different styles and different aspects of dance."

Choreographers are encouraged to use whatever genre of music that speaks to them and supports their piece.

The annual concert is coming to the Black Box Theatre April 3 through 5. This year, an additional fifth show will be performed because of last year's high student demand. This concert is different from other dance performances because of its unique member involvement, said DanceWorks leadership.

"I think one thing that makes the DanceWorks concert stand out is the wide range of participation," Ralston-Asumendi said. "There is no underlying theme for this show because we want to keep it open for our members to try whatever they want."

This student-run show has existed as long as the club has, this year marking its seventh run.

The concert also serves as a learning experience for those who want to experiment with all parts of the craft, including lighting, technical work or choreography.

"Because dance majors are so enthusiastic, we get a lot of (dance) major participation," Ralston-Asumendi said. "Our non-major club members didn't quite know how to get more involved. So, we opened an opportunity for anybody to perform regardless of skill level and style, and they can be a part of the finale

performance."

DanceWorks received many different pieces during the audition period. The competition ended up being so stiff, they extended the concert's length and are holding a second audition to further pick the best.

"Choreography is more than just movement; it's crafting a dance," said Ralston-Asumendi. "It's everything from knowing the concept of the piece to directing the performance of the piece."

She described how every choreographer's process is different. A few people like to have all of their movements set before presenting them to the dancers while others, like Ralston-Asumendi, prefer to work collaboratively with the dancers. Both of these approaches overcome the challenge of moving a concept from paper into movement that flows in an aesthetically pleasing way.

"There is a difference between doing a movement and doing it with a certain intention," Ralston-Asumendi said.

## DanceWorks' seventh annual student choreography showcase

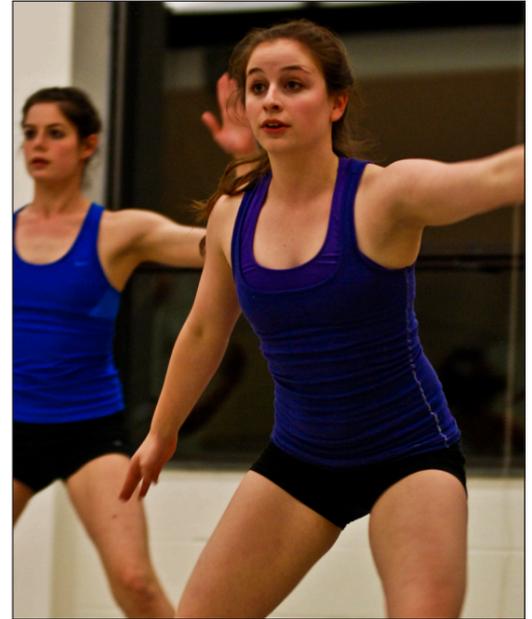
- Show dates are April 3-5 in the Black Box Theatre
- Times are to be announced.
- There will be five shows during the run.
- Members have already auditioned choreography pieces, with second rounds of auditions to follow before Spring Break.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer  
Sophomore Chet Norment and freshman Aislinn Koch dance the duet "Everything I Wanted You To Say," choreographed by seniors Jessica Duffy and Bill Commander. The dance is about a relationship where one party is more interested in the connection than the other.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer  
Left: The duet Norment and Koch dance depicts a developing relationship, where both people do not see eye-to-eye on the commitment. Right: Freshman Abby Williams (center) performs in her piece "Flying Circus," a modern dance about big top performers on the loose.



# Student's artwork explores tradition and growth

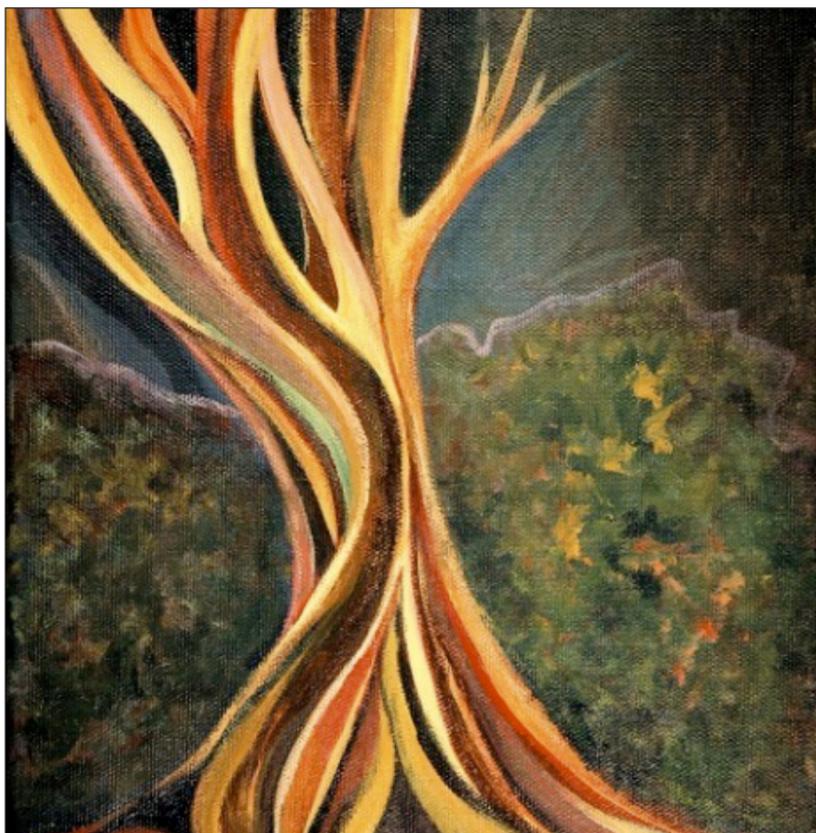


PHOTO COURTESY OF KIMBERLYDAVID.COM  
The painting, "Rooted" by Elon senior Kimberly David, is a part of her exhibition "Organica" at Allegacy Federal Credit Union in Winston-Salem. The show will be on display from March 11 until the beginning of April.

Nicole Esplin  
Reporter

Her vision is to connect people of all cultures with her artwork, and with the grand opening of her new exhibit in Winston-Salem, Elon senior Kimberly David is sharing this vision with hundreds of people daily.

The gallery, titled "Organica," is on display from March 11 until the beginning of April in Allegacy Federal Credit Union's Keener Gallery, located at 1691 Westbrook Plaza Drive.

An array of wine, cheeses and finger foods from around the world were served at the grand opening of "Organica," further promoting the interconnectedness of all cultures.

David's artwork is now part of a collection at the bank, which rotates work through the front lobby every month as a part of its "Art in Full Motion" program.

"The gallery is basically about nature and the human form, and how both are maturing and cyclical," David said. "I start with organic shapes and media."

David uses her knowledge gathered from living across the globe and studying abroad to "transmit beliefs and tradition through art."

To create her work, David mainly uses acrylics and chalk, but has started to experiment with other materials, including multimedia

materials. David featured new pieces she recently made with fabrics and textiles in her gallery.

Sophomore Melissa Provost attended the show after she found the event through a Facebook page.

"I really liked the multimedia," Provost said. "I loved the colors of the chalk and acrylic pieces, but the multimedia ones were my favorite. The way the materials were used was really creative."

David said she hopes the gallery will help her work gather a following and carry her through the end of her Elon studies into a graduate school, where she plans to continue specializing in art.

"It was a collaborative effort to prepare for this show," she said. "I could not have done it without the help and support of my family and friends."

Wherever her art takes her, David has already created a fan base at Elon, with more than 50 Facebook fans, including many of who traveled to Winston-Salem to study her first public collection.

"In the future, I'd love to go to another exhibit," Provost said. "I love all of David's pieces, and I am excited to see what she will do in the future."

To view David's work online and purchase prints, become a fan of her Facebook page or go to [www.kimberlydavid.com](http://www.kimberlydavid.com).



## Anna's Thai Café offers unique and flavorful ethnic cuisine

Julia Sayers  
Reviewer

Need to get your Pad Thai fix? Try Anna's Thai Sushi at the new location on Church Street, which opened March 11. The original Anna's Thai Café is in downtown Burlington.

Curtis Bishop, owner of the restaurant, has worked in the restaurant industry since 1994. He chose to open the restaurant on Church Street to get more exposure. Bishop is not worried about competition with the other Thai restaurants in town.

"There's enough business for everyone and we have some unique dishes," Bishop said.

The restaurant boasts its own sushi chef, who has been in the industry for 17 years. In addition to a large variety of Thai food and sushi, the

restaurant also offers a fully stocked bar. The dining area, separated from the bar by the sushi preparation area, has a calm and relaxed atmosphere where diners can enjoy a quiet dinner. The waiters and staff are all very friendly and attentive.

Diners can choose from a variety of appetizers to start off their meal. Anna's Special Rolls, crispy fried rolls with ground pork, are a great option. They burst with flavor and have the perfect amount of kick to them; not too spicy, yet not bland at all. The house sauce served with them tastes like a

unique version of duck sauce and compliments the rolls well.

For a main meal, the options are endless. The menu, while a little overwhelming, offers everything from sushi

to lamb to noodle dishes and curry. The spicy dishes are rated on a scale of mild, medium and hot but can be requested to be less or more spicy, depending on the diner's

preference.

The Pad Thai, a dish consisting of thin rice noodles pan-seared with egg, scallions, bean sprouts and topped with crushed roasted peanuts, was unique, but delicious

**"There's enough business for everyone and we have some unique dishes."**

-CURTIS BISHOP,  
OWNER OF ANNA'S THAI  
SUSHI



JULIA SAYERS | Staff Photographer  
Anna's Thai Sushi offers Pad Thai as an entree (top left), a dish consisting of thin rice noodles pan seared with egg, scallions, bean sprouts and crushed roasted peanuts. It also serves Anna's Special Rolls (top right) and homemade coconut cake (bottom right).

nonetheless. It was different than most Pad Thai in that it was sweeter and almost had a tangy citrus taste to it. Customers can choose to add chicken, shrimp, pork, beef, tofu or vegetables to the Pad Thai. It is best with chicken or shrimp and you get a good amount of what you order. You don't have to dig around in your noodles to find a few pieces of meat. The pieces of chicken were sizable and plentiful. As a cute decoration, a flower carved out of a carrot is added to the side of the dish.

The restaurant also offers homemade desserts as a

sweet way to end your meal. The coconut cake is just one of many options, including blueberry cheesecake, crème brûlée and German chocolate cake. A large slice of coconut cake is served on a drizzle of chocolate syrup and topped with a cherry. The cake is extremely moist and has a delicious, authentic coconut flavor. The icing and filling are also to die for. Customers can get just a slice or can choose to buy a whole cake to take home with them.

Anna's Thai Café is open for lunch and dinner, seven days a week. They will soon be accepting Phoenix Cash.

## Two juniors named finalists in 2011 Truman Scholarship

Sarah Carideo  
Senior Reporter

Although former President Harry S. Truman did not have a college degree, he understood the importance of being an informed global citizen.

The Truman Scholarship is awarded to college juniors with outstanding leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, nonprofit or advocacy, education or public service. Katie Kenney and Frank Stiefel IV are two finalists for 2011.

This year, the Truman Scholarship Foundation received 602 applications from 264 colleges and universities. Of those numbers, 197 candidates from 134 colleges and universities were selected.

The Truman Scholarship provides up to \$30,000 in funding to students. The Foundation also provides assistance with career counseling, internship placement, graduate school admissions and professional development. Elon's two juniors will vie for a spot as one of the 60 winning scholars that will be announced March 31.

In 2008, Breanna Detwiler '09 was the first Elon University student to win a Truman Scholarship.

Kenney is a double major in environmental studies and English. She is a junior Honors Fellow, member of the 2012 Periclean Scholars, EVI

co-coordinator for the Avalon Community Center, editor for Visions magazine and member of the Liberal Arts Forum.

She applied for the scholarship because of the emphasis on public service. Truman Scholars commit to working in public service for at least three of the seven years.

"I would be able to benefit not only from substantial monetary aid for graduate school, but also from being part of a community of passionate individuals committed to the ideals of public service," Kenney said.

After graduating, Kenney hopes to pursue a Master's in development practice at Emory or a Master's in international affairs focusing on women and gender studies at Columbia. Before pursuing her graduate degree, she hopes to intern or work for a nonprofit focused on international women's issues.

When she found out she was a finalist, she was thrilled to have her hard work recognized and was excited for the next part of the application process, the interview. Kenney completed this portion last Friday and said it was "intense."

"The panel's questions were challenging; they definitely pressed me on some difficult questions," she said. "It wasn't antagonistic, though. I felt comfortable and honestly enjoyed the experience."

Kenney thought another

enjoyable part of the interview was the opportunity to get to know the other finalists. She said they were "a very impressive group of students, all of whom are incredibly deserving of the scholarship."

She said she believes she deserves the scholarship because of her commitment to working in public service and making it a core of her undergraduate experience.

"My whole life, I have gravitated toward service roles," she said.

Kenney said she believes it's important to have scholarships like this because they "allow talented, motivated students to pursue their visions for creating positive change at national and global levels, because they encourage and emphasize the importance of public service and because they bring these students together into a community from which all of the members can mutually benefit." She also said the Elon community has been very supportive, and whether she earns the Truman Scholarship, she is grateful to have received so much encouragement.

Stiefel is a double major in political science and African/African-American studies. He is a member of the 2010 Periclean Scholars and founding member of the Elon chapter of STAND, Students Taking Action Now: Darfur. He is involved with Students



PHOTOS SUBMITTED  
Juniors Frank Stiefel IV and Katie Kenney are finalists for the Truman Scholarship.

for Peace and Justice, Invisible Children and he interns at the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life.

He believes there is a lack of student activism in colleges throughout America and that there should be more focus on making students become critically motivated citizens. Stiefel hopes to continue to build the movement and participation in his future endeavors.

He was interested in applying for the scholarship because of the political aspect to it. Stiefel was extremely surprised but happy to find out that he was a finalist.

"To be honest, I had no expectations and didn't think I'd be a finalist," he said. "It's a very competitive process with students from the top universities applying.

Being a finalist in itself is an accomplishment."

Stiefel plans to study at the London School of Economics and Political Science to pursue his Master's degree in the study of human rights. He said he hopes to obtain a wealth of knowledge through the program to hopefully work at an advocacy organization to gain more expertise and eventually work for the state department.

"I think that the field of human rights is something that isn't fully developed and needs to be," he said. "By having this scholarship, I hope to continue to expand my knowledge on a topic that I'm interested in and is something that I believe is valuable to the international community."

# Students create 'Vital Signs,' a new a cappella endeavor at Elon

Madelyn Smith  
Copy Editor

Ottavia Pomazon and Lexi Stones have a genuine love for all things musical.

The two freshmen Leadership Fellows met at last year's Fellows Weekend and are currently roommates. At the beginning of the year, they both wanted to pursue their love of a cappella and audition for either Twisted Measure or Sweet Signatures.

But due to a Fellows retreat, they missed their chance to audition.

Rather than waiting until the next school year to audition, they decided to take initiative and give students another option for a cappella.

"We thought, a lot of other schools have more than three a cappella groups," Pomazon said. "Three groups isn't enough, based on the large number of people who auditioned for the current groups this year."

They pulled their musical backgrounds together to establish Vital Signs, a coed a cappella group that recently achieved developmental organization status from Smith Jackson, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students.

Pomazon, who hails from Boston, grew up in a family that dabbled in many areas of the arts, from a grandmother who danced off-Broadway to an uncle who currently records with Capitol Records. She started playing piano in the third grade and was in many musicals and choirs throughout middle and high

school.

Stones is from Virginia. After playing the clarinet in the sixth grade, she participated in chorus, All-County and All-State choirs in high school. She and the rest of her musically-inclined family members also made up the majority of their church's small orchestra.

"When my family went on vacation, they usually had to cancel rehearsal," she said.

The first semester of this school year, Pomazon and Stones did not hesitate to become involved in student organizations.

Pomazon is in the Isabella Cannon Leadership Program, Kappa Delta sorority, InterVarsity and will be an Orientation Leader in the fall. Stones is in Kappa Delta sorority, InterVarsity, Elon Chorale and will be the Fire of the Carolinas' drum major next semester.

So what made the already involved students want to create a completely new group on campus?

"I honestly don't have a creative outlet at Elon yet," Pomazon said. "I was involved in a lot of musical things in high school and want to do something musical here."

Stones said she loves the unique sound to a cappella.

"I've always wanted to be in an a cappella group," she said. "The a cappella scene is really collegiate, and it's interesting to sing, hear and watch. A student-led ensemble is also appealing because we can come up with new ideas as a group."

Vital Signs was the name chosen for the new group.



Freshmen Lexi Stones (left) and Ottavia Pomazon (right) have achieved developmental organization status for a new a cappella group.

"We wanted a name that subtly had to do with music," Pomazon said. "We narrowed it down to four solid names and then started saying names aloud to get our gears going. We asked for our friends' opinions and Vital Signs was the name they liked the most."

Once Pomazon and Stones came up with the idea for the a cappella group, they used their resources in the Center for Leadership to begin the process of creating the organization. Steve Mencarini, director of the Center for Leadership, agreed to serve as their adviser. They then filled out several forms and turned them into the Office of Student Life.

This allows Pomazon and Stones to hold auditions, which will take place Tuesday,

March 29.

How will this coed a cappella group be different from the others on campus?

"We don't want to fully categorize or limit ourselves just yet," Pomazon said. "But we know we're looking to sing new and classic songs."

The group will wait until auditions to find its niche in the Elon a cappella community.

"We want to create the 'quirks' of our group once we have our members," Stones said. "We'll do what we want to do but we're also giving them an option to do what they want to do."

The two freshmen want to give fellow students another a cappella option on campus, especially those students who did not get a chance to audition for the other groups earlier

## Vital Signs Auditions

Prepare one verse and chorus of any song.

Auditions will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29 in the Center for the Performing Arts.

E-mail Ottavia Pomazon if you have questions at [opomazon@elon.edu](mailto:opomazon@elon.edu).

this year. They want the new members of Vital Signs to play a major role in forming the group's style.

"We hope they see it and know it's something they want to be a part of," Pomazon said.

# Invisible no more: student group shows atrocities of war

Stephanie Petrich  
Reporter

After a period of inactivity, Elon University's chapter of Invisible Children is again working to increase campus awareness of the longest-running war in Africa.

The organization's main focus is on stopping the Lord's Resistance Army, which operates in parts of Uganda, Sudan, Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo. The army, which is fighting to form a theocratic government, abducts children and forces them to fight in the war.

On March 10, Elon's chapter of Invisible Children hosted a documentary screening with "roadies" from the national organization present.

"Life is worth fighting for," said Adong Evelyn, Northern Uganda native and roadie. "That is why I decided to travel and meet good friends like you."

The roadies' main priority is to increase awareness and inspire people to take action. Elon's chapter brought the roadies to campus to kick off the organization's spring semester.

"We want Invisible Children to get started up again and be an active part of campus," said Katie Salerno, co-president of Elon's chapter.

Both co-presidents of the organization said they are striving to get Elon more involved in the issue.

"I would like to see Elon become an active part of Invisible Children," said Kevin Lynch, the chapter's other

co-president. "It would be great to see Elon support it through scholarships or funding for schools (in Uganda)."

The film focused on Tony, a northern Ugandan boy, whom the founders of Invisible Children were inspired by.

Tony grew up in the midst of the war and was a night commuter, who are children who flee their homes at night in order to escape the abductors.

"In the day you cannot fear, but at night you can fear," said Tony in the film.

On April 25, activists for Invisible Children will participate in a day of silence. They will take a 25-hour vow of silence to "speak out without speaking," according to the mission statement. Donations raised during this event will go toward buying radio transmitter towers. These towers will alert affected communities when the army is approaching.

According to Invisible Children, this is what the communities have been asking for the most.

"This is just the first step," Evelyn said. "The protection plan will never work without your help."

Members of the Elon chapter are planning to take part in the "25" event and are planning additional events on campus during the week.

"We would like to have a sleep out with a screening as well on the Moseley lawn," Salerno said.

To learn more about Invisible Children visit [www.invisiblechildren.com](http://www.invisiblechildren.com). The Elon chapter's next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on March 17 in Moseley's Fireside Commuter Lounge.



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# 'Sneauxball Effect' offers sweet New Orleans style treats

Ashley Fahey  
Reviewer

A taste of New Orleans has been brought to Graham in the form of a unique frozen treat: the snowball.

The Sneauxball Effect, located at 10 NE Court Square in downtown Graham, features more than 60 flavors of finely shaved ice, ranging from common flavors such as cherry and blueberry to the unusual, such as dill pickle and an original mix called dragon's blood. Combine the flavored ice with soft-serve vanilla, chocolate or swirl ice cream and a snowball is made.

"Our snowballs are made fresh every day," said Pam Buckner, owner of The Sneauxball Effect.

These snowballs aren't to be confused with the more well-known Snocones. "Snocones are hard and crunchy whereas (snowballs) are soft and fluffy."

Buckner opened the Graham location Sept. 1 but had started on The Sneauxball Effect mobile catering unit in June.

"We host events and cater to others, like the Carousel Festival and the Dogwood Festival," Buckner said. "We're now

working on expanding the business."

Buckner said she hopes to add a few more locations throughout the county, possibly within the Elon neighborhood or the south end of Mebane. The goal is to have two more locations before the year is out, according to Buckner.

The name is an homage to the New Orleans origin of the treat, because the "eaux" ending in the shop's title is a Cajun variation of the traditional spelling. The pronunciation remains the same.

The snowball originated in New Orleans and is a staple food of the region, as are gumbo and jambalaya. Buckner, who grew up in southern Louisiana, said snowball stands and shops outnumbered the more traditional ice cream parlors.

"Snowball stands could be found on every street, every corner, every block," said Buckner. "It was the place to go to at the end of the week."

Buckner's own Louisiana upbringing inspired her to open The Sneauxball Effect. But her biggest reason for opening the shop was her mother, she said.

"My mother is terminally ill and always told me to chase my dreams," said Buckner. "She is in her final stages of liver failure and her encouragement to follow my dreams is my main reason for starting the business."

Buckner wants to operate her snowball shop successfully and continue expanding upon her dream by opening more locations, potentially with a drive-thru, and spread the word about the business.

"We're using social media, like our Facebook page, to promote the business," said Buckner. "We also street pound with flyers and rely on word-of-mouth around the community."

Although The Sneauxball Effect is located in a nondescript corner of Graham's downtown, Buckner expects the store will receive many visitors during its February through November season. According to Buckner, many of the locals come in on a frequent basis, and specialties are offered as incentives.

"We'll run weekend specials for the different elementary schools in the area," said Buckner.



MARISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer



Above: Employee Rob Davis creates a margarita-flavored snowball for a customer.  
Right: The Sneauxball Effect currently has 64 different flavors. Flavors are created by using and combining different syrups. The ice machine, the SnoWizard, finely shaves ice to the consistency of snow. Before the store opened last June, The Sneauxball Effect was run out of a traveling trailer.

# Students produce documentaries, build a community of filmmakers through elondocs Production Program

Marlena Chertock  
Design Editor

Burlington doesn't have a bus system, and that is a problem for some advocates. In order to help, Elon University junior Taylor Shain is producing a documentary on this issue through the new elondocs Production Program.

Brooke Barnett, communications professor and assistant to the President, started elondocs in 2005. The organization is a resource for students to collaborate on and create documentary film projects. The Production Program started in 2010 under elondocs as a one-year focused program to help more students create more documentaries.

Nicole Triche, communications professor and adviser of the production program, started the program to increase the number of films produced at Elon.

"We were having good programs, good films coming out of elondocs," Triche said. "But not a lot. One or two films each year."

Six students were taken into the first-year program and are each producing his or her own film. The number is kept small to help build a community and because of funding, according to Triche.

Students are given hard drives, SD cards and tapes as well as a trip to the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham for three days. It also pays for film festival entry fees.

Students are encouraged to submit their films to appropriate festivals, Triche said.

"We really want people outside of Elon to see Elon's

work," she said. "And also for people to think of Elon as a school for documentaries and cinema overall."

The Production Program offers structure and feedback for students. Students are producing real work that can be used in portfolios they show to future employers, Triche said.

In the fall, there are workshops on cameras, lighting and interview techniques. Students also have to make a short audio, photo and video documentary, which are three minutes each. Students have one month to produce each documentary.

In the spring students produce a 10 minute documentary. The films will be finished in April.

"We try to make realistic timelines," Triche said.

Faculty mentors work with students throughout the process.

"The hope is that this group becomes a community of documentary filmmakers who give each other feedback and support," Triche said.

The program allows students to meet others who are interested in filming. Students offer each other feedback on ideas and videos and help each other produce the films.

Students are paired up and switch off as director and being in charge of equipment.

"When Alex (Triche) and Liv (Dubendorf) are working on Liv's documentary, Liv is the director and Alex sets up the camera and lights," Triche said. "And Liv helps run equipment on Alex's."

This makes the filming process easier, according to Shain.

"It always helps to have someone help create your



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Students in elondocs volunteered at UNC-TV. They answered phones and took a tour. From left: junior Celeste Smith, junior Liv Dubendorf, junior Taylor Shain, senior Sean Glynn, freshman Baden Piland and junior Alex Trice.

stuff," he said. "You don't have to worry about technical aspects of the shoot. You can just focus on interviewing. The director is more focused on the people and the story."

When he is in charge of the equipment, Shain said he focuses on the technical side, working the camera and gathering good audio and lighting.

Shain has contacted 30 or 40 people and conducted a lot of research and coordinating for his film about the proposed bus plan in Burlington.

"It's involved more organizing work than I've had before, but it's great experience," he said.

A huge aspect of video

production is gaining experience, according to Shain.

"That's really what this program is all about," he said. "You need to practice it. It helps having a group right with you to help you along the way."

Shain has learned from every production, he said, whether it's through advice from his peers or mentor, in pre- or post-production or out in the field shooting.

"You learn new tricks, experiment with the camera, get cool angles," he said. "Even if I can't use those shots for that specific project, in the back of my mind, I'll save it for later."

Last year, when the Kernodle Center was considering establishing a new BioBus route

in downtown Burlington, Shain supported the issue, he said.

"Maybe I can help bring about a bus system in Burlington," he said. "That's kind of my ultimate goal. Hopefully enough people will watch the documentary."

When students finish the one-year program, Triche hopes they will move on to the larger elondocs organization, she said.

There will be an interest meeting for elondocs Production Program at 4:15 p.m. in Studio B in the School of Communications on Thursday, March 31. Online applications for the program can be printed out at [elon.edu/elondocs](http://elon.edu/elondocs). Applications are due Monday, April 4.

# Women's track places first, breaks 3 school records at UNC-Wilmington

Julia Miller  
Reporter

After finishing third in the Southern Conference last year, the Elon women's track and field team came out strong in its first meet of the spring season, finishing first out of 11 teams at the UNC Wilmington Seahawk Invitational March 11-12.

The Phoenix placed first in four events and broke three school records on the second day.

"The first outdoor meet was a huge success, from distance runners to throwers to sprinters and jumpers," said head coach Mark Elliston.

The team finished fourth on the first day.

Senior Veronica Day won the long jump title with a distance of 18 feet, 7 inches, while senior Lauren Hawkesworth finished seventh in the event with a jump of 17 feet.

Junior Alyssa Girvin snagged seventh place in the hammer throw with a heave of 139 feet, 1 inch, while freshmen Charlise Morgan and Rebecca Gardner finished 12th and 13th, respectively. Morgan threw for a total of 112 feet, 3 inches and Gardner

for 97 feet, 6 inches.

Senior Justine Robertson threw the javelin 130 feet, 9 inches for fourth place.

In the 5,000-meter run, junior Allyson Costa received seventh place with a time of 18:28.38 and junior Katelyn O'Dunne finished ninth with a time of 18:28.94.

The second day finished with the Phoenix taking first place for the Invitational with a combined 165 points.

Second-place UNC W finished with 159 points.

"We just broke up UNC W's five-year winning streak of this meet and it's our first year (attending the meet)," Elliston said. "We had great performances, school records all over."

In the spring events, the Phoenix came away with three school records.

The 4x100-meter relay team, comprised of junior Dana Cataldo, freshman Kayleigh Birks, Day and freshman Bria Bell, came in first at the meet and set a new school record with a time of 47.16.

Cataldo also broke her previous school record in the 100-meter dash and finished third with a time of 12.42 seconds, while Birks placed

fifth with 12.49 seconds.

The third record was set by Bell in the 200-meter dash, where she finished second with a time of 24.98 seconds. Junior Amy Salek (25.21), Birks (25.59) and Day (25.66) finished third, fifth and sixth in the event, respectively.

The other first place finishes came in the 4x400-meter relay, with Bell, freshman Veronica Luedke, senior Sarah Skogen and Salek finishing with a time of 3:56.13, and in the 400-meter dash, where Salek took first with a time of 55.43.

For the distance events, freshman Ellie Taff took ninth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:23.19. Freshman Julie Hart (4:37.86) and sophomore Emily Tryon (4:40.05) took fourth and fifth in the 1,500-meter run.

In field events, Day continued her winning streak from the previous day, placing first in the triple jump with a distance of 38 feet, 10.5 inches. Hawkesworth finished second with a jump of 37 feet, 8.5 inches and sophomore Janelle McNeil took fifth with a distance of 36 feet, 2 inches.

Junior Jordan Lee placed second in the high jump when she cleared 5 feet, 2 inches, while senior Courtney Weathers took third in the event.

In the shot put, Robertson



Senior Lauren Hawkesworth finished seventh in the long jump with a distance of 17 feet.

threw 41 feet, 5.75 inches and Morgan 39 feet, 6 inches and sixth-place, respectively. Robertson took fourth in the discus with a throw of 131 feet, 1 inch and Girvin took sixth with a toss of 129 feet, 7 inches.

"I think we're very strong right now and we're keeping

our injuries low," Elliston said. "I think through time, with good training and dedication, they'll prove very well. It's going to be a fun next several weeks."

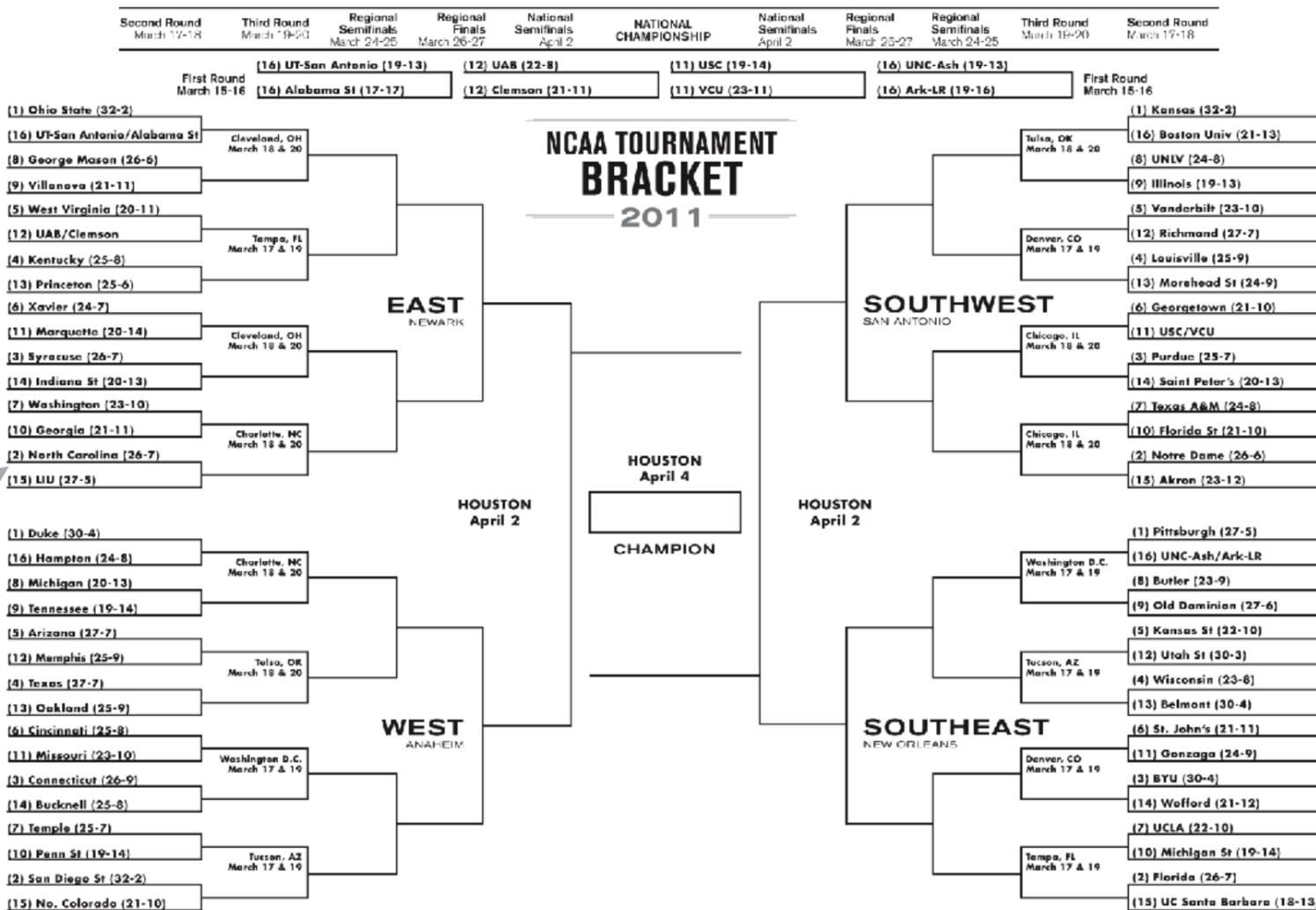
The team will next compete March 25-26 at the Raleigh Relays at North Carolina State University.

### Looking ahead:

Friday March 25 and Saturday March 26 at Raleigh Relays

**SUBMIT your brackets to Campus Box 7012, The Pendulum office or by e-mail to [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) to compete for a chance to win two movie tickets.**

Please include your name, phone number and e-mail with your submission.



# Table setters lead baseball's offense

Conor O'Neill  
Assistant Sports Editor

The popular quiz-based website sporcle.com features a quiz called "7 Ways to Reach First," which asks users to list the seven possible ways a baseball player can reach first base.

## Looking ahead:

Friday 4 p.m. at Western Carolina University

Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. at Western Carolina

Tuesday March 22 and Wednesday March 23 6:30 p.m. at Clemson University

Friday March 22 at 6:30 p.m. vs. Samford University

Saturday March 26 at 4 p.m. vs. Samford

Sunday March 27 at 1:30 p.m. vs. Samford

While some players and fans immediately list getting a hit, Elon University junior outfielder Jake Luce will take any of the seven ways to get on first base for the Phoenix.

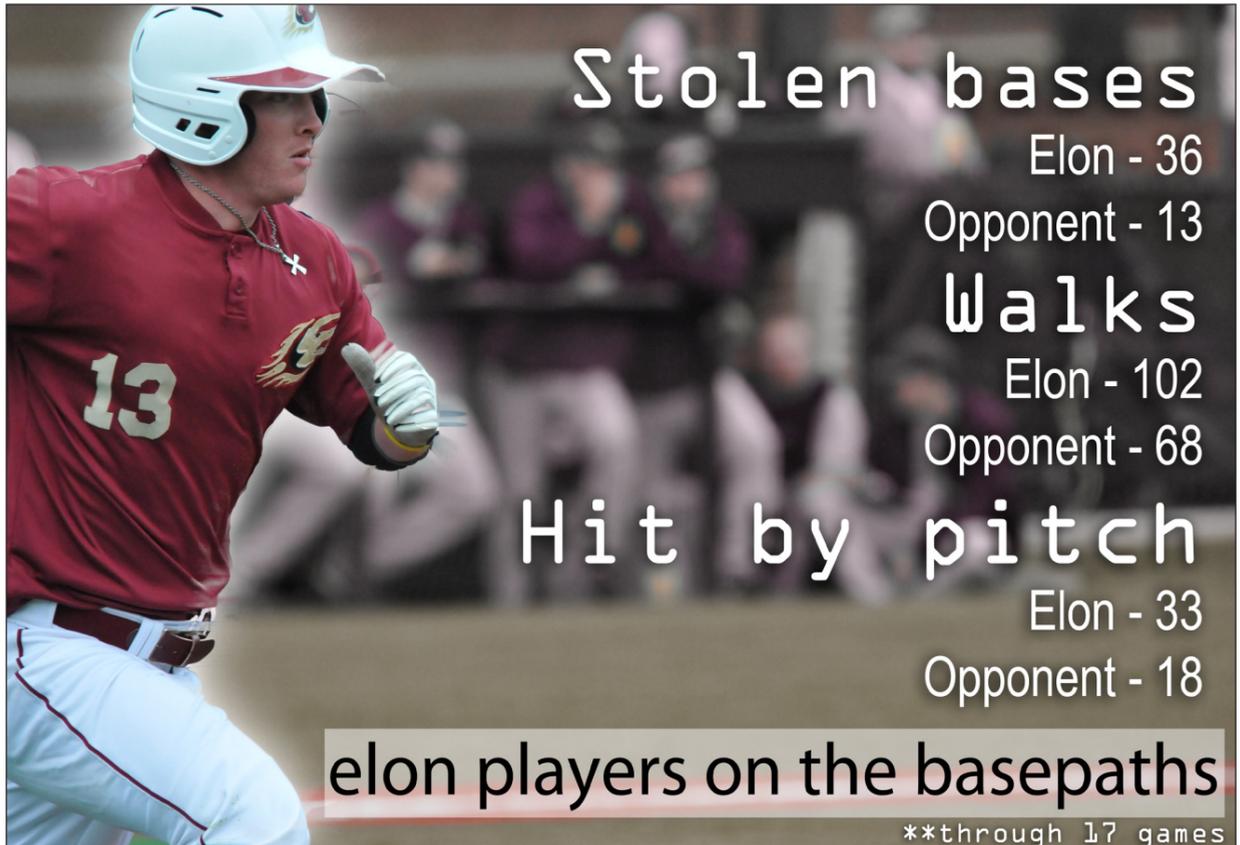
"My approach is to get on base," Luce said. "Any time that I'm leading off a game or an inning, it doesn't matter what it takes, I have to get on base because our guys in the middle of the order are hitting well."

That is one reason the team has started the season 12-5 and swept Appalachian State University over the weekend for a 3-0 start to its Southern Conference schedule. Luce leads the team

with a .429 batting average and has a team lead with 37 total bases.

"A lot of guys don't like to leadoff, but I take pride in what I do," Luce said. "If I can get on base, I'm going to try and make things happen and set it up for the rest of the guys."

And he isn't the only Phoenix with



## Stolen bases

Elon - 36

Opponent - 13

## Walks

Elon - 102

Opponent - 68

## Hit by pitch

Elon - 33

Opponent - 18

## elon players on the basepaths

\*\*through 17 games

LUKE LOVETT | Graphics Editor

speed in the lineup for head coach Mike Kennedy. Sophomore outfielder Niko Fraser has racked up six steals this season, often batting second.

At the bottom of the lineup, Kennedy often slots junior second baseman Cyle Rasmus and senior outfielder Harry Austin in the eighth and ninth spots, respectively. This gives the Phoenix four straight hitters when the lineup is turned over who can all put pressure on teams with aggressive base running.

"It just gives us a little bit of flexibility in terms of stealing bases and putting guys who can really run out there and put a little pressure on people," Kennedy said.

Those four players have combined to swipe 20 bases in 17 games, and have combined to score 50 runs, with Austin leading the way at 18 runs scored.

When those hitters can find their ways on base, the job of sophomore catcher Alex Swim becomes easier. Swim has been hitting in the third spot for the Phoenix this season.

"I just get up there and let them run and get to second or third, and then I try to get them in," Swim said.

In its game against the Mountaineers, the Phoenix scored 10 runs in the series opening win and 16 runs in the Sunday finale. In five losses this season, Elon has scored 15 runs, compared to 117

runs scored in 12 victories.

"We're different than we have been in the past, and you have to coach to your abilities," Kennedy said. "We are not going to hit home runs, we're going to have to bunt guys over and steal a bunch of bases and put pressure on."

Drawing walks and getting hit by pitches can be added to the list, as the Phoenix has drawn 102 walks and been hit 33 times as a team. But any way to get on first is a good way to get on first, according to Luce.

"When you have (players in the middle of the lineup who are good hitters), it's pretty simple," Luce said. "No matter what I have to do, just get on base."

## ONE ON ONE SPORTS

Are Brigham Young athletes' off-court actions an issue or not?

Conor O'Neill and Brian Dudiak  
Sports Commentators

By now, most of you know the story of Brandon Davies. The Brigham Young University basketball player was kicked off the team last week for having sex with his girlfriend, as a violation of the BYU honor code. If you were a highly touted high school basketball player with a scholarship offer from BYU, would you attend the Mormon school?

**Conor O'Neill:** Honestly, I would have a hard time attending BYU. I understand that as a student-athlete, you are subject to the requirements of a school, especially at private schools. But the restrictions facing the Cougars' players cross the border on having control of athletes. No alcohol, sex, tobacco or substances that alter your state of mind restricts a lot of the average college student's life. Want proof? Observe how many Elon students can be seen in morning (or afternoon) classes with Starbucks cups.

**Brian Dudiak:** Davies knew what he was getting into when he signed to play with BYU. Whether one believes in premarital sex or not, what Davies did was against the schools honor code. Davies should have never agreed to attend BYU if he was going to have a tough time adjusting to their policies. He could have played at UC-Berkeley or Gonzaga University. He said he wanted to play close to home, yet he also had an offer from Utah State University. Davies had his options, but he chose BYU and their policies. Though they may seem strict to some, Davies was aware of them when he signed.

**Conor:** I'm all for the part about honoring the contract you sign. But I think the principle of non-Mormons who attend BYU and adhere to these restrictions needs to be examined. What about the honor in coming clean to the violation? As far as we know, it's not like he was caught after denying it. While the actual violation was committed, he never lied about it. To me, throwing him off the basketball team for one violation after he readily admits to it is a bit much. A suspension for the team's conference tournament would not have sufficed?

**Brian:** Any college student knows that honor code violations are among the most serious offenses that can be committed. For athletes on scholarships, being caught for violation of the honor code can have even more serious implications. Good for Davies that he came clean before anyone found out otherwise, but he still violated the honor code. Conor, I meant to tell you that I stole \$100 from you yesterday and spent it on six cases of Yoo-hoo. I'll give you \$25 back and we'll call it even. According to your beliefs on Davies, that should be fine. Honor code violations within the BYU athletic department apparently call for suspension for the whole season, not just part of it. I hate to be cliché, but Brandon Davies knew the "time" he'd receive for violating the honor code, so he shouldn't have done the "crime."

## Softball goes 2-1, wins opening SoCon series against Charleston

Jack Rodenfels  
Sports Editor

It was a weekend of adjustments as the Phoenix softball team faced the College of Charleston Cougars in a three-game series March 12 and 13.

Although the Phoenix took the first game of the weekend by a 4-0 margin, College of Charleston pitcher Stephanie Saylor shut down the Phoenix offense in the second game by throwing a complete game two hitter, leading the Cougars to a 1-0 win against Elon.

"We had to make good adjustments at the plate," senior pitcher Lauren Taylor said, describing the changes that needed to be made. "We came back out highly motivated, wanting to win, and we improved our situational hitting."

The Phoenix did just that, even though they faced Saylor again, who shut down the Phoenix in the previous game and struck out eight batters. In the third game, Elon bested Saylor and her College of Charleston teammates and won 5-2, winning the weekend series 2-1.

While dormant in the second game of the series, the Phoenix bats came alive in the third game while Saylor allowed five earned runs in 2.1 innings.

"We were able to get a grasp on what spots the pitcher was trying to hit, and it led us to an offensive outburst," Taylor said.

The Phoenix collected 18 hits in its two wins during the weekend,

with the top five hitters in the order amassing 13 of the 18 hits.

Taylor collected both wins during the weekend, one in a complete-game shutout and one in 4.2 innings of scoreless relief for the series victory.

With the 2-1 series last weekend, the Phoenix improved to 13-5 overall, while starting 2-1 in the Southern Conference.

Elon continues a busy stretch of softball with seven games in the next nine days, starting with a 6 p.m. game tonight March 16 vs. the North Carolina State Wolfpack. N.C. State is an even 10-10 on the year, and is coming off of the Wolfpack Challenge, where the team went 3-1, and outscored their opponent 21-12.

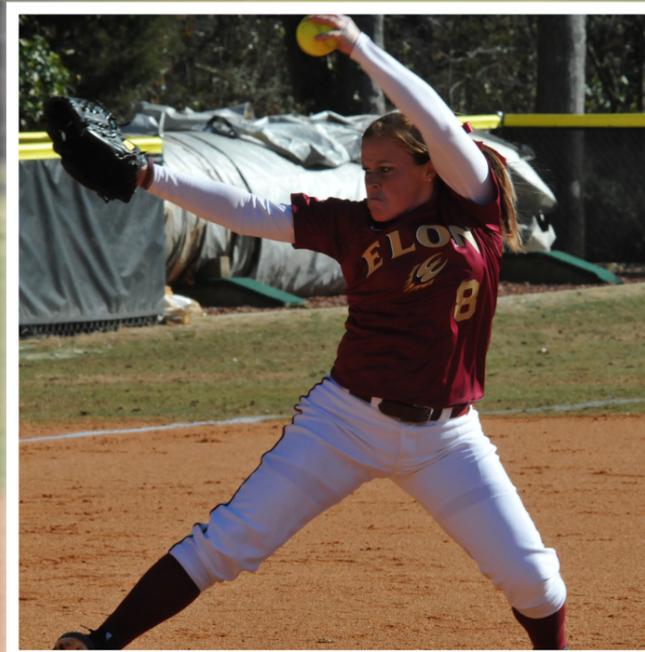
Tabbed as the preseason SoCon favorite by league head coaches prior to entering the 2011 season, the Phoenix has lived up to the billing so far. In its first 18 games, Elon has outscored its opponents 88-45.

A large part of the team's early success has been early scoring for the Phoenix. The team is 10-0 when it scores first in the game. In the first inning, Elon has outscored its opponents 13-2 in the first inning this season, and 59-18 in the first four innings of the game.

The Phoenix looks to continue that success as it moves through SoCon play.

"There's nothing that this team wants to do more than repeat last year's SoCon championship," Taylor said.

# Sports



**ERIN O'SHEA**

FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer  
Above: Junior Erin O'Shea delivers a pitch against Dayton University Feb. 20  
Left: Senior Lauren Taylor leads the Phoenix with eight wins this season.

## Pitching duo sets new precedent for softball

Jack Rodenfels  
Sports Editor

Forty-three feet is not a long way to travel.

It takes mere tenths of a second for an object to travel this distance at more than 60 miles per hour. In that time, a batter has to decide whether to swing a bat, where to swing it and attempt to make contact with a round object by using a round bat.

Sound difficult? Imagine two pitchers with a combined 2.01 earned run average, who have given up just 30 earned runs in more than 106 innings pitched, releasing the ball 43 feet away.

Such are the issues presented to hitters who face senior pitcher Lauren Taylor and junior pitcher Erin O'Shea of the Elon softball team.

Taylor and O'Shea have started in 16 of Elon's 18 games so far this season and they are an integral part to the team's 13-5 record. The duo has limited opposing hitters to a .232 average and has struck out 97 batters in 106 innings.

The duo has been lauded for their successes this season, as Taylor has garnered Southern Conference Pitcher of the Week accolades three times this season, and O'Shea collected the same award once so far this season. The duo has won the award for four of five possible weeks in the season.

"We're doing our best to mix our pitches around, while trying to keep the hitters off-balance," Taylor said.

Unlike college baseball, there are typically five to six developed pitches in a well-rounded collegiate softball pitcher's repertoire, Taylor said.

With such a developed number of pitches, softball pitchers can vary their looks and their approach to hitters. Additionally, if a pitcher can't find their command on one or two pitches, they can resort to other pitches in order to shut down hitters.

"We continue to work on hitting spots, getting ground ball outs," Taylor said. "In practice, we are constantly working on developing our pitches and getting our mechanics worked out."

Although they are a year apart in school, Taylor and O'Shea both had their first season with the Phoenix in 2009. After transferring from North Carolina State University, Taylor, a sophomore at the time, joined O'Shea, a freshman, as part of the Phoenix pitching staff.

In their first year, Taylor and O'Shea combined to start 25 of Elon's 47 games.

Last season, O'Shea finished with a 2.78 earned run average in 166 innings, with 13 complete games. Taylor saw equal action on the mound, with 165 innings pitched, and a team-leading 2.72 earned run average, while recording 110 strikeouts. The Phoenix benefited from strong pitching all season by the duo, as Elon went 38-24 and won the school's first-ever SoCon softball championship.

"(From the beginning), we have had a good relationship both on and off the field," Taylor said. "We're always encouraging the other when they pitched a good game, and are always spending time together off the field."

Although Taylor and O'Shea have had extremely successful pitching careers, they are both known for their

**SoCon Pitcher of the Week**

- 2/21 Senior Lauren Taylor  
0.64 ERA in 11 innings
- 2/28 Junior Erin O'Shea  
1.29 ERA in 7 innings
- 3/7 Lauren Taylor  
1.62 ERA in 13.2 innings
- 3/14 Lauren Taylor  
0.00 ERA in 12.2 innings

LUKE LOVETT | Graphics Editor

offensive prowess as well. O'Shea is a steady contributor in the infield, and is second on the squad in home runs this season. Although Taylor's role has primarily been as a pitcher this season, she batted .222 in 58 at-bats last season for the Phoenix.

While the duo has excelled on the mound, strong pitching wouldn't be possible without stout defense and timely hitting giving Taylor

and O'Shea run support, head coach Patti Raduenz said.

"Our defense has backed (Taylor and O'Shea) up all season," Raduenz said. "It has been important to give them run support so they can pitch with confidence throughout the season."

As the season progresses, the Phoenix will continue to lean heavily on the arms of Taylor and O'Shea. But, with seven batters hitting

over .300, the offense looks to have continued success at the plate to take the burden off of Elon's pitchers, with the goal of becoming back-to-back SoCon champions.

"It's about the little things coming together," Raduenz said. "If we can continue to pitch well, with our offense controlling the tempo of the game, we'll be competing right to the end."