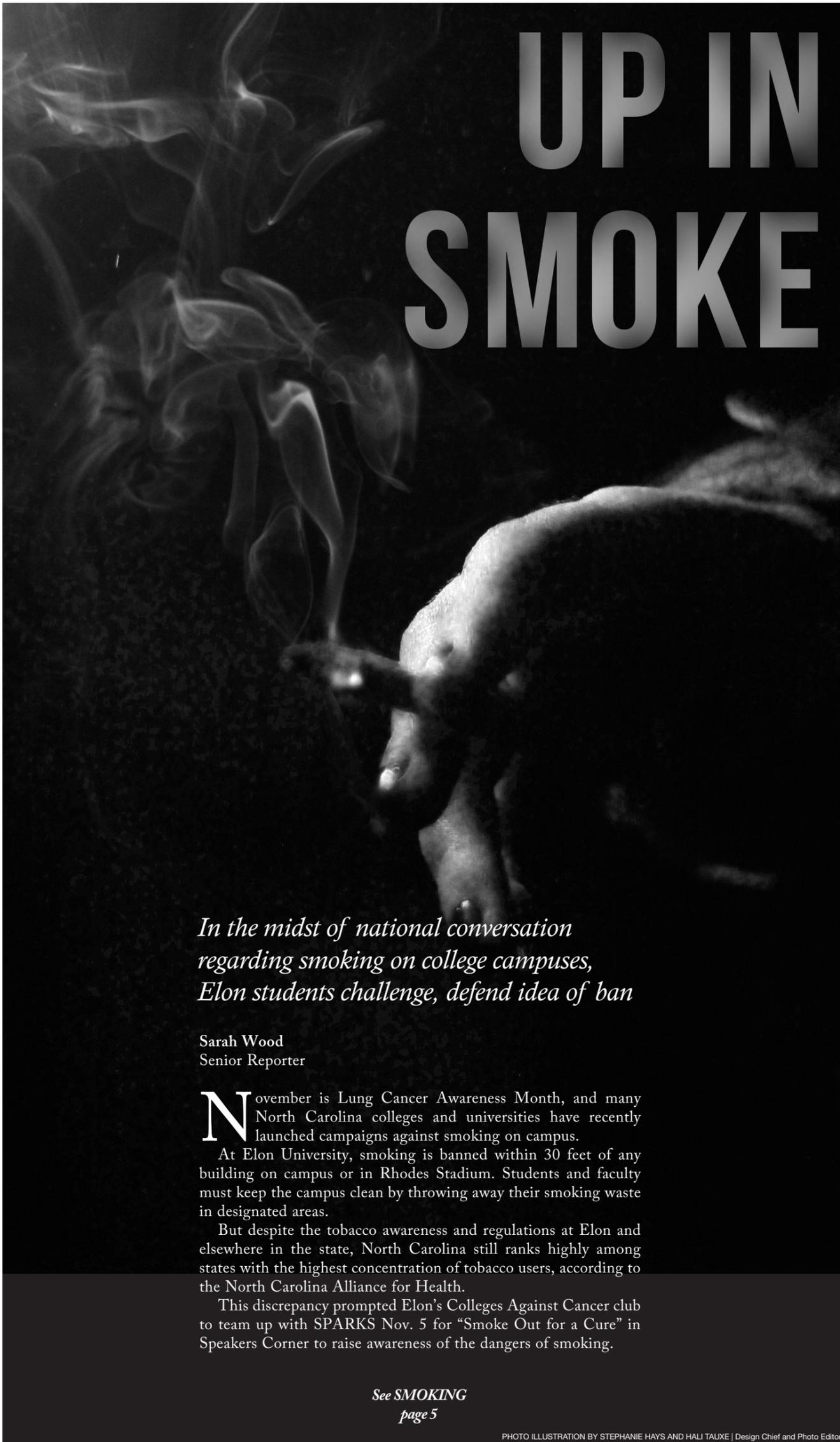


# THE PENDULUM

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*In the midst of national conversation regarding smoking on college campuses, Elon students challenge, defend idea of ban*

Sarah Wood  
Senior Reporter

November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month, and many North Carolina colleges and universities have recently launched campaigns against smoking on campus.

At Elon University, smoking is banned within 30 feet of any building on campus or in Rhodes Stadium. Students and faculty must keep the campus clean by throwing away their smoking waste in designated areas.

But despite the tobacco awareness and regulations at Elon and elsewhere in the state, North Carolina still ranks highly among states with the highest concentration of tobacco users, according to the North Carolina Alliance for Health.

This discrepancy prompted Elon's Colleges Against Cancer club to team up with SPARKS Nov. 5 for "Smoke Out for a Cure" in Speakers Corner to raise awareness of the dangers of smoking.

See **SMOKING**  
page 5

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE HAYS AND HALI TAUXE | Design Chief and Photo Editor

## Carson still tops in latest Elon Poll

Staff Reports

Recent Elon University Poll results reveal Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson has a double-digit lead over Donald Trump — his nearest competitor — in North Carolina. The results, released Nov. 5, also show Carson has a lead over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.



Ben Carson

"Nearly a third of registered Republican voters here said they plan on voting for Carson, more than 10 points ahead of Donald Trump, his closest primary competitor," said Kenneth Fernandez, assistant professor of political science and policy studies and director of the Elon University Poll, in a news release.

See **ELON POLL**  
page 4

## Campus Police debuts traffic safety campaign

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

To help enforce motor and pedestrian laws, Elon University Campus Safety and Police will begin a weeklong traffic safety education and enforcement campaign Nov. 11.

This is the second year the department has conducted a campaign related to implementing motor vehicle safety.

"We do this in efforts to raise the awareness of pedestrian safety, especially now that it is getting darker earlier," said Dennis Franks, director of Campus Safety and Police. "It is also an effort to reduce risky or aggressive driving on and around campus."

Franks said the department will be focusing on unsafe and aggressive driving, and there will be repercussions — warnings and citations — for violators. He said pedestrian violations include failing to obey pedestrian signals and failing to walk on sidewalks when possible.

In addition to enforcing laws, Franks said Elon police officers will hand out pedestrian safety flyers in locations across campus.

### NEWS

Third culture kids make their way to Elon pg. 4



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Physical Plant employee gets opportunity to travel abroad pgs. 12-13

### SPORTS



Basketball previews: Women pgs. 14-15 Men pgs. 16-17

# Elon water tower gets a makeover

*Upgrades to promote safety for maintenance workers, increase cell coverage*

Elizabeth Kirkhorn  
Senior Reporter

The Town of Elon's water tower is being reconstructed to bring the design up to industry standard. This means increased safety and efficiency for the utilities employees who man the tower as well as increased cell coverage for Elon's citizens.

The tower received its last update in 1990, according to Scottie Wilkins of The Elon Department of Public Works and Utility Services, who recently spoke at a Board of Alderman Council Meeting. To keep the tower's tank running smoothly, Wilkins said it needs to be re-coated and re-insulated.

Last year, ice storms prompted the Town of Elon Department of Public Works and Utility Services to bolster the water tower with increased insulation and support beams, but Wilkins and the rest of department believed that the temporary protective adjustments made can only last the tower so long. It would benefit from a total redesign.

Such a redesign includes reinforcing the cables that root the tower to the ground and working on the welding of the tank, which Wilkins refers to as "improper" in its current state. Once these changes are made, utility services believes the water tower will have a much longer



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor

The Town of Elon water tower is getting some upgrades to meet industry standards and improve safety for workers and cell service.

projected lifespan.

One significant structural change is being made to the cellular service antennas, owned by AT&T, currently situated around the handrails of the water tower. The design was functional when it was built, but maintenance workers have found it increasingly difficult to navi-

gate the tower to monitor water quality, according to Wilkins.

The placement of the antennas is currently obstructive, making navigation around the "catwalk" of the tower potentially dangerous. Wilkins also said the apparatus which transports workers up and down the tower is hindered by any and all cellu-

lar antennas there.

Utility services and the Town of Elon are currently in the process of building what Richard White, town manager of Elon, refers to as a "corral." This circular structure will provide a new basis for the cellular antennas atop the tank, so they are no longer trouble for maintenance workers. Other municipalities in North Carolina who have adopted this construction include Burlington, Gibsonville and Mebane.

"I wouldn't call what the tower has 'issues,'" White said. "The addition of a corral just makes it more structurally sound. This will make the tower even safer."

The tower needs to be repainted as well, since it has been two decades since its last paint job.

"The construction of the corral allows us to rearrange cables that go up the water tower in such a way that makes it easier for the painters to actually work on the tower," White said.

AT&T, who operates the antennas that moderate cell coverage from the top of the tower, is undertaking this project in conjunction with the Town of Elon and the utilities department. The corporation provided the majority of the funds for the corral and the repositioning of the antennas to the peak of the tower.

Meanwhile, the rest of the

funds needed to repair the tank are being managed by the utilities department itself, according to White. Wilkins told the Board of Alderman that AT&T predicts a higher position of the antennas will mean a stronger cellular signal throughout Elon.

But increased coverage for mobile phones and safety for Public Works and Utility Services employees are not the only changes coming to Elon's water tower. The new paint job includes a redesigned logo, which features a sharp, contemporary letter "E" against a teal background. This logo is distinctly unlike the picture decorating the tank currently and contrasts all traditional designs representing the town and Elon University.

White said the idea for a new logo was created as a part of the "downtown mass division plan," and was drawn by private consultants prior to his appointment as town manager. He said that this plan is intended to rebrand the image of downtown Elon and that the modernized logo is one of the steps is doing just that. The branding will cost the Town of Elon around \$1,500.

Construction on the water tower has already begun. White confirmed that the corral is almost completed. Work on welding, cables and outdated features of the tank will continue into the month.

# Elon alumnus elected Burlington mayor

*Ian Baltutis '08 won election, hopes to continue open communication*

Emmanuel Morgan  
Senior Reporter

Ian Baltutis was as confident and poised as he had ever been during election season. But when the Elon University 2008 graduate heard he had won the Burlington mayoral election, one word came to his mind: disbelief.

"We knew that we had done tremendous work across the community and heard positive feedback from our volunteers standing at the polls," Baltutis said. "But it was almost unreal seeing those numbers come in."

Baltutis, 30, triumphed over Burlington City Councilman Jim Butler by 378 votes. The satisfying feeling of beating another politician was incredibly new to Baltutis. For the past three years, he failed to win an election, but by laboring vigorously, he garnered a large following of supporters — something he said aided his victory.

"Something that really helped was the culmination of all the previous campaigns

that we've run," Baltutis said. "We had volunteers and community leaders behind us and donors and the whole support network across the community gunning for our victory."

The mindset of Baltutis throughout the election was to reach as many voters as possible and personally engage with them. This entailed going door to door to speak with prospective voters and distribute yard signs.

The newly elected mayor hopes to continue this successful practice of open communication throughout his term and aspires to create jobs in Burlington and beyond through proactivity and personable collaboration.

"The biggest thing that we want to do is continue to be very visible and very active," he said. "We want to continue what we've started and talk with teachers, business leaders and church leaders across the community and talk with them about having more involvement with the mayoral office."

Baltutis added that he thinks job creation is a priority for the future of Burlington.

"[Job creation] will rely heavily on my administration to work with people with an entrepreneurial mindset," he said.

Another aspect Baltutis hopes he can alter is the stereotype associated with youth. By defeating someone who was 20 years older than him, Baltutis hopes to influence younger individuals to chase their dreams despite inexperience.

"We really view this elec-

tion as a pivotal moment to inspire people across our community," he said "So often, people will tell us 'You're not old enough to be a leader.' I wanted to break down that barrier and really make sure that folks are not turned off by that kind of comment.

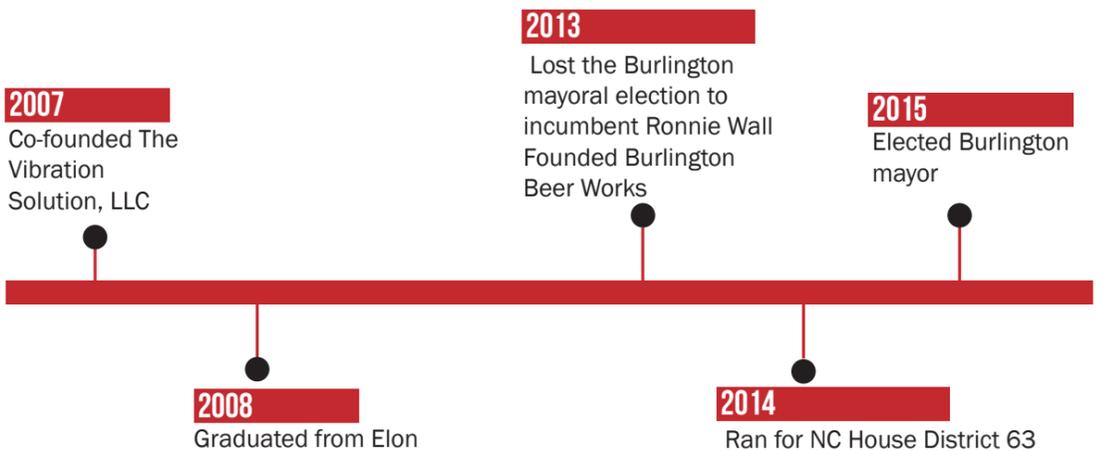
"I've seen incredible students come out of Elon and out of our high schools and if they want to start a business, I want them to know that they should start investing in that now and they will have support all throughout Burlington."



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY IAN BALTUTIS

Ian Baltutis, an Elon alumnus, is Burlington's new mayor.

CAREER PATH



# Discoveries anytime, anywhere

*Author Robert Dunn urges students to explore and assume nothing*

Max Garland  
Assistant News Editor

A major scientific discovery can happen any time and any place, according to Robert Dunn, author and associate professor of biology at North Carolina State University. That includes during a bathroom break in Cape Town, South Africa.



Robert Dunn

Dunn explained during his Nov. 5 talk at Elon University's McCrary Theatre that a colleague of his found four new species of katydids, a type of cricket, in a bush where most wouldn't think to look.

"You can find them while peeing at a truck stop," Dunn said. "The big takeaway is you don't have to care about insects to know that what this means is that big discoveries are lurking all around us."

Dunn's talk, titled "Why Basic Ecology and Evolution Hold the Secrets to the Future of Medicine," emphasized how persistent curiosity about the Earth and its organisms can lead to breakthroughs in the medical field.

And humans aren't doing a great job of that so far, according to Dunn.

"We look back at the Dark Ages, and we laugh at those bozos like, 'Oh man, he didn't

even cut the right parts out,'" Dunn said. "We're still those bozos, but we're just bozos about different stuff."

Dunn said people assume our ancestors have already found the majority of available knowledge. Because of that mindset, people miss nearly everything. For more breakthroughs to occur, people have to assume nobody else knows about a potential discovery.

"We have this sense that we're all born into," Dunn said. "We think what we know now is most of everything we will ever know, when the truth is that what we know now is a teeny part of what we will ever know."

There are 2 million named species in the world, with 6 million undiscovered species being a "conservative estimate," according to Dunn. His estimate of the total number of species on

Earth is a little more ambitious.

"I like to say there are 200 million species out there," Dunn said. "Not because I think

it's true, but I think because [humans] are so stupid that no one can prove that it is wrong."

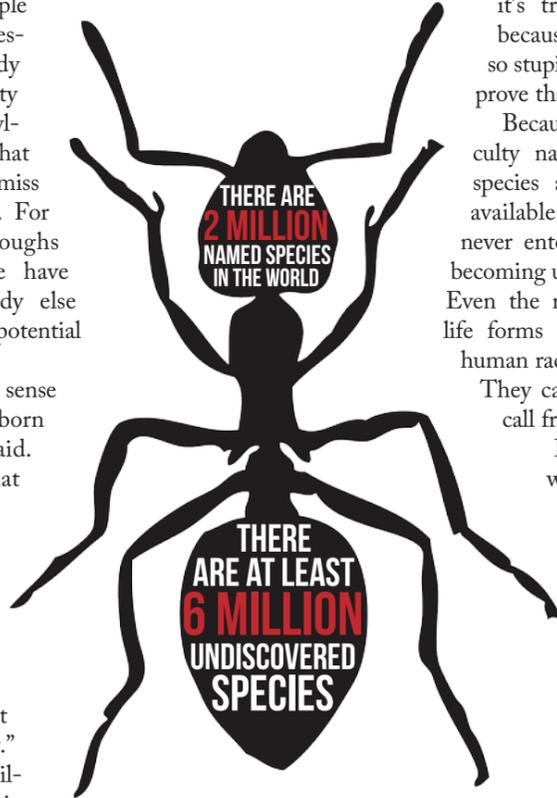
Because of our difficulty naming all of the species around us, most available organisms can never enter the process of becoming useful, Dunn said. Even the most unassuming life forms can improve the human race down the road.

They can even lead to a call from the CIA.

Dunn said a man with the CIA called him a few years ago asking if Dunn could tell where one of the samples of fungal DNA he was working on could be found based on what was inside it. Dunn eventually

answered the question, but first had to ask a question of his own.

"I was like, 'Is this really the CIA?'"



STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

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# Globetrotters at a young age

*Back from childhoods abroad, 'third culture kids' readjust to US life*

Michelle Alfini & Diana Stancy  
Reporters

Few high school students move halfway across the world and start a new life in a foreign country, but this was reality for Elon University senior Ingrid Frahm.

Frahm's father accepted a job in Switzerland and uprooted the family from their Texas home.

Though the family originally planned on living in Switzerland for two years, their stay was extended for another two years. As a result, Frahm spent all of high school attending an international school in Switzerland.

Naturally, the family encountered culture shock upon arriving.

"It was a really crazy experience. When we first got there we were frazzled and not sure how to do anything," said Frahm, who works for The Edge. "Just getting acclimated to the culture was kind of shocking, so we definitely all experienced some kind of culture shock."

Though Frahm may not have

had the "typical" high school experience, she is not the only one at Elon who grew up abroad. In fact, there are a handful of these students attending Elon, which was recently nominated as one of the "Top 10 Most Globally Minded" colleges by the Christian Science Monitor. Students like Frahm identify as "third culture kids," ones who grow up in a different country than their own.

As globalization continues, the number of third culture kids is increasing. Now more than ever it is more common for U.S. citizens to work abroad, meaning more children from the United States are growing up abroad. According to the U.S. Census, approximately 4 million people from the United States live outside the country.

David C. Pollock and Ruth E. Van Reken, authors of "Third Culture Kids: Growing Up Among Worlds," claim these kids typically fall into one of four categories: military brats, Foreign Service kids, corporate brats and missionary kids.

## Reverse culture shock

Every teenager experiences a period of transition as they figure out who they are, but for those who identify as "third culture kids," this process can be more complicated.

According to Anita Smith, counselor at Elon's Counseling Services, feeling out of place in one's "own" culture is completely normal and expected after living overseas during formative years. As a result, third culture kids may struggle as their own individual identity develops.

"Personal identity is strongly tied to having a secure sense of belonging to a particular group or community," Smith said. "A person who grows up in multiple countries would likely feel connected to many places but not necessarily a sense of belonging to any particular place."

Smith said many third culture kids experience frustration because "home" is not a specific place.

Some students, like Frahm, struggle to even identify where they are from. She admitted she dreads it when people ask her for

her hometown.

This is typical.

"Students may feel that they are from everywhere and nowhere at the same time," Smith said.

When third culture kids do return to the United States, it can be difficult readjusting to an environment that was once familiar, but has changed. Additionally, an individual's level of connection to people and places are often altered because of distance, Smith said.

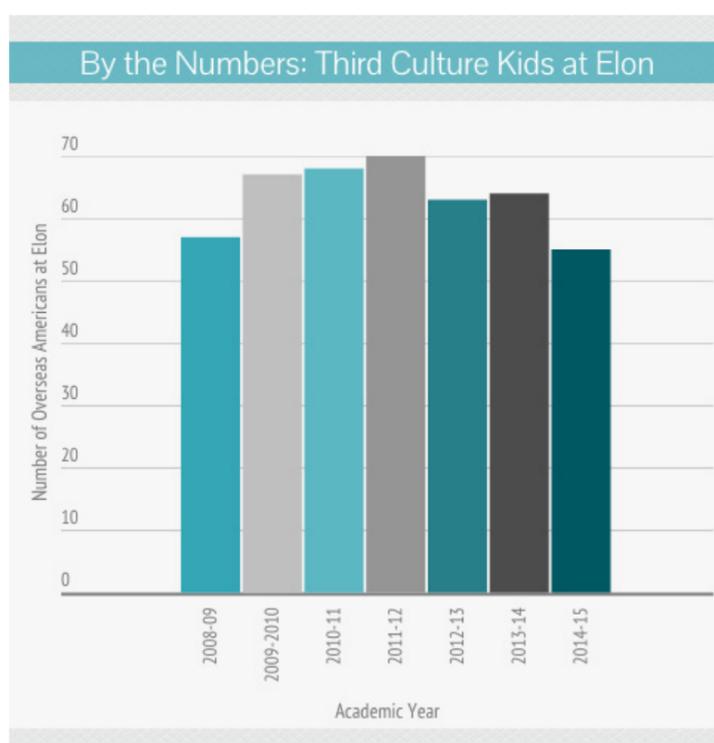
"It may feel frustrating to return home and become aware that so much has changed or to feel that nothing has changed at all when the student feels they have grown and changed so much through their away experience," Smith said. "The students' interests and values may have developed over their time away and no longer align nicely to those of close friends or family."

Still, it's a smooth transition for some. For senior Kelly Fawcett, who grew up in Egypt, Virginia, Zambia, El Salvador and Ethiopia, staying connected to the United States helped ease the transition.

"I think because I come back to the United States every summer I kind of knew what the United States was like, but interacting with U.S. Americans that were my own age for the first time — I think it was that might have been the most shocking thing," Fawcett said. "I don't think I have as much culture shock as many international students do."

## Resources at Elon

Incoming Elon students who may identify as third culture kids are given the option to attend international student orientation. According to Bill Burress, associate director of study abroad at the Global Education Center, students can decide whether they would like to identify as an "international" stu-



GRAPHIC BY MICHELLE ALFINI AND DIANA STANCY

dent during their college career.

They have this choice because national identity is multifaceted and cannot be limited to a singular definition, Burress said.

"National identity is not de-

finer, 55 students identified as "overseas Americans" during the 2014-2015 academic year. They are included in the 6 percent of students who identify as "international."

Though these Elon students may share orientation together, international students and third culture kids intentionally are integrated into "regular" Elon 101 courses. While Burress acknowledged there may be valued support in grouping these students together for Elon 101, it could create a barrier and inhibit students' ability to integrate fully into the Elon community.

"We hope that students will begin to form relationships during international student orientation that can act as that support group and hope that we can help facilitate those relationships by offering programming during the year," Burress said.

"IT WAS A REALLY CRAZY EXPERIENCE. WHEN WE FIRST GOT THERE WE WERE FRAZZLED AND NOT SURE HOW TO DO ANYTHING."

INGRID FRAHM  
SENIOR

## TOP 10 MOST GLOBALLY MINDED COLLEGES, 2015

1. Groucher College
2. Soka University of America
3. Thomas More College of Liberal Arts
4. Centre College
5. Goshen College
6. Kalamazoo College
7. Pitzer College
8. Susquehanna University
9. Carleton College
10. Elon University

Source: Christian Science Monitor

## ELON POLL from cover

When polling for presidential preferences, 31 percent of respondents said they would side with Carson, while 19 percent would side with Trump. Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz tied for third place with 10 percent.

Among Democrats and Democratic-leaning voters, 57 percent said they would support Hillary Clinton, whereas 24 percent said they would support Bernie Sanders.

When choosing between Carson and Clinton, North Carolina residents favored Carson 48-43 percent, a lead that has shrunk since September. Another Republican can-

## HYPOTHETICAL 2016 PRESIDENTIAL MATCHUPS

CARSON 48% VS. 44% CLINTON

TRUMP 40% VS. 50% CLINTON

RUBIO 46% VS. 45% CLINTON

STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

didate with a hypothetical advantage is Rubio, who held a 46-45 lead over Clinton.

The day after the poll's Nov. 5 news release, Politico published a story saying Carson never applied or received admission to West Point, despite claims in his

autobiography that he was offered a full scholarship there. An article published by The Wall Street Journal the same day questioned a class Carson took at Yale University and the final exam that had every student but him walk out.

The Elon University Poll surveyed more than 1,000 North Carolina residents via telephone. Pollsters also surveyed state residents about North Carolina gubernatorial candidates and President Obama.

Democratic Attorney General Roy Cooper has pulled ahead of incumbent Republican Gov. Pat McCrory in a matchup between the two North Carolina political leaders. Cooper leads McCrory 45-40 percent, the first time the Elon University Poll has found him winning a head-to-head matchup in the 2016 gubernatorial contest.

Cooper now does better with Independents (40-36 percent), a reversal from September when McCrory had support of 44 percent of Independents and Cooper had only 39 percent.

# Uncovering the social scene

*Presidential Task Force looks at improvements, needs in social climate*

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

Along with four students, six faculty members of the Presidential Task Force on Campus Social Climate and Out of Class Engagement journeyed across campus on a chilly November evening.

The evening walk was not a casual stroll or tour of campus, but a way for faculty and senior staff members to get a closer look at Elon University's social scene after dark.

They traveled across campus to locations the students frequent while not in class. The group started in the CREDE and worked their way across campus, according to Naeemah Clark, co-chair of the task force and associate professor of communications. They ventured to common gathering spaces like editing bays in McEwen, the Intramural Fields, a crowded Oak House and an empty Great Hall.

"We went into Oak House and it was packed," Clark said. "There is something about that that is very telling."

The Presidential Task Force, charged with examining Elon Uni-

versity's social climate, recently began the crowdsourcing and information gathering stage of its work, sparking conversations among students and faculty on possible problems and changes.

Idea walls outside of dining halls — which since their installation have elicited blunt thoughts such as, "We need to get rid of Greek Life" and, "Open Nades on the weekends" — as well as upcoming open Town Hall forums and surveys are methods the task force is using to gather students' feelings on the overall social climate.

The Task Force, started in August and formally titled the Presidential Task Force on Campus Social Climate and Out of Class Engagement, isn't limiting what could be considered parts of Elon's social climate.

"The Task Force is looking at healthy, meaningful and engaging opportunities for students beyond the classroom," Clark said. "Other task forces are already looking at intellectual climate on campus. We're not looking at curricular issues, but pretty much everything else — SPACES, the surrounding area, on campus and off campus housing, organizations,

“THE TASK FORCE IS LOOKING AT HEALTHY, MEANINGFUL AND ENGAGING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.”

NAEEMAH CLARK  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, CO-CHAIR OF TASK FORCE

the way the org fair works. There's really nothing in the social climate that the title doesn't touch."

According to Clark, one of the reasons Elon President Leo Lambert initiated the Task Force was because he felt that despite a wide range of social opportunities, some students still didn't feel like they fit in.

"When we think of Elon students, we think super involved and engaged," Clark said. "There are some students that [Lambert] was

encountering that they feel like Elon isn't a place for them and that they don't belong."

Some students feel the disconnect could come from a strong party scene and Greek Life presence.

"Honestly I feel like [the social scene] is very stratified," said sophomore Grace O'Hara. "If you don't have that outlet, there's definitely a lot of other things you can do, but it's not publicized nearly as well."

Others believe that social circles are determined based on what

groups students are involved with.

"The weekend scene is basically about the groups you're in. I'm not much of a Greek Life person, so I don't go to the Greek parties or anything — nor would I even be accepted into them," said sophomore Christian Jacob. "I'm more of a sports person, so I go to club soccer mixers or rugby. That'd be about it."

Clark said a mission of the Task Force is to look at existing spaces and what Elon offers and then further improve upon it.

"Many people have asked me, 'How do you know when the task force ends?'" Clark said. "I don't have an answer. I feel that for me, if I am talking to as many different students as I can and being really smart in how we look for themes and look for patterns emerging, then I'll feel like I'll be successful. It's a never-ending process."

In addition to continuing to speak with students throughout this semester and next, the Task Force will be holding an open Town Hall at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 11 in McKinnon Hall and sending out a short survey at the end of November.

## SMOKING from cover

### Smoke Out for a Cure

While students snacked on free food at the event, they were asked to sign a petition advocating for a smoke-free campus, and has to answer trivia questions about smoking and lung cancer before they could receive their food.

"We collaborated with SPARKS because they aim to promote overall wellness around Elon's campus," said junior Jennifer Gehrin, executive member of the Colleges Against Cancer fundraising committee. "They are also a large, well-known organization that would be interested in attaining the same goal that Colleges Against Cancer hoped for with this event, which is awareness."

Colleges Against Cancer also hoped to raise awareness of its organization and the importance of cancer research. Gehrin believes that smoking at Elon is a major issue that needs to be addressed.

"Smoking is definitely still a problem on campus — however, it seems to have greatly decreased within the past few years due to the increased knowledge that we have about the dangers of smoking," Gehrin said.

Gehrin found that the first step in decreasing the number of smokers on campus is publicly raising awareness. It also helps for smokers to have a non-smoker friend or role model.

"In order to decrease the number of smokers, the promotion of the non-smoking movement through individuals that smokers can relate to is critical," Gehrin said. "For example, if

someone who is a smoker sees one of their friends promoting the smoke-free movement, he or she will be much more likely to pay attention and approach that individual with questions."

But some students don't think limiting student tobacco use is a good idea. Senior Colby Chatterton said as a tuition-paying student, he thinks he should be able to smoke on campus, just as he does in other public places. "I completely understand why they have the policies, especially because of littering and second-hand smoking reasons," Chatterton said. "But more restrictions, like banning smoking, is more of an issue."

If students or faculty have thought about quitting and are not sure where to begin, there are resources available in North Carolina, including a smoking hotline, 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

"Our program provides coaching calls that are scheduled," said Tracy Spone, support line coach for the North Carolina smoking hotline. "We can call people, check on how they are doing and their progress thus far towards quitting. As we go through the process, they can always call in anytime for support. We also provide information about smoking medications and what to do when individuals have cravings."

Smokers can also visit the website [www.becomeanex.org](http://www.becomeanex.org) to create a step-by-step plan with professionals to quit.

Colleges Against Cancer has another upcoming event and all profits will go towards cancer research. The organization is hosting Acoustic for the Cure at The Oak House Oct. 12, and tickets are being sold at Moseley tables and at the door. The cost is \$3 for one person and \$5 for two people.

### Tobacco in North Carolina

According to the College Tobacco Free Campus Initiative, "as of Oct. 5, there are 1,620 completely smoke-free campuses and 1,130 of those schools are fully tobacco-free."

On Oct. 5 in Raleigh, 33 leaders from historically black colleges from around the country gathered together at Shaw University to launch a campaign against smoking on campuses.

According to a Raleigh News & Observer article, smoking is the top cause of death among African-Americans, surpassing all other leading causes including traffic crashes, homicides, drug use and alcohol use combined.

Along with the campaign, there was a two-day Tobacco-Free HBCU Campus Initiative conference that provided workshops for students, covering tobacco's harmful effects and ways to educate people about them.

North Carolina Alliance for Health and Duke University sponsored "Race to Quit, NC" which offers "assistance and resources that North Carolinians need to cross the finish line and join the quitters circle."

"One of the best ways to help people from using tobacco is to help them find good, solid smoking cessation programs," said Peg O'Connell, chair of the Tobacco Prevention Committee for the North Carolina Alliance for Health. "North Carolina has a very good quit line. We know that if you combine replacement therapy and counseling from the quit line, people have a higher chance of staying quit."

Still, according to North Carolina Alliance for Health, more than 20 percent of adults



Students eat at the "Smoke Out for a Cure" event held by Colleges Against Cancer and SPARKS on Nov. 5 at Young Commons.

in North Carolina are cigarette smokers.

"I have heard from residents that there were a lot of tobacco farms in North Carolina," Spone said. "It has been more promoted or culturally accepted here for a number of years. That is my guess to the high number of smokers."

In addition to cultural acceptance, North Carolina also has a cheaper rate for cigarette packs compared to other states.

"Our cigarettes are fairly cheap. If cigarettes cost a dollar or so more, people might make another choice," O'Connell said.

### Smoking on campus

Another reason behind the continued presence of smoking on campus could be the rise in popularity of electronic cigarettes across the country. The e-cigarettes are designed to deliver flavored nicotine and other chemicals to users in vapor form rather than smoke.

"There is a lack of research on how effective vaping is for quitting," Spone said. "The advertising for e-cigarettes is that it helps people quit tobac-

co, but the research has not shown that yet. However, the concern is that people go into vaping trying to quit and end up going back to smoking."

Many believe that vaping is considerably safer than smoking, but there is no evidence yet to support that theory.

"Nicotine is extraordinarily addictive," O'Connell said. "If you start experimenting with e-cigarettes, it is very easy to transfer to a cheaper version of nicotine, which is a cigarette. Anyone who says that e-cigarettes are safe is wrong, anyone who says that people can't get addicted to e-cigarettes is wrong."

O'Connell isn't the only one who's worried. The North Carolina General Assembly is also concerned about e-cigarettes' attractiveness to youths.

In a 2012 study, the North Carolina Alliance for Health found that an estimated 160,000 students who reported using e-cigarettes had never used conventional cigarettes.

"People who have never smoked try vaping and maybe go from there to smoking because they get hooked on the nicotine," Spone said.

# Speaker illustrates marriage in Muslim communities

Simone Jasper  
Assistant News Editor

Instead of simply presenting facts about American Muslim marriage practices, Associate Professor and Kenan Rifai Scholar of Islamic Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Juliane Hammer illustrated them through stories of couples — from how they met to how they planned their weddings — during her speech at Elon University.

Hammer, who previously taught at Elon, specializes in gender in American-Muslim communities. She shared some of her findings about American-Muslim marriage in her speech titled, “Marriage is Half of Your Religion: Exploring Matrimonial Practices in American Muslim Communities,” Nov. 5 in the McBride Gathering Space in the Numen Lumen Pavilion.

“For me, every couple, every wedding story [and] every courtship is different,” Hammer said. “I find it very difficult to say there are clear patterns that amount to this or that tendency.”

In the course of her ongoing research, Hammer has conducted interviews with individuals and couples. She has also analyzed texts — including matchmaking websites, relationship blogs and songs about marriage. So far, her findings indicate a wide range of factors influencing American Muslim marriage practices, such as differences in ethnicity and religious practices.

She told stories about her



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Juliane Hammer spoke about her research on American Muslim marriage practices Nov. 5 in McBride Gathering Space in Numen Lumen Pavilion.

research. One couple she spoke about met each other at a speed-dating event, while another had an arranged marriage.

Despite the diversity she’s encountered in her research, Hammer presented some common marriage practices of the American Muslim community.

“One of the concerns that Muslims talk about a lot — especially women — is age,” she said. “[They talk about] when they’re old enough to get married legally and when they think they’re too old to be in the market.”

The information Hammer shared is part of her larger project

about gender and sexuality and the role it plays in American Muslim communities.

“Usually, the people I speak to don’t recognize that I have an interest in gender,” Hammer said. “In my view, [marriage] is one of the places where gender is negotiated.”

Hammer said rapidly changing ideas about gender roles in the United States have influenced marriage for American-Muslim communities. She said some couples seek advice about dividing marital tasks with self-help books or counseling, though she has noticed that many American-Muslim couples

tend to be more accommodating when planning the weddings themselves and less with regard to post-marriage affairs.

“Because people want to have families and communities at their wedding, they compromise on things that they would not compromise on in their marriage,” Hammer said.

Ariela Marcus-Sells, assistant professor of religious studies at Elon, invited Hammer to speak at Elon and said this part of the speech captured her attention the most. She said she wanted Hammer to inform people on campus about American Muslim

communities.

“I’m very happy that she joined us to present her research,” Marcus-Sells said. “Not a lot of people are talking about American Muslim marriage practices and how diverse they are.”

Freshman Rachel Coose thought the presentation was well-organized and enjoyed hearing stories from Hammer’s research on marriage.

“Her structure had points she stuck to,” Coose said. “She gave examples of couples throughout the marriage process and gave insight into what they were going through.”

# Global Neighborhood dinner fosters GMO discussion

Christina Elias  
Senior Reporter

Discussion buzzed in Lakeside following a presentation Nov. 3. “Seeds of an Idea: Public Policy to Preserve and Protect our Food Chain” explored the origins of our food and the system within the industry.

Betty Morgan, associate professor of political science and chair of the Department of Political Science and Policy Studies at Elon University, talked about the effects of genetically-modified organisms (GMOs) on the health of the U.S. public since their introduction to the food industry in the mid-1990s. She challenged the audience to be more aware of what is in the food they eat.

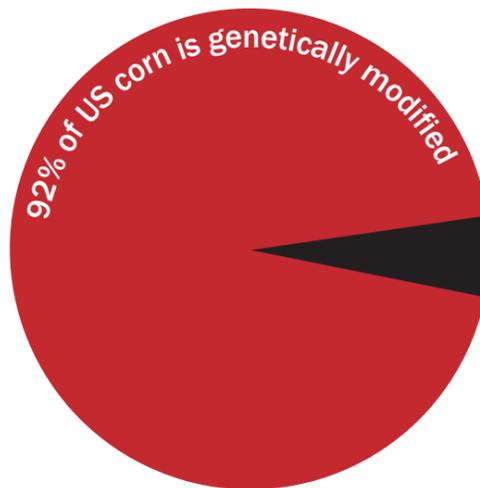
“There are obvious changes that have happened in American health and diet since 1996,” Morgan said. “Now, we all know correlation is not causation — correlation is just a lot of stuff moving around. But when you get that much stuff moving around starting in 1996 and we don’t have good research to tell us why, it’s time to ask some better questions.”

Olivia Choplin, interim faculty director of the Global Neighborhood and associate professor of French in the Department of World Languages and Cultures, hosted the event. According to Choplin, food is an important topic within all communities, but not one often intellectually discussed. Global Neighborhood’s theme this year — “Food: The Culture, Ethics and Politics of Eating” — attempts to kick-start a dialogue about what people are consuming.

“This year’s Global Neighborhood theme allows us to examine a subject that is of prime importance to everyone on

GMO corn has an average yield of **171** bushels per acre

Non-GMO corn has an average yield of **134** bushels per acre



BJORN BATES AND STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Intern and Design Chief

the planet from a variety of disciplinary perspectives,” Choplin said in an email. “Food relates to so many things — culture, politics, economics, ethics, science — so it made for a great topic to engage with many departments across campus.”

Choplin hosted three farmers in addition to Morgan to contribute their perspectives: Liz Clore of Bushy Tail Farm in Saxapahaw, Faylene Whitaker of Whitaker Farms in Liberty, and Michael McPherson of McPherson Farms in nearby Alamance. Richard Campbell, chief communications officer of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University, was also invited to attend.

Choplin said the farmers who attended had been at Elon for a screening of the film “Farmland” and the subsequent Farmer Panel earlier in the day. They were invited by Professor of Environmental Studies and

Biology Janet MacFall, who participated in the Farmer Panel, sponsored by the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies, the Office of Sustainability and the Farm Bureau.

McPherson, who uses GMOs in his farming, is the vice president of Alamance County Farm Bureau, an “advocacy group for farmers in rural areas of the whole United States.” According to McPherson, there is a lot of misinformation out there, but there are two sides to the GMO debate.

“I think [GMOs are] proven to be safe — find me one person who’s sick from it,” he said.

According to Choplin, the presentation and discussion topic is chosen at the discretion of the faculty presenter, and is supposed to relate to the neighborhood theme for the year. Morgan, who teaches a food policy course at Elon, “chose to talk about

the subject of seed saving as it relates to the market for GMOs,” Choplin said.

After Morgan’s presentation, Choplin encouraged each table to break out into small group discussions between students and faculty over their reactions to the presentation and thoughts on the topic. The room reconvened to share what they had discussed, much of which revolved around the challenges that accompany eating organic.

McPherson’s response to concerns regarding the use of GMOs in food production touched on the issue of the amount of food farmers are able to produce organically.

“Simply put, we’re not going to feed the world with organics,” he said.

He encouraged the audience to “do [their] research, ask the right questions,” in order to be better educated and able to make their own decisions.

Choplin praised the night’s discussion as an example of a “tense but polite debate” over a controversial topic.

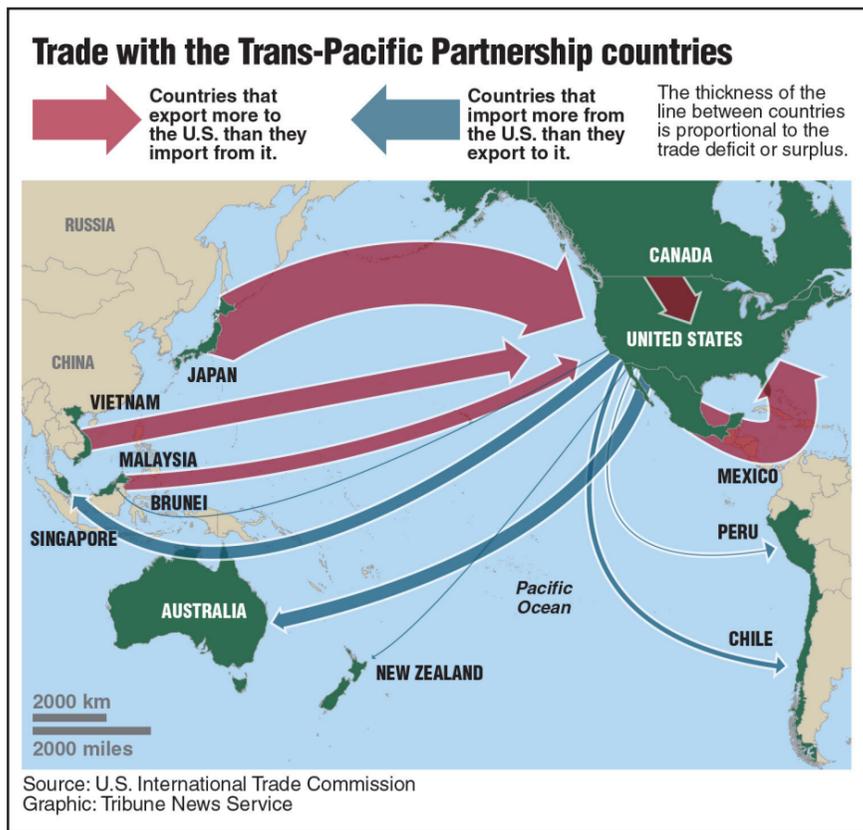
“Obviously, not everyone in the room had the same opinion of genetically-modified seeds, but the disagreements were voiced in respectful ways, and students were encouraged to do more research in order to be informed consumers,” Choplin said. “I think it also showed students that these issues are complex and nuanced, and that there are not always simple answers to the questions we raise in our classrooms.”

According to McPherson, farming is something “you’ve got to love to do.”

“There’s not a lot of profit in it, so you’ve got to love it,” he said. “GMOs enable us to be better producers and to produce the food and fuel and fiber that this world needs.”

# Cheat Sheet: Trans-Pacific Pact

## News Briefs



The text of the Trans-Pacific partnership, which will impact 12 countries, was released Nov. 5.

The United States publicly released the full Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) Nov. 5, one month after the 12 countries involved reached an agreement and seven years after original negotiations for the divisive, all-encompassing agreement began.

Supporters of the complex agreement say it is designed to free up trade between North America and countries in the Asia-Pacific region with the goal of promoting economic growth. Detractors warn of the negotiations' lack of transparency and the potential for large businesses and investors to gain more international power.

With the full agreement now available on the TPP's Medium.com page, the 60-day countdown begins for President Barack Obama to add his signature.

### What is the TPP?

The TPP is a trade agreement with major countries divided by the Pacific Ocean, including the United States, Japan, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Vietnam and Singapore. Like most free-trade pacts, it intends to put the countries

involved on a level playing field with regard to regulations, reducing trade barriers and lowering tariffs on goods such as food and medicine.

The significance of the TPP lies in how expansive it is, relative to other trade agreements, in laying out a sort of rulebook for the international economy. It could require the countries involved to bolster their labor laws as well as environmental regulations, along with restricting the ability for governments to nationalize anything foreign investors put their money in.

In Obama's written introduction to the TPP's Medium.com page, he said the agreement will prevent U.S. workers and businesses from being out-competed by lower standards, lower wages and higher taxes abroad.

### What are TPP concerns?

One of the TPP's most controversial areas is its implementation of an investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS). An ISDS has arbitrators mediate conflicts between a country and foreign investors. It imposes trade sanctions on governments

until they compensate investors who lose their property through nationalization, the process of a government taking a private asset and making it public, which can occur via a change in leadership.

TPP opponents say this could give foreign investors the power to make complaints against the United States. According to Vox.com's Timothy B. Lee, investors could argue that the U.S. minimum wage, bank regulations or environmental laws "constitutes an unjust taking of their property."

Compensations for these large-scale investors and companies could number in the hundreds of millions of dollars. One or two settlements wouldn't harm the United States too much, but over time, they could add up if the arbitrators prove they will consistently side with the investors.

TPP supporters argue an ISDS simply provides more protection for U.S. investors and businesses with assets in countries involved in the agreement. In a White House blog post addressing ISDS questions, Jeffrey Zients said investment protections are common, with more than 3,000 agreements made in the past 50 years with the same types of protections that the TPP has.

Although the ISDS is one of the more disputed aspects of the agreement, there are a few more that have drawn concern, such as patent extensions for name-brand drugs and required adherence to the United States' copyright laws.

### When is implementation?

The TPP's implementation hinges on Obama's ability to persuade Congress to approve the agreement. He will likely formally notify Congress of the deal within the next week, and by law there must be a 90-day waiting period between that notification and when Congress can vote.

The waiting period means Congress won't be able to approve until 2016. Once the 90 days have passed, though, its ruling should come fairly quickly. Since Obama has been granted fast-track authority, Congress will largely only be able to give the agreement a thumbs up or a thumbs down, which is a change of pace from Congress's usual drawn-out negotiations. Assuming other countries gain the approval they need, the TPP could be implemented within a few years.

### Sex offender social media ban upheld

The North Carolina Supreme Court upheld a state law that prohibits registered sex offenders from using social media sites, including Facebook. The ban applies to sites that minors can join, and its goal is to protect children under 18 from registered sex offenders, according to a Raleigh News & Observer report. Opponents of the law contend it hinders registered sex offenders' ability to re-enter society. More than 14,000 people are in the state's Sex Offender and Public Protection Registry database, according to the report.

### Alamance County assessment indicates residents' concerns

The recently released 2015 Alamance County Community Assessment identified three challenges for county residents: access to care, education and economic issues.

The county plans to focus on these areas in its planning efforts for the next three years, according to a Burlington Times-News report. To come to the assessment's conclusions, a team gathered and analyzed data from several sources, including an Elon University Poll survey and two focus groups. According to the report, Alamance County is behind the state average for provider-to-population ratios — a measure of health care access — and education factors, including degree attainment. In terms of economics, the rate of children living in poverty in the county is above the state average.

The assessment can be accessed at [www.alamancecommunityassessment.com](http://www.alamancecommunityassessment.com).

### Community Connections panel scheduled for Nov. 17

Elon University and the Burlington Times-News will have a Community Connections forum titled "Understanding Hispanic and Latino Relations in the U.S." 7-8:15 p.m. Nov. 17 in McKinnon Hall. The discussion, titled "Understanding Hispanic and Latino Relations in the U.S."

The event aims to bring community members together to talk about important issues. Past Community Connections event topics this year included "Race Relations in the U.S." and "Violence Associated with Guns."

### Elon to host Veterans Day observance

Elon University will pay tribute to men and women who served the country in its annual Veterans Day programming 10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Nov. 11 in LaRose Digital Theatre. The program will include remarks from guest speaker Dr. Michael W. Brennan, a U.S. military veteran who is also a practicing Burlington ophthalmologist.

## CRIME REPORT

### Nov. 7 ATTEMPTED MURDER CHARGE CORPORATION PARKWAY, BURLINGTON:

A Burlington man was charged with two counts of attempted murder Saturday after a verbal altercation escalated to three people being shot at Club Tsunami, a nightclub located at 2398 Corporation Parkway, according to a Burlington Times-News report.

The man, 26, was also charged with three counts of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and one count of possession of a firearm by a felon.

A Burlington police news release said the man was in a verbal altercation that quickly became physical and involved a large

group of people. The release added that he then fired a handgun at the nightclub located 15 minutes from Elon University.

Two of the gunshot victims were taken to medical facilities and are now in stable condition, with a third treated at Alamance Regional Medical Center and released later that day. The man charged with the crime was located later after fleeing the scene.

### Nov. 8 POSSESSING STOLEN GOODS EAST PHOENIX DRIVE, ELON:

University police came in contact with a male student in Colonnades D (Staley Hall) at 10:45 p.m. Sunday in reference to stolen property and alcohol violations, according to a univer-

sity police report.

The property found included four bricks, an exit sign and \$30 worth of alcoholic beverages, which included an additional citation of underage possession of a malt beverage. The suspect's name was redacted from the report and the case's status is inactive.

In a potentially related incident, a student reported a breaking and entering and a larceny occurred between 11:00 p.m. Saturday and 4:00 a.m. Sunday in Colonnades D (Staley Hall), according to a campus police report. The only listed property stolen was a bottle of peach cider.

At the time of publication, it is unknown if the two incidents reported are connected.

# Fellows programs should be equal

## HOW WE SEE IT

Fellows Programs need to be more equal across schools, so all Fellows have the same opportunities and requirements.

### Staff Editorial

Every March, hundreds of high school seniors flood onto Elon University's campus, all hoping to earn a spot in one of Elon's prestigious Fellows Programs. These programs offer students opportunities for academic and professional exploration beyond those already offered by the university.

But the different Fellows Programs — Business, Communications, Elon College, Honors, Isabella Cannon Leadership and Teaching — don't offer equal opportunities to or expect similar contributions from their Fellows.

Some require years-long research projects. Others take students on traveling courses that allow them to see how their disciplines are applied in different settings. Some Fellows are known for their close-knit, active communities. Others receive the academic benefits of being a Fellow but lack Fellows communities based in their disciplines.

A more equal balance across programs would allow all Fellows Programs to adapt their resources to suit their disciplines and offer their students the opportunities they need to further

their educations and build successful communities around Elon's various schools.

The Fellows Programs' funding is built into the annual budget of the university, Vice President of Admissions and Financial Planning Greg Zaiser said in an email. Each program's respective director determines how they function, though the university sets GPA requirements and other academic expectations for Fellows.

Honors Fellows receive more than twice as much in Fellows scholarship money — excluding other scholarships, grants and awards — as Fellows in other programs. But Honors Fellows must, among other requirements, complete a senior research thesis that requires eight credit hours of research.

In comparison, Elon College Fellows have a similar research project that requires, among other things, at least four credit hours of research. Teaching Fellows find faculty mentors and engage in lines of inquiry with them, presenting their findings their junior year.

All Honors, Elon College and Teaching Fellows in good standing receive Fellows scholarship money. All Elon College and Teaching Fellows receive \$5,500 annually, an amount on par

with the rest of the programs, though only select Business Fellows, Communications Fellows and Leadership Fellows receive scholarships.

More scholarship money is given to Honors Fellows, Elon College Fellows and Teaching Fellows. More expectations are also asked of them. But all Fellows can, and should, be held to similarly high expectations and receive similar benefits.

There is room for adjustment, so Fellows in different majors, fields and schools can apply their studies in ways that fulfill their career goals and interests.

Balanced requirements across Fellows Programs, accompanied by more evenly distributed funding, would hold all Fellows to the same standards. Balance across Fellows Programs could make them all able to offer their students opportunities to succeed within their schools and disciplines.

The programs are meant to enhance the undergraduate experiences all Elon students receive. But Fellows of all majors and programs should be equal recipients of these extra opportunities, so the Fellows experience can be equal across programs.

*The information presented below further outlines the Fellows programs' various scholarships, requirements and opportunities. All scholarship money listed excludes Presidential Scholarships and any other grants, awards and scholarships Fellows may receive. Information has been confirmed with the various Fellows Program directors.*

## INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS

Elon University used to have an International Fellows Program, in addition to the six programs listed. The International Fellows Program was discontinued in 2014, making the Class of 2018 the last cohort.

## SIX FELLOWS PROGRAMS

BUSINESS FELLOWS

HONORS FELLOWS

COMMUNICATIONS FELLOWS

ISABELLA CANNON LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

ELON COLLEGE FELLOWS

TEACHING FELLOWS

## QUICK FACTS

Major: Business

Projects: 2-year substantial thesis project with presentation; 8 hours of research over last 2 years

Projects: co-curricular leadership development; Common Good project; Leadership Studies Minors

Major: Communications

Major: Any

Major: Any

Projects: Research project with presentation; at least 4 hours of research over last 2 years

Major: Any within the College of Arts and Sciences

Major: Education

## BY THE NUMBERS

Scholarships: \$5,000 - \$5,500 annually for 7 Fellows

Scholarships: \$13,500 annually for all Fellows

Students: 25 each year

Students: 40 each year

Scholarships: \$5,500 annually for 7 Fellows

Scholarships: \$5,500 annually for 5 Fellows

Students: 25 each year

Students: 30 each year

Scholarships: \$5,000 annually for all Fellows

Scholarships: \$5,500 annually for all Fellows

Students: 50 each year

Students: 20 each year

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

\*Some opportunities are mandatory

Travel: Freshman Winter Term course

Travel: Istanbul Course, various service trips

Opportunities: Investment experience with portfolio management team or consulting team

Travel: Winter Term Florida course, fall Atlanta trip for freshmen

Travel: Weekend retreats, Winter Term Deep South course

Housing: Honors Floor and Honors Pavilion LLCs

Travel: Winter Term Washington, D.C., course

Travel: Winter Term east coast course for freshmen, leadership seminar in D.C. for juniors

Housing: Elon College Fellows LLC

Opportunities: Study abroad for a semester in England or Costa Rica, with internship

SHELBY BAITSHOLTS | Design Intern

## THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

*The Pendulum is a daily news operation that produces a newspaper, website and magazine. Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.*

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*Editorial policy: The Pendulum seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty, as well as serve as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.*

# Campus Voices

## What's wrong? The narrow framework of success

I know you're thinking, "Oh, here comes another old professor talking about how we kids today are all messed up." We "lack perspective." We "don't get it" because we're too "jacked in." Well, I assure you the last thing I want is to be immediately dismissed as "obviously lame," or "cranky and irrelevant." Maybe I should "tweeter" you this message instead of writing it for a newspaper so you don't assume it's just another attempt to impart the "wisdom" of some by-gone generation. I promise that what I have to say about your grade-fetish isn't anything like that.

You see, back in my day we didn't care as much about grades as you Millennials do. I have a feeling that the unmistakable grade inflation we have seen over the past three decades has only caused you to make a real fetish out of the "A," the object of your obsession. Don't worry, this is not a scold. If our system of evaluating your academic performance has turned you into A-addicts, it's the fault of those of us who maintain the system.

But let's not point fingers. Except one, to point out that one of the effects of your grade obsession within a system that only rewards you when you are "right" is that you become intellectually risk-averse or risk-phobic. I'm worried about this because, as a historian, I am aware of the many examples of people who have done great things at the expense of being right. Let me give you some examples of people who were splendidly wrong.

Eve was wrong. I know the standard interpretation is that she was weak and easily tempted by the serpent to eat forbidden fruit. But the ensuing, famous story would've been pretty short if she hadn't. Eve may be the most interesting character in all of Genesis. Why? The forbidden fruit was knowledge: She dared to know and she disobeyed a big authority figure to find out. And that was wrong within the context of the book of Genesis. I believe God gave her a "C-," along with some other punishments. Socrates was wrong. He challenged the ancient Athenian government to consider whether some of their actions were morally unjustified and pestered them with rational arguments. That was wrong, they said. They convicted him of corrupting the youth of Athens and not believing in the right gods, and punished him with death by poison. I think that means he got an "F."

Galileo was wrong. He said that the Earth was not the center of the universe and that the planets revolve around the sun, and, "Won't you please look in my telescope so I can show you?" Well, that was wrong. The papacy set up an inquisition and read his books (which received a "D"). They asked him some questions, and then told him he was wrong ... everything revolves around the Earth. His punishment: He had to say so ... in public.

Margaret Sanger was wrong. Sanger believed — as a retired nurse who had attended many cases in which poor, immigrant women suffered from too-frequent pregnancies — that women should learn how they become pregnant and how they might avoid unwanted pregnancy. Well ... that was wrong. When she opened a clinic that taught women about sexuality, pregnancy and how to avoid it, she was arrested for ob-

scenity and causing a public nuisance. Clients just wanted to know ... but that was wrong. A judge told her why: He said, "Women do not have the right to copulate with the feeling of security that no conception will result." Margaret got a "D-" in women's health from that judge. For the "final exam" the judge assigned her to stop teaching women how to prevent pregnancy: She got an "F" and went to prison with forced labor.

Martin Luther King Jr. was wrong. I know because I've read that he was sent to jail 29 times in his life. Judges in Alabama and Georgia kept giving him "F's" and apparently making him repeat the course, which he continually failed. I like his style of civil disobedience because he made a virtue out of being wrong. He said, correctly, that it highlighted injustice when he was imprisoned for demanding that people be treated fairly.

I'm not encouraging you to make a virtue out of getting arrested. I'm not even suggesting you refuse to do what your professors ask or reject the worldviews we operate in. We think we're right about everything we teach you, and we're probably right sometimes. Blindly rejecting everything you're taught like an angry teenager or refusing to accept all of the premises on which our society is built won't get you very far.

My point is that we are not deliberately unjust or corrupt in our pedagogies. Furthermore, I think it's important to know and appreciate your heritage. Part of that heritage includes some people who dared to be wrong and were willing to suffer the consequences. Maybe you lovers of "A's" think it's dangerous to disagree with your professors. It's not. In fact, maybe it's only dangerous to worry too much about your GPA, and not have the courage to push past us.

# Letter to the Editor: Eve leaps to freedom

Emily DeMaioNewton  
Multi-faith Intern at the Truitt Center

As educated people, we're encouraged to face truths about the world. Often, horrible truths. There are people in Syria who set out in plastic boats to travel across oceans because the fear of drowning is less than the fear of staying where they are. Hundreds of people in Alamance County don't have enough food to eat.

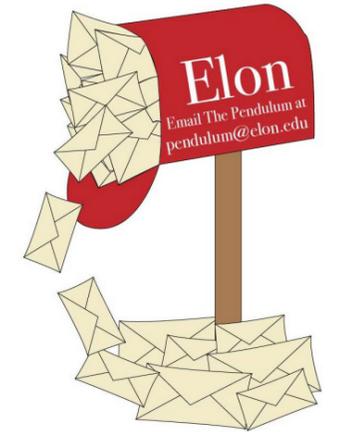
We must face this knowledge, however painful it is. This is the point of being educated. It's also why our culture is wrong in the way it perceives Eve's fall from grace. Because if grace equals ignorance, I don't want any part of it.

The serpent in the Garden of Eden tells Eve that when she eats the forbidden fruit "[her] eyes will be open, and [she] will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5).

Genesis says the serpent deceives her, but what he says is true. He leads her to disobey God, but if somebody were regulating my experience so I was unaware of a huge component of existence, I wouldn't want to obey them.

Prince Siddhartha, who becomes the Buddha, spends the beginning of his life surrounded by wealth, sheltered from knowledge of death and poverty. When one day he escapes to the surrounding village, he witnesses suffering for the first time and is stunned such experience exists.

Siddhartha dedicates his life to finding an end to suffering. Through this work, he becomes enlightened. If Siddhartha had stayed in his palace, unaware of evil, he wouldn't have become enlightened. He wouldn't have



become Buddha. It is through facing the reality of good and evil that we make progress toward self-actualization.

If Eve hadn't eaten from the tree of knowledge, she would've lived forever, unaware of the existence of evil. What's the point in being alive if we don't know what that entails? What's the reason for living if not to augment the good of the world in attempts to balance out the evil?

If good and evil exist, I want to know. I want to know about the world around me. All of it. Even if it's painful. Especially because it's painful. This is the point of education.

Eve speaks in Ansel Elkins's poem "Autobiography of Eve," "Let it be known: / I did not fall from grace. / I leapt / to freedom." Knowledge sets us free. Knowledge makes us citizens of the world. Knowledge is what truly saves us.

In Genesis 3:6, Eve eats the fruit because it's "desirable for gaining wisdom." Gaining wisdom is the ultimate goal of living. In that case, Eve is a hero. Eve is a trailblazer. Eve did not damn us when she ate the forbidden fruit: she saved us.

The Pendulum is renewing its efforts to serve as a voice of the Elon University community. Each week, this space will feature a column from a member of the community. Want to participate? Contact us at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu).

# DOCTORS' ORDERS: GO FUND YOURSELF



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano  
Columnists

In the past few months, there have been two historic GoFundMe campaigns launched by Elon University's best and brightest. There was junior Taylor Zisholtz and freshman Lucy Smith-Williams, who while training to be actual live Disney princesses themselves, sent Acorn employee Kathryn Thompson to Disney, landed on "The Ellen Show" (how DeGeneres of them) and brought our entire community closer together.

Following that legendary Phoenix feat is "Crack Shack's Sticky Situation," the GoFundMe page for an off-campus house whose occupants got hit with a gnarly \$360 trash fine. Once again, our heroic community of scholars united under a common goal and paid that fine. We did it, folks. We used and abused the system.

For every good Samaritan, Acorn-Disney miracle, you've got your Crack Shack. For every decent nonprofit looking for a leg up, you have the no-good moochers spamming their relatives' Facebooks for study abroad funds.

We're not saying GoFundMe is entirely without purpose. We're just saying it's got its fair share of trolls. It's the modern version of those guilt-ridden "for just pennies a day" commercials that want you to donate your change to a good, philanthropic cause instead of just the CoinStar.

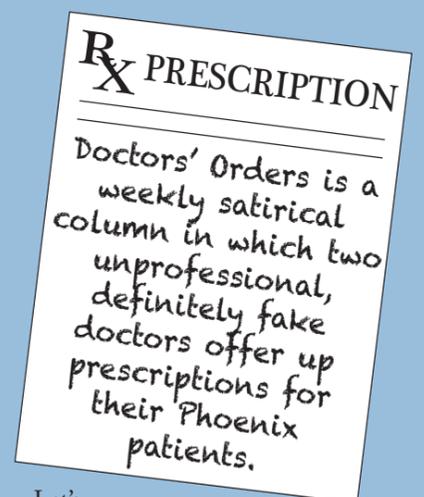
And don't even get us started on the kids just asking for their peers to chip in toward their tuition. We all signed our souls away to the same devil — we're not going to help you pay off your loans when we could be paying off our own. "Aw, geez," you say,

"Frankie and Lauryl sure are going to the proverbial well of student loan debt a lot these days," and to that we'd like to point out that behind mortgages, student loan debt is now the second biggest source of personal debt in the United States.

"What's that faint rumbling in the distance?" That's just the imminent economic collapse stemming from a generation shackled to a smooth-talked Ponzi scheme. It's going to be a fun couple of decades.

We don't have much money for anything these days, what with the loans (see: tangential anecdote in above paragraph,) but with a little bit of your help, maybe we could pull off a real solution. That's why we've decided to set up a GoFundMe against GoFundMes. With your help in the form of funds, we're going to dismantle this corrupt system.

If there's one thing the United States needs, it's fewer problems and more solutions. That's why the Doctors' Orders Fund for Educational Purposes (DOFEP) is all about solutions. We're going to solve every problem — and the more money we can raise, the better the solutions.



Let's start for those low hanging stretch goals — \$25 will buy us each a pizza and solve world hunger, two people at a time. It must be said that this is merely a temporary solution. Take it from Biggie: mo' money, mo' problems, mo' crowd-funded solutions. We have more long-lasting solutions, too, including some pretty promising time machine blueprints that will pay for themselves in no time. Seriously, it's an investor's market. Throw money at us.

# 'The Great American Songbook' gets jazzed

Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

Elon University's Jazz Ensemble will perform its fall concert, "American Standardization," at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in McCrary Theatre. Audiences will travel back to the 1900s and listen to America's historical musical art form — jazz — as the ensemble performs pieces from the Great American Songbook, which consists of popular American songs from the 1920s through the 1960s.

Matt Buckmaster, associate professor of music and education and the director of the jazz ensemble, said the songs performed are called "standards" because they are performed so often they are easily recognizable to most jazz fans.

"Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald are some of the great jazz singers who have made these iconic tunes," Buckmaster said. "The program is comprised of songs that the audience will recognize, maybe from hearing the music in an elevator or in a waiting room."

The concert will feature classics such as George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" and a jazz version of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." It will also include vocal performances by students and associate professor of music Stephen Futrell, a professionally trained vocalist.

Typically, the ensemble performs a wide range of jazz music, but this concert focuses on jazz standards from the 1940s to 1960s. Buckmaster will also include later songs to cover the entire age of jazz music, which is a time period that only spans about 110 years, as jazz is still considered a relatively new art form.



Elon's Jazz Ensemble rehearses songs from the 1920s through the 1950s before their concert.

The Jazz Ensemble is an audition-based group that has been in existence since the 1950s. Originally named the Emanons, or 'no name' backwards, the group would tour throughout the East Coast recruiting prospective students.

Today, the ensemble stays on campus performing jazz, while holding performances throughout the year — such as concerts outside Lakeside and a Mardi Gras performance in McBride Gathering Space.

The ensemble consists of students in all grades playing five saxophones, four trombones, four trumpets, a rhythm section, piano, guitar and percussion.

Buckmaster believes jazz is the United States' musical art form and said it is one of the truly U.S. things about the nation

and culture.

"There is a sense of national pride about jazz," Buckmaster said. "From the melding of different cultures, people, and traditions came this art music."

Freshman Rachel Hopkins learned the Jazz Ensemble was in need of a trumpet player and decided to audition. Hopkins said that she enjoys the casual environment of the Jazz Ensemble and that it is a much smaller group than the other ensembles she is a member of, including marching band and wind ensemble.

In addition to the upcoming concert, the ensemble will hold its 20th anniversary Jazz Festival in February, bringing in local middle and high school jazz ensembles to campus. Professional clinicians will also attend the festival to teach master classes,

and come together with the musicians for a final performance concert.

The group will soon be preparing for an international performance over the summer. They will be traveling to Italy in June and performing at major jazz festivals. Next semester will be focused on raising funds for their summer tour and utilizing their rehearsal times for practice.

"We are calling it the 'Jazz Ambassador Tour' because we are going to be cultural ambassadors of not only Elon but the whole United States," Buckmaster said.

Sophomore Brandon Atwell is in his third semester as a member of the Jazz Ensemble. He believes the group is unique from the other five ensembles he is a part of at Elon.

"It's more classical style music and a lot smaller than the other ensembles I'm involved in," Atwell said. "There's a lot more collaboration between all the students because of the group's smaller size."

Atwell, a music performance major and percussionist, spends the majority of his rehearsal time practicing by himself, but the interaction with the other musicians is what makes the ensemble fun for him.

"Being in the Jazz Ensemble is a great chance to go play the music that I love to play with other people," Atwell said.

Buckmaster hopes that "American Standardization" will promote a greater appreciation for jazz as an U.S. art form.

"In the United States, we sometimes forget that we have a culture and rich heritage, focusing on other things like politics, economics, and business," Buckmaster said. "Those are all very important, but there are also rich artistic traditions that we should be proud of."

## War, peace and rebellion through music

### Music ambassador ensemble performs before 6-day tour

Danielle Deavens  
Senior Reporter

While "undergraduate recruitment" is often associated with athletics or targeted scholarships, the Elon University Department of Music has created a different strategy for attracting potential students: Elon Music Ambassadors (EMA).

EMA, under the direction of Lecturer in Music Virginia Novine-Whittaker, is a group of students recommended by faculty to represent the music department. At the end of each semester, EMA travels to high schools up and down the East Coast, teach-

ing the students about the music program at Elon.

But first, they perform on campus for one night only.

Each semester, Novine-Whittaker chooses a different theme. For this year's fall concert, the show is titled "Anthems of War, Rebellion and Peace." The group will perform this collection at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 15 in Yeager Recital Hall.

"The theme is something that inspired someone to write music," Novine-Whittaker said. "Through each semester, I think of a theme that inspired people to use music as a voice. This seemed like a real natural one to me because all this

music has come out of challenges through war and in hard times and people wanting to rebel and have their voices be heard."

War, rebellion and peace cover a great deal of historical events and, subsequently, a large collection of music. Novine-Whittaker and her student performers will focus on music that

has come from U.S. experiences of wartime and conflict.

"[Audiences] can expect to have a good time and hear a lot of good music," Novine-Whittaker said. "They're gonna recognize things but they're also gonna learn something because we're gonna be taking this theme all the way through history in America, starting as early as songs from slavery era all the way through various wars and up to the current situation in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Even with these heavy topics, the ambassadors are able to remain

connected with the commonality that brought them together: a love for music. Senior Kirby Vuocolo finds

“IT'S ALL ABOUT GIVING THEM THE FREEDOM TO ARRANGE THE MUSIC.”

VIRGINIA NOVINE-WHITTAKER  
LECTURER IN MUSIC

being part of the group allows her to take an even deeper pride and passion in her craft as she finishes her third semester in EMA.

"It is an honor to be in EMA," Vuocolo said. "In this ensemble, you are the only

person on your part — and even more than that, you are writing the music yourself, you're making the arrangements, you're researching them and writing narrations to help inform everyone else on what you learned during the process. It's great."

Junior music production and recording arts major Isaac Bates is most excited about the performance for the Elon community — especially since this is only his first semester with EMA.

"I'm excited to go on tour at the end of the semester, but there's

just always great reviews from the big shows at the end in Yeager," Bates said. "I'm looking forward to that."

Elon students only get one night to see and listen to the show. EMA students work on all semester because this group's goal is to inspire younger musicians across the East Coast. As the department's ambassadors perform in Yeager Recital Hall, they will start their unique journey.

For junior Mike Hagen, this group is one he would have sought after before he applied to undergraduate music programs.

"I just like being able to share my talents with a bunch of kids," he said. "I wish I'd had that kind of inspiration when I was in high school. I just like the fact that we can bring that to kids who could potentially pursue music as a career."

As EMA goes on tour to bring more students into the department, Novine-Whittaker looks at her own students as inspirations — not just for young musicians, but for herself as well.

"My favorite part is just how exciting it is to watch the creativity the students bring to every piece of music we play," she said. "It's all about giving them the freedom to arrange the music and ideas around the music. I just love to see what they come up with."



Elon Music Ambassadors performed last spring before touring this summer.

# A community spiritual effort

## *The Phoenix Winds performs fall concert*

Lea Silverman  
Senior Reporter

Emotion, spirituality and humanity come together in the variety of religion-based songs that will be performed by the Phoenix Winds, Elon University's wind ensemble at their fall concert 7:30 p.m. Nov. 17 in McCrary Theatre.

The concert is titled "Give Us This Day" and comes from a song performed in the concert that has become a favorite of many band members. The song, which has been performed by Whitney Houston, captures the essence of freedom and finding ones way when they are lost.

Adam Kehl, lecturer in music and director of bands, is directing the performance. But some pieces have been difficult for the students to master because they only rehearse once a week.

"Dr. Kehl is clearly trying to push us as an ensemble to be better than we currently are, which is a really nice change from previous bands that I've played in," said junior bassoon player Joe Makowitz. "Some of our pieces, such as 'Give Us This Day' and 'Exhilaration' and 'Cry,' were a pretty big struggle when we first got them, but everyone picked up their parts really well and the finished product is going to be remarkable."

Apart from the musically talented couple, the group will also be premiering a song that has only been played once before, written by Kevin Walczyk. Walczyk was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2011 for music compositions. The song, titled "Winter Recercar," is a favorite for

the students who are excited to be among the first in the world to perform it.

Kehl believes that the concert will be a spiritual experience for the audience, rather than a religious one, even though the title song is based on the Lord's Prayer. There is Buddhist inspired music and others coming straight from English Christmas carols.

"I am extremely excited about the way the theme of the concert ties together all of the pieces," said senior clarinet player Lindsay Luhn. "It is centered around a number of pieces that tie together many of the emotions, spirituality and humanity that people share and face in their daily lives."

Professors and professionals will be joining the students on stage as well. Lynn Beck, instructor of music and French hornist, and her husband, John Beck, professor of percussion studies at the North Carolina School of the Arts, will assist the group for a special composition.

"It is an incredible piece," John Beck said about their award-winning song. "Lynn has some things on horn that are some effects and playing techniques that are incredibly high level and don't really exist in pieces outside of this."

The Phoenix Winds is a musical group that brings the Elon and local community together.

"The student community within the group is very tight, and we also enjoy a strong relationship with Elon and Burlington community members that play with us," said junior Jessica Mohr, who plays both the alto and tenor saxophone. "If we weren't able to foster such a strong re-

lationship with each other and with the community, then Phoenix Winds wouldn't be what it is. The music would still happen, but the character would be completely different."

Everyone — not just music majors — is eligible to join this community, given they have the talent.

Kehl said in the previous years he has worked with the ensemble, the majority of the group — sometimes over 60 percent — are students who are not music majors, but still want to enjoy a musical experience while studying at Elon.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Elon University Chorale**  
McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Nov. 12

**Jazz Ensemble:**  
**'American Standardization'**  
McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 14

**Phoenix Winds Fall Concert**  
McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 17

# Changing a path from exercise to research

## *Senior dreams of providing cures for rare diseases with chemistry*

Alexandra Schonfeld  
Senior Reporter

After arriving at Elon University as an exercise science major, senior Christian Seitz had ambitions of playing soccer and incorporating his love of the sport with science.

Neither of those things happened.

Seitz found a new interest when, while enrolled his first semester in required "General Chemistry I," he received an unexpected surprise.

"Halfway through that class, the head of the department came up to me and asked me to be a part of an invitation-only 'General Chemistry II' class, even though I didn't need to take it all," he said. "My adviser at the time said if the head of the department wants you in this class, you should take it."

Following his enrollment in the course, Seitz made the decision to switch his major to chemistry and began to think about what he could do with a chemistry degree.

He thought back to an article he read in high school about a boy with a rare disease. The disease was assumed to be curable, but there was no cure because pharmaceutical companies would be unable to make a profit off a drug due to the small market.

"I thought of what I could do with chemistry, remembered that article and decided to dedicate my life to finding cures for those diseases, to save the lives of people who otherwise are out of hope," Seitz said.

### Applying for Lumen

After his interest sparked, Seitz decided to apply for one of Elon's prestigious academic honors — the Lumen Prize, which is awarded to a select group of students and provides them with \$15,000 to assist in financing academic endeavors as well as research projects, like the one Seitz had begun to develop with his now-mentor Joel Karty, associate professor of chemistry.

Karty originally came up with an idea to model how atoms — called enolate anions — behave. According to Seitz, these atoms are important intermediates in organic chemistry, so they are found in many different areas of life.

Together, Karty and Seitz turned the idea into a strong proposal. The project is a basic research project, meaning there is not necessarily a specific problem trying to be solved, but rather simply trying to find out more about something.

"There is this really important molecule [enolate anions] in organic chemistry, and it will react differently in a gas solution than it would in a liquid solution," Seitz said. "We know that there are these two effects going on that influence why it reacts differently. We know they are both going on but we don't know how much contributes to this happening, and how much contributes to that happening. I'm trying to figure out exactly how much each of those contribute to the reaction, in the gas phase."

The research Seitz does here at Elon is all theoretical. Instead of working in a lab, all of his work is done on a computer, giving him more freedom for when he can do his work with access to the fastest computers on Elon's campus.

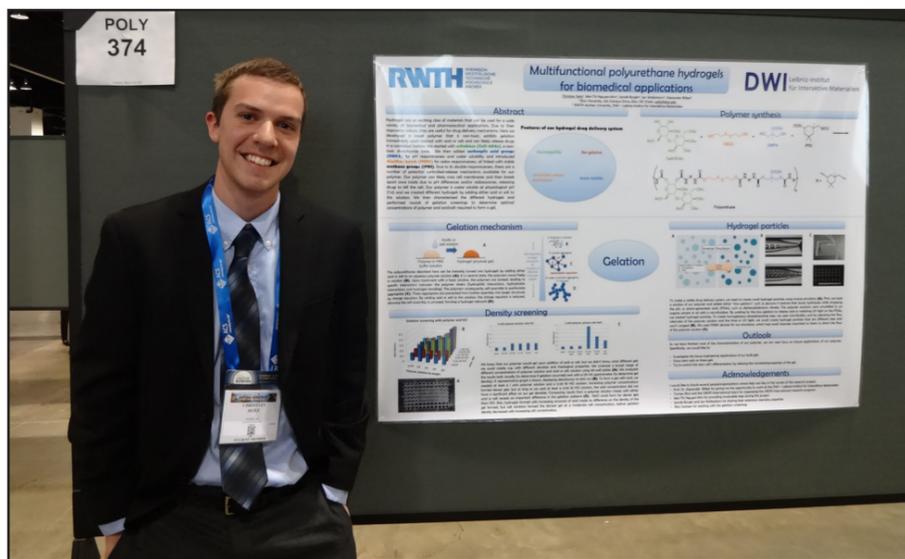
Their research has been going on for a year and half and is expected to finish up during either Winter Term or the beginning of spring.

### Taking research off campus

In addition to his research, Seitz has embarked on two journeys abroad to broaden his knowledge.

"Christian has very inquisitive nature and he uses his knowledge to try to make a positive difference in the world," said sophomore and close friend Alexander Ball.

Two summers ago, Seitz decided to explore an area of chemistry he was not as familiar with. With that in mind, he applied and was accepted to a project abroad in Germany that would apply to his work later in his career as a chemist.



Christian Seitz presented his research at the NCUR conference in Cheney, Washington.

"We were trying to find more efficient ways to carry cancer drugs to cancer cells and to kill them, as opposed to killing the surrounding cells," Seitz said. "It was an interesting scientific project for me as well because I felt like I could use stuff I learned in that project later on when I'm trying to design a drug for rare disease, because I might have the drug — but I need to know some way of getting the drug in the body and exactly where it has to go."

After participating in this project, Seitz knew this is what he wanted to be doing for the rest of his career.

This past summer Seitz traveled across the country to the California Institute of Technology for the Amgen Scholars Program. The professors had been working on it for 15 years before Seitz joined the Amgen program — one of the most prestigious programs in the country.

He was interested in the project because it was classified as computational biochemistry, which looks into using computer simulation to help figure out chemistry problems — another side of chemistry that he always wanted to explore.

"I was very interested in the theory behind it," Seitz said. "[Fifty years down the road], this

sort of work could be used to eliminate side effects of about one-third of the drugs on the market right now."

Since the work he did at Caltech was all computational, Seitz still has the ability to contribute to the project from here at Elon.

As graduation approaches, Seitz looks back at the shining moment in his chemistry career — when he received the email that notified him that he had won the Lumen Prize.

After accepting admittance at Elon, Seitz decided to apply to the Fellows programs, thinking he would be academically challenged in the programs. When he was declined a spot, he was disappointed, but still chose to apply for the Lumen Prize.

"I decided to use the Lumen Prize as something to prove to myself that I was still worth while as scientist — as an academic," said Seitz. "Winning the Lumen Prize vindicated what I thought was true, that I was actually capable of doing really awesome stuff. So it showed me that even if no one believed in me, if I knew inside that I could, then I definitely can, and I shouldn't listen to anyone else who tells me I can't."

# Traveling to the Dominican

## *Physical Plant employee makes the*



BRYAN ANDERSON | Senior Reporter

Physical Plant worker Anthony Totten, who begins work at 5 a.m. each day to begin his cleanup route on Elon University's campus, travel to the Dominican Republic last Winter Term.

**Bryan Anderson**  
Senior Reporter

He had no passport, no birth certificate and no way of getting to the Dominican Republic.

But when Elon University Physical Plant employee Anthony Totten arrived to work one chilly morning in January, he received a life-changing call. With less than six hours until his flight was scheduled to depart, the university informed him it had procured a travel document in the nick of time.

"All these things that happen are supposed to happen," Totten said. "If they don't, God is a lie."

### Finding a rare opportunity

Totten gets out of bed at 4 a.m. and makes the 30-minute commute to Elon each morning, arriving well ahead of his co-workers. While meandering through campus during his 5 a.m. cleanup route, he often sees the worst of students.

"I was looking at all students the same, and that was wrong of me," Totten said.

He has cleaned up vomit, witnessed drunk couples fighting and picked up countless shattered glass bottles. But his dedication to his job for more than two decades and his willingness to do the dirty work around campus landed him the 2008 Physical Plant Staff Member of the Year award.

In 2014, Elon's Staff Advisory Council compiled a list a previous award recipients in the administrative, office support and physical plant staff categories for the opportunity to travel on one of the Winter Term study abroad trips. Once that list was complete, the council pulled names out of a hat — one of those was Totten.

Woody Pelton, dean of glob-

al education, helped launch the initiative and coordinate details with the Staff Advisory Council.

"There had been a discussion for a number of years on campus about how we might be able to get more staff people to go abroad," Pelton said. "Working with the staff council and with the provost's office, we came up with a model where we could get three staff members to join three different programs that we send out in January."

Totten was thrilled the moment he was invited to go to the "Dominican Republic: Baseball and the Tourism Industry" Winter Term study abroad course. But problems quickly emerged as Pelton and the Global Education Center worked to get him a passport.

### Securing travel documents

Totten was born at home in rural South Carolina, so he never had a birth certificate. This forced Emma Burress, then assistant director of study abroad, to make several phone calls in an effort to obtain a travel document.

"As a result of his divorce process, he needed a birth certificate," Burress said. "He got what was a birth certificate card from the South Carolina government, but it was obviously issued way down in his life. And when we went to try and procure a passport for him, that wasn't considered proof of American citizenship enough for the state department."

After much struggle, Pelton and Burress learned Totten's family in South Carolina still had a family Bible with every member of the family's date of birth written in it. One of Totten's relatives

emailed Pelton a blurry photo with Totten's date of birth and signature.

More work needed to be done.

Realizing a photo would probably not be a valid form of identification for an airline, Pelton worked with Elon University President Leo Lambert to vouch for Totten's character. Lambert and Pelton submitted two affidavits stating they knew Totten well and that he was a responsible

If all went according to plan, the document would arrive the day of the flight via FedEx overnight shipping.

"We had it delivered to my house because my wife was able to be at home and just call me when it came," Pelton said. "We were confident that my wife would get it to me quicker than if it came to the university."

When the package arrived in the morning, the flight was just a few hours away from its scheduled departure.

Mark Cryan, assistant professor in sport and event management and faculty adviser on the trip, picked up the travel document from Pelton's house and told Totten to meet him at Physical Plant.

Totten gathered his belongings, and along with Cryan, made the hour-long drive to Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

As Cryan walked through airport security, he noticed Totten standing close alongside him.

"He didn't initially know what to expect," Cryan said. "I think it was a little overwhelming for him."

It was his first trip on a plane. The airport security was intimidating. Totten was in an unfamiliar world.

Junior Alex Simon, sports editor at *The Pendulum* and a participant in the study abroad course, noticed a nervous Totten upon arrival.

"He was a shy guy and didn't want to take away from anybody's trip," Simon said. "He didn't necessarily seem like he was included. He just felt like he was coming along for the ride."

After word reached campus that Totten had arrived safely in the Dominican Republic, a temporary sense of relief swept through the Global Education Center.

"We were sort of thinking, 'Well, this worked, and we got him out the door. I hope it ends up being successful because he has never traveled before,'" Pelton said. "You kind of keep your fingers crossed that this all works smoothly for Anthony."

### Being an undercover Dominican

Because of the color of his skin and his casual attire, Totten often got mistaken as a native of the country. There was a running joke between Totten and the students that he was secretly an undercover Dominican.

In one of Totten's early experiences in the Dominican Republic, a couple of kids seeking spare change walked up to him asking if they could shine his tennis shoes. Though Totten wanted to tell the kids 'no' — Totten seldom carried any money on hand — he could not speak a lick of Spanish.

The kids shined the shoes.

As the trip progressed and the frequency of mistaken identity increased, Cryan and Simon taught Totten how to inform natives he did not speak Spanish.

"It got to be a big running joke within the study abroad group that Anthony was a native of the country," Simon said. "It happened so many times, often once or twice a day without fail."

Totten's reserved personality quickly transformed as he grew more comfortable speaking with the students.

"What surprised me was those students," Totten said. "They were wonderful to me."

Cryan said one of the most

“WHAT SURPRISED ME WAS THOSE STUDENTS. THEY WERE WONDERFUL TO ME.”

ANTHONY TOTTEN  
PHYSICAL PLANT EMPLOYEE

United States citizen.

"What we were trying to do was give staff members the opportunity to access this kind of experience," Burress said. "Anthony wasn't the kind of person who could access it by himself, so we had to do everything we could."

### Taking flight

Between proof of South Carolina citizenship, a photo from a family Bible and two affidavits, Totten was still not granted a passport. Instead, he was given a one-year travel document.

But anxiety emerged after the travel document was issued the same week as the flight to the Dominican Republic.

# Republic without identity

## *most of the experiences Elon offers*

memorable moments of the trip occurred when he and his class came across a parade honoring former Boston Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez.

A day or two after Martinez has elected into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Martinez paraded through the city of Santiago, waving to his fans through the sunroof of a gold Hummer. That parade coincided with the Elon Winter Term class's visit to the city.

"We go over to the side of the street so we could get closer to where the motorcade is," Cryan said. "The motorcade was moving very slowly. But when our group was there, security guards saw some Red Sox hats and a bunch of Americans. They literally stopped the parade."

Security personnel waved in Cryan's class, and students began chatting with Martinez for couple of minutes, requesting autographs.

"At some point in the middle of the motorcade, I had a Dominican police officer tap me on the shoulder, and I thought he was telling me to get out of the way," Cryan said. "He was in fact stopping me to let me know through pantomime that if I wanted to go over there, he would take my picture."

Without hesitation, Cryan accepted the offer. But before Cryan could walk past security with Totten at his side, he noticed a guard's hand reach out to stop Totten from passing through.

"The security guard's arm goes out and they stop Anthony," Cryan said. "They say 'He's Dominican. He's not part of this group.'

So he was mistaken for Dominican. I said, 'No, no. Americano con nosotros. He's with us!' And they say, 'Oh, oh. OK.' So then they waved him through."

Cryan believes the incident speaks volumes to how privileged U.S. visitors are treated and how much of a cultural shock it was

Simon, who has depression, needed someone to comfort him. Totten feeling as though he had a calling from God to provide help decided to sit down with the student for lunch to talk about life.

"Some people don't take the time to listen to others," Totten said. "That minute could make a

he faced occurred when he was the first African-American in his hometown to go to an all-white school in 1969. Totten often was picked on and bullied by the other kids, and forced himself not to engage in fights.

But one day changed everything.

Simon said his lunch with Totten helped him gain a greater appreciation for life.

"It made a huge difference," Simon said. "It actually is something I look at as being a big part of what helped me to be where I am today and really get me back on a track that I'm proud to be back on. I'm forever indebted to Anthony whether he knows it or not."

### Returning to Elon

Totten returned to campus with a newfound appreciation for students.

He talks with Simon whenever he sees him and is more talkative to the student body as a whole. But that open communication is not often reciprocated.

At 7:55 a.m. on a Friday morning, Totten is sitting inside a golf cart roaming from garbage can to garbage can. As he waits for students to pass by, he notices none of them looking at him. A student glances up momentarily in Totten's direction but quickly diverts his attention back to the brick walkway.

Like a fish inside an aquarium, Totten describes himself as seen yet unnoticed.

A man who has overcome so much adversity and has so much experience he's dying to share with others rests in the middle of a walkway just waiting for someone approach him. Totten says a simple hello, but the students do not engage.

"Some people don't take the time to listen to others," Totten said. "That minute could make a world of difference."

IT ACTUALLY IS SOMETHING I LOOK AT AS BEING A BIG PART OF WHAT HELPED ME TO BE WHERE I AM TODAY AND REALLY GET ME BACK ON A TRACK THAT I'M PROUD TO BE BACK ON. I'M FOREVER INDEBTED TO ANTHONY WHETHER HE KNOWS IT OR NOT.

ALEX SIMON  
JUNIOR

for Totten to experience what it was like being a Dominican.

It also showed the mutual concern Totten, Cryan and the students had for each other's well-being.

### Forming lasting relationships

"Alex Simon got a phone call that he lost a very close friend," Totten said. "When some people get really depressed, they think about committing suicide. I only could tell him my testimonies."

world of difference."

Simon and Totten talked for two hours, discussing a wide range of topics including faith, spirituality and overcoming obstacles.

Totten shared some of the challenges life has thrown his way.

He was divorced by a woman who loved him only for his money. He seldom saw his six children. He was jailed twice for driving under the influence.

One of the biggest obstacles

When Totten was in the third or fourth grade, he got hurt on the playground. Another student saw what had happened, picked Totten up and carried him to the principal's office to make sure he was looked after.

This was the first time someone at school stood up for him. It showed him that light can be found in the darkest of situations.

"There's a good and a bad in every person," Totten said. "We all need to get along and try to make this world a better place."



While abroad, Anthony Totten became an 'undercover Dominican' as he was mistaken as a native. Because of his mistaken identity, he accidentally had his shoes shined by local boys.

# Women's basketball carries tough defeat into new year

## *3-point loss to James Madison in CAA semifinals providing inspiration*



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

The Elon University women's basketball team huddles ahead of its exhibition game against Winston-Salem State University Nov. 8. The Phoenix won 70-27, forcing 32 Rams turnovers.

Alex Simon  
Sports Editor

In a recent closed scrimmage, Elon University senior forward Josepha Mbouma looked up and saw head women's basketball coach Charlotte Smith's clipboard.

On it was an image of the James Madison University women's basketball team holding the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Tournament trophy and the message, "Who's working harder, you or them?"

It tugs at the memory of Elon's 63-60 loss to the Dukes in the CAA Tournament in March, a game that came down to the final minute.

The Phoenix missed three shots that would've tied the game, including a pair of 3-pointers from then-senior forward Sam Coffey in the last 20 seconds.

Now, that loss is engraved in the players' minds.

"It's been a constant reminder that we were three points away, a boxout away," Mbouma said. "It's a constant reminder that it's the little things, it's focus, it's one more rep that separates us from a win or a

loss, that separates us from playing in the champion

The Dukes went on to win the CAA championship the next day — an image Smith decided to use to her advantage.

That same picture is hung in each player's locker, too.

The players have even noticed the game being used by James Madison, as the Dukes' social media team posted a video from a game against Elon.

"A couple of us saw JMU post a clip of them playing us, and it was a good clip for them and a bad clip for us," said junior forward Jenifer Rhodes. "That got us a little excited for the season and just to start playing and competing. In losing that game by three points, the mentality for the returners in knowing we could've won the game, all of us have experienced that."

Elon had previously lost at home to James Madison 68-51 Jan. 15 and then got blown out 89-60 Jan. 29 in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The semifinal contest was easily the closest game out of the three, and it is still something Smith reminisces about.

Now, she's using the game as a message

for her team leading into this season.

"I just watched the last three minutes of it last week," Smith said. "We talked about it last week in practice. The biggest thing is, right now, I'm trying to get [the Elon players] to focus on the details and doing the little things.

"Within that last three minutes of the game, there were just little things that we've been talking about throughout each practice — that we still have not quite mastered — that can be the difference in you being a champion and a runner-up."

The players have been embracing Smith's message, understanding that it is the minutiae that differentiates teams in the CAA and throughout college basketball.

Elon's focus isn't just centered around James Madison, but the Dukes are the one opponent from last year who left a bitter taste in Elon's mouth.

"Of course we have to think about all the other teams, but everyone thinks about JMU," Rhodes said. "That game is the last thing we remember, and we really think about that. I think we're definitely hungry this year."

For one player, though, the game doesn't need to be a constant reminder.

"Even though coach mentions the JMU game, I wouldn't say it's necessary," said junior guard Lauren Brown. "We all have this mentality that we know what we can do. We want to bring that same energy and effort that we brought to the tournament to every game this season."

Sophomore guard Shay Burnett, who led the team with 18 points in the semifinal game, recognizes that there are multiple similarities between the Phoenix and the Dukes.

"My mom always says, 'We put on our jerseys the same way they do.' Our teams are kind of similar," Burnett said. "As we get better throughout practices, scrimmages and exhibitions, we're going to be able to really compete with them and actually get a win this year."

With all of the returning players — only

two players on the active roster, freshman guard/forward Nikki McDonald and junior guard Maddie McCallie, did not play last season — Elon is hoping to lean on experience to be able to top the Dukes, and anyone else in the CAA, this year.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NONCONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### vs. Lenoir-Rhyne

Nov. 14, 2 p.m.

#### @ Liberty

Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

#### vs. Charlotte

Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

#### @ American

Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

#### @ Navy

Nov. 24, 7 p.m.

#### vs. East Tennessee State

Nov. 29, 2 p.m.

#### @ Furman

Dec. 5, 2 p.m.

#### @ N.C. State

Dec. 13, 2 p.m.

#### vs. High Point

Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m.

#### @ South Carolina

Dec. 22, 7 p.m.

#### @ West Virginia

Dec. 28, 7 p.m.



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

Senior guard Josepha Mbouma (13) defends a Winston-Salem State University player Nov. 8.

## Sophomores ready to fill big roles

Last year, Elon University head women's basketball coach Charlotte Smith threw Shay Burnett and Malaya Johnson, the team's two freshmen, right into the fire.

And they produced.

Burnett, a guard, led the team in scoring at 10.5 points per game, and



Tommy Hamzik  
Columnist

Johnson, a forward, averaged 7.5 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. Burnett started 30 games while Johnson started 20.

With a year under their belts, big things are expected from the sophomore duo

— and rightfully so.

When asked what's different about this year's team, Smith pointed directly to the maturing of Burnett and Johnson.

"[Burnett], we're really going to rely on her to make plays for the team and make plays for other people," Smith said. "She's very talented. She makes everybody around her better. When the game is on the line, we're going to put the ball in her hands and trust she's going to lead the team to victory.

"[Johnson] has been a good, dominant force for us in the low block. She's very consistent in terms of scoring and making things happen for us offensively."

Burnett, who will surely start, will be the focal point of this year's team. For her — and Elon — to succeed, she has some work to do.

She acknowledges what she called "freshman mistakes" and how those should be corrected, and also listed improving her assist-to-turnover ratio. Last year, she averaged more than one turnover for every assist she had, turning the ball over a team-high 108 times.

Improve on those, great. Burnett's already playing at a high level for Elon, and that would improve the flow and productivity of the offense.

Then, it's a matter of her stepping into the role of being the go-to player when the game is on the line.

In a game last year against Hofstra University, Burnett helped Elon take a one-point lead with less than a minute to play on a three-point play. After Hofstra retook the lead with five seconds left, Burnett once again found the ball in her hands.

Elon didn't get a shot off and lost, 55-53.

"It was a freshman mistake. I should've let the ball go," Burnett said. "But I didn't, and we lost the game. But I'm ready to take on this role ... I'm ready to step up."

Her teammates believe she's ready for that role, too.

"We're all very comfortable with her having the ball in her hands," said senior guard Josepha Mbouma. "I've seen some growth in her. I've seen her be smarter about things defensively, taking charges and putting her body on the line. She's using her body well and knowing how to adjust to the speed of the game."

Speed shouldn't be an issue — Burnett is aggressive when driving down the lane. It shouldn't be long before the opponents are having trouble catching up to her.

## Lone freshman enters spotlight for Elon *McDonald expected to be major contributor this year*

Alex Simon  
Sports Editor

There's only one freshman on the Elon University women's basketball team this year, and according to senior guard Josepha Mbouma, the Phoenix has found a gem.

"If we're only to have one freshman, we got the perfect one," Mbouma said.

The "perfect one" is guard/forward Nikki McDonald, who comes to Elon from Atlanta. And she's been making heads turn throughout the preseason practices.

"I've been really impressed with Nikki McDonald," said head coach Charlotte Smith. "She'll start for us at that 4 position. I've been extremely pleased with her coachability. She's a great listener and is very teachable."

McDonald's play at forward will replace Sam Coffey, one of just three players from last year's team who does not return this year. Coffey started in 117 games over her four years at Elon, leaving a hole McDonald is going to try to fill.

"I think she'll be able to fill those big shoes that Sam wore," Smith said. "Because Sam, she did so many things and was a stat-sheet stuffer. But she also did so many intangible things that didn't show up on the stat-sheet. And Nikki plays with that."

Sophomore guard Shay Burnett added, "She's just like Sam, just not left-handed."

Even though she's listed as a guard, McDonald's biggest goal is to blend in to the 4 position in Elon's system, which is a guard/forward combination position.

"I want to be a rebounder — I don't want to be listed as just a guard or a forward," McDonald said. "I want to be that slasher, I want to be able to shoot the 3-pointer and handle the ball and also rebound. I want to be the all-around player."

Junior guard Lauren Brown sees the connection to Coffey's all-around effort.

"Nikki brings a lot of hard work, energy and effort to the game," Brown said. "Sam got so many rebounds, hit 3s, and was always our player who was ready to get down and dirty. Nikki has that same mentality — she plays defense by taking every possession personally."

Being the only freshman on the team presents McDonald with many unique challenges. One of them is her on-campus living, as most athletes room with a player on their team of the same age.

"I had to rely on myself a lot — I'm rooming with the volleyball players," McDonald said. "So I had to wake myself up to get to practice on time. At first it was a little weird, but I've adjusted well."

McDonald is selling herself a little short, if her teammates are to be believed.

"[McDonald] learns pretty quickly," Mbouma said. "She responds really well. She goes hard regardless — even if she's unsure, she goes hard. You know you're going to get a whole lot of effort from her."

For junior forward Jenifer Rhodes, who battles with McDonald in practice, the freshman's aggression for rebounds is noteworthy. "She goes to the boards like crazy," Rhodes said. "You better box her out because she just works hard. For that to be her freshman mentality ... I'm excited for the next four years for her."

Smith sees the determination that McDonald has when she tries to get rebounds, and is already praising the freshman.

"She's learning how to play at that high level in terms of intensity going to the boards," Smith said. "I feel like she really fits into our system well, in terms of things we're trying to accomplish offensively."

McDonald brings many accolades with her from high school, including a two-time first team all-state player designation by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. She was also



Freshman guard/forward Nikki McDonald (20) shoots jumpers and drives the lane for Elon Nov. 8.

JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

named the Player of the Year by the Georgia Sports Writers Association as a senior.

But McDonald put basketball on the backburner when considering her college education.

"I wanted to look at academics — basketball was just a bonus," McDonald said. "This school has really good academics and basketball. Plus, the accolades Coach Smith brings to the team and what all the players bring to the team drew me in. I really love being here. I honestly can't envision being on any other team than Elon."

McDonald's first game for Elon, a 70-27 exhibition victory Sunday over Winston-Sa-

lem State University, displayed the aspects of the all-around play she's aspiring toward. She finished with seven points, four rebounds and three steals. Smith praised her anticipation in the passing lanes.

"I thought she did a tremendous job defensively — she did a good job of sitting out in the gaps and made it look like it was open and anticipating and picking up a few steals. I was really impressed with that," Smith said.

It's that level of play in her first collegiate game that has Smith dreaming big regarding the impact McDonald could have.

"I think she'll be the X-factor for us this year," she said.

## Elon posts could be team strength

The Elon University men's basketball team had its struggles a year ago.

Injuries, the transition to the Colonial Athletic Association and post play were among them. The first is uncontrollable, but the latter two shouldn't be of concern as the Phoenix sets sail on a new year.

The troubles of entering the CAA and the post play go hand in hand.



Tommy Hamzik  
Columnist

Elon was facing stronger, more physical and more experienced players at the low block, and that was a tough transition to make.

Tony Sabato was just settling in to his new role as a frequent contributor, and both Ryan Winters and Brian Dawkins dealt with injuries. That left coach Matt Matheny no other option than to put 6-foot-7 wing Christian Hairston in the post.

Hairston, a junior, and Sabato, a senior, have both battled injuries in the last two months, but are better inclined to fill their roles this year.

And they'll have some help.

Elon adds 6-foot-8 freshman Tyler Seibring, who started the team's exhibition game and showed he can stretch out to the perimeter and shoot, along with 6-foot-11 freshman and Lithuania native Karolis Kundrotas.

"It reminds me of my freshman year," said Hairston, likening this year's team to the 2013-2014 group featuring 1,000-point scorers Lucas Troutman and Ryley Beaumont. "You come in — and I think both of [the freshmen] are doing a great job — you see where you can fit in and help the team.

"Tyler Seibring can really shoot the ball, and we saw that from day one. And Karolis can shoot the ball also, not to leave him out, but Tyler can really shoot. It's all about finding the places where you can help and working as hard as you can."

Dawkins sat out last season with knee issues and returns with three years of eligibility left. The 6-foot-8 forward played in 27 games as a freshman and averaged just 2.1 points and 1.7 rebounds per game, but it was widely thought that if he were to have been available last year, he would've strengthened Elon's post presence as a rim protector.

He's healthy now, which is what matters.

"He has really transformed his body," Matheny said. "I think he was really rusty at the beginning of our August stuff, but I think he's gotten better and better, and he's been a bright spot."

With Dawkins and Seibring presumably starting — as long as Sabato, who played just three minutes in the exhibition, is still riddled with injury — that leaves Hairston, Kundrotas and sophomore Jack Anton to come off the bench.

That easily could be Elon's strongest post lineup in Matheny's seven years at the helm.

As long as they stay healthy.

## Europe excursion has Elon gelling

### Overseas adventure helps acquaint new freshmen



Freshman forward Tyler Seibring (41) jumps to block a shot against William Peace University Nov. 4. He is one of five freshmen for Elon this season.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Alex Simon  
Sports Editor

The Elon University men's basketball team is in the middle of roster turnover, with five freshmen joining the already young group. With so many new faces, getting players to gel together was going to be quite the challenge for head coach Matt Matheny.

But, according to Matheny, the study abroad trip the team took to Europe in August has made their chemistry better than ever before.

"I think it's at an all-time high," Matheny said. "The opportunity to travel abroad and to do it in a time when you're not in the regular season and you're not taking exams every other day, to be relaxed and see things and open up was great for our team."

The collective understanding of each other is something that sophomore guard Dmitri Thompson considers a strength of the team.

"Being able to go to Europe, that boosted [the chemistry] up a lot," Thompson said. "Everyone on the team just has this connection with every guy, it's amazing. It's better than last year, and we had great chemistry last year."

The time overseas together has led junior guard Christian Hairston to believe the jump-start has had a positive benefit in practice.

"I think it's been going really well — out of my three years here, we are the furthest along in terms of practice," Hairston said. "The amount of time we spent working in the summer, with



Elon played in five European cities in August.

BJORN BATES | Design Intern

the Europe trip and being here for the summer months, that definitely helped us out also."

#### Mixing new with old

The five freshmen — guards Dainan Swoope, Steven Santa Ana and Sheldon Eberhardt and forwards Tyler Seibring and Karolis Kundrotas — went to Europe and got a chance to play for Elon while there. Afterward, Matheny praised the five newcomers.

"We're excited about the talent in the class," Matheny said. "We're excited about the coachability in the class. And we're really excited about how hard they're working. I think all five have a chance to earn playing time this year."

The experience in Europe included two games in Germany, one in Austria and two in Italy. All five freshmen got opportunities to suit up for the Phoenix in the overseas games, giving them ample opportunities to develop cohesion with the returners.

In Elon's 90-73 exhibition win over William Peace University Nov. 5, Swoope led Elon in scoring with 23 points. Running mainly at point guard, Swoope had made strides so far in practice.

"Dainan has been playing really well at point guard," said senior guard Tanner Samson. "He's run the offense and it fits him really well."

Another guard singled out the three freshmen guards as suitable for Elon and its offensive identity.

"Dainan Swoope is a good ballhandler, he distributes the ball well," Thompson said. "Steven [Santa Ana] can shoot the lights out of the ball, and so can Sheldon [Eberhardt]. They fit the mold of the Elon system perfectly."

Another freshman who shined in the exhibition was Seibring, tallying 11 points and eight rebounds. Multiple players have praised his shooting prowess as a forward, as well as teammate Kundrotas' shooting capabilities.

"Tyler Seibring can really shoot the ball, and we saw that from day one," Hairston said. "And Karolis can shoot the ball also, not to leave him out, but Tyler can really shoot."

One player in particular really enjoys what Seibring brings to Elon.

"I love Tyler Seibring — he's probably my favorite player on the team," Eddy said. "If his big man helps, that's three points right there. We lacked that last year, and now we have that. He's gonna make a big impact. We can get three points in five seconds, so that's what we're gonna do every single time."



Freshman guard Dainan Swoope (45) lays it in.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Matheny has noticed Seibring's unique abilities and the challenges he can present to other teams.

"The fact that he can really shoot and that he passes and catches well makes him a pretty versatile player, which I think helps our offense and is tough to guard."

#### Enjoying each other's company

With an increased amount of time spent between new freshmen and the upperclassmen, Hairston has noticed is already a big difference from last year's team to this year.

"I think, with this year's team, our chemistry is much tighter," Hairston said. "Coach has mentioned that a couple of times, and the summer we spent definitely helped out with that. These guys, we love each other, we hang out all of the time, about eight of us live in the same building."

Matheny is encouraged by the eight roommates and the general closeness of the team.

"Our guys like each other, they like hanging out together, they know more about each other," Matheny said. "Our team chemistry is really good."

The stronger chemistry can all still be traced back to a common point: Europe.

"Everybody likes each other," Eddy said. "We're all boys — we all hang out with each other a lot more than we did in the past, and I think Europe has a lot to do with that."

# Picking up the tempo

*Shot clock change should help high-paced Phoenix get even faster*



Freshman guard Steven Santa Ana (22) goes up for a layup in the second half against William Peace University Nov. 4. **Elon won 95-73.**

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

## MEN'S BASKETBALL NONCONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### @ Charlotte

Nov. 13, 8:30 p.m.

### @ Michigan

Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

### vs. Belmont Abbey

Nov. 18, 7 p.m.

### @ Syracuse

Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

### vs. Mount St. Mary's

Nov. 26, 2 p.m.

### vs. TBD

Nov. 27, 7 p.m.

### vs. Kennesaw State

Nov. 30, 7 p.m.

### @ Florida International

Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

### vs. Wesley

Dec. 13, 2 p.m.

### vs. Alabama State

Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

### vs. UNCG

Dec. 19, 1 p.m.

### @ UNC Asheville

Dec. 21, 7 p.m.

### @ Duke

Dec. 28, 8 p.m.

Wesley Share  
Senior Reporter

Elon University junior guard Luke Eddy is a big fan of the latest rule changes in college basketball.

"I love to go fast, so that's what I'm gonna do when I'm out there. I'm going to push it," Eddy said.

On June 8, the NCAA announced it had approved numerous rule changes to men's basketball games, most notably cutting the shot clock from 35 seconds to 30 and decreasing the amount of timeouts allowed to each team. The shot clock change is sure to have the biggest impact right away.

The Elon men's basketball team finished 29th in Ken Pomeroy's adjusted tempo metric — a measure of how many possessions per 40 minutes a team would have on average against a typical Division I defense. The Phoenix often pushes the ball in transition and looks to get quick, efficient shots in the half-court through constant motion and screening. So, now that the NCAA has trimmed five seconds off the shot clock, Elon will likely ramp up the pace to even more to stay in front of the pack nationwide.

"Five less seconds, I don't see that being a problem for us," Eddy said.

For head coach Matt Matheny, pace is a necessity when it comes to staying competitive. Matheny has hedged his bets on



Junior guard Christian Hairston (12) leaps.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

a hectic pace to set his team apart, and his players have taken note of how that could open things up on both sides of the ball.

"Defensively, I think it may work to our advantage," said senior guard Tanner Samson. "Sometimes, we can give guys some more pressure and pressure the full-court and slow them down, and then when they get in their half-court offense, there's less time. I think Coach has done some good things with implementing some press than we had in the past, and things like that."

With a concerted focus on the team's offense, exploiting the shortened shot clock as a defensive advantage could be key. But Matheny isn't putting much weight into the new shot clock's effect on the team's offense.

"Most of the teams in our league are pretty fast-playing teams, so I really don't see the 35 to 30 being a big jump," he said.

Nonetheless, cutting the legally allotted time for a team to find its shot by nearly 15 percent is a big deal. The effects it may have in the short term are questionable at best — teams fumbling the ball and getting lost while trying to keep up with an increasingly stressful timeline, and players staying in line with conditioning, are primary side effects to look for in year one of implementation. Long-term effects, such as more stylistic and personnel-driven changes to adapt to a new environment, will take more time to present themselves.

But, until that happens, the shortened shot clock isn't going anywhere. And few basketball programs are better positioned to adapt to the new structure than Elon's.

"We actually have been playing a lot faster," said sophomore guard Dmitri Thompson. "We've been getting the ball up, we have Luke [Eddy] back now, he distributes the ball well, but he likes to get his own shots, he can do that very well. We're shooting a lot faster."



# Phoenix looks to regroup heading into CAA tournament

## 9 days between matches gives men's soccer chance to recuperate

Jordan Spritzer  
Assistant Sports Editor

Senior defender Nathan Diehl's game-winning header in the second period of overtime against College of Charleston Oct. 31 clinched the Elon University men's soccer team a share of the regular Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) title and its place as the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament.

Though for Diehl and the rest of the Elon squad, the win secured something even more valuable: rest.

"Having a more than a week break before the start of the tournament is a god-send for a lot of us," Diehl said. "I know I, along with all of the other guys, are going to take full advantage of it."

The Phoenix will take on No. 3 seed the University of Delaware in the semifinals Nov. 13. The two teams met in Newark, Delaware Sept. 26, with Elon earning a 1-0 victory.

Head coach Chris Little sees some familiar traits in the Blue Hens.

"Delaware is maybe quite similar to us," he said. "They've got a lot of smaller, technical players that are very creative and dynamic."

The Phoenix was sluggish in its regular season finale, losing 2-0 to Radford University Nov. 4. Little said it was easy for Radford to sit back and defend its lead, having scored early in each half. While



Senior forward Cooper Vandermaas-Peeler (15) dribbles past a Radford University defender Nov. 4.

Radford often defended with 10 players behind the ball, the Phoenix was unable to create many clear scoring chances.

"We looked a little tired," Little said. "It's been a long season. We've had a frequency of intense, tough games back-to-back-to-back-to-back, and that's hard."

Elon has lost three of its last four matches, including an overtime loss to Duke University and a narrow 1-0 defeat to Hofstra University, the host of the CAA conference tournament. Elon's lone win

during that stretch was the overtime victory over College of Charleston.

Diehl said he and the rest of the team are not making any excuses for the poor finish to the regular season.

"There's nothing to do now except to move forward, learn from our mistakes and come out stronger from it," Diehl said. "At this point in the season every team is really fatigued, it's just who grinds through it the best."

The Phoenix is joined by Delaware, James Madison University and host Hofstra

in the semifinals, which will be played on Hofstra University Soccer Stadium's turf field. The Phoenix was able to get somewhat comfortable playing on the turf after facing the Pride Oct. 24 in Hempstead, New York. Diehl said while the turf does add to Hofstra's homefield advantage, he's not putting any added emphasis on the pitch's surface.

"We've all, at this point in our soccer careers, played on turfs many times before," Diehl said. "It's just a mental battle — you can't let it get to your head."

The loss to Radford cost Elon a chance for its 14th regular season victory and its national ranking (the Phoenix has previously been ranked as high as No. 8 in the nation). Little said sitting on 13 wins is a good position to be in, but he can't get too invested in projecting whether Elon will qualify for the NCAA tournament because it is out of his hands.

"Our mindset is to go win the conference tournament and to not leave any doubt," Little said. "That's the objective to go there and win the tournament and know you have an automatic bid."

Even with eyes on the CAA championship, Diehl said the team is in no position to look past its semifinal matchup.

"A lot of us want blood when we think about Hofstra, but we're a long way from facing them," he said. "Until then, we have to just have to focus on what's in front of our faces."

# The Phoenix Focus

Updated as of Monday, Nov. 9



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

## Football

### RESULTS

Oct. 31  
**13-34** *Tribe*

	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q
W&M	21	6	7	0
Elon	0	0	6	7

Nov. 7  
**Home 12:30 p.m.** *MAINE*



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

### STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
Richmond	5-1	7-2
William & Mary	5-1	7-2
James Madison	4-2	7-2
Towson	4-2	6-3
Villanova	4-2	5-4
New Hampshire	3-3	5-4
Maine	3-3	3-6
UAlbany	2-4	3-6
Delaware	2-4	3-6
Elon	2-4	3-6
Stony Brook	1-4	3-5
Rhode Island	1-5	1-8

## Basketball

### MEN'S

#### RESULTS

Nov. 5  
**95-73** *PEACE PACERS*

	1st half	2nd half
WPU	39	34
Elon	58	37

Nov. 13  
**Away 8:30 p.m.** *49ERS*

Nov. 16  
**Away 7 p.m.** *M*

### WOMEN'S

#### RESULTS

Nov. 8  
**70-27** *WSSU R-A-M-S*

	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q
WSSU	2	11	8	6
Elon	15	13	24	18

Nov. 14  
**Home 2 p.m.** *LR*

Nov. 16  
**Away 7 p.m.** *LU*

## Volleyball

### RESULTS

Nov. 7  
**0-3** *UNCW SEAHAWKS*

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Elon	19	18	21
UNCW	25	25	25

Nov. 6  
**Home 7 p.m.** *HOFSTRA*

Nov. 15  
**Home 2 p.m.** *N*

### STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
James Madison	12-3	22-6
UNCW	11-3	20-6
Towson	11-4	24-5
Hofstra	9-4	18-10
C. of Charleston	8-6	16-12
Delaware	4-9	12-14
William & Mary	3-11	9-18
Northeastern	3-11	6-23
Elon	2-12	6-22

# Top Photos



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
 The Phoenix takes the field before its game against the College of William & Mary Nov. 7. Elon lost 34-13.



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor  
 Senior SPARKS Peer Educator Ana Sofia Adames reads about the dangers of smoking at "Smoke Out for a Cure" Nov. 5.



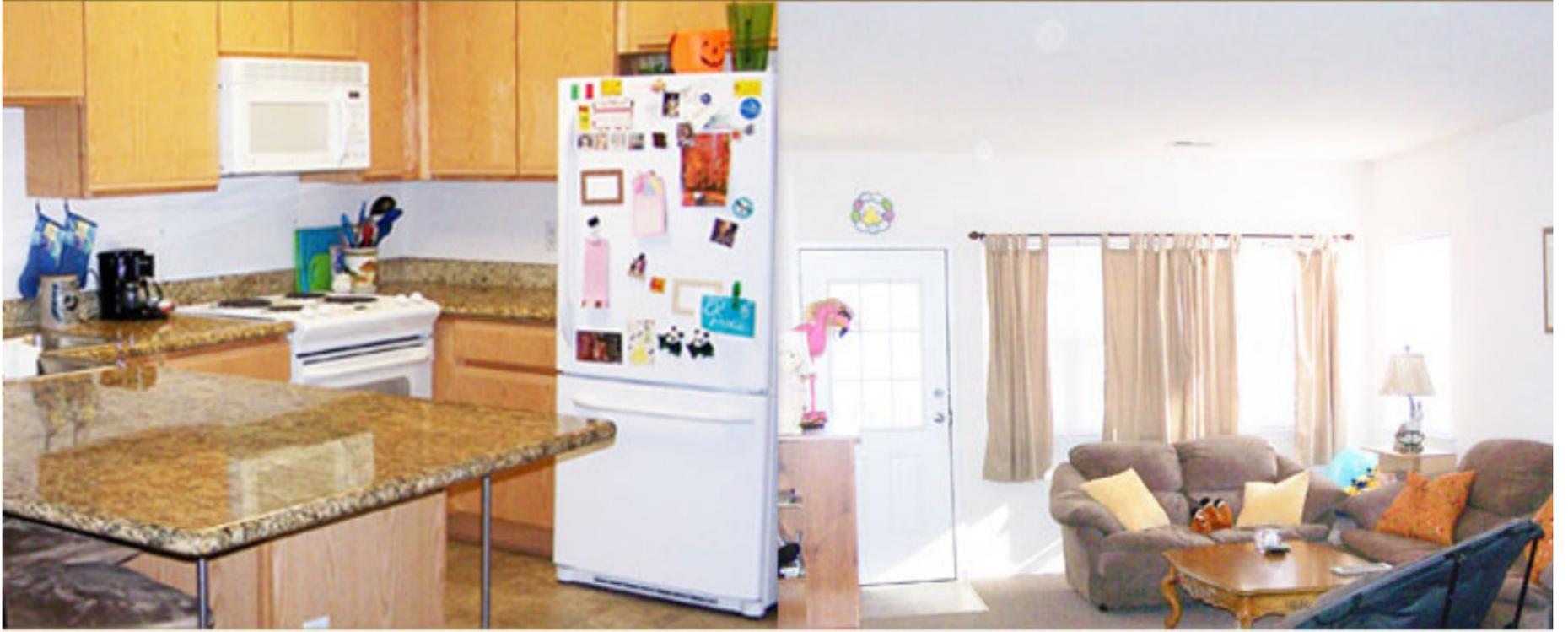
JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
 Men's soccer sophomore midfielder Luis Argudo (11) fights a player from Radford University for the ball Nov. 4. Elon lost 2-0.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
 Men's basketball junior guard Luke Eddy (1) fights through contact while trying for a layup against William Peace University Nov. 4. Elon won 90-73.



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor  
 Students enjoy a fall afternoon with frisbee on Young Commons.



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