

WEDNESDAY, VOLUME 42, ELON, NORTH

THE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1953 BANS ALL DISCRIMINATION OF IMMIGRANTS ON THE BASIS OF NATIONAL ORIGIN. IT REPAIRS A VERY DEEP AND PAINFUL FLAW IN THE FABRIC OF AMERICAN JUSTICE. -LBJ

We Stand Together

FUCK ISLAMOPHOBIA WELCOME

Refugees Are Welcome



'WE CAME LOOKING FOR FREEDOM'

Elon community grapples with Trump's executive order banning travel from select countries

Emmanuel Morgan and Anton L. Delgado
News Editor and Contributor
@EMorgan704 and @JADelgadoNews

Ahmed Fadaam's personal life was drastically altered by the stroke of President Donald Trump's pen. Originally from Iraq, the assistant professor of communications at Elon University is essentially forbidden from returning to his family. Trump's 13th executive order, which prohibits travel for 120

days from seven majority Muslim countries, was enacted to fulfill its title: "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States." But for Fadaam, it strips him from his loved ones. "If I leave the United States, I am not sure if I will be allowed access back in," Fadaam said. "Having a reunion with some of my family members that are still in Baghdad is now impossible." Fadaam is among those affect-

ed by Trump's actions on Elon's campus. While Elon is only a medium-sized institution, the power of Trump's action resonates even here. Fadaam registered for an immigration visa in 2009 and moved to the United States in 2012. A devoted Muslim, Fadaam labors intensely to explain to his students that all practitioners of his faith are not extremists. But one of Trump's pertinent messages on the campaign trail and

his infant presidency was to eradicate "radical islamic terrorism," a weakness he said categorized President Barack Obama's legacy. Trump's administration has said the ban will prevent attacks such as the Pulse Night Club and San Bernardino massacres spawned by ISIS recruits. But the perpetrators of these acts were not citizens of the

See **IMMIGRATION** pg. 7

Decade-long GPA increase reflected in fall 2016 grade distribution

Paul LeBlanc
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Analysis from the Registrar's office shows that professors at Elon University have become more frugal with distributing higher grades over time. Grade distribution for fall 2016 semester shows that 29 percent of Elon undergraduates, or 7,590 students, received an 'A' grade. The overall GPA for the fall was a 3.26, one of the highest in Elon history. The report from the Registrar's office said 47 percent of undergraduates received either an 'A' or an 'A-' average,

The overall grade point average for the fall semester was a 3.26, one of the highest in Elon history according to a report from the Registrar's Office.

1978, the average fall GPA was a 2.37. By 2000, it had become a 3.00 and had risen steadily to a 3.26 over the past 17 years.

which denotes "distinguished performance" according to the student handbook. Eighty-one percent of students received a B- average or above. Fall GPAs have risen sharply since the university began tracking overall semester GPAs for undergraduates. In 1978, the average fall GPA was a 2.37. By 2000, it had become a 3.00 and had risen steadily to a 3.26 over the past 17 years.

The issue of grade inflation at Elon has been addressed in the past. In the Elon Magazine in the spring of 2009, Elon President Leo Lambert penned a letter titled 'Who is an 'A' student today?' In the letter, Lambert notes, "The grade inflation discussion at Elon coincides with other campus initiatives to increase academic challenge to keep pace with the rising quality of the student body. Addressing the grading issue is a natural outgrowth of those efforts." Since this letter, however, overall GPAs have continued to rise. According to junior David Nunamaker, getting good grades at Elon hasn't been a challenge for him.

"I'd definitely say I've only ever had one or two truly challenging classes," he said. "Rarely do you need to do all of the work to get an A in the class." But just because overall GPAs are on the rise, doesn't mean everyone feels it. For junior Emily Current, her classes are only getting harder. "Teachers expect a lot from students and often forget that we have a lot of other classes," she said. "It's definitely getting harder and harder to get As even though it's more expected." Grade inflation hasn't just been an

See **GRADE INFLATION** pg. 4

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THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF

ELON NEWS
NETWORK

Established 1974

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

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

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FROM COVER

CHRISTINA CASILLO | Photographer
Protestors holding signs chant "No ban. No wall," at Raleigh-Durham International Airport Jan. 29.

CRIME REPORT

Jan. 24 DALTON MCMICHAEL DRIVE ELON Larceny

A student reported to Campus Safety and Police at 2:59 p.m. that \$125 in cash was stolen from their wallet at Colonnades Dining Hall.

Jan. 24 NORTH WILLIAMSON AVENUE ELON Hit and run

A vehicle owned by Elon University Physical Plant backed into another vehicle while parked in a lot off of North Williamson Avenue. The car responsible was located by

a Campus Safety and Police officer but the officer did not make contact with the driver.

Jan. 26 WEST HAGGARD AVENUE ELON Possession of marijuana with intent to sell

Charisma Allen was arrested in the parking lot of Tony's Bar in possession of a bag of marijuana containing several smaller baggies of marijuana. An Elon officer on patrol overheard Allen arguing loudly with several other persons, and when he confronted them, he noticed the strong odor of marijuana coming from one of their vehicles.

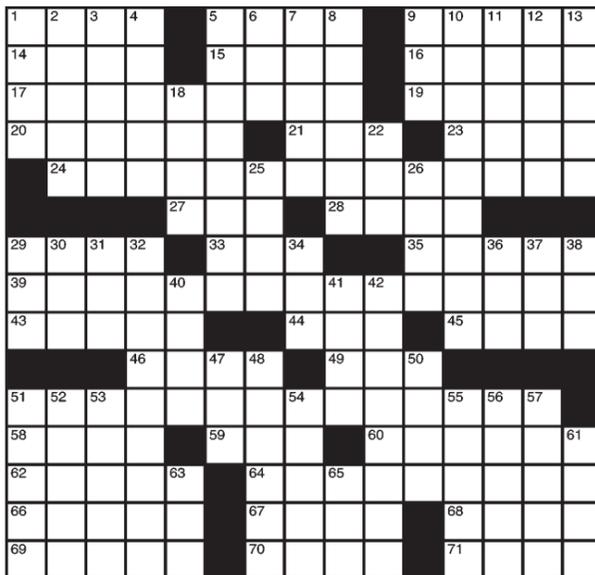
GAMES

FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Memo phrase
 - 5 Music-playing Apple
 - 9 Improvises musically
 - 14 Primary
 - 15 "___ Lisa"
 - 16 Many a jukebox tune
 - 17 Type of film industry contract
 - 19 Capital south of Moscow
 - 20 Former justice Antonin
 - 21 Musician's suffix
 - 23 Make (one's way)
 - 24 M&M's choice
 - 27 Solidify
 - 28 "High Voltage" band
 - 29 Starting on
 - 33 Soft shot
 - 35 Mothers of Invention leader
 - 39 Academic ultimatum
 - 43 Early computer
 - 44 Quite small
 - 45 Gear on slopes
 - 46 Coral formation
 - 49 Cavity filler's org.
 - 51 Shopper's decision
 - 58 Smelting waste
 - 59 Neighbor of Turk.
 - 60 Poke fun at
 - 62 Dutch city, with "The"
 - 64 Portmanteau word describing some great music ... or, initially, four answers in this puzzle
 - 66 Modify
 - 67 Not yours, in Tours
 - 68 Singer k.d.
 - 69 Superlatively bad
 - 70 Short period of time, for short
 - 71 Long period of time



By Ed Sessa

2/1/17

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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2/1/17

- DOWN**
- 1 They're hard to sit for
 - 2 Rights org. since 1909
 - 3 Saudi currency
 - 4 Name on a 1945 bomber

- 5 Populates, as a grand jury
- 6 D.C. insider
- 7 Studio sign
- 8 Place for some serious me-time
- 9 Break down
- 10 High-occupancy vehicles?
- 11 "Farewell, ma chère"
- 12 Naysayer's contraction
- 13 Future flowers
- 18 Social reformer Jacob
- 22 Noir sleuth
- 25 Texter's "however"
- 26 Cooper's tool
- 29 Lummo
- 30 Source of awakening rays
- 31 Back-tied sash
- 32 Distress signal devices
- 34 Fiddler's need
- 36 Dental suffix with Water
- 37 Pressure meas.
- 38 Sounds of relief
- 40 Cupcake finisher
- 41 Twitter handle word for a celeb, perhaps
- 42 Overly focused on minor rules
- 47 Lip balm brand derived from "evolution of smooth"
- 48 Skillet
- 50 On a cruise
- 51 Dismissive word
- 52 Mission on a commemorative 1936 stamp
- 53 Beeper
- 54 Providers of senior moments?
- 55 Inventor Nikola
- 56 "Hi! I'm ..." badge
- 57 Patsy of country
- 61 Heart tests, briefly
- 63 Del. summer hrs.
- 65 "The Fall of the House of Usher" author

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UPCOMING EVENTS: FEBRUARY 1 - 7

3:00 P.M. | Student On-Campus Employment Fair 1

6:30 P.M. | Eric Hall, Elon Distinguished Scholar Lecture 2

2:30 P.M. | Prosek Partners Information Session 3

7:30 P.M. | "You Can't Take It With You" production 4

2:00 P.M. | Women's Basketball at UNCW 5

11:00 A.M. | EMT-Basic course offered on Elon's Campus 6

8:00 A.M. | Amanda Burnham, art exhibition 7

TOP PHOTOS



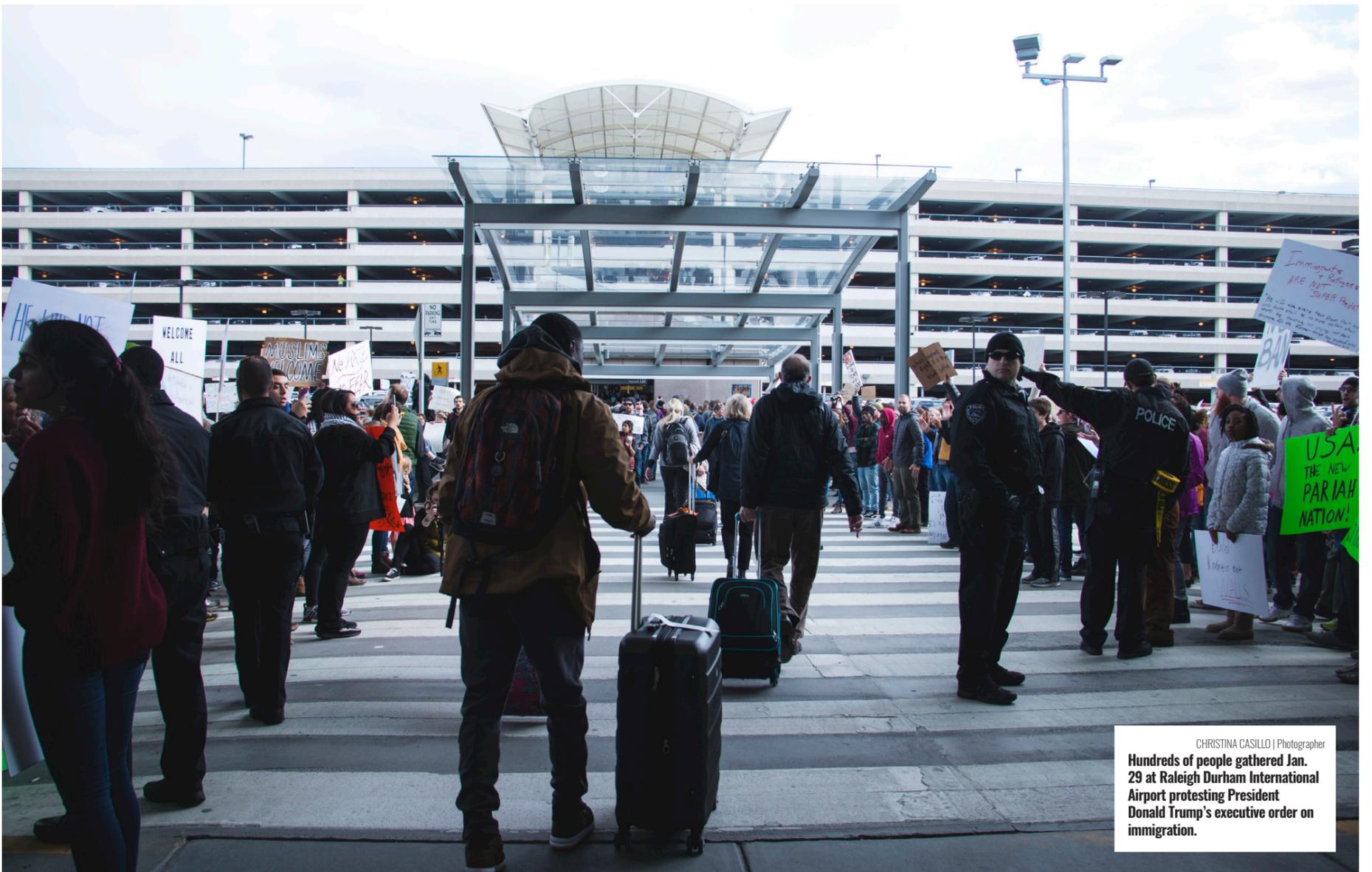
ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
Elon University men's basketball junior guard Dmitri Thompson scores against Drexel University men's basketball forward Austin Williams during the Elon vs. Drexel game Jan. 19 in Alumni Gym.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
Elon University women's lacrosse junior attackers Shelby Scanlin (left) and Stephanie Asher (right) fight for the ball during a scrimmage Jan. 25 at Rudd Field.



DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor
Freshman Madeline Argires gets greeted by junior Sarah Chadwell at the Alpha Xi Delta house in the Loy Center Jan. 29.



CHRISTINA CASILLO | Photographer
Hundreds of people gathered Jan. 29 at Raleigh Durham International Airport protesting President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration.

Flu spreads across campus, the nation

Meg Malone
Assistant News Editor
@megretjeane

At Elon University, the spring semester is beginning, but some students are lacking a spring in their step because of illnesses. And apparently, things are just getting started.

Medical Director of Student Health Services Ginette Archinal said increased illness frequency does not come as a surprise, especially when it comes to influenza — commonly known as the flu.

“We actually are seeing more this year than we saw this time last year, but it’s not more than usual,” Archinal said. “This year the flu incidences have gone up from about the middle of December, really going up. It sort of hit the 3 percent of patient office visits mark in the first week in January. So we are mirroring what is going on in the wider community.”

The Student Health Center has altered their appointment-booking system in order to accommodate the students who wake up suddenly ill.

“Anybody who’s tried to book appointments these days will have noticed most of them they can’t book until the same day because when somebody wakes up in the morning with a temperature of 101, we want to be sure we can see them that day,” Archinal said.

In North Carolina, the influenza-like illness activity levels are still on the lower end of the spectrum according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Influenza Surveillance Report published Jan. 14. Neighboring states of Tennessee and South Carolina were classified in the report as having especially high activity levels in January.

According to the CDC’s Morbidity and Mortality Report published on Dec. 30, 2016, influenza activity in the U.S. was low in October 2016 but began increasing slowly in November. During last year’s flu season, frequent flu activity did not begin until January and reached its peak in mid-March. The CDC said that though it is not possible to predict when flu activity will peak this year, they did say they believe it will climb in the coming weeks. Archinal said cases of the flu at Elon peaked last year in February and March, but she said this is a regular occurrence.

“Generally, if you look at all the graphs, the numbers start going up towards the end of December and start going up toward the end of January and there’s always a second peak in late February to early March,” Archinal said.

She said she suspects the peak will be slightly higher this year because fewer people have gotten their flu vaccination.

Nationwide, influenza-like illnesses accounted for 3.3 percent of patient visits reported to the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network. The national baseline, according to the CDC, is 2 percent. During this time last year, the percentage was below 2 percent and did not cross the threshold until the end of February.

“The real problem nationwide this year — and this again happens every year — we have a really bad flu season, like we did two years ago, and therefore the following year, which was last year, more people get their flu shot,” Archinal said. “You have a quiet flu season and people don’t feel as pressured to get their flu shot.”

According to the Morbidity and Mortality Report from the CDC, approximately 60 percent of the U.S. population had not been

vaccinated as of November 2016. This number represents a 5.6 percent increase from the overall 2015-2016 season.

Archinal said the decline in vaccination rates is what contributes to a “worse” flu season, rather than the strain of influenza.

“Last year, it was not a terribly good match, the strain of flu and the vaccine, this year it’s a much better match. It’s actually a far more effective flu vaccine this year,” she said.

Archinal said she recommends that students who have yet to be vaccinated do so soon to prepare themselves for the February/March peak.

“Takes two weeks for a flu shot to work, so anybody who hasn’t had their flu vaccine at this point, it is still effective to protect against that sickness,” she said.

Prevention

Freshmen Jordan Shaw said she is “religious” about washing her hands, but that didn’t stop her from getting sick last week.

She said she thinks it is almost impossible to avoid getting sick while living on campus.

Shaw — who described her raspy voice as that of “a Waffle House waitress who smoked for way too many years” — said she will admit that she isn’t the best about avoiding sharing others’ food and drinks, but she plans to improve in the future after her latest illness.

According to Archinal, it probably doesn’t help that Shaw lives on campus.

“Starting your first year in a dorm on campus is like Kindergarten, or daycare or if you go to a boarding school,” Archinal said. “You’re exposed to a lot of bugs, a lot of people you haven’t been exposed to before and it takes your immune system a while to deal it.”

HOW TO MAKE A HEALTH CENTER APPOINTMENT

1. Log onto the PhoenixHealth patient portal with your Elon username and password.
 2. Go to the Appointments tab.
 3. Select the Student Health Services Clinic, pick a reason and choose a provider.
 4. Choose a day. Same day appointments can be scheduled starting at 7 a.m., and next day appointments can be scheduled starting at 8:30 p.m.
- Note:** Missed appointments and being 10 or more minutes late for your appointment will result in a \$35 missed appointment fee.

Diagnosis

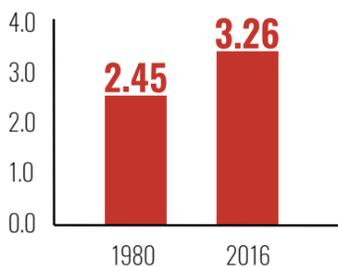
“There are two things when you’re looking at the flu,” Archinal said. “You can do a flu test, and if it’s positive, absolutely diagnose the flu. A negative flu test does not 100 percent rule out the flu and you don’t require a positive flu test to make a diagnosis of the flu, and a lot of people don’t realize that.”

She said that the Student Health Center’s criteria for diagnosing the flu are based on CDC guidelines because the clinic is a CDC reporting site.

THE AVERAGE FALL GPA HAS RISEN

.81
FROM 1981 - 2016

AVERAGE FALL GPA

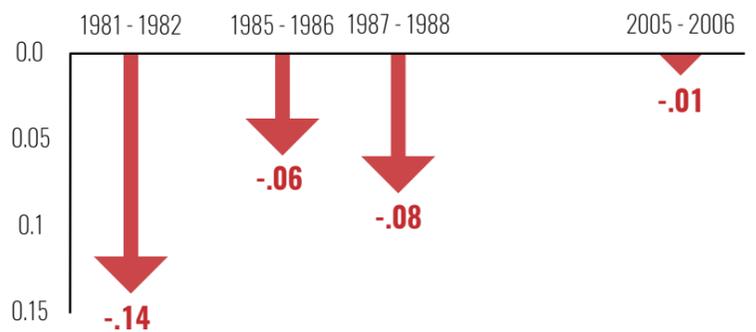


STATISTICS COURTESY OF THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

THE AVERAGE FALL GPA HAS ONLY DROPPED

FOUR
TIMES DURING THE YEARS 1980-2011.

GPA DROPS DURING 1980-2011



STATISTICS COURTESY OF THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

THE BIGGEST GPA JUMP WAS FROM 1982 - 1983, WHEN IT ROSE

↑.15
FROM 2.32 TO 2.47

THE BIGGEST GPA DROP WAS FROM 1981 - 1982, WHEN IT DROPPED

↓.14
FROM 2.46 TO 2.32

STATISTICS COURTESY OF THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

GRADE INFLATION from cover

issue at Elon. According to Inside Higher Ed, grades continue to rise at colleges across the country and an A is the most common grade earned. At four-year schools, the frequency of As has increased six percentage points per decade. As are three times more common than they were in 1960.

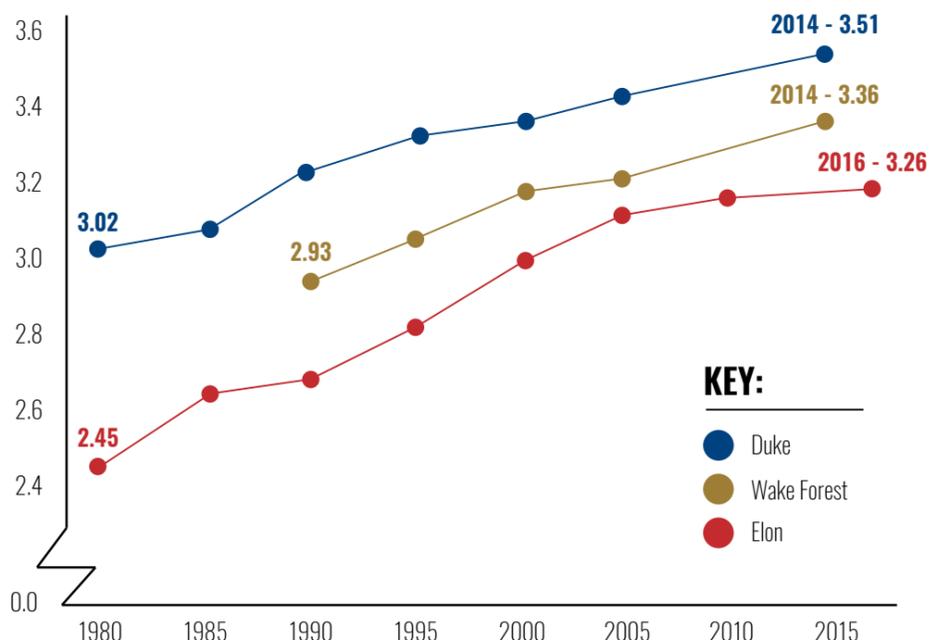
Junior Rohit Naidu said that the

ease of classes falls into the hands of students. “It depends on the professor and the class,” he said. “I think students can make their schedule a lot easier on themselves by using ratemyprofessor.com.”

While grade inflation remains present on campus, Nunamaker said every student is in a different situation.

“Obviously I enjoy not really needing to work on most classes until Sunday night,” he said. “But I think for some people that decreases the engagement with the class.”

AVERAGE FALL GPA FROM 1980 - 2016



KEY:

- Duke
- Wake Forest
- Elon

Highlighting Black History Month

Campus organizations to host events throughout the month

Alyssa Potter

Contributor
@_apottss

Feb. 1 marks the beginning of Black History Month and this year numerous groups are working to plan events to bring Elon students, faculty and staff together to remember the month's significance.

According to Elon's Black History Month web page, one of the main goals of the month's activities is to promote awareness and understanding of Black experiences. Jordyn McAtee, sophomore and president of the Black Student Union, echoes this statement.

"I hope that during Black History month all black-identified students can come together with faculty and staff to celebrate their heritage, learn new things about the many cultures connected with the black community and feel safe and secure in their blackness, not only on this campus but in multiple areas of their lives," McAtee said.

There are many events throughout the month of February to celebrate cultural experiences and identities. On Feb. 3, the Black Student Union will host an open-panel discussion "Being black and the



Elon students socialize in the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education ahead of Black History Month.

DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor

Diaspora" from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the McBride Gathering Space. The discussion will be primarily geared toward a conversation on what it means to have intersecting racial and ethnic identities.

Following the cultural conversations, on Feb. 14 there will be a West African dance and drum circle class from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in LaRose Digital Theater. The Black Student Union is partnering with Jason Aryeh, assistant professor of dance, for this open class to celebrate an aspect of Black culture and

heritage.

Later the same week, on Feb. 17, the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education (CREDE), will host the third annual Black Solidarity Day in Moseley. Black identifying students will be encouraged to come together to celebrate blackness.

McAtee said that, on a greater level, she sees this event as demonstrating what the campus would feel like without the presence of black faculty, staff and students. But this is not to say that other commu-

nity members are withheld from joining.

"I also hope that people who are not necessarily involved in the black community as much as they would like to be are able to come together with the black faculty, staff and students and learn new things that will help them support the black community, particularly in this crucial time in our country," McAtee said.

After successful Martin Luther King Jr. events in January, McAtee and the many others involved

UPCOMING EVENTS

Intersection Series Event: Black and the Diaspora

5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3
Upstairs Lakeside

West African dance and drum circle class

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14
LaRose Digital Theater, KOBC

Black Solidarity Day

Friday, Feb. 17
Moseley Center

in planning Black History Month events hope to continue conversations about racial and cultural identities in a supportive manner.

Randy Williams, associate vice president for Campus Engagement, said he was pleased that Elon is taking the steps for a more inclusive environment.

"[I take] great pride in seeing the work that Elon has committed to creating a more inclusive community," Williams said. "It is wonderful that we here at Elon advocate for students that are under-represented, while also educating members of more dominant communities."

Local businesses hit hard by slow J-term

Multiple factors decrease number of student patrons

Anton Delgado

Contributor
@JADelgadoNews

Despite Winter Term having been busy for many of the students staying at Elon University for classes, the same cannot be said for many of the local businesses around the campus that are dependent on the student body.

For these businesses, Winter Term is one of the slowest times of the year — not only because many students choose not to take the one class in January, but also because the weather disheartens potential customers.

Beth Kelly, store manager for All That JAS, said "Winter Term is generally a lot slower than the fall and spring semester.

"We would maybe get 10 students in here a day, compared to the fall where we would get 40-50," she said.

Phil Smith, one of the proprietors of The Oak House also experienced slower student business over Winter Term.

"During J-term there are only two blocks of classes every day, so we only get business a little before 8:30am and a little before 1:30 p.m. Compared to the spring, when — because of the scheduling differences — we are always busy. But despite having less customers, this J-term has been a lot better than last year's winter term, we had 14 percent higher sales than last year, which was a pleasant surprise,"

Smith said.

During the cold of January, Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream also suffered a drop in customers.

According to Michael Basirico, an employee for Smitty's, "business slowed down during J-term and continued to slow down during fake break."

But business is expected to pick up with the return of Elon students and the start of the spring semester.

"February and March are always our busiest months, mainly because sorority recruitment would have just ended, so come Monday we are going to be slammed with orders, which is pretty awesome," Kelly said. "Our most popular item would be our stitched letter shirts. We make all of those shirts by hand and people love them."

This same excitement for the spring season is also felt by the people working at The Oak House and Smitty's.

"No matter what year it is, or what is going on, the Spring is always the busiest time for us," said Smith from The Oak House. "Our most popular coffee throughout the year is most probably the caramel macchiato, and our most popular beer is the Red Oak."

With warmth around the corner, Smitty's is also preparing for a busy spring.

"There are a lot more shifts that are scheduled in the Spring because we anticipate much larger crowds," Basirico said. "Our most popular flavor is most likely our Brown Sugar Oatmeal, I have to serve that to at least a couple of people every shift."



Oak House was one of the many businesses that dipped in sales during Winter Term.

FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK STAFF

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ANTON DELGADO AND CHRISTINA ELIAS | Contributor and Assistant Design Chief
SGA Executive President Kyle Porro works at his desk in the SGA office in the Moseley Student Center.



KYLE PORRO LEAVES LASTING LEGACY

THIS HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLE HONOR TO SERVE IN THIS POSITION.
THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, AND LONG LIVE ELON.

KYLE PORRO
OUTGOING EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT

Perla Salazar-Rangel
Contributor
@perlasalazr

Since his first year at Elon University, Kyle Porro has been a member of SGA, and on March 29, 2016, Porro was inaugurated as SGA executive president. His stated goals were to increase sustainability and inclusivity on campus.

On March 31, 2017, Porro's term ends. With regard to his goals, he said that there is always room for improvement and growth, but that SGA has done a good job this year.

Sustainability

A finance major and environmental and sustainability minor from Wyckoff, New Jersey, Porro partnered with the Office of Sustainability on a bike-sharing program to increase sustainability on campus.

Together, they organized bike docks to be placed outside of Danieley Neighborhood and Moseley Center for people to borrow bicycles to use around campus. The program is set to begin in the spring.

Inclusivity

In North Carolina, former Gov. Pat McCrory signed the controversial House Bill 2, which required people had to use the bathroom that corresponded with their sex assigned at birth.

"That was an interesting time," Porro said. "Our hope was to unify the students in kind of saying, 'This is what our stance is.' We will always remain ... as inclusive as possible."

Porro drafted a resolution in response to the bill. He wanted everyone to feel welcome regardless of their background.

"In our executive term, we were the first private institution to publish an opposition to HB2 in North Carolina," said SGA Executive Vice President Mark McGann.

Porro and other members of SGA expressed the need to be more gender- and sexuality-inclusive surrounding Homecoming court. Homecoming royalty allowed for there to be no gender-specific labels, so that any gender can

be crowned, including same-sex couples.

Getting people on board with a new initiative, such as Homecoming royalty, was one of the most difficult parts of Porro's presidency. Many of these initiatives were delayed because of the need for approval and funding.

"We're trying to start a ball, and we actually just got the approval," Porro said. "We've been having the conversation since October."

Porro's difficult path

Another difficult aspect of Porro's presidency was increasing student involvement. He noticed that many people were not attending meetings because they were "not the most welcoming," so he took this into consideration and changed the structure of SGA meetings.

A town hall meeting was held on the first Thursday of every month that all students were welcome to attend and voice their opinions or concerns. There was a new topic for each meeting, and Porro noted a larger turnout.

"One of his priorities as executive student body president has been to unite the campus as well as unite SGA as an organization," Senior Class President Kelsea Johnson said.

The future ahead

Porro hopes for the future of SGA and Elon that inclusivity and sustainability are more prevalent on campus. The foundation has been set and he hopes it continues to expand. He wants to look back in five to 10 years and be able to say that he was part of the change.

Porro's future is on his mind as his final year draws to an end. Porro faces decisions about his life post-graduation.

"I'm thinking two paths. I applied to law school, so I'm waiting to hear back about that," Porro said. "I would love to, regardless of what field I wind up getting into — if I practice law, if I go public sector — I would love to somehow be connected with environmental issues and working toward sustainability."

Porro's passion resonated with students and other SGA members.

"He, in my opinion, in my four years here at Elon, has been by far the most successful, and he's gotten the most done in his presidency," McGann said. "He has really put 100 percent of his past year into student government."

"It was really great to see all the four years of working that he's put into the club and how he's really been able to transform [SGA]. It was great to just see his work ethic face-to-face," said Porro's brother and Freshman Class Vice President Konnor Porro.

Porro and his personality reflected well on Elon. His fellow SGA members recognize his humorous nature.

"He's a really funny person. He has his very own eclectic style that I envy. And the mustache — the mustache is a pretty cool factor," freshman Class President Livi Murray said.

Less than 100 days are left of Porro's presidency and he reflects on the past year.

"This has been an incredible honor to serve in this position," Porro said. "Thank you for this opportunity and long live Elon."



CHRISTINA CASILLO | Photographer



CHRISTINA CASILLO | Photographer



WE HAVE TO STAND UP FOR AMERICAN VALUES. THIS IS WHO WE ARE. WE ACCEPT ALL PEOPLE. RULING WITHOUT CONSULTING LAWYERS, WITHOUT CONSULTING BUREAUCRATIC AGENCIES IS BORDERING ON AUTHORITARIANISM, AND WE CAN'T ACCEPT THAT.

SAFIA SWIMELAR

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES



IT'S INSPIRING TO SEE THAT EVEN IN NORTH CAROLINA YOU HAVE THIS MUCH TURNOUT FOR THE IMMIGRANT POPULATION.

ANTHONY CRIDER

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS

IMMIGRATION from cover

banned countries, a critique many who oppose the bill have voiced.

Fadaam believes this legislation blatantly contradicts inherent United States principles.

"When we came to the United States, we came looking for freedom and hope, and by signing this order, President Trump has denied us that," Fadaam said. "The United States was built by immigrants and refugees. We're here — whether we are Iraqi, Yemeni or Libyans — we are just trying to live in peace and serve our new society."

Showing support

In just one week after Trump's inauguration, the battlefield for protesting his presidency has expanded from the cluttered streets into airport terminals. Raleigh-Durham International airport was one of countless venues filled with signs proclaiming support for refugees.

Safia Swimelar, a professor of political science and policy studies at Elon, was one of those protesters. She said she can not understand why Trump would commit such a drastic move.

"We have to stand up for American values," Swimelar said. "This is who we are. We accept all people. Ruling without consulting lawyers, without consulting bureaucratic agencies, is bordering on authoritarianism, and we can't accept that."

Political science and policy studies professors aren't the only ones refusing to accept this

executive order. Elon University Chaplain Jan Fuller believes that "being called a Muslim is a compliment."

As a Christian who grew up in Lebanon, a country with a prominent Muslim community, Fuller said she has "the highest regard for those practicing Islam."

"I did not grow up afraid of Muslims, unlike many Americans that were raised after 2001," Fuller said. "Not everyone feels the same way that the president does."

Despite practicing a different faith, Fuller asks Christians in Elon's community to pray for and reach out to Muslims and not to "distance yourself from others by putting them under labels."

Like the rest of the community, Fuller received Elon University President Lambert's email Jan. 29 containing a statement on the executive order.

A grandson of immigrants, Lambert wrote that the order has "spurred deep concern" among the Elon community. While he said no members of the Elon community are stranded abroad by the chaos after the ban, he and a contingent of other state educational leaders would travel to Washington, D.C. on Jan. 31 to meet with North Carolina senators.

"As a leader in international education and as a compassionate campus community dedicated to welcoming peoples of all faiths and cultures from more than 50 nations, we are monitoring this unfolding situation very carefully," Lambert wrote.

When approached for a comment, Elon's Global Education Center said they "stand behind" Lambert's statement.

After receiving the letter, Fuller "appreciated the President's letter last night and I know that Elon's administration starting with President Lambert is going to stand up for the rights of all of Elon's students."

Study abroad impact

The university also touched on the executive order's impact on Elon's study abroad program. Renowned nationally by the U.S. News and World Report, Elon places extreme significance for educational experiences in other countries. Seventy-four percent of Elon's class of 2016 studied abroad for at least one semester, and 465 students studied abroad this fall.

Dan Anderson, vice president of university communications at Elon, does not hypothesize the executive order is an immediate threat regarding safety. None of Elon's programs visit the seven countries banned by Trump.

But Elon students also venture to countries with dense Muslim populations such as India and Morocco. Iran has issued a ban on Americans entering the country. If other nations follow suit, Anderson said it may cause problems in the future.

"Depending on how other countries are responding, then that could have an impact," Anderson said. "If there is a retaliation because we are American, then that will definitely affect where we can travel."

Moving forward

Fadaam said he appreciates Elon's commitment to addressing

TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

- Indefinitely barred Syrian refugees from entering the United States
- Suspended refugee admissions for 120 days
- Blocked citizens of seven Muslim majority countries, refugees or otherwise, from entering the United States for 90 days: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

the situation in all aspects, saying "they have proved that time and time again, that the school is against any discrimination." With Trump's presidency already proving to be controversial in only his second week, Fadaam hopes that Elon students will continue to be informed. He said the ban Trump imposed is based in fear, and the only way to improve as a community and a nation is to respect one another.

"President Trump isn't the only one who wants to make America great again," Fadaam said. "Everyone wants to make America great. We are here. We are working hard, we are contributing to society, we want to make America great."

"Discussion is the best way to solve these issues. Since we are at a place like Elon where everyone is allowed to speak their mind, then we should."

Fraternities' suspensions extended one year

Organizations will not return as previously planned

Emmanuel Morgan
News Editor
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Two Elon University fraternities — the Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and the Epsilon Theta Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity — had their suspensions extended to the 2018 spring semester.

An email addressed to alumni of Sigma Pi explained the suspensions were prolonged because the fraternity failed to meet the stipulations outlined by the university and Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL). The suspensions were first levied during the 2014-2015 academic year.

In the email, Rex Waters, dean of student development, said there was “strong evidence” the organization contin-

ued recruiting members. Hazing, including forcing recruits to “plank on bottle caps,” have also been reported.

“One of the stipulations in the agreement for the chapter to return to Elon was to cease all activities while under suspension, including any formal or informal meetings under the Sigma Pi name, brotherhood events, chapter meetings, philanthropy or social events,” Waters said in the email. “The fraternity was to return in the fall of 2017 if it honored the agreement to cease operations.”

The email said these revelations were brought to light by members of the Inter-fraternity Council, the student governing body representing all IFC chapters on Elon’s campus. Dan Fail, director of FSL, said in an email to ENN that the IFC and FSL took the necessary time in considering their options before extending the suspensions.

“It is important to note that FSL did not make this call in a vacuum,



The Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and Epsilon Theta Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity were both suspended from campus.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT FSL DID NOT MAKE THIS CALL IN A VACUUM.

DAN FAILL
DIRECTOR OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

as the information that IFC presented was discussed by senior staff, the Student Life Committee and FSL staff,” Fail said. “FSL was asked to communicate the university’s decision to the respective national offices.”

Waters said the international organization will withhold any activities or expansion until the suspension has been lifted. While it is possible the fraternities can return

in fall 2018, pending a “detailed plan from the international organization for recruitment and new-member activities to be conducted by fraternity staff, a four-year member development plan, and an alumni board structure and training program,” Fail said he does not anticipate them returning earlier than expected. Because of their actions, Fail said they have put themselves and everyone involved in a predic-

ament. “If the undergraduate men had followed the international office and university’s directive to cease all operations and affiliations, the return to campus would have been very smooth,” Fail said. “Unfortunately, by continuing to associate with closed chapters, these men are putting the registered fraternal community, and their friends, in an awkward situation.”

Long Building renovation underway

Construction projects highlight Elon’s commitment to students

Soula Kosti
Copy Editor
@KostiSoula

Elon University’s School of Communications has been expanding rapidly in the past couple years but the school’s most recent construction projects are coming to an end with the renovation of Long Building.

According to Dean of the School of Communications Paul Parsons, the original plan included a four-building expansion. McEwen Communication Building was renovated last

Renovations to Long Building are the fourth and last stage of the School of Communications. Construction is projected to finish summer 2018.

summer, while there were ongoing constructions of Schar Hall this summer, and the final moving into the building that happened after Fall Break.

This December, Steers Pavilion was christened with two communication classes. “The Long Building has already been emptied,” Parsons said. “Construction crew is in there right now, and we are hoping to be moving into a newly renovated Long Building by next summer.”

Long will host the school’s M.A. in Interactive Media program, and the second floor will be used by the sports & event management department. Both, are currently in the Powell Building.

Tony Weaver, associate professor of event management and chair of the sport and event management department, said the new building will give them the opportunity to bring all faculty together on one floor, which they will have space to teach.

“Powell Building has been great for us be-



Construction on Long Building has begun and is projected to finish summer 2018. The renovated building is the fourth phase of the School of Communications expansion.

cause we’re right in the center of campus,” Weaver said. “Our move to Long will give them a newer and fresher home, and give them the chance to see our department as a part of School of Communications. It will be easier for our students to recognize it.”

Weaver said the faculty in Long Building always felt a part of the School of Communications through Deans and how inclusive the faculty is, but the physical location will make it easier for them to “create a little bit of an identity along with the School of Communications on that side of campus.”

Parsons said the faculty have outgrown their facilities in the years he’s been here.

Previously, McEwen was the only Communication School’s building in 2000, when it moved into the building after Belk Library was built. The renovation of Long Building to was suppose to wait until summer, but that would add more pressure to have it ready before the new academic year.

“Our student population is growing and we

have some new faculty starting in August, so adding some new facilities will really help us,” Weaver said, “I’m not sure if there is a perfect time, but what I can say is that we will be ready for the move and we are going to take advantage of everything they are going to give us in that new building.”

“Part of the [School of Communications construction] project is to bring together news media that was spread around campus,” Parsons said. He emphasized on how WSOE moved into McEwen from Moseley Campus Center and created a newsroom for multiple purposes which concluded their plan of bringing student media together. “I think that Elon has built the finest Comm School in the country,” he said.

Parsons also talked about how the addition of new buildings gives more space for a growing faculty. But at the end of the day, everything happens for the students and their experiences on campus.

Parsons is also looking forward to the men-

PLAN FOR LONG BUILDING

First floor: School of Communications’ interactive media program

Second floor: sport & event management department

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Schar Convocation Center
- Martha and Spencer Love School of Business

tioned the addition of Schar Convocation Center in about two years, and beginning of the expansion for the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business.



CHEAT SHEET: TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Want a complicated news story explained? Email enn@elon.edu and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet.

One of President Donald Trump's recent executive orders regarding the ban of immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries sparked protests across the country. But it is not the only controversial order this president has signed since being sworn in less than two weeks ago.

Trump passed another extensive order about immigration that encouraged federal agencies to step up efforts to deport illegal residents. The order stipulated that 10,000 additional Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents should be hired, funding provided.

In addition, local law enforcement officers are now permitted to act as immigration officers. The Attorney General and Secretary of Homeland Security have been ordered to block federal grants to "sanctuary cities" — cities that refrain from enforcing immigration laws.

Another anti-immigration proposition, Trump's "border wall," was popular among his supporters during his campaign and infamous among those on the other side of the aisle. An additional executive order directing agencies to begin identifying funding for the construction of a wall along the Mexican border allowed Trump's plan to proceed. He also ordered the hiring of 5,000 new border patrol agents.

Continuing with his promise to dismantle many of President Barack Obama's actions, Trump froze all regulations, including those passed by Obama in his final weeks, until they can be reviewed by his administration.

Trump's first executive order said it would be the



President Donald Trump makes comments before signing an executive order Jan. 30 in the Oval Office.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

policy of his administration to "seek the prompt repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," also known as Obamacare. The order allowed the directors of executive agencies to waive the requirements of the act to the "maximum extent permitted by law."

Two orders collectively ordered that the approval of permits for the Dakota Access and Keystone XL oil pipelines be expedited, projects rejected by the Obama administration.

A following executive order addressed the expedition of environmental reviews and approvals for "high priority infrastructure projects." The order said this might include projects "such as improving the U.S. electric grid and telecommunications systems and repairing and upgrading critical port

facilities, airports, pipelines, bridges and highways."

In relation to these projects, Trump passed another order to direct the Commerce Secretary to devise a plan that all pipelines built in the United States use U.S.-made materials as much as possible.

Several of Trump's orders — one directing the Secretary of Defense to design a plan to fix military shortcomings by 2019 and another ordering the drafting of a new plan to combat ISIS — indicate this president is using these executive orders to set the stage for a number of long-term projects.

He passed another order directing the Commerce Secretary to also begin a 60-day review of manufacturing regulations and to produce ways to expedite the permitting processes of them.

In a more immediate action, Trump ordered the reorganization of the president's National Security Council, Homeland Security Council and Principal's Committee.

His most recent executive order banned appointees to all executive agencies from lobbying activities toward the agency with which they worked within five years of the termination of their employment. All appointees appointed on or after Jan. 20, 2017, will be asked to sign an ethics pledge to enforce this policy.

Another order placed a freeze on hiring by federal agencies, with the exception of military personnel and positions deemed important to national security. In 90 days, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Director of the

Office of Personnel Management is expected to "recommend a long-term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce through attrition," according to the order.

Two more orders made waves around the world. Trump also passed a memorandum that withdrew the United States from Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations and from the signing of the trade deal. According to BBC, United States participation was necessary for the plan to proceed in its present form.

The "Mexico City Policy," which bans the distribution of federal funds to organizations that provide abortion services overseas, was reinstated. This policy was first passed by President Ronald Reagan in 1984, but it has gone in and out of effect.

NEWS BRIEFS

Nick Swardson to perform at spring comedy night

Elon University's Student Union Board recently announced that Nick Swardson, actor and comedian, will headline its annual comedy event Wednesday, April 5, in Alumni Gym. Swardson just concluded a comedy tour with Adam Sandler and is known for his roles in "The Benchwarmers," "The Do-Over," "Blades of Glory" and "The Ridiculous Six."

10 seniors named Fulbright semifinalists

Ten Elon University seniors have been named semifinalists for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program — Steven Armendariz, Jack Doyle, Ben Lutz, Elizabeth Meynardie, Casey Morrison, Kelly Richard, Lauren Salig, Jacqueline Spencer, Alex Vandermaas-Peeler and Hannah Wilpon. Approximately 1,900 grants are awarded annually to students in a variety of disciplines to provide these students with opportunities to teach, study and conduct research all around the world.

Alumna estate plan supports athletics, scholarships

Alumna Priscilla Awkard '95, recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011, has named Elon University a beneficiary of her estate plan. She gifted the university part of her IRA and an insurance policy provided by her employer, Coastal Federal Credit Union. Her gift is intended to support the Phoenix volleyball program and Black Alumni Scholarship in the future.

Local business journal honors alumni

Elon Law alumni David L. Morrow II '10 and Gwendolyn Lewis '13 were included on the Triad Business Journal's 2017 "Top 40 Under 40" list in recognition of their contributions to their communities. Morrow has served as the chair of the programming committee of the Young Alumni Council and has been a member of the Elon University President's Young Leaders Council. Lewis became the alumni director of Elon University School of Law in 2014 and has been appointed the vice president of the Guilford County Association of Back Lawyers.

Course combats post-election tensions

The class will discuss social, political issues throughout semester

Ashley Jacks
Contributor
[@elonnewsnetwork](https://twitter.com/elonnewsnetwork)

This spring semester, an innovative new course is being offered for students that is a bit different than their normal lectures. "Refusing to Wait: Intellectual and Practical Resources in Troubling Times" is a one-credit, pass/fail course with 20 faculty and staff members formally involved and serving as lead instructors, discussion leaders or speakers. This course was created as a result of wanting a low-stakes, low-involvement class for students that would still allow and staff to collaborate with students as events unfolded in the country around them.

"After the election, there were a number of colleagues at Elon vari-

ety who were emailing each other, just talking about what had happened," said Toddie Peters, professor of religious studies. "In proposing [this course], I thought back to the tensions in the country in the 1960s and the way in which universities responded to teach-ins."

For a course that only meets each Wednesday 3:35-5:15 p.m., the faculty and staff have worked diligently to ensure no time goes to waste. Each lecture will be divided into thirds so that each 30-minute segment will provide a different kind of engagement for faculty, staff and students.

"The structure of this class is going to be emergent. ... We're going to adjust as needed because this is new, and we've never done anything like this before," said Tom Mould, professor of anthropology. "The whole nature of this course is that it's responsive to the current political, socioeconomic world."

Peters and Mould are two of five lead facilitators who have worked to create this course in

just a few months. Working with them are Ann Cahill, professor of philosophy; Uchenna Baker, as-

WE'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE. THE WHOLE NATURE OF THIS COURSE IS THAT IT'S RESPONSIVE TO THE CURRENT POLITICAL, SOCIOECONOMIC WORLD.

TOM MOULD
PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY

sistant dean of Campus Life and director of Residence Life; and Leigh-Anne Royster, director of

inclusive community well-being.

"There's several things about this course that I find amazing and exhilarating," Peters said. "One is the fact that Professor Mould is a folklorist, Professor Cahill is a philosopher and I'm a social ethicist, and we're coming together to talk about things that are happening right now."

Though OnTrack lists a class-size cap for the course, it doesn't formally have one. The instructors are working with the administration and the registrar so that this course is accessible and will be able to accommodate as many students as possible.

"I fully expect to learn a ton from our colleagues and am incredibly excited about hearing some of the presentations myself," Cahill said. "What I want out of it as an instructor is student learning. What I will learn from my colleagues ... That's secondary. Our job is to teach, and by that I mean to create the conditions for students to deepen their own understanding."

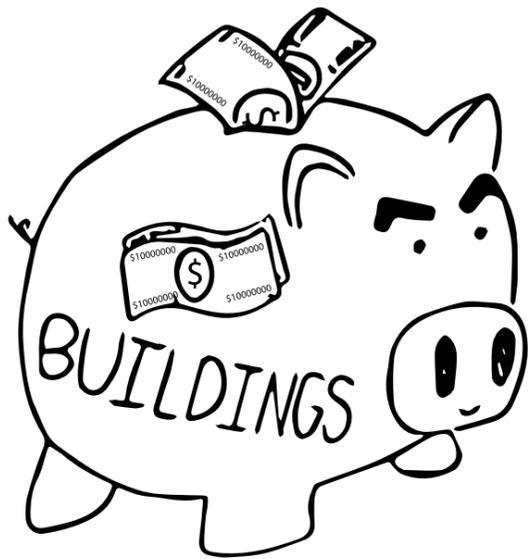
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OPINIONS



STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

STAFF EDITORIAL

Providing need-based scholarships deserves greater priority at Elon

HOW WE SEE IT

Promoting socioeconomic diversity at Elon University requires further access to scholarships, transparency about progress and a vast culture shift

Members of the Elon University community have been sharing the findings of a recent study published by The Equality of Opportunity Project, which reported that 14 percent of Elon students come from families in the top 1 percent of the nation, earning more than \$630,000 per year.

Many shared the report on social media, claiming they were shocked by the results. The nationwide attention on Elon's lack of socioeconomic diversity comes a mere two years before the end of the university's 10-year, \$586 million strategic plan that boasts an "unprecedented commitment to diversity." Its first key objective was to "double need-based financial aid."

The university states on its website that 80 percent of the plan's goals have been completed.

It also says funding support to Odyssey scholarships has increased by 84 percent.

But the fact that the numbers in the Equality of Opportunity Project were published eight years after the plan was announced and 80 percent of its goals were supposedly reached is embarrassing.

One way the university could contribute to promoting socioeconomic diversity at Elon is by expanding on existing successful programs such as the Watson & Odyssey program.

But it's not just about funding the existing scholarships and flaunting a percentage increase: Elon needs to create new scholarship options within the program that target a broader demographic of low-income students.

Watson & Odyssey awards scholarships to those students that exhibit high financial need as well as high academic achievement. The criteria needed to even be considered for these scholarships is, understandably, very limited. For most of the scholarships

within the Watson & Odyssey program, students must be first-generation college students, racially or ethnically diverse, from North Carolina or some combination. For example, the Leon and Lorraine Watson North Carolina Scholarship, geared specifically to "North Carolina residents who have attended a North Carolina high school for one or more years," provides \$21,000 awards to eight students annually. The only two scholarships open to all students, the "Anonymous" Scholarship and the The John L. Georgeo Scholarship, collectively fund four students annually.

More scholarships like these are needed — same format, different requirements that apply to different kinds of potential students.

Administrators should also encourage all potential donors to direct their contributions to need-based scholarships first to prioritize the issue before investing in growing our campus physically.

But beyond building more options for scholarships, a vast cultural shift needs to happen at this university in how we understand and treat the issue of socioeconomic diversity.

Providing low-income students the financial opportunity to attend Elon doesn't mean that the institution will suddenly become a place where low-income students want to come or feel like the environment we create is socially inclusive.

Pell grants cover tuition — not dorm decor or sorority dues. Elon's reputation for being "preppy" and "snobby" on college finder websites such as Unigo is a direct result of the lack of critical conversation and culture surrounding socioeconomic diversity.

We need to include socioeconomic status in our conversations about diversity on campus in order to make Elon an institution where lower-income students would want to attend.

And with the addition of scholarships that reach a wider audience of students than the Watson & Odyssey program, these conversations and lived experiences could be discussed and shared in wider pockets across campus.

So the study shouldn't surprise you — it should encourage you to think more critically about how your daily actions contribute to a culture where low-income students may not feel like they belong.

Marginalized groups are not here to educate you



Olivia Zayas Ryan
Columnist
@oliviazyryan

Ever since President Donald Trump's inauguration last week, my Facebook feed has been filled with post after post about our new president, various social justice marches and politics in general. I've read multiple comment threads on my friends' posts and watched debates and arguments unfold on my computer screen.

Though I am not happy with this election in any way, I am glad that more people are engaging in political discussions. But let's make one thing clear: In order to engage in conversations about human rights and politics, you must be willing to do your own research and recognize your own privilege. You cannot rely

on other people to educate you. Amid all of these conversations I've read on social media, I've witnessed so many people in privileged positions asking their marginalized friends questions about oppression or the election. They comment saying "Well, why is that so offensive?" or "How do you feel about this thing Trump said?" Or, my personal favorite, any variation of, "Should we really hold these privileged people accountable?"

I've seen white fragility and white guilt as people try to defend their privilege. I've watched as my Facebook friends get angry when they get called out for their ignorance.

I'm happy people are trying to gain a better understanding

of these issues, but marginalized groups are not under any obligation to educate you. They are also not obligated to hold your hand through your learning process.

The fact that you may not have

WHENEVER THE NEED FOR SOME PRETENSE OF COMMUNICATION ARISES, THOSE WHO PROFIT FROM OUR OPPRESSION CALL UPON US TO SHARE OUR KNOWLEDGE WITH THEM.

AUDRE LORDE
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

to think about this kind of oppression or these issues on a daily basis shows the privileged position you are in. Marginalized groups don't

need to be taught about oppression — they live it.

We must stop demanding emotional and mental labor from those of us who are already dedicating our time and energy to simply survive. If you care about an issue and want to be a better ally, go and educate yourself on the issue or community you support. Use your resources and take initiative. And most importantly, be willing to recognize your own position of privilege.

As Audre Lorde once said, "Whenever the need for some pretense of communication arises, those who profit from our oppression call upon us to share our knowledge with them. In other words, it is the responsibility of the oppressed to teach

the oppressors their mistakes. ... Women are expected to educate men. Lesbians and gay men are expected to educate the heterosexual world. The oppressors maintain their position and evade responsibility for their own actions."

If you are privileged in any way, you must take ownership of the fact that you may belong to a group that has contributed to the systemic oppression of other groups. No one is blaming you for anything, but you must be held accountable. If this bothers you and you want to learn more about it, the answer is simple: Do your research.

In this digital and social age, most privileged people in the United States have some sort of access to a computer or smartphone. Take the time out of your day to utilize Google or read academic journals. Educate yourself without relying on other people to do it for you. That is the only way to truly be an ally.

Campus Voices are written by members of the Elon community, not ENN staff members, and represent their informed opinions. Campus Voices and other opinions content are separate from news coverage.



ANTON L. DELGADO | Photographer
Women sit and observe the Women's March on Washington Jan. 21.

Looking within for change: accountability for white women



Christina Casillo
Senior

On Jan. 21, I attended the Women's March on Washington. I was excited and a little nervous for the size and spectre of this event. Though it was not my first protest, it was my largest by far. Blocks upon blocks of protesters chanted, cheered and waved signs.

Among the throngs of signs with puns and hand-drawn genitalia, there were a few that read, "White women need to be held accountable." Some other signs read, "53 percent of white women

voted for Trump." Reactions in the crowd ranged from agreement to embarrassment, to anger and defensiveness.

After the march was long over, I had time to think about and process what I saw. I read Twitter thread upon Twitter thread of other people's stories from D.C. and the sister marches, and I began to have mixed feelings.

For example, I wonder how a trans woman there might have felt seeing sign after sign that

associated womanhood with having a vagina. I'm not referring to the ones based on the infamous quote of Donald Trump — I refer to signs that said, "No uterus = no opinion" and "Patriarchy is for dicks."

I read how my friend, a young, black woman, watched white women urge Angela Davis off the stage so their day could continue on.

There's a big difference between blame and accountability. If you are a white woman who identifies as an activist or as "woke," and felt

defensive reading "White women need to be held accountable," reflect on why those feelings sprang up. Projecting guilt and embarrassment onto the next person does nobody any good.

White women do need to be held accountable. Acknowledgment of privilege and our place in the hierarchy of power is essential. White women need to use our platform and our identity as women to lift up more marginalized voices. Empathy is not optional in activism. Empathy is necessary.

It is not enough to label yourself intersectional and inclusive and move on. Don't become complacent and allow activism to become a self-congratulatory performance. Practice what you

preach, embrace discomfort and constantly be critical. Support other causes that don't directly affect you.

This can be done in small and simple ways. Call out Sarah in your literature class who not-so-subtly makes fun of people who use they/them pronouns, and tell her about the spectrum of gender identity. If you're on a date with Chad and he starts to say that he doesn't understand why he doesn't get to use the n-word, explain the history of systemic racism to him.

It's easy to shrink back and shrug off comments and actions that don't directly affect you. But it is explicitly within those moments that your voice and actions are essential. Use them.

DON'T BECOME COMPLACENT AND ALLOW ACTIVISM TO BE A SELF-CONGRATULATORY PERFORMANCE.

Through hell or high water, we march together



April Roberts
Freshman

While some Elon University students were preparing for their Friday night, three friends and I quietly made our way to Durham. With nothing more than a string backpack, we psyched ourselves up for the bus ride to Washington, D.C.

Earlier that day, we frantically searched for trains, buses or carpools, anything that might be able to take us to the women's march. Every potential ride we found had fallen through. Seats were reserved, cars filled up, prices increased — over and over the answer was, "No." As we grew more and more disheartened, I tried to encourage my friends by telling them with certainty that, through hell or high water, we'd get there.

Eight hours and one detour later, we arrived at Union Station. By now it was three in the morning and our tired muscles were desperate for sleep. I impatiently navigated us through the station, letting my friends trail behind until we reached the main hall. Ordinary linoleum gave way to polished marble and the ceiling rose and

bent into high arches trimmed with gold. Up ahead, through another arched entryway, hung an American flag, and behind it shone the Capitol building.

The grandeur of it all took my breath away, and for the first time in a long time, I was proud to be an American.

At 8 a.m., we found ourselves running on three hours of sleep and caffeine-less. Even blasting Beyonce couldn't pull us out of our sleep-deprived rut.

We finally stepped out of the car onto the side of the highway, as close to the site of the rally as we could get since many roads had been blocked off.

As soon as we hit the streets, our exhaustion vanished and we could all feel the electricity in the air. Still blocks from the stage, we started to run. We had no map and no idea where we were going. We simply followed the direction of those around us and the voices in the distance.

We made it to the edge of the audience and realized how grossly under-prepared we were to face its magnitude. The crowd had become its own entity. People diffused to any new space that opened up, freeing a place for someone else, making the crowd seem alive.

Many were holding up home-

made signs and cheering, but most were weaving their way through the horde in an attempt to hear whatever was coming through the nearest set of speakers.

To make it through the crowd, we used what we dubbed "the frat handhold" because of the similar density of the crowds that threatened to separate us. With the smallest of us in front, we gripped each other's hands, snaked our way through the smallest of openings and limboed under signs until we'd reached the very edge of the National Mall.

It was then that we could finally hear what was being said from the stage. We heard the end of America Ferrera's speech, and then Ashley Judd's impassioned voice rang out, carrying the words of a 19-year-old poet whose poem "Nasty Woman" completely demolished prejudice of any kind. Her words rang in my ears, and I could feel my voice straining to make its mark in the cacophony of cheers.

At no other point in the rally did I feel more understood than when Judd read the lines, "My eyes are too busy praying to my feet hoping you don't mistake eye contact for wanting physical contact. Half my life I have been zipping up my smile hoping you don't think I want to unzip your jeans." Because,

ladies of Elon, how many times have you felt this at one party or another? Established hand gestures with your friends that mean, "Watch out, someone's behind you?" How often have you quietly hoped someone wouldn't come over, grab you and start dancing?

By the last few speakers, the crowd was itching to march. People started to follow the march's intended path, but we all quickly realized that there were too many of us to follow the route that we planned to.

In a frenzied improvisation, D.C. natives led us down Pennsylvania Avenue toward the Ellipse and the White House. More than half a million protesters filled the streets and the chanting begun. We screamed at the top of our lungs, "No fear, no hate, that's what makes America great," "This is what democracy looks like" and "We will not go away, welcome to your first day." When a chant petered out, we'd conspire with the protesters around us and yell a new chant into the empty void. At the rally we listened and cheered. Now our voices could be heard.

There were people everywhere. They were gathered on the sidewalks, taking pictures, waving from windows, climbing up traffic lights and lamp posts, everywhere. I was struck by the hopefulness

and positivity of it all. The sense of community, love and solidarity was one I'd never experienced before. Every single person was smiling or laughing. Though protests can turn violent, whether at the hands of the police or the people, this one didn't. Nobody was arrested and nothing was broken or stolen. People of all ages, genders, religions and races came together and advocated for each other with hope and conviction.

The march gave me a new kind of confidence in myself as a woman and as a feminist. Now, every time I pull the shirt over my shoulders, I'm reminded of how "feminism" isn't a dirty word. I'm reminded that believing in and supporting movements that challenge sexism, racism, Islamophobia, homophobia and transphobia isn't something I want to hide. The fear I feel means that what I'm saying is important.

It makes people uncomfortable. It makes people question. But, most importantly, it makes people see things from another perspective. As troublesome as some of our new president's social policies might be, I have no doubt that our country will never stop fighting for the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free. For each other we will fight, through hell or high water.

#FreeMelania promotes harmful societal norms about abuse



Cassidy Levy
Columnist
@cas1117

The last few weeks have been filled with controversy over the inauguration, the Women's March, censorship, walls and bans.

There is certainly a lot to unpack there, but most of these issues are getting a lot of attention already.

Something I'd like to bring a little more attention to is a hashtag that was trending as a result of some candid pictures and viral GIFs from inauguration day: #FreeMelania.

People across social media began using this hashtag because they believed the new First Lady looked like she was being held captive and needed to be freed.

I've also seen some respond

that as a woman of privilege, Melania Trump doesn't deserve any sympathy.

Both sides contribute to a dangerous societal norm.

People can be victims of abusive relationships regardless of wealth, race, religion, gender or social status.

Unfortunately, these victims and survivors often feel silenced by our society.

It's a society that, as Constance Wu pointed out on Twitter, nominated alleged abusers for Academy Awards. It's a society that elected a president who was accused of sexual assault and described sexually assaulting women on tape to only a small detriment to his campaign.

On Friday, Russia decriminalized domestic violence that doesn't cause enough physical harm to meet new standards. Russia may not be the

pinnacle of civil liberties, but that doesn't make this development any less dangerous.

I recognize that the hashtag was meant as a joke, but domestic violence and intimate partner abuse are no laughing matter.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic

Violence, one in three women and one in four men will be abused by a partner in their lifetime.

United States. According to North Carolina Health News, about two people die from domestic violence per week in North Carolina. When women come forward claiming abuse, they are often doubted, ridiculed and blamed for the actions of their abusers, even more so when their alleged abuser is famous. When men come forward, there tends to be additional disbelief because of societal gender norms.

Treating potential domestic violence as a joke only contributes to its normalization in society.

Maybe Melania Trump is unhappy with her relationship.

Maybe the images capture moments of personal distress that one could understandably feel on an international stage. More importantly, it doesn't matter.

#FreeMelania continues to spread the message to domestic abuse victims and survivors that their lived experience is a joke to trend.

It sends the message to abusers that what they're doing is okay — either because of the implication that the President is doing it too or that the potential abuse victim is the butt of the joke.

It sends the message that if you notice something a little off about a relationship, you should laugh about it instead of seeing if someone actually needs help.

I'm sure that this will be seen by some as just another call for political correctness. But if language reinforces societal norms that silence victims and survivors of abuse, maybe you should consider changing that language.

Amidst the protests, walks and petitions, it's literally the least you can do.

#FREEMELANIA CONTINUES TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS THAT THEIR LIVED EXPERIENCE IS A JOKE TO TREND.

Go see "You Can't Take It with You"



Stephanie Ntim
Columnist
@elonnewsnetwork

We cannot help the way we are. Our eccentricities might amuse some and — naturally — irritate others. But when all is said and done, we cannot change the integral parts that make us unique.

This message is constant throughout Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's comedic play, "You Can't Take It with You."

The 1936 theater sensation, which won the 1937 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, epitomizes the conception of a quirky U.S. family. This can't-miss production by Elon University's Department of Performing Arts is, a commendable story of accepting yourself even when others don't.

Set in the heart of the Great Depression, the play introduces a note of levity for audience members to roar with laughter. It is different from anything I have seen before, but the familiar discomfort from meeting in-laws is all too relateable in society today. I would dare call this production the first of dysfunctional American comedies like the classic 2000 film "Meet the Parents."

The hit play centers on the Sycamores — an odd, yet lovable family that seems out of touch with everyone. The patriarch of the family, Grandpa Vanderhof, has no formal schedule, devoting his time to playing darts and taking occasional trips to the zoo. His relatives follow his example, as no one appears to have a "real" job.

Tensions rise when Alice, the only conventional Sycamore, falls in love with Tony Kirby — a young, wealthy gentleman from an uptight family. When they first meet, Alice's relatives fail to impress the Kirbys.

This raucous encounter between the two families is laugh-out-loud funny as the delightful Sycamores try to find common ground with the Kirbys' peevish disposition. Mr. Kirby is opposite of Grandpa in every way. But by the end of the play, it seems as though Mr. Kirby isn't really a curmudgeon after all.

"YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU"

Where: Scott Studios

When: February 1-3 at 7:30 p.m.
February 4 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$13 for general admission and free for Elon students

It's clear from the first moment of the play that the characters do not succumb to others' expectations. Even Grandpa, who is innocently doubtful of governmental regulations, stands up to anyone who questions his integrity. And unlike many large families, the Sycamores truly appreciate their diverse personalities.

This might seem odd to the average person, but that is the beauty of theater as a form of escapism. The dramatic personae of this play frolic about in every scene without fear or apprehension. They inspired me to be a spontaneous kind of person, which is something I'm sure audiences during the Great Depression wanted as well.

This offbeat comedy is a refreshing change of direction from the current social and political environment facing our country, which directly impacts us Elon students. The Sycamores are definitely strange, but unlike the rest of the world, they always embrace their authentic and outlandish traits.

As Grandpa Vanderhof explains to Mr. Kirby: "You can't take it with you ... the only thing you can take with you is the love of your friends."

The real appeal of this play is its enduring love for family and the challenge to embrace every idiosyncratic talent one possesses. It might be cliché, but being yourself with those you love is in any case a gift worth taking.

For us students struggling to meet deadlines and preparing for a lucrative career, it is a reminder that it is better to live a life you want rather than one others want for you.

So, please, do yourself a favor and go see this play. With its meticulous set design and enjoyable performances by the cast, "You Can Take It with You" will have you smiling from ear to ear.

Finding success in staying single



Hannah Benson
Columnist
@elonnewsnetwork

We've all been there: a busy party or reunion with family and friends, just trying to make it to the bathroom for a moment of silence when the sister of your aunt's cousin begins lightly interrogating you and poses the question, "So, are you dating anyone?"

"Here we go again," you think.

And it's not necessarily the question that bothers you, but the answer you get, regardless of what you tell them.

Let's say in this instance you decide

to tell the truth: that you're single and quite happy that way. Perhaps you've been really busy with school and a job, or that — and here's something crazy — you aren't looking for a relationship.

But it's the reply that really gets me:

"Aw, that's OK!"

Second aunt, twice-removed Angie tells you.

"Hell yeah, it's okay," you sit there thinking. You finish up your conversation anyway, discussing politics and the weather before you make an escape to the bathroom and finally get the solitude you deserve.

You start to think about how perfectly ok it is for you to not have a boyfriend, and how much the obvious words of consolation after you told her this really pissed you off.

Because yes, it's ok, but it's also awesome, liberating, freeing and fun to not have a boyfriend.

Because yes, you don't need one to be complete.

Let me say that again, just to make sure you caught it: Being in a relationship doesn't make you better, more complete or more successful than someone who isn't in one.

That's a sentiment that needs to weave its way into the subtle small talk of a

family gathering.

Elon University sophomore Marcella Mastrocola says she sympathizes with this subject, as she, too, has been the victim of a prying conversation about whether she is dating Prince Charming and when the wedding is.

"I hate when people at home ask me if I'm dating someone in college and get all awkward when I say I'm not," Mastrocola said. "I especially hate the comforting they try to do afterward. I don't need a boyfriend to be a finished product. I'm perfectly happy by myself."

In a recent study, Campus Explorer reported that 56 percent of students who go to college are female, which means that "finding a boyfriend," the end-all-be-

all to Angie, may be harder than she thinks, as women are in the majority on campuses.

They also report that 32 percent of college relationships are long distance, meaning that just because your roommate has a loving long-time boyfriend from high school at a

school a few hours away, you need not be ashamed about not having one, because she is in the minority.

And lastly, what Campus Explorer doesn't tell us is that there's no correlation between having a significant other and the amount of success in your life.

Single people can be happy, too.

So, my advice to all you single (or taken, I'm not discriminating) ladies trying to navigate the choppy waters of a family dinner is that you stand your ground, and regardless of your relationship status, make it clear that you're just fine the way you are.

You don't need Angie's soothing words when you tell her something she doesn't want to hear.

It's a new age, Angie. Ladies can do anything and get mad respect for it, and need not report back to a man at the end of the day.

Get used to it.

BECAUSE YES, IT'S OK, BUT IT'S ALSO AWESOME, LIBERATING, FREEING AND FUN TO NOT HAVE A BOYFRIEND.

Want to share your opinion? Let us know.
Submit a Letter to the Editor by emailing
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THE PENDULUM

Letters must be 350 words or less and must be signed and submitted in a word document to enn@elon.edu. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit for length, clarity and grammar.

ONLINE:

Elon alumna celebrates opening of Simply Oak Boutique

LIFESTYLE

Alumna starts positive campaign to combat post-election negativity

Alexandra Schonfeld

Assistant Style Editor
@aschonfeld096

After the contentious election cycle of 2016, many Americans are trying to find ways to combat the hate and negativity that dominates social media and funnel that energy elsewhere. One Elon University alumna is facilitating this by creating High-Five to Kindness — a social media campaign aimed at encouraging acts of kindness and volunteering.

Katie Perez '15 graduated from Elon as an accounting major and is now working at Duke Energy as part of a finance rotation program. Growing up in the suburbs of Charlotte, Perez was unaware of the disparities that existed just outside her backyard.

"I grew up in South Charlotte where everyone grew up middle to upper-middle class, so I never thought of Charlotte as a city of people struggling economically," she said. "[Now] living and working uptown I see people on the street everyday and I saw them every day for a year and didn't really do anything about it."

Nov. 8 was a turning point for Perez. After watching the election unfold, she ventured outside with dozens of homemade sandwiches and hand warmers to pass out to the homeless people of Charlotte.

"I would look people in the eye and talk to them. I would ask them their name and where they were from," Perez said. "[I was] building relationships [with them] because by being ignored all the time — they already feel inadequate. People just walk by them, making them feel more invisible. That night a man cried in front of me, and held my hand, and I cried."

Katie Perez '15 graduated from Elon as an accounting major. She was inspired by the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge when creating her movement High-Five to Kindness.

That was Perez's first "act of kindness" as part of High-Five To Kindness. After the election, Perez became tired of seeing her news feeds flooded with hate and division. Though High-Five to Kindness is the result of a culmination of many events and emotions, the election was a definite breaking point.

"I kind of got to the point where I was like, 'Why do I have a right to complain about society when all I'm doing is sitting on my bed or couch crying or upset about it — I'm not active, I'm not doing anything about it,'" she said. "I told myself that I needed to do something, but I didn't want it to just be about me."

LENDING A HAND THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX TOMA
PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATIE PEREZ

I TOLD MYSELF THAT I NEEDED TO DO SOMETHING, BUT I DIDN'T WANT IT TO JUST BE ABOUT ME.

KATIE PEREZ'15
DUKE ENERGY EMPLOYEE

Starting a movement

She was inspired by the "ALS Ice Bucket Challenge," which went viral a few years ago and raised awareness about ALS. Though High-Five to Kindness is not specific to one cause or organization, Perez hopes it inspires not one action but also a lifestyle of giving.

"That is what I am going for," she said. "A ripple effect of people posting things that are inspiring and positive and you see other people doing great things and that makes you want to do great things as well."

Perez acknowledges that stepping outside your comfort zone can be scary, but hopes High-Five To Kindness helps combat that fear.

"You don't need to have a background in human services or be an expert in the field of nonprofits," Perez said. "I'm an accounting major — I'm learning each day. It really shows that anyone can make a difference you really have to put yourself in a vulnerable state and take that first step. I have been inspired to do more and more each time I do something."

High-Five to Kindness asks participants to perform any act of

kindness and write the act on their hands and post a photo to social media with the hashtag #highfivetokindness and then nominate a friend to do the same. Perez said it is not a nonprofit or organization itself, but rather an initiator that promotes nonprofits.

While at Elon, Perez was involved in various organizations but admits she wishes she had done more in her four years.

"Elon taught me a lot," Perez said. "There are so many genuine, kindhearted people at Elon and so many people that aren't afraid to speak out about what they care about and I think that's really important. But, we need to do more than speak out — we need to act."

Growing the cause

Senior Emma Warman met Perez when she was a freshman at Elon. They were involved in the same sorority, so Warman was quick to support Perez in her recent endeavor.

"So far I've made one official post with the hashtag and high-five after a morning I spent volunteering at a church I go to in Burlington," Warman said. "I figured if I was already volunteering,

I might as well give back to her cause and encourage more people to volunteer."

Burlington's First Presbyterian Church has started an initiative called "Furniture Ministry." Volunteers take recycled furniture and bring it to families in the community who qualify to have it delivered to their homes. Some of the furniture comes from old dorm rooms and the recent renovations in Long.

Warman was inspired after she saw a post from another friend of Perez who brought cookies to her local fire stations during the holidays with the sentiment that they were the people who made the holidays happen.

"I thought that was so awesome," Warman said. "[I] said, 'Why haven't I been doing something like that?' I hoped that I could then motivate someone else to do something."

Perez hopes that the Elon student body can help High-Five to Kindness take off.

"That would be so special to me because Elon has such a special place in my heart," Perez said. "I want Elon students to realize how incredibly blessed they are with the resources [they] have. I know

people get so caught up in the bubble and material things and I just don't want that to be the priority."

Warman thinks the best way for this to happen is to get organizations — such as Habitat for Humanity, who are already doing service work — involved. If one person in that organization shares the hashtag, it's likely others will catch on.

Perez has been doing all the groundwork by herself since the end of November when High-Five for Kindness started. She runs all of the social media platforms as well as maintains the website, highfivetokindness.com, and the blog connected to the site.

"I think the first step is to be aware of that bubble and then once you're aware of it you have to do something about it," Perez said. "One man I spoke to on the street said if he had the capacity I did, he would get everyone off the street. He would do everything in his power to get people off the street. He said, 'You have the capacity to really accomplish anything you're passionate about.' You just have to be brave enough to do that."

PHOENIX PRINTED

Elon alumnae published in national literary magazines

Hannah Silvers | Managing Editor | @hannah_silvers

Beckah Porter '16 was sitting in a coffee shop one May weekend in 2016. She had come there to write, a routine she'd formed since recently graduating from Elon University.

But that day, she didn't get any writing done.

It was the day she got the email that her poem "Vignette" was going to be published in *The Prairie Margins*, Bowling Green State University's undergraduate literary journal.

"I had to step outside, do a little dance. I was so excited," Porter said. "But then, of course, I had that moment of freak-out, being like, 'Oh my gosh. Other people are going to read my work. Oh no.'"

Hearts on their sleeves

Porter had majored in English at Elon, concentrating in both creative writing and professional writing and rhetoric. Because creative writing courses at Elon are taught workshop-style, having her piece published wasn't the first time that other people had read her creative work.

But it was the first time it had been published outside of Elon, so all of a sudden, strangers had her words in front of them. And as much as she wanted to be published, that made her feel vulnerable.

"When you're sharing your work with people, you're sharing a little piece of yourself," Porter said. "Even if it's fictional, even if it's a fairy tale, fantasy, something — it's still a piece of you that's in your mind that you're writing and then sharing to an audience. It's a little bit scary because you don't know how they're going to react to it."

Ultimately, Porter said the national stage for her work was more encouraging than anything else.

"It brought my confidence up a little bit just to have someone say, 'Hey, you can actually do this. You can become a writer,'" she said. "It just gave me that confidence to keep going."

And she did keep going.

Though Porter said she received her fair share of rejection emails, she also had nonfiction pieces published in the *Rain Party Disaster Society* and *Susquehanna Review*, both literary magazines with a national audience.

Maggie Miller's '16 first published piece — a nonfiction essay called "Why I No Longer Bake Apple Pie" — also found its home in *Prairie Margins*. Like Porter, Miller said she was nervous to think about her work being read beyond her fellow

students at Elon. But she was more worried about someone a little closer to home.

"['Why I No Longer Bake Apple Pie'] is a creative nonfiction piece about some family drama that went on the summer after my freshman year between my family and my mom's parents," she said. "I hesitated to submit it because it is very personal, and it's very explicit about the family tragedy that was going on."

In the end, Miller said she found it therapeutic to write about such a dramatic time in her life. But she was confident in the result — so confident that she brought it into her senior seminar for her classmates to workshop.

"It started out slow. It started out like letting my classmates read it," Miller said. "I know them, but not super well. And then letting my roommates read it — who do know me super well — and then eventually letting my family read it who lived through it."

"And after being encouraged by each of those audiences in succession, I feel like that gave me the final push to actually send it out and maybe say that maybe this is something that other people could enjoy reading as well — even if it is a little more vulnerable than I'm used to being with my writing."

For Miller, it was worth it. She said she's gotten emails about her essay from women at her church at home after Miller had given her mom a single print copy of *Prairie Margins*.

They've told her that they went through similar experiences with their own families, and they thanked her for writing about it.

Supporting young writers

Professor of English Cassie Kircher regularly teaches senior seminar for creative writing majors, so she tutors each batch of young writers as they march toward the graduation stage.

She said that guiding students in their journey to getting published is an important consideration in how she structures the class. She builds in scaffolded assignments that require students to compile lists of literary magazines they think would be good fits for their work.

"In my opinion, it's good for students to go through the process of submitting, and it's good for students to become familiar with what's out there in terms of publishing," Kircher said. "It's also good to get that first rejection or acceptance out of the way."

While professional writers know the process for submitting to a liter-

ary journal well, young writers can be stumped by the complicated process. The terminology can be intimidating, as can the giant list of requirements provided for submissions.

Kircher understands how hard it is. Though her name has been in print for some time, she said she keeps sending out work — not just because she loves writing, but also because she wants to make sure she knows how the publishing scene is changing.

Even as a professor and professional writer, she can feel some of the stress and uncertainty of undergraduates who submit creative work beyond Elon's brick walls.

"Sending work out is, in fact, work," Kircher said. "It takes time and thoughtfulness. Getting rejected can be hard. I try to tell students how I deal with these little hurdles, and I hope I remember to tell them to celebrate their publications and successes."

Miller remembers how tedious the process of submitting was. She said she sat in The Oak House with other students in her senior seminar, copy and pasting the same cover letters and purpose statements into emails and forms to send to different literary magazines.

"Each submission requires the story to have a different name, so I have the same story saved under like eight different titles," she said.

Despite how annoying it was to go through the steps of submitting work, Miller and Porter agreed that making submission a part of their senior-level class set them on the right path.

Miller specifically recalled the list of literary journals she had to compile for her senior seminar class, co-taught by Associate Professors of English Drew Perry and Tita Ramirez. She said the accountability of that assignment gave her both encouragement and autonomy.

"Other than [the submission assignment], we were sort of on our own," Miller said. "Which was kind of cool. Because then I had to go seek out a bunch of different literary magazines, and my classmates and I had to proof-read each other's little cover letter."

That autonomy has followed both young alumnae past senior seminar. Neither Miller nor Porter is in a creative field at the moment, but after being published, they're still working to find time to write, though it's a difficult balance. But they agree it's worth it.

"[Writing] can make people feel about something that they never felt about before," Porter said. "And I think that's really rewarding about written words, because people can read that in their dorm rooms. People can read

Cassie Kircher, Professor of English



"If you love creative writing, you'll eventually know that you do. If you do, don't be afraid to try publishing. Don't quit after a rejection or two. Aim high when you know you've written something strong; past Elon students have published in fantastic journals. The students who succeed are the ones who stick in there. A sense of humor about submitting work never hurt anyone."

Maggie Miller '16



"Especially as an undergrad, you're not a professional yet. It doesn't have to be perfect. Just put it out there and see what happens. If you're really going to be writing for a living, of course you're going to get better. ... Maybe someday you'll look back at the first thing you got published and be like, 'How did I possibly think that this was good enough to submit anywhere?' But it's worth it because it's where you are right now, and it's really good. And just because you can get better later doesn't mean that what you write now isn't worthy of being published."

Beckah Porter '16



"Knowing what inspires you, but also being true to yourself. Even if things work for other people, whether that be someone that has a really organized desk, and they color code everything, if that's something that doesn't speak to you, then don't do it. I find some of the smallest desks I can at a coffee shop and cram all of my work on that one tiny desk. ... It's your writing, it's how you think and it's how you revise. And I think that if you find a method that works for you, even if it doesn't make any sense to anyone else, just follow it."

it in bookshops. People can read it in their beds late at night.

"Your words are potentially affecting them, in a positive way or just in a way that just shifts their perspective, which I think is why words and texts mean so much."

MORE ONLINE

visit elonnewsnetwork.com to hear the writers read their work



ELON ALUMS TO PRODUCE FIRST FEATURE FILM 'HERE ON OUT'



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS CARTER
(left to right) Liam Hall '16, Matias Breuer, Vassar University alumni '16, and Chris Carter '16 are raising money for their film, "Here On Out."

Deirdre Kronschnabel

Contributor
@kronschd

Chris Carter '16, Liam Hall '16 and Matias Breuer, Vassar University alumni '16, are only a year out of college and already well on their way to producing their first feature film, "Here On Out."

Carter, Hall and Breuer — who studied cinema, film and television arts respectively — began crowdfunding through their website www.hereonoutthemovie.com on Jan. 19, and will be working toward their goal of \$18,000 through March 1.

"Here On Out" follows five childhood friends who celebrate their college graduation by going to a cabin in the woods. While at the cabin, the friends work to reconnect with their pasts and rekindle relationships but find that more than they thought has changed. Add in a sinister neighbor, a budding romance and a mysterious knock on the door, and Carter, Hall and Breuer have created a setup for a blend of both drama and comedy — a reflection of the true life of a recent college graduate.

"They're all sort of different manifestations of what we're going through right now," said Breuer, co-director and co-writer of the film, alongside Hall. "It's a point of your life where you're facing a big transition and a lot of irreversible change. We can relate to all of them."

As a micro-budget film — which must be spread thin to support location, equipment and transportation costs, among others — the three recent graduates are facing challenges that push them to see how much they can do with what little they have. Carter and Hall have relied on their alma mater to provide both human and

material resources.

"Here On Out" will feature at least two Elon University actors — seniors Austin Larkin and Nicole Bloom — and Hall is hoping to cast the other three roles with Elon student actors as well.

Larkin is thrilled to be part of another project with Carter and Hall after shooting the short film "Stay and Run" with them last year.

"I'm so proud of that film and the success it's had at film festivals in recent months," Larkin said. "This team is truly brilliant, and I can't wait to work with

AT ELON YOU HAVE ALL THE RESOURCES TO MAKE REALLY GREAT PROJECTS. IT'S SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE AN ELON CINEMA MAJOR WITH ALL THESE RESOURCES AND PEOPLE WHO ALSO LOVE TO MAKE THINGS. DON'T TAKE THAT FOR GRANTED.

LIAM HALL '16
CO-DIRECTOR AND CO-WRITER

them on a longer script."

"Here On Out" will have a casting call early this month, and auditions will be held at Elon at a time to be announced. The film still needs more hands to help out on set and get involved in production during Elon's spring break. Shooting will take place March 17- 26.

Though they are no longer students at the university, Carter, Hall and Breuer are permitted by Elon to checkout equipment to minimize excessive costs in exchange for providing opportunities to Larkin, Bloom and other potential student actors.

"It's a two-for-one because any way to help them, helps us," said Hall. "There are still some big costs to get us there, but the equipment really helps."

The equipment provided by Elon includes a special cinema RED Scarlet camera, which mimics the traditional film camera, but is recorded digitally. Elon junior and Gear Room Operations Assistant Gabriel Salvador explained that this particular camera is offered to an exclusive group of cinema students and certain faculty members.

"In order to have access to the RED camera they have to have special training, and only a handful of people actually have that," said Salvador.

Still, Carter, Hall and Breuer are aware that Elon students have priority with Elon equipment use, posing one of many challenges of "Here On Out" production. Among these challenges, they still manage to look on the bright side and have a little fun.

Each incremental donation receives a reward, ranging from a personalized haiku shout out on Facebook to Executive Producer credit. This mixed reward style is not only quirky but also appeals to a wide range of potential pledges.

"We wanted to balance what our older family members — people that we thought would give to our project — would want out of a reward with people our age, who we want to get involved too," Hall said. "Of course, haikus on the daily."

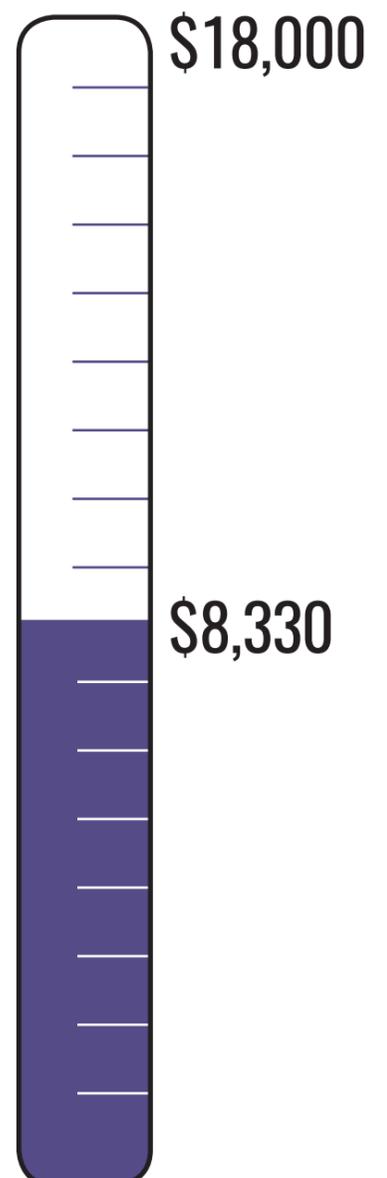
They hope to present the finished feature at festivals. Most of all, Hall wants to be continually inspired to make more movies.

"A big risk is that it's so exhausting pouring everything into it," he said. "If it doesn't turn out well, it can be pretty discouraging."

But the risk is arguably the most important part of the process.

"Don't be afraid to go out and make stuff," Hall said. "At Elon you have all the resources to make really great projects. It's such a great opportunity to be an Elon cinema major with all these resources and people who also love to make things. Don't take that for granted."

Crowdfunded Money Raised



28 backers
as of Jan. 30

Elon Artistic Collective serves as networking, career-building platform



PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT CESARI

Alyssa Potter

Contributor
@apottss

When junior Matt Cesari was in his first year at Elon, he bounced from one art-related major to another. After dipping his toes in virtually every area, he realized that there was a lack of inter-department community.

To combat this, he worked to build a site to centralize students.

“Everybody needs each other, but nobody knows each other,” Cesari said. “Actors need photographers for headshots, dancers need royalty-free music for performances, guitarists need singers to start a band, filmmakers need actors for their actual class projects.”

Cesari said these collaborators often met through Facebook, asking friends or putting a poster up in hopes of getting people to see it. But there is always the issue of someone not seeing the information in time or the volunteers not being as professionally motivated as the artists themselves.

These are problems Cesari wanted to fix as he began building, and eventually founding, the Elon Artistic Collective — a website by Elon arts students for Elon students pursuing the arts as a career.

“Our goal is to serve as a sort of platform of collaboration for Elon artists who want to produce great artistic projects, or get in-

involved in the projects of others,” he said.

The organization is open to anyone within the nine arts-related majors: theatre arts design and production, cinema and television arts, communication design, dance performance and choreography, drama and theatre studies, music performance, music

production and recording arts, theatre arts (acting) and music theatre. It is also open to anyone in one of the six pre-existing student organizations dedicated to the arts: Alpha Psi Omega Honors

Theatre Society, Cinelon Productions, Delta Chi Xi Honorary Dance Fraternity, Elon Student Television, Limelight Records and Renegade Productions.

Should a student be interested in joining the site but not be involved in one of the majors or student organizations listed, they may apply and be reviewed for approval by the members, such as Cesari, that run the Collective.

Though Cesari said the organization supports students who are “hobbyists,” he

and the members of the Collective wanted the organization to remain as professional as possible, so they ask for students to submit a resume and cover letter to ensure these standards.

“We honestly believe that when student projects have access to the right, specialized talent that their project needs, that both the product and the artist are better for that in the long run,” Cesari said.

Currently, the Collective boasts nearly 50 members and four administrators. Sophomore Tess Tregellas, an acting major and secretary of the Collective, has worked with Cesari to make the site a grow-

ing community.

“The hardest part of collaboration is finding the right people to work with,” Tregellas said. “If you have the right group of people, you can thrive and this is a place where you can find those people.”

Tregellas said while the site is still in its beginning stages, the promising number of active members means that the Collective hopes to remain popular and grow even larger in the future. Cesari sees this as a primary vision, too.

TALENT IS OUR CURRENCY.
THAT’S WHAT WE OFFER TO
ARTISTS, AND THAT’S WHAT WE
DEAL WITH THE MOST.

MATT CESARI
JUNIOR

Professor applies technological experience to the classroom

Lilly Blomquist

Contributor
@LILLYS_BLO0M

In a constantly evolving, fast-paced technological society, Jean-Paul (JP) Lavoie found his passion



Jean-Paul Lavoie

in multimedia. With new forms of technology developing and unfolding before his eyes, Lavoie stays current on the latest trends and recent findings.

Lavoie began his job at Elon University as a multimedia developer, which involves working with technology, three-dimensional design, web development, video editing and print design. With a keen interest in three-dimensional design, Lavoie was able to facilitate his love for multimedia at Elon as a multimedia developer in the Teaching and Learning Technology department and an adjunct professor of communications.

But in fall 2016, Lavoie was given the opportunity to share his experiences, technological skills and knowledge about mul-

timedia with students and began teaching COM 220: “Creating Multimedia Content.”

Lavoie taught his first class of 16 students about design, photography and video, and then helped each of them create an online portfolio, which contained the work they completed during the semester.

All within this course, the students learned how to use Photoshop, take photographs, record and edit videos, interview subjects on camera and apply the various theories of multimedia to their portfolios.

Reflecting on her experience taking Lavoie’s course, sophomore Maggie Scanlon said Lavoie’s passion for the subject matter was contagious.

“Professor Lavoie is the type of professor who inspires learning in the classroom,” she said. “He has fun with what he does, so the students do, too. I always looked forward to going to his class.”

Though Lavoie has only taught for one semester, he expressed his hopes that next semester will progress just as smoothly.

“This past semester was fantastic,” Lavoie said. “The students responded well, they picked up topics quickly and they applied what they learned. I was very hap-

py with how this semester went.”

Before teaching and multimedia design were on Lavoie’s agenda, he spent his childhood in Grena, Virginia.

After working as a multimedia developer for Elon, Lavoie decided to try his hand at teaching COM 220: “Creating Multimedia Content.”

Lavoie attended high school at Hargrave Military Academy and then received both his bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from East Tennessee University.

Immediately after graduating, Lavoie started working at Elon and has been here since 2003.

Now, juggling his teaching profession and multimedia job, Lavoie’s days are packed.

Lavoie begins his day at Elon reading technology blogs to stay up to date on current information. Then, he answers emails, helping students, faculty and staff solve any issues concerning technology. For a majority of his day, Lavoie works on an assortment of projects, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays, he teaches at 5:30 p.m.

Since Lavoie said he loves

tackling a variety of new projects rather than performing the same repetitive tasks everyday, his personality aligns with the nature of his profession and the continuously changing technological world.

“My job has been fantastic,” he said. “It gives me the leeway to do what I want to do. It works out that my job is all over the place. I get to move on to different projects that are completely different from each other.”

For example, Lavoie contributed to the immense update to OnTrack.

Over the summer, he recognized an issue with the appearance and usability of the site, so he decided to make OnTrack mobile-friendly and ensured that the design matched other university websites.

Lavoie received the Acorn Accolade Technology Award of Excellence in November 2016 for this improved model. This award recognized his commitment to customer service and his dedication to meticulously solving issues.

As Lavoie’s supervisor and the assistant director of teaching and learning technologies, Claudia Sparks commented on Lavoie’s ability to use innovative ways to tackle projects.

“He’s one of the most talent-

ed troubleshooters I’ve ever had the pleasure of supervising,” she said. “He loves a good challenge, whether it’s fixing a problem with one of our websites or helping brainstorm creative solutions for any given issue.”

Randy Piland, a senior lecturer in communications, acknowledged Lavoie’s commitment to problem solving. Piland recently approached Lavoie for help enhancing his teaching methods for multimedia.

“JP is really good at thinking of ways to deliver visual content,” Piland said. “He’s helped with some web coding challenges as well. He always seems to find solutions.”

To continue responding to possible challenges and to further his interest in technology and multimedia, Lavoie said he wants to learn more about three-dimensional design and virtual reality.

Based on a successful first semester of teaching, Lavoie said he hopes to continue teaching at Elon. “Seeing the students start from nothing, and then by the end of the class, seeing them have an understanding of the concepts is fantastic,” Lavoie said. “Seeing the light of understanding in their eyes is so rewarding.”

ONLINE:
Cignetti signs
first football
recruiting class

SPORTS

SOPHOMORE TAKING STAR TURN

Seibring developing into key player for Elon in 4-game winning streak

Alex Simon
Sports Director
@alexsimon99

When Elon University head men's basketball coach Matt Matheny was recruiting sophomore forward Tyler Seibring, Matheny felt confident that he had found a quality player for the basketball program.

"When we saw him in the recruiting process, he's exactly what we want in the system," Matheny said.

And now, firmly entrenched in his second season through the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), Seibring is blossoming into Elon's best all-around player, leading the team in points, rebounds, blocks and minutes played.

For Matheny, Seibring has been a perfect fit at Elon, able to contribute in every facet of the game from the moment he stepped on campus.

"He fits so well with his ability to pass — everybody can see he can shoot, but he can pass with his right hand, he can pass with his left hand," Matheny said. "He's got a great basketball IQ. The blocks are kind of sneaky. He's our leading shot blocker — which is not saying a whole lot — but he gets some that are like, 'Wow, that's good.' He's got some good length, he's got a good level of toughness about him."

Seibring has been on fire in Elon's recent four-game winning streak, averaging 20.5 points, 6.8 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 1.5 blocks in 34.8 minutes. His play earned him back-to-back Co-CAA Player of the Week nods Jan. 23 and Jan. 30, an acknowledgment that he appreciates but isn't focused on.

"It always feels pretty good, but I'm much happier with the wins we pulled out," Seibring said. "Getting individual recognition is great, but as a team, we're getting recognition for what we can do in this league."

He shone brightest in Elon's best game of the season, scoring a career-high 25 points while tallying seven rebounds, six assists, two blocks and a steal without committing a turnover in Elon's 93-73 win over Drexel University Jan. 19. He scored in all ways, shooting a perfect 7-of-7 from the foul line, 4-of-6 from behind the 3-point line and impressing redshirt junior forward Brian Dawkins with some post moves inside.

"He doesn't pull [the move] on me because I've seen it enough,"

Dawkins said. "I enjoy watching Ty play down on the block. He's creative down there. He was able to show it tonight. It's amazing to watch."

Sophomore guard Dainan Swoope added, "He's special. It's a lot of fun playing alongside him. He can do a lot of things — he can score inside, outside, he can defend. He does it all for us. He's a very key player for us."

For Matheny, Seibring isn't doing anything special — he's still the same player he's always been. But Seibring's belief in himself has flourished right in front of Matheny's eyes.

"I think he's growing in confidence," Matheny said. "I think he's successfully making plays that he saw in the past but was not always making the play. It's not like he's flipped a switch and he's a different player. He's the same player, but he's more consistent. He's growing in confidence and it's fun to watch."

That growth is happening on both ends of the floor, with Matheny seeing his vision as a key "talent" for Seibring on the defensive end.

"I think he sees the game well defensively," Matheny said. "I think he's very smart. That's easier to show up offensively, but I think he's equally as smart defensively. He's got good arm length, and that allows him to get a fingertip on a rebound or block that might be a little sneaky."

Seibring laughs in agreement when Matheny calls his blocks sneaky, adding, "I've played a lot of basketball, and when you're not really the greatest jumper, you've got to find ways to make an impact. I think seeing the court and seeing plays developing are extremely important for me."

Both Seibring and Matheny



Sophomore forward Tyler Seibring (41) takes a jumper while fading away from the hoop against Towson University Jan. 7.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

in the fall," Seibring said. "Even now, we're still lifting and in a good enough shape to play the Thursday game and still be ready to go on Saturday. It happens to everyone — there's a lot of guys who play a lot of minutes on both teams, so at that point you have to be mentally tough and keep fighting. Everyone's doing it, and the tougher team is going to be able to pull it out in the end."

It's that toughness that Matheny has seen come out in Seibring during this season, one where he's grown into a leader on the court for the Phoenix.

As Matheny looks ahead for Seibring, Seibring's leadership style is something he finds interesting.

"I see continued improvement physically and athletically, and I see him gaining more confidence to make the right plays even more consistently and become more of a vocal team," Matheny said. "Not just part of the leadership team, but one of the main leaders. As much as we love leaders being vocal, I love that there's a quiet confidence about him. I see him gaining in

SEIBRING STEERING ELON'S SHIP IN 16-17

STATISTIC	PER-GAME AVG.	RANK ON TEAM
Points	14.4	1st
Rebounds	6.4	1st
Assists	2.1	4th
Blocks	0.9	1st
Steals	0.6	5th
Minutes	32.3	1st

all those areas right now."

And, in the season where he has gained so much on the court already, Seibring was able to play back in his home state of Illinois during Thanksgiving break. The Phoenix swept Northern Illinois University's Thanksgiving Classic, with many of Seibring's friends and family making the 100-mile trek from Normal up to Dekalb.

"It was a great experience," Seibring said. "Of course, the three wins topped it all off, because that's what we were trying to do there. But I had great support there, and saw a lot of people that I hadn't seen in a long time. Everything about that trip was fantastic."

Seibring stressed that the support from his midsize hometown is always making him smile and laugh, saying, "There's a running group chat of my friends back home. Anytime there's a picture of me, they're constantly retweeting it or putting it in the group chat. There's been people that have come up to my mom at the grocery store and ask, 'How's Elon doing?' that she's never seen before."

"I think it's pretty cool that Elon has made it to Central Illinois."

And the CAA knows that one of the best out of Normal, Illinois, had made his impact on Elon.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE READY TO MAKE NOISE IN THE CAA



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
Senior attacker Anna Vitton (10, white) shoots on junior goalie Tori Cipollone (27, red) in an intrasquad scrimmage Jan. 24. Cipollone is the only goalie other than senior Rachel Ramirez to ever play for Elon.

Alex Simon

Sports Director
@alexsimon99

With the first recruiting class of the Elon University women's lacrosse team reaching its senior season, head coach Josh Hexter does think about the final go-round on occasion. But he doesn't see his team focusing on it.

"It's always in the back of your mind that it's their final year," Hexter said. "But at the same time, we've built such a culture that we focus on staying in the moment, and competing in the moment. I don't think about it much, and I don't think they do, either. I'm incredibly proud of our senior class and all the work that they've put in. And the leadership and culture they built from scratch is pretty special."

And, as the Phoenix enters its fourth year as a program and its third in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), the goals are very clear for Hexter, senior defender Lane Huger and the whole team: win the CAA championship.

Elon tied for third in the conference last year with a 3-3 record in the CAA and a 10-7 record overall, but lost all three of its CAA regular season games and its semifinal game against eventual conference champion Towson by two goals, something that still irks the Phoenix.

"There are a few losses that stick out," Hexter said. "Clearly, those are all winnable games, and we have to do a better job of concentrating on the little things in practice and that we're doing what we're supposed to do."

Huger added, "It was a heartbreaker last year, but that really pushed us. We're so hungry this year. We want to work to be in that CAA tournament."

But Elon was able to get a signature win in the third year of the program, defeating then-10th-ranked Duke University 7-6 in Durham. Elon's 2017 schedule is bound to challenge Elon throughout nonconference play, as the Phoenix faces seven teams that

ELON'S PRESEASON ALL-CAA FIRST TEAM HONOREES



Rachel Ramirez

- All-CAA First Team goalie | 2016
- All-CAA Second Team goalie | 2015
- Atlantic Sun Conference First Team Goalie | 2014
- Has played all but 32 minutes and 34 seconds in the team's 50 games in program history



Stephanie Asher

- Two-time Preseason All-CAA honoree
- 2016 All-CAA First Team player
- Third in CAA with 2.24 goals per game
- Finished her 2016 campaign off with 38 goals

made the NCAA Tournament last year, including two conference opponents in Towson and James Madison University.

The Phoenix hosts Duke and travels to reigning national champion the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, teams Elon has played all four years. But Elon will also see four other Atlantic Coast Conference schools, traveling to the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech while also hosting the University of Notre Dame and reigning Big South champion Winthrop University.

But for Huger, the key won't be depending on who is across the field. Elon is just ready to play its game.

"We don't focus on the opponents, we focus on us," Huger said. "On the field, it's not about them, it's about us doing the little things — ground balls, talking on the field. We don't ever play the team, we play with the girls next to us. It doesn't matter if they're No. 1 or unranked, we're going to play our game and focus on us."

Part of Elon's game will depend on senior goalie Rachel Ramirez, who has played all but 32 minutes and 34 seconds in the team's 50 games in program history. Ramirez reigns as All-CAA First Team goalie,

having previously been the All-CAA Second Team goalie in 2015 and Atlantic Sun Conference First Team goalie in 2014.

"Rachel's so important," Huger said. "As our goalie, she's the quarterback on the field. She's been awesome. For four years, she's been out there working hard every day."

Hexter added, "Rachel is great. But it's a team sport, and Rachel needs the defense in front of her to do their job, and the defense needs Rachel to do her job. If they can do that, we should play really well."

Joining Ramirez as a two-time Preseason All-CAA honoree and a 2016 All-CAA First Team player is junior attacker Stephanie Asher, who was third in the CAA with 2.24 goals per game, finishing her 2016 campaign off with 38.

She has led the team in goals in each of her first two seasons and started every game during that span. But for Hexter, the accolades mean nothing.

"I pay no attention to individual awards, especially preseason honors," Hexter said. "We haven't played a single game yet, so who knows. The only thing that's important to me is holding up the CAA championship trophy at the end of the year, not the

WOMEN'S LACROSSE VS. CAMPBELL

Where: Rhodes Stadium

When: Feb. 4 at 1:00 p.m.

individual stuff."

Elon seems to be in as good of a position as ever to lift that trophy — and the other schools in the conference seem to agree, as Elon was predicted to finish third in the preseason poll. It's the highest preseason post Elon has occupied in its four years as a program, and something Huger said is a testament to the culture with the team.

"We all understand that everyone has a role on this team — not just the seniors, but we're all so connected," Huger said. "I'm a firm believer that team chemistry is what builds your program, and without that, I don't think you can be successful."

"We're all close on the team and we're all friends on and off the field, but we really push each other. There's a respect on the team that you're going to push the girl next to you even if she's your best friend. We're going to get each other better every day."

The culture that Huger described is something that stands out to Hexter all the time, who noted that he frequently gets compliments from club and high school teams that know of Elon. And for seniors like Huger, that culture will be the key for the success of the team.

"We are so excited [for this season]," Huger said. "The four years have gone by so quickly — way too quickly. But we've built so much in four years. We've really done excellent in the four years, and we've started a culture that's going to last a lifetime."

Kyle Amato, contributor, contributed reporting.

HB2 creating scheduling issues for Elon football

New York's ban on non-essential travel leaves Elon-UAlbany game in limbo

Alex Simon
Sports Director
@alexsimon99

No matter how hard Elon University tried to keep the influence of North Carolina's House Bill 2 off of its campus, the controversial bill has created yet another problem for Elon.

And this time, it's with the football team. Elon is slated to play the State University of New York at Albany in a home game in 2017, but New York's ban on nonessential travel to the state of North Carolina has created complications for the two schools and the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).

And while most schools in the CAA have released their schedules during the past few days, Elon's and UAlbany's remain in limbo while the schools and CAA commissioner Joe D'Antonio attempt to work out a way to play the game.

When New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo banned all nonessential state travel to North Carolina March 28, 2016, the CAA did not feel an immediate impact. The only all-sports school from New York — Hofstra University — is a private institution, and thus not beholden to the ban.

But two football-only schools — UAlbany and Stony Brook University — are state schools. Elon played at UAlbany Oct. 29, 2016, and Albany is supposed to return to

face the Phoenix in 2017.

In a phone interview Jan. 21, CAA spokesman Rob Washburn said the parties are exploring all alternatives, but didn't comment when asked if the game may not be played at all.

Both schools have declined comment on the matter, indicating they'd rather wait until a decision is made before they comment.

The CAA released a plan Sept. 23, 2016, stating what it would do if HB2 were not repealed by Jan. 10, 2017 — which it has not been — despite a special session called for that purpose Dec. 21, 2016. In the Council of Presidents meeting in September 2016, the conference said it would remove its neutral-site women's golf championship and would consider what to do with the men's and women's tennis championships on Elon's campus and the baseball championship on the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's campus.

Washburn said in the same phone interview that the conference has not officially moved the women's golf championship from St. James Plantation in Southport, North Carolina, despite the previous statement that it would. Washburn indicated the championship — along with the three on-campus championships in North Carolina in the spring, including the two tennis championships at Elon — could still be moved.

HB2, also known as The Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act, was passed on March 23, 2016, as "an act to provide for single-sex multiple occupancy bathrooms and changing facilities in schools and public agencies to create statewide consistency in regulation of employment and public accommodations."

Two days later, Elon released a statement

saying that the school "remains committed to inclusion and equal protection for all people. Elon does not discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The new law does not apply to private institutions and will not impact Elon's policies and practices." President Leo Lambert wrote a letter that was published in the Burlington Times-News a week later, calling the law "stunning and disappointing."

Elon head men's basketball coach Matt Matheny also spoke out against the law in a July 20, 2016, story on USA Today, saying, "What I love about coaching is that I can sit down with players of different backgrounds. It's important to expose players to what's going on outside the basketball court. It's important that they're aware of issues that our state and our country faces. As coaches, we're the leaders. It's important that we as coaches at programs — big or small — use our platform to promote a positive message."

Elon's message on HB2 has been consistent, but it may not make a difference when it comes to the school's football game against UAlbany. Until a solution is reached, there is some doubt as to whether the game will be played at all.

2017 FB SCHEDULE

- Aug. 31 at Toledo
- Sept. 9 at Furman
- Sept. 16 vs. Charleston Southern
- Sept. 23 at Richmond
- Sept. 30 vs. UAlbany*
- Oct. 7 vs. William & Mary
- Oct. 14 BYE
- Oct. 21 at Rhode Island
- Oct. 28 at Villanova
- Nov. 4 vs. Towson**
- Nov. 11 at New Hampshire
- Nov. 18 vs. James Madison

*Family Weekend
**Homecoming



FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4

MORE ONLINE

National Signing Day is Wednesday, Feb. 1. To see ENN's coverage of the football team's 2017 class, keep an eye on @SportsENN

THE PHOENIX FOCUS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RESULTS & SCHEDULE 16-5 (8-1)

	Jan. 27 76-65	
	Jan. 29 64-53	
Home	Feb. 3 7 p.m.	
Away	Feb. 5 2 p.m.	

WOMEN'S TENNIS

RESULTS & SCHEDULE 4-2

	Jan. 25 0-7	
	Jan. 25 7-0	
Away	Feb. 4 10 a.m.	

WOMEN'S LAX

SCHEDULE 0-0

Home	Feb. 4 1 p.m.	
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

RESULTS & SCHEDULE 14-9 (6-4)

	Jan. 26 51-49	
	Jan. 28 84-70	
Home	Feb. 2 7 p.m.	
Away	Feb. 4 5 p.m.	

MEN'S TENNIS

RESULTS & SCHEDULE 1-3

	Jan. 26 2-5	
Away	Feb. 4 11 a.m.	
Away	Feb. 5 1 p.m.	

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer



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