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THE PENDULUM

MÁS PERO TODAVÍA MORÉ BUT STILL A MINORITY

ESPAÑOL

Los cambios en índices y cifras de estudiantes nacionales e internacionales latinx/hispanos

Maria Ramirez Uribe
Elon News Network | @mariaramirezu

COMO EX-ALUMNA DE LA Escuela Americana El Salvador, la familia de Lucía Safie siempre había anticipado que asistiría a la universidad en Los Estados Unidos — ahora es estudiante de último año en Elon University, y es una de solo dos salvadoreños en la Universidad.

Durante la primera mitad de su carrera universitaria, Safie era la única estudiante internacional de El Salvador en Elon.

“Se sentía un poco raro, no tener a otra persona de mi país,” Safie dijo. “Sentía que nadie me iba a entender.”

Sin embargo, y tal como Safie dice, tomando en cuenta que El Salvador es un país pequeño, algunas veces le

gustaba ser la única estudiante de allí.

“Quería comenzar de cero,” Safie dijo. “Cuando conocí a mis amigas de otros países centroamericanos y suramericanos, me di cuenta que ellas también me entendían y entonces no me sentí tan sola.”

En total, el número de estudiantes internacionales en Estados Unidos ha aumentado cada año desde el 2014. Sin embargo, el índice de crecimiento se está desacelerando, según los datos del Instituto Internacional de Educación (IIE) — ha caído de 10% a 1.5% entre el 2014 y el 2018.

Safie dice que más que sorprenderla, estas estadísticas le preocupan.

“Es muy triste,” Safie mencionó. “Yo se que las futuras generaciones no van a tener la experiencia que yo tuve... de tener esa comunidad.”

Vea **Representación** | pg. 6

ENGLISH

The changing rates and numbers of national and international Latinx/Hispanic students

AS A GRADUATE OF the American School of El Salvador, Lucia Safie's family always expected her to attend college in the United States — she is now a senior at Elon University and one of only two Salvadorans on campus.

During the first half of her college experience, Safie was the only international student from El Salvador at Elon.

“It felt a little weird to not have someone else from my country,” Safie said. “I felt no one was going to understand me.”

However, Safie said, because El Salvador is such a small country. She sometimes liked being the only student.

“I wanted to start fresh,” she said. “When I met my friends from other Central and South American countries I found that they could understand me too, so I didn't feel as lonely.”

Overall, the number of international students in the U.S. has increased each

year since 2014. However, that rate of increase is slowing, according to 2018 data from the Institute of International Education — falling from 10% to 1.5% between 2014 and 2018.

“

AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HERE, IT'S VERY UNWELCOMING SOMETIMES

LUCIA SAFIE
SENIOR

Safie said these statistics concern her more than surprise her.

“It's really sad,” Safie said. “I know that for future generations, they aren't going to be able to have the experience I had ... having that community.”

See **Representation** | pg. 7



OPINIONES PÁGINA 8

‘¿Por qué no eres más morena?’ | ‘Why aren't you brown?’



ESTILO DE VIDA PÁGINA 10

Un sabor de hogar en un lugar familiar | A taste of home in a familiar setting



DEPORTES PÁGINA 11

Representando la cultura siendo atletas y estudiantes | Representing culture as athletes and students

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

CALENDAR

LATE NIGHT IN SOCCER

SEPT. 26, 6:30 PM
RUDD FIELD

"EAST SIDE SUSHI" FILM SCREENING

SEPT. 30, 7 PM
TURNER THEATRE

LATINX/ HISPANIC IDENTITY PANEL

OCT. 2, 6 PM
MCKINNON
HALL D

ANDREA L. PINO- SILVA "TAKING THE REINS OF OUR MOVEMENT"

OCT. 3, 7:30 PM
WHITLEY
AUDITORIUM

LA HABANA NIGHT

OCT. 4, 10:30 PM
TAPHOUSE

OPEN MIC NIGHT

OCT. 8, 5:30 PM
THE OAK HOUSE

COOKING COMPETITION

OCT. 10, 5-8 PM
LAKESIDE DINING
HALL

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

OCT. 14, 5:30 PM
CREDE

HISPANIC TAILGATE

NOV. 2, 11:30 AM
BANK OF AMERICA
DRIVE

S . M . A . R . T .

PROVEYENDO CONSEJOS Y
CONECCIONES

ESPAÑOL

Programa de 25 años continua a ayudar a estudiantes de color a navegar su primer año

Jon Sarver Jr.
Elon News Network | @sarver_jon

PARA LOS ESTUDIANTES DE color de primer año en Elon University, el programa de Student Mentors Advising Rising Talent (SMART) los conecta con estudiantes de color mayores para promover relaciones positivas. Según la página web del programa, SMART comenzó en 1994 y fue creado para estudiantes de primer año afroamericanos, latinx/hispanos, asiáticos/nativos de la Polinesia, nativos americanos, nativos de Alaska y estudiantes multirraciales, más conocidos como estudiantes ALANAM.

“Quiero que creen una red, y el mentor realmente cumple como el punto de contacto,” dijo Brandon Bell, assistant director of the CREDE. “Hay una oportunidad de desarrollar una relación más profunda con ese punto de contacto.”

La estudiante de tercer año Jewel Tillman es una de las coordinadoras estudiantiles de SMART, y previamente participo en el programa como mentora y como estudiante de primer año.

Como coordinadora, Tillman ayuda a crear eventos para los miembros de SMART. Dice que la decisión de cómo emparejar a los estudiantes sobrepasa el color de la piel.

“Lo bueno de SMART, es que también conectamos a los estudiantes de primer año con gente que está en su misma carrera,” Tillman dijo. “No quiere decir que simplemente porque eres negro te vamos a asignar con un mentor negro. Realmente se trata de construir una conexión.”

Tillman también espera que el programa crezca fuera de Elon.

“Me emociona la posibilidad de ver que el programa de SMART se vuelva un modelo no solo en Elon pero también a través del país,” Tillman dijo.

Según Tillman, hay más de 92 participantes en el programa SMART — 34 mentores y 58 estudiantes de primer año. Bell se negó a dar la composición demográfica de los estudiantes ALANAM que hacen parte del programa.

La estudiante de segundo año Kaitlyn Moonsammy, una mentora de SMART, dijo que notó la falta de diversidad de Elon en una de sus primeras visitas a la Universidad.

“Mientras visitaba el campus ese fin de semana, noté que no



Left: Members of SMART take a photo with President Connie Book in the CREDE office.

Izquierda: Miembros del programa SMART se toman una foto con la presidenta Connie Book en el CREDE

ENGLISH

PROGRAM PROVIDES
GUIDANCE AND CONNECTIONS

Tillman also hopes that the program grows beyond Elon.

“I’m also looking forward to seeing SMART become something that is modeled not only at Elon, but also throughout the nation,” Tillman said.

According to Tillman, there are 92 people participating in the SMART program — 34 mentors and 58 mentees. Bell declined to give the specific breakdown of ALANAM students in the program.

Sophomore Kaitlyn Moonsammy, a SMART mentor, said she noticed the lack of diversity on one of her first visits to Elon’s campus.

“While being on campus during that weekend, I noticed there’s not much diversity on the Elon campus, which I was kind of shocked about,” Moonsammy said. “I thought it was like a completely different realm, but it wasn’t.”

According to the Elon University 2018-2019 Fact Book, last year’s freshman class was just over 81% white, showing a slight increase from 80% in the 2017-2018 freshman class.

Moonsammy said this realization sparked her interest in joining SMART as a mentee her freshman year. Now a mentor, Moonsammy said the program keeps her learning.

“I’m trying to learn how to better connect myself with people on a different level than just being the mom of the friend group,” Moonsammy said.

Moonsammy’s mentee, freshman Sara Moretti who has only been in the program for a few weeks, says her experience has been positive thus far.

“It’s been nice to have that contact with other people who look like me,” Moretti said. “And I don’t want to say ‘think like me,’ but just who know experiences going to a predominantly white institution.”

With the program now at the quarter-century mark in its history, Bell hopes SMART continues to grow and make Elon more inclusive.

“The SMART mentoring program is a great way for students from diverse programs to contribute to the creation of a more inclusive community,” Bell said. “So, I really want to continue to see that happen.”

SEGUN LOS NUMEROS |
BY THE NUMBERS

92

personas hacen parte del programa | people in the program

58

estudiantes de primer año | mentees

34

mentores | mentors



Quarter-century-old program helps students of color navigate their first year

THE STUDENT MENTORS ADVISING Rising Talent program partners freshman students with older students of color to foster positive relationships.

According to the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education’s webpage, the SMART began in 1994 and was built for freshman Black, Latinx, Asian and Pacific Islander, Native American, Alaskan Native and multiracial students, also known as ALANAM students.

“I want them to create a network, and the mentor really serves as the point person,” SMART professional staff member Brandon Bell said. “And there’s an opportunity to develop a deeper relationship with that point person.”

Junior Jewel Tillman, one of the student coordinators for SMART, has been both a mentee and a mentor.

As a coordinator, Tillman helps find and coordinate events for SMART members to attend. She said matching mentors to mentees goes beyond skin color.

“And the good thing about SMART, we also match mentees with people who are in their same major and career field,” Tillman said. “It’s not just like, because you’re black, we’re going to match you with a black mentor. It’s really about building a connection.”



THE SMART MENTORING PROGRAM IS A GREAT WAY FOR STUDENTS FROM DIVERSE PROGRAMS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF A MORE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY. SO, I REALLY WANT TO CONTINUE TO SEE THAT HAPPEN.

BRANDON BELL
SMART PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER

había mucha diversidad en Elon, lo cual me sorprendió un poco,” Moonsammy dijo.

Según el Fact Book de Elon University del 2018-2019, el grupo de estudiantes de primer año del 2018-2019 estuvo compuesto por un 81% de estudiantes blancos, un pequeño aumento cuando se compara con el 80% de estudiantes blancos de primer año durante el 2017-2018.

Moonsammy dijo que esta realización provocó su interés en unirse a SMART durante su primer año. Ahora como mentora, Moonsammy dice que sigue aprendiendo a través del programa.

“Estoy intentando aprender la mejor manera de conectarme con la gente y no simplemente ser la mamá del grupo,” Moonsammy dijo.

La estudiante de primer año con la cual Moonsammy está emparejada, Sara Moretti, quien solo ha estado en el programa por unas cuantas semanas dice que su experiencia hasta ahora ha sido positiva.

“Ha sido bueno tener contacto con otra gente que se ve como yo,” dijo Moretti. “Y no quiero decir que también piensan como yo, pero sí entienden la experiencia de estudiar en una universidad predominantemente blanca.”

Con el programa en el vigésimo quinto año de su historia, junto a Tillman, Bell espera que SMART continúe creciendo y ayudando a crear una comunidad más inclusiva en Elon.

“El programa SMART es una buena manera para que los estudiantes de diversos programas contribuyan a la creación de una comunidad más inclusiva,” Bell dijo. “Quiero continuar asegurándome que eso suceda.”

HISPANIC PROFESSORS REFLECT ON REPRESENTATION

Faculty hope for more representation in the Latinx community

KYRA O'CONNOR | Elon News Network | @ko_reports

PROFESORES HISPANOS REFLEJAN SOBRE LA REPRESENTACIÓN

Cuerpo docente esperan más representación en la comunidad latinx

ESPAÑOL

SOLO NUEVE MIEMBROS DE la facultad en Elon University se identifican como hispanos, según el Fact Book del 2018-2019. Según el reporte del Latinx/Hispanic Working Group este número cae por debajo de la demografía de “instituciones pares y aspirantes”.

Según el reporte, los miembros de facultad y profesores hispanos constituyen menos del 3% del total del cuerpo docente en Elon. Este mismo grupo constituye el “5.5% en Davidson College, el 11.7% en Rollins College y el 14.5% en Santa Clara University.”

Respuestas a una encuesta de docentes y personal realizada por el grupo de trabajo, resaltó la “necesidad para un cuerpo docente más racialmente y étnicamente diverso.” El reporte describe una serie de recomendaciones para diversificar el cuerpo docente de Elon.

ENGLISH

ONLY NINE FACULTY MEMBERS at Elon University identify as Hispanic, according to the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment 2018-2019 Fact Book. According to a report by the Latinx/Hispanic Working Group, this number falls well below the demographics of “peer and aspirant institutions.”

According to the report, Hispanic faculty and staff make up less than 3% of the total faculty and staff at Elon. This same group makes up “5.5% in Davidson College, 11.7% in Rollins College and 14.5% in Santa Clara University.”

Responses to a faculty and staff survey conducted by the working group highlighted the “need for a more racially and ethnically diverse faculty and staff.” The report outlines a number of recommendations to diversify Elon’s faculty and staff.

HISPANIC FACULTY

9

Elon professors identify as Hispanic, according to the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment 2018-2019 Fact Book.

3

percent of all the faculty and staff at Elon University identify as Hispanic

FEDERICO POUS

Assistant Professor of
Spanish • Ayudante de
cátedra de español

Kyra O'Connor
Elon News Network | @ko_reports



ESPAÑOL

AYUDANTE DE CÁTEDRA DE español, Federico Pous, se unió a la facultad de Elon en el 2014, justo después de recibir su doctorado en español de la University of Michigan. Pous es de Argentina, donde estudió sociología en la Universidad de Buenos Aires. Sus enseñanzas se enfocan en los dilemas culturales y políticos de Latinoamérica y la justicia social.

Durante su tiempo en Elon, Pous ha intentado crear espacios donde los estudiantes se sienten seguros en sus identidades. Sin embargo, le gustaría ver más espacios creados para la comunidad latina e hispana.

“Me gustaría ver un incremento en los estudiantes, facultad y cuerpo docente latinx; ver este grupo incorporarse con facilidad a la comunidad de Elon en su conjunto sin tener que sentir que están negando una parte de quienes son.”

ENGLISH

FEDERICO POUS JOINED ELON’S faculty in 2014, just after he received his doctorate in Spanish from the University of Michigan.

Pous is from Argentina, where he studied sociology at the University of Buenos Aires. His teaching focuses on Latin American cultural and political dilemmas, as well as social justice.

In his time at Elon, Pous has tried to create spaces where students feel safe expressing their identity. However, he would like to see more of these spaces created for the Hispanic/Latinx community.

“I would like to see an increment in the Latinx students, faculty and staff; to see this group merging more smoothly into the Elon community as a whole without having to feel that they are denying a part of who they are,” Pous said. “And to see more spaces where we can discuss these topics among different parts of the community.”

ESPAÑOL

ORIGINALMENTE DE COSTA RICA, Vanessa Bravo, recibió su maestría y su doctorado en University of Florida.

Bravo ha presentado varias publicaciones centrándose en las vidas de inmigrantes en los Estados Unidos. Ella dice que sus entrevistas con mujeres indocumentadas en Carolina del Norte la han afectado particularmente.

“Fue muy conmovedor saber que las mujeres de la comunidad tienen mucho miedo... sienten que han hecho algo mal cuando solo intentan darles a sus hijos algunas oportunidades,” dijo Bravo.

Bravo dice que espera que la Universidad tome la iniciativa para crear un currículo y una comunidad mas diversa.

“Me gustaría ver más representación en el currículo. Entonces, si tenemos una clase de comunicaciones, ¿qué pasa con los latinos en comunicaciones? ¿Qué pasa con los latinos en la política? ¿Qué pasa con los latinos en la música?” dijo Bravo. “Yo quiero que la Universidad apoye estos esfuerzos.”

ENGLISH

ORIGINALLY FROM COSTA RICA, Vanessa Bravo received both her master’s degree and doctorate from the University of Florida.

Bravo has released publications focusing on the lives of immigrants in the U.S. She said her interviews with undocumented women in North Carolina have particularly affected her.

“It was very touching to learn about women in the community being very afraid ... feeling as if they’ve done something wrong when they’re just trying to give their kids some opportunities,” Bravo said.

Bravo said she hopes to see the university take the lead in creating a more diverse curriculum and community.

“I would like to see much more representation in the curriculum. So, if we have a class in communications, what about Latinos in communications? What about Latinos in politics? What about Latinos in music?” Bravo said. “I want the university to support those efforts.”

VANESSA BRAVO

Associate Professor of
Strategic Communications
Profesora asociada •
de comunicaciones
estratégicas

Emily Prins
Elon News Network | @emilypins2



PABLO CELIS-CASTILLO

Assistant Professor of Spanish • Ayudante de cátedra de español

Emily Prins
Elon News Network | @emilypins2



ESPAÑOL

DESPUÉS DE RECIBIR SU doctorado en español y literatura y estudios culturales Latinoamericanos, Pablo Celis-Castillo decidió que quería enseñar — y quería enseñar en un sitio como Elon University. Originalmente de Perú, y con entrenamiento como cineasta, Celis-Castillo dice que valora la perspectiva que ha ganado al vivir en los Estados Unidos.

“He aprendido mucho sobre mi país estando lejos de mi país,” Celis-Castillo dijo “Muchos de los problemas culturales... uno los ve a la distancia.”

Celis-Castillo espera que Elon pueda continuar apoyando la diversidad mientras que trabaja para crear una comunidad sólida entre el cuerpo docente y los estudiantes.

“Me gustaría incentivar el desarrollo de conexiones más fuertes entre las diferentes organizaciones en el campus, no hablando solamente de empleados o de los profesores latinos e hispanos, pero en general,” él dijo. Todos acá estamos haciendo cosas increíbles y sería increíble si pudiéramos compartirlo con nuestra comunidad porque yo creo que todos necesitamos más lugares para hacer eso.”

ENGLISH

AFTER RECEIVING HIS PH.D. in Spanish and Latin American literature and cultural studies, Pablo Celis-Castillo, decided that he wanted to teach — at a place like Elon University. Originally from Peru, and trained as a filmmaker, Celis-Castillo said he values the perspective he has gained from living in the U.S.

“I have learned a lot about my country from being away,” Celis-Castillo said. “A lot of the cultural problems ... you see from a distance.”

Celis-Castillo hopes Elon can continue to be supportive of diversity while working to create a strong community among faculty, staff and students.

“I would like to encourage the development of stronger connections between the different organizations [around] campus, not just talking about only Hispanic or Latinx employees or faculty members, but just in general,” Celis-Castillo said. “All of us here are doing amazing things, and it would be really awesome if we were able to share it with our community because I think we all need more venues to do that.”

ESPAÑOL

JUAN LEAL UGALDE LLEGÓ al campus solamente unos días antes de lo que estudiantes se mudaran. Ugalde llegó después de visitar su país natal Chile, un viaje que intenta hacer cada año.

Ugalde previamente enseñó en la University of Michigan, su alma máter, antes de llegar a Carolina del Norte. En Elon, Ugalde espera poder enseñarles a los estudiantes sobre la historia Latinoamericana y en el futuro aconsejar a estudiantes.

“Lo que más me hace feliz y orgulloso es enseñar mi conocimiento a mis alumnos sobre la historia Latinoamericana, discutir con ellos sobre la historia Latinoamericana, especialmente en el siglo 20 y cómo pueden afrontar el pasado, pero no solo como asunto del pasado, pero también como asunto que tiene muchas consecuencias en el presente y en sus vidas,” dijo Ugalde.

A pesar de que Ugalde solo ha estado en el campus unas cuantas semanas, él ya tiene un interés en diferentes aspectos de la vida en el campus como El Centro, Turner Theatre y el programa de intercambio.

ENGLISH

JUAN LEAL UGALDE ARRIVED on campus only a few days before students moved in. Ugalde arrived after visiting his native country Chile, a trip he tries to take time for every year.

Ugalde previously taught at the University of Michigan, his alma mater, before arriving in North Carolina. At Elon, Ugalde hopes to teach students about Latin American history and advise students in the future.

“The thing that makes me happy and proud is to teach my knowledge to my students about Latin American history, ... especially in the 20th century and how they can approach the past, but not only as a matter of the past, but also a matter that has many consequences in the present and in their life,” Ugalde said.

While Ugalde has only been on campus for a few weeks, he already has an interest in several aspects of campus life such as El Centro, Turner Theatre and study abroad programming.

JUAN LEAL UGALDE

Assistant Professor of Spanish • Ayudante de cátedra de español

Kyra O'Connor
Elon News Network | @ko_reports



ESPAÑOL

TITA RAMIREZ LLEGÓ A Elon University en el 2001 y ha estado enseñando escritura por los últimos 14 años. Ramírez dice que ella representa a la comunidad latinx/hispana en su enseñanza, incorporando textos de autores de color.

Ramírez usa textos de autores que se identifican como latinx/hispanos, como Cristina Henríquez, Yaquira Díaz y Jennine Capó Crucet. Capó Crucet habló en la serie de Elon de autores visitantes en el 2016 tras la invitación de Ramírez. Fue después de esa visita que la Universidad decidió nombrar el libro de Capó Crucet “Make Your Home Among Strangers” la lectura común para estudiantes entrantes del 2017.

Ramírez quiere ver a la comunidad latinx/hispana en Elon crecer. Ella espera ver más estudiantes y docentes de color y reconoce que Elon se está esforzando en eso.

“Me gustaría que nuestros números de estudiantes internacionales crezcan, pero también me gustaría ver más estudiantes de segunda generación — nacidos aquí en los Estados Unidos con padres que vinieron de América Latina,” dijo Ramírez. “Esta es una demografía importante con una voz única y perspectivas únicas que Elon puede usar.”

ENGLISH

TITA RAMIREZ CAME TO Elon University in 2001 and has been teaching creative writing for the past 14 years. Ramirez said she represents the Latinx/Hispanic community in her teaching by incorporating texts written by authors of color.

Ramirez uses texts from Latinx/Hispanic writers such as Cristina Henríquez, Yaquira Díaz and Jennine Capó Crucet. Capó Crucet spoke at Elon’s visiting writer series in 2016 upon Ramirez’s invitation. It was after this visit that the university decided to make Capó Crucet’s “Make Your Home Among Strangers” the 2017 Common Reading for incoming students.

Ramirez wants the Latinx/Hispanic community to grow at Elon. She hopes to see more students and staff of color and recognizes that Elon is striving for that.

“I’d like for our international student numbers to grow, but I’d also like to see more students who are second-generation — born here in the U.S. with parents who came from Latin America,” Ramirez said. “This is an important demographic with a unique voice and unique perspectives that Elon could use.”

TITA RAMIREZ

Associate Professor of English • Profesora asociada de inglés

Leila Wilhelm
Elon News Network | @leilawilhelm





CRECIENDO PERO TODAVÍA SUBREPRESENTADO

REPRESENTACIÓN | de la portada

Tal como ocurre en el resto de Estados Unidos, el número de estudiantes internacionales matriculados en Elon ha aumentado desde el otoño del 2008, según el Office of Institutional Research & Assessment 2018-2019 Fact Book.

De acuerdo con la definición del Fact Book, los estudiantes internacionales son todos aquellos con visas, tarjetas de residencia, estadounidenses en el extranjero y estudiantes con doble ciudadanía.

Es todavía incierto saber si el índice de crecimiento en Elon está disminuyendo de la misma manera que a nivel nacional.

Sin embargo, desde el otoño del 2018 los estudiantes internacionales constituyen tan solo el 6.8% de la población total de la Universidad — un aumento cuando se compara con el 3.3% de estudiantes internacionales en el otoño del 2008.

“Siempre somos una minoría en nuestras clases,” Safie dijo. “Cada vez que hablo, o digo de donde soy, la gente se queda mirándome.”

Sylvia Muñoz, associate director for the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education, directora del Centro de Español y oriunda de Costa Rica, atribuye este cambio en el nivel de inscripción al discurso negativo que rodea a los migrantes en el país y al encarecimiento de las universidades estadounidenses.

Safie está de acuerdo. Dice que sin duda no se va a quedar en Estados Unidos para su maestría.

“No siempre nos sentimos acogidos al ser estudiantes internacionales,” Safie dijo. “No quiero someterme a ello por más tiempo del que sea necesario.”

Un panorama cambiante

El año pasado, el Grupo de Trabajo Latinx/Hispano de Elon University publicó un reporte sobre las experiencias de los estudiantes, el cuerpo docente y los empleados que se identifican como latinx/hispanos. El informe señala que a pesar del incremento constante, el porcentaje de estudiantes que se identifica como latinx/hispanos en Elon es menor en comparación con el de sus instituciones similares, y mucho menor respecto de la población nacional latinx/hispana.”

De acuerdo con el U.S. Census Bureau, el número de estudiantes hispanos matriculados en universidades en Estados Unidos aumentó al 19% en el 2016. A partir del 2019, la población completa de estudiantes internacionales en Elon había llegado a tan solo el 6.8% — menos que la mitad del porcentaje nacional de estudiantes internacionales en el 2016.

Muñoz dijo que el hecho de que el nivel de inscripción hispana e internacional está aumentando, no quiere decir que la Universidad no deba enfocarse en este asunto. “No tenemos que estar enfermos para

mejorar,” Muñoz dijo. “Siempre podemos progresar y asegurarnos que las cosas para los estudiantes mejoren.”

Los administradores de la Universidad están de acuerdo que Elon tiene que continuar su trabajo para aumentar la representación en la Universidad.

“Como una institución enfocada en la diversidad y el compromiso global, valoramos las experiencias de todos los estudiantes, dijo Greg Zaiser, Vice President for Enrollment. “Hemos desarrollado iniciativas específicas para reclutar a un mayor número de estudiantes que se identifican como Hispanos en Elon.”

Según Zaiser, estas iniciativas incluyen una nueva posición enfocada en reclutar a estudiantes hispanoamericanos, la Universidad también ofrece visitas y panfletos en español.

Zaiser dijo que durante el ciclo de reclutamiento de este año, el equipo de admisiones internacionales ha viajado a Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panamá, El Salvador, Colombia, Perú, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia y la República Dominicana.

Muñoz dijo que Elon necesita identificar aquello en lo que sobresale en comparación con otras universidades para incentivar a los estudiantes a matricularse en Elon. Considera que Elon hace un buen trabajo en fomentar las relaciones personales con sus estudiantes.

Muñoz resaltó como una fortaleza de Elon el acompañamiento y asesoría que brinda a sus estudiantes y el nivel de compromiso. Por esta razón, dijo que las estadísticas no pueden ser la única prioridad.

“No podemos crecer de una manera en la que simplemente consideremos a los estudiantes como un número más,” Muñoz dijo. “La representación para mí es más que es mucho más que la cantidad de personas.”

Muñoz dijo que el incremento en la representación demográfica tiene que ir a la par de la representación en el currículum y en la inclusividad de la Universidad.

“Creo que lo que es más importante es realmente incluir dicha representación dentro del tejido de la Universidad,” Muñoz dijo.

La experiencia estudiantil

La falta de representación de estudiantes internacionales e latinx/hispanos en Elon es algo que Yaliz Pedraza, estudiante mexicana-americana de tercer año notó desde el momento en el que se transfirió a Elon durante su segundo año universitario.

“Sentía que no pertenecía a Elon, porque los únicos lugares para nosotros son El Centro y CREDE,” Pedraza dijo.

Se convirtió en senadora de los estudiantes de tercer año en el gobierno estudiantil (SGA) porque no habían muchos estudiantes hispanos en la organización. Pedraza ahora trabaja como co-directora del Comité de Inclusividad Estudiantil en la Universidad.

“No quiero ser la única representante para la gente latinx en la Universidad,”

BY THE NUMBERS

6,991

es el número total de estudiantes matriculados en Elon University durante el año académico del 2018-2019

DEFINICIONES

Índice de aumento: El porcentaje por el cual un número crece. Esto es en referencia al número anual de de estudiantes internacionales matriculados en universidades en Estados Unidos

Pedraza dijo. “No hay mucha gente que se ve como yo, entonces, siento que nuestros problemas no están representados.”

De acuerdo con el reporte del grupo de trabajo Latinx/Hispano, el 60% de los estudiantes que se identifican como latinx/hispanos que respondieron a una encuesta sobre el ambiente de la Universidad y el apoyo institucional reportaron que han tenido experiencias en las cuales “les han hecho comentarios denigrantes.”

Pedraza dice que la falta de representación crea “una cultura negativa para los estudiantes de color” que sienten que no son parte de Elon.

“Si realmente vamos a hablar sobre la diversidad, entonces que sea diverso, no pueden simplemente elegir a quien quieran

exhibir en la carátula de la página web,” Pedraza dijo.

La falta de representación de gente que se identifica como latin/hispana en Elon no se nota solamente entre la población estudiantil, la representación demográfica en el cuerpo docente es aún más baja.

De acuerdo con el Fact Book del 2018-2019, hay tan solo nueve docentes de Elon que se identifican como hispanos.

El reporte del grupo de trabajo Latinx/Hispana resaltó esta estadística. Una de las personas que respondió la encuesta dirigida al cuerpo docente y a los empleados de la Universidad dijo, “Necesitamos más profesores hispanos/latinx, necesitamos más carreras sobre la comunidad hispana/latinx. Necesitamos más supervisores hispanos/latinx. Necesitamos más igualdad.”

Safie dijo que solamente se ha sentido cómoda con dos miembros del cuerpo docente de Elon. Dijo que la mayoría de sus profesores no entienden la complejidad que conlleva obtener un trabajo en Estados Unidos para estudiantes internacionales.

“Me pone nerviosa porque siento que estoy básicamente sola,” Safie dijo que nota “una falta de apoyo y de interés” entre el cuerpo docente.

Muñoz dice que esta escasez de representación entre los estudiantes y el cuerpo docente afecta a todo Elon.

“Creo que no solo estamos privando a los estudiantes Latinos, también estamos privando a los estudiantes blancos al no exponerlos a cosas que son importantes,” Muñoz dijo.



Students dance during the Spanish Heritage Month Kickoff Festival on Friday Sept. 13. | Estudiantes bailan durante el Kickoff F



GROWING BUT STILL UNDERREPRESENTED

REPRESENTATION | from cover

Similar to the rest of the U.S., the number of international students studying at Elon has increased since fall 2008, according to the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment 2018-2019 Fact Book.

According to the Fact Book definition, international students are those who are student visa and green card holders, dual citizens and overseas Americans.

Whether or not Elon's rate of increase is slowing, like the national trend, is uncertain. However, international students make up only 6.8% of the total student population as of fall 2018 — an increase from 3.3% in fall 2008.

"We're always a minority in our classes," Safie said. "Everytime I speak, or I say where I'm from people stare."

Sylvia Muñoz, associate director for the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education, director of the El Centro de Español, and Costa Rican native, attributes the change in enrollment to the negative narrative surrounding immigrants and the increasing cost of universities in the country.

Safie agrees. She said she has no doubts that she will not be staying in the U.S. to attend graduate school.

"As an international student here, it's very unwelcoming sometimes," Safie said. "I don't want to put myself through that for more than necessary."

BY THE NUMBERS

6,991

is the total number of students enrolled at Elon University for the 2018-2019 academic school year

DEFINITIONS

Rate of increase: The percent by which a number grows. This was in reference to the number of international students annually enrolled in universities in the U.S.

Above: These are the flags of the Latinx/Hispanic countries international students at Elon represent

Encima: Estas son las banderas de los países latinx/hispanos representados por los estudiantes internacionales en Elon

A changing landscape

Last year, Elon University's Latinx/Hispanic Working Group published a report on the experiences of Latinx/Hispanic students, faculty and staff. The report stated that despite the consistent increase, Elon "falls below some of our peer and aspirant institutions, far below the national Latinx/Hispanic population."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the national number of Hispanic students enrolled in higher education increased to 19% in 2016. As of 2019, Elon's entire international student population has reached only 6.8% — less than half of the national percentage of Hispanic students in 2016.

Muñoz said that just because the number of Latinx/Hispanic and international students at Elon is increasing, it doesn't mean that the university should not focus on this issue.

"We don't need to be sick to get better," Muñoz said. "We can always improve or make things better for students."

Administrators agree that a continued push for more representation at Elon is important.

"As an institution focused on diversity and global engagement, we value the experiences of all students," Vice President for Enrollment Greg Zaiser said. "We have developed specific initiatives to recruit a greater number of Hispanic-identified students to Elon."

According to Zaiser, these initiatives include a new position focused on domestic Hispanic student recruitment as well as tours and admissions and financial aid brochures in Spanish.

Zaiser said that during this year's recruitment cycle, the international admissions team has traveled to Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia and the Dominican Republic.

Muñoz said Elon needs to pinpoint the ways it stands out from other institutions in order to encourage students to attend the university. She said she believes that Elon does a good job getting personal with its students.

She highlighted Elon's mentorship and engagement abilities. Because of this, she said statistics cannot be the only priority.

"We cannot grow in a way that we consider students numbers," Muñoz said. "Representation for me is not just the physical bodies."

Muñoz said an increase in demographic representation has to go hand in hand with representation in the curriculum and campus inclusivity.

"I think what's more important is to

actually include it within the fabric of the university," Muñoz said.

The student experience

The lack of representation of Latinx/Hispanic and international students at Elon is something Mexican-American junior Yaliz Pedraza noticed from the moment she transferred to Elon as a sophomore.

"I didn't feel like I belonged at Elon, because the only places for us are El Centro and the CREDE," Pedraza said.

She became an SGA junior class senator because there weren't many Latinx/Hispanic-identifying students in the organization. Pedraza now serves as a co-chair for the Student Inclusive Campus Committee.

"I don't want to be the sole representative for Latinx people on campus," Pedraza said. "There aren't a lot of people that look at me, and therefore, I feel like our issues do not get represented."

According to the Latinx/Hispanic Working Group report, 60% of the Latinx/Hispanic students who completed a survey about campus climate and institutional support reported to have experienced "disparaging comments made to them."

Pedraza said the lack of representation creates a "negative culture for students of color" who don't feel like they belong at Elon.

"If we're really going to talk about diversity, then let it be diverse, not just pick and choose who you want to be on the cover of the website," Pedraza said.

Not only do Latinx/Hispanic students see a lack of representation at Elon among the student population, the representation in faculty demographics is even lower.

According to the 2018-2019 Fact Book, only nine faculty members at Elon identify as Hispanic.

The Latinx/Hispanic Working Group report highlighted this statistic. One respondent of a survey sent to faculty and staff said, "We need more Latinx/Hispanic faculty, we need more majors and minors about the Latinx/Hispanic community. We need more Latinx/Hispanic supervisors. We need more equality."

Safie said she has felt comfortable with only two of her faculty members at Elon. She said most of her professors don't understand the intricacies of getting a job after graduation for international students.

"It makes me more nervous because now I feel like I'm on my own basically," Safie said. She said she feels "a lack of support and a lack of interest" from the faculty.

Muñoz said this lack of representation in students and faculty affects all of Elon.



Festival del Hispanic Heritage Month el viernes, 13 de Sept.

PHOTO BY IAN MYERS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SAM PORZOK

‘¿Por qué no eres más morena?’

VOCES DEL CAMPUS

ESPAÑOL



Carolina Ferreyros
Contributor
@cferreyros97

La experiencia de una estudiante peruana defendiendo su identidad en Elon

UNA DE LAS COSAS que más me gusta hacer es preguntarle a la gente de dónde piensan que soy. Empieza como un juego, pero en el fondo, quiero que la gente me pregunte sobre mi cultura y cuestione sus estereotipos en vez de mi identidad basándose en el color de mi piel.

Lo más común es que la gente piense que soy de los Estados Unidos. La última respuesta que me dieron fue que me llamo Katie y soy de Connecticut.

A pesar de ser ocasionalmente divertido, este juego se pone viejo rápidamente -- crea un sentimiento de resentimiento en mí.

Apenas digo que soy peruana, la gente se ríe y la siguiente conversación es la misma.

“No, no hay forma de que seas peruana. Eso es imposible.”

“¿Por qué?” les pregunto.

“Ay, no sé, no pareces peruana. Eres rubia y blanca y tienes los ojos medios claros.”

“Ajá, ¿y qué? ‘ser peruana’ ¿qué significa?”

No hay muchos que se atreven a decirlo, pero los que sí, me dicen que soy muy blanca y

demasiado rubia para ser peruana y me preguntan que por qué no soy más morena. Los que no lo dicen, suelen tener una mirada de confusión que aparece en sus caras.

A veces siento que les tengo que hablar en español para que me crean, pero ¿por qué tendría que validar mi identidad frente a esos que no entienden la diversidad y la riqueza de las culturas latinas e hispanas? ¿Por qué tengo que validar mi identidad frente a esos que están muy cegados por los estereotipos que creen que son verdad?

Esta es la realidad que he vivido toda mi vida. Creciendo en Perú, la gente siempre me tomaba como turista, pasó tanto que no me sentía suficiente peruana. Pero ese sentimiento es universal. No me siento suficiente peruana ni en los Estados Unidos ni en cualquier otra parte del mundo.

Siempre hay alguien que no me cree y cuestiona mi identidad. Y ni les cuento de las veces que me hablaban del ceviche peruano y les decía que no me gustaba. Ahí sí no había forma de ser peruana.

Hace unos años, de hecho, durante Thanksgiving de mi primer semestre en la universidad, cuando realmente había comenzado a cuestionar mi identidad y me sentía insegura sobre todo, decidí tomar una prueba de ADN con mi prima.

Nunca he confesado esto hasta

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POR QUÉ TENGO QUE VALIDAR MI IDENTIDAD FRENTE A ESOS QUE ESTÁN MUY CEGADOS POR LOS ESTEREOTIPOS QUE CREEN QUE SON VERDAD

CAROLINA FERREYROS
COLABORADORA

...

ahora, pero tenía que confirmar que sí tengo sangre peruana, y que no vengo solo de Europa. Tenía que tener las pruebas científicas que sí soy peruana, porque así me identifico.

Originalmente me salió 4.6% indígena, pero cuando actualizaron los resultados y me salió 4.6% de indígena peruana, lo celebré como si fuera el triunfo más grande de mi vida.

Soy hija de dos culturas, dos diferentes grupos de tradiciones. La hija de un papá peruano y una mamá estadounidense. Fui formada por las canciones de Carole King y John Denver que mi mamá tocaba en la guitarra, al igual que fui formada por las canciones del Zambo Cavero y de Los Morochucos que escuchábamos todos los domingos en los almuerzos familiares en casa de mi abuela.

Me formaron las comidas del Thanksgiving veraniego en la playa, tanto, así como las búsquedas de huevos de chocolate derretidos bajo el sol de la playa durante Pascua. Pero más que nada fui formada por el Perú. Yo soy peruana y nadie me lo puede quitar, sin importar cuán fuerte me lo cuestionen.

Pero he crecido. Ya no me importa cuánto cuestionan mi identidad, ya no me importa que la gente no me crea y en vez solamente crean sus estereotipos. Mi sentido de identidad es fuerte y el español lo hablo hasta más fuerte. ¿No me crees? Bueno, supéralo.

CAMPUS VOICES

ENGLISH

A Peruvian student's experience defending her identity at Elon

ONE OF MY FAVORITE things to do is ask people where they think I am from. It starts out as a game, but deep down, I want people to ask me about my culture and question their stereotypes rather than my identity based on the color of my skin.

Most commonly, people think I'm from the United States. The last answer I got was pretty specific; they guessed my name was Katie and that I was from Connecticut.

Despite being fun at times, this game gets bitter fast — it creates a sense of resentment.

As soon as I say that I am Peruvian, people laugh and the following conversation is usually the same.

“No, there is absolutely no way

that you are Peruvian. That is impossible.”

“Why?” I ask them.

“Oh, I don't know, you don't look Peruvian. You are blonde, white, and your eyes are kind of light-colored.”

“Yeah, so? What does ‘being Peruvian’ even mean?” I respond.

Not many dare to say it, but those that do tell me that I'm too white and too blonde and ask me why I'm not brown. Those who do not say it usually have a look of confusion that flashes across their faces before they “accept” the fact that I am Peruvian.

Sometimes I feel like I have to speak to them in Spanish for them to believe me, but why do I have to validate my identity for those who do not understand the diversity and the richness of the cultures of Latin America? Why do I have to validate my identity for those who are too blinded by the stereotypes they think are true?

This is the reality I have lived

my whole life. Growing up in Peru, people always believed me to be a tourist. This happened so much that I didn't feel Peruvian enough. But that feeling I have is universal. I don't feel Peruvian enough in the United States or in any other part of the world.

There will always be someone that won't believe me and will question my identity. This is especially true when people have talked to me about ceviche and I confessed that I didn't like it. There was no way of being Peruvian if I didn't like ceviche.

A few years ago, during Thanksgiving of my freshman year, I truly began to question my identity and decided to take a DNA test with my cousin.

I felt the need to confirm that I did have Peruvian blood, that I did not come only from Europe. I had to have the scientific proof for myself and for anybody that questioned whether I am Peruvian.

Originally, the results said

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WHY DO I HAVE TO VALIDATE MY IDENTITY FOR THOSE WHO ARE TOO BLINDED BY THE STEREOTYPES THAT THEY THINK ARE TRUE?

CAROLINA FERREYROS
CONTRIBUTOR

...

that I was 4.6% Native American, but the results updated to say that I am 4.6% indigenous Peruvian — I celebrated. It felt like the biggest accomplishment of my life.

I am the daughter of two cultures, two different sets of traditions — I am the daughter of a Peruvian dad and an American mom. I was formed by the Carole King and John Denver songs that my mom plays on the guitar, just as I was formed by the songs of Zambo Cavero and Los Morochucos that we listen to every Sunday during family lunches at my grandmother's house.

I was formed by summery Thanksgivings at the beach, like the Easter egg hunts where the summer sun had melted the chocolate eggs as soon as they were hidden. But most importantly, I was formed by Peru. I am Peruvian and no one can take that away from me, no matter how strong it is questioned.

CREANDO OLAS MAKING WAVES

PHOTO BY COURTESY OF IGNACIO ALONSO

ESPAÑOL

ENGLISH

Estudiante de primer año, Ignacio Alonso, de Puerto Rico habla sobre su vida en la isla, el surf y la cultura hispana

Lauren Singles
Elon News Network | @lauren_singles

CUANDO NO ESTÁ SURFEANDO, o en su apartamento en Danieley Neighborhood, Ignacio Alonso todavía está aprendiendo a navegar la vida universitaria — al igual que los demás 1,700 estudiantes de primer año en la Universidad. El estudiante de la isla de Puerto Rico, valora su hogar, cultura y patrimonio hispano. Antes de venir a la universidad, Alonso visitó los Estados Unidos continentales por el trabajo de su padre como presidente de su empresa familiar de construcción. Alonso también había visitado Florida, Wyoming y California. Al elegir a cuál universidad asistir, Alonso dijo que tenía un amigo de su niñez que se había graduado recientemente de Elon University que le había recomendado aplicar.

Del Caribe a las Carolinas

“Él me dijo ‘Es hermoso, te va a encantar. Tiene un muy buen programa de administración de empresas,’ que es lo que quiero estudiar,” Alonso dijo, hablando sobre cómo se enamoró de Elon. “Me impresionó el campus — es tan hermoso, ¿cómo no te puede gustar?” En Elon, Alonso está planeando declarar una carrera en administración de empresas. Una decisión inspirada por los sábados cuando era niño y visitaba el trabajo de su padre y lo ayudaba. Combinando esa experiencia con su amor por viajar, Alonso sabía que trabajar en una empresa era lo que siempre había querido hacer. Durante Fall Convocation, Randy Williams, associate vice president for campus engagement, habló sobre los logros de Alonso antes de llegar a Elon. Williams habló sobre el voluntariado de Alonso después de desastres naturales y de sus esfuerzos ambientales. Alonso expresó la importancia de su identidad y cultura, conectado con sus raíces hispanas. Sonriendo, Alonso habló con orgullo sobre su origen hispano, hablando sobre cómo su identidad lo afecta cada día. “Siento que es bastante diferente para cada persona — por ejemplo, para mí, desde que he estado aquí, me han tratado normal,” Alonso dijo. “La manera en la que uno trata a la gente se devuelve en la manera en la que los demás lo tratan a uno. Siento que no tengo sino gente buena a mi alrededor.” Alonso dice que las conversaciones sobre la historia y la cultura hispana son impor-

tantes para construir la comunidad en Elon. “A los hispanos nos han tratado como una minoría, entonces ver el uso de esa palabra y saber que está teniendo un impacto en nuestra cultura es increíble para mí y me hace muy feliz. Me ha motivado para ser una mejor persona,” Alonso dijo. Habló muy bien de Elon y sus iniciativas para transmitir el mes de herencia hispana, diciendo que ama que la universidad le esté dando vida a la cultura hispana y esté enseñándole a la comunidad diferentes tradiciones. Hablando sobre el mes de herencia hispana, Alonso dijo, “Siento que lo que estamos haciendo en este momento es una gran oportunidad para resaltar la cultura hispana y lo bella que es. La cultura hispana es muy importante para mí y la aprecio tanto. Me siento muy afortunado de ser de Puerto Rico y de tener eso en mí.” El amor de Alonso por Puerto Rico se extiende más allá que cualquier océano. Siendo una gran parte de su identidad, mantiene a su cultura en un lugar muy personal. “Es la mejor isla,” Alonso dijo. “Me siento tan orgulloso y honrado de haber nacido en Puerto Rico — me siento muy bendecido.”

Hacer un hang ten

Aparte de ser hispano, Alonso también habló sobre su identidad como surfista. Desde los seis años, el estudiante de Elon recuerda cuando su padre lo llevaba a la playa y lo empujaba en una tabla. Después de jugar baseball, y representar a Puerto Rico, Alonso dijo que se cansó del deporte y recurrió al surf. “A los 13, empecé con un nuevo entrenador y fue ahí cuando empecé a ganar competencias. En ese momento me di cuenta que soy bueno y que debería continuar,” Alonso dijo. Alonso ha ganado numerosas competencias, tanto internacionalmente como en Estados Unidos, incluyendo eventos en Puerto Rico, Europa y más recientemente en California. “Cuando viajé a California, fui el portador de la bandera y fue un honor llevar la bandera al final de la calle y pararme en el escenario y sostenerla,” Alonso dijo. “Me sentí tan orgulloso y bendecido de representar a mi hermoso país.” Cuando está en las olas, su tabla de surf deslizándose sobre el agua, Alonso lo describe como un sentimiento que no se puede comparar con nada más en el mundo. “Uno se enfoca en las olas del mar, y el sentimiento que me da el océano, el poder, es increíble. No hay ningún otro sentimiento como ese en el mundo.” A pesar de la cantidad de reconocimiento que ha recibido, Alonso dice que no le gusta divulgar sus logros. “Yo sé que es algo importante, pero no me gusta decirlo.”

Freshman Ignacio Alonso of Puerto Rico talks about island life, surfing and Hispanic culture

WHEN HE’S NOT OUT on the surf or in his Danieley Neighborhood flat, Ignacio Alonso is still learning how to navigate college life — just like the other 1,700 freshmen on campus this year. The freshman from Puerto Rico values his home, culture and Hispanic heritage. Before coming to college, Alonso visited the continental United States because of his father’s job as the president of his family’s construction business. Alonso has also traveled to Florida, Wyoming and California. When choosing which school to attend, Alonso’s childhood friend, who recently graduated from Elon University, pushed him to apply.

From the Caribbean to the Carolinas

“He was like, ‘It’s beautiful, you’re going to love it. It has a really good business program.’ Which is what I want to study,” Alonso said, while discussing how he fell in love with Elon. “I was just stunned with the campus — it’s so beautiful. How could you not like it?” Alonso’s love for business stems from his childhood where he spent his Saturdays visiting his father’s work and helping out. Combined with his love of traveling, Alonso knew working in business was always what he wanted to do. At Fall Convocation, Randy Williams, associate vice president for campus engagement, spoke about Alonso’s accomplishments even before he arrived at Elon. Williams talked about Alonso’s post-disaster volunteer work and environmental efforts. Alonso expressed the importance of identity and culture, connecting back to his Hispanic roots. Smiling from ear to ear, he spoke proudly of his Hispanic background, explaining how his identity affects him every day. “I feel like it’s pretty different for people like me,” Alonso said. “Since I’ve been here, I’ve been treated normally. How you treat people will come back to how they will treat you, and so I feel like I’ve got nothing but good people around me.” According to Alonso, discussions regarding Hispanic history and culture are important to the Elon community. “Hispanics, we’ve been treated like a

little bit of a minority,” Alonso said. “So, to now see that word coming up and having an impact in our culture is amazing to me, and I’m super happy, and it’s motivating me to do better and be a better person.” He also spoke highly of Elon’s initiative to broadcast Hispanic Heritage Month, saying how he loves that the university is bringing Hispanic culture to life and opening the community up to different traditions. “I just feel like what we’re doing right now is such a great opportunity to showcase Hispanic culture, how beautiful it is,” Alonso said. “Hispanic culture is so important to me and I love it so much. I’m so blessed to be from Puerto Rico and just have that in me.” Alonso’s love for Puerto Rico stretches beyond any ocean. His culture remains a large part of his identity — it’s personal. “It’s the best island ever,” Alonso said. “I feel so proud and honored to have been born in Puerto Rico.”

Hanging ten

In addition to his heritage, Alonso also spoke on his identity as a surfer. Since the age of six, he remembers his father taking him down to the beach and pushing him on a board. “At 13, I got a coach, and that’s when I started hitting off, winning contests and stuff. So that’s where I started noticing that I’m pretty good at this, so let’s keep going,” Alonso said. Alonso has won numerous surfing competitions internationally as well as in the U.S., including events with the Puerto Rican Surfing Federation, in Europe and most recently in California. “When I went to California, I was the flag bearer for Puerto Rico, and it was such an honor to carry the flag down the street to the end,” Alonso said. “I stood up on the stage and I was just waving the flag. I was so, so honored and so blessed to represent my beautiful country.” When out on the waves, his surfboard gliding over the open water, Alonso described the feeling like nothing else on Earth. “You just focus on the waves, on the ocean, just the feeling you get from the ocean, the power — it’s just unbelievable,” he said. “There’s no other feeling in the world like that.”

Below: Ignacio Alonso is from Puerto Rico and surfs competitively. He is now a freshman at Elon University planning to major in business.

Debajo: Ignacio Alonso es de Puerto Rico y surfea competitivamente. Ahora es estudiante de primer año y quiere estudiar administración de empresas.





Esperanza Villalobos, who helps run “Taquería Aztlan” in Burlington, picks up the plates of several patrons after they finish lunch on Monday, Sept. 24.

Esperanza Villalobos, dueña de “Taquería Aztlán” en Burlington, retira los platos de sus clientes después de terminar de almorzar el lunes 24 de Sept.

Un Sabor Familiar

ESPAÑOL

Comida casera de restaurante local mexicano da la bienvenida a estudiantes con el sabor de casa

Perla Salazar-Rangel
Elon News Network | @psalazarrangel

BURLINGTON — Solo toma 10 minutos en carro a Burlington para que Paloma Figueroa, estudiante de último año, sienta el sabor de su hogar. Figueroa va a Taquería Aztlán para comer tacos y visitar a la dueña del restaurante quien la hace sentir bienvenida cada vez que va.

Esperanza Villalobos y su madre han estado a cargo del restaurante desde octubre del 2006. Hace aproximadamente cuatro o cinco años, Villalobos se dio cuenta que los estudiantes de Elon University iban a su restaurante que también es un mercado.

“Notamos que unos coordinadores de Young Life venían a visitar nuestro local que creo que eran de Elon,” Villalobos dijo. “Había otros estudiantes que también venían en ese entonces.”

Aproximadamente hace cuatro años Figueroa se convirtió en unos de esos estudiantes que poco después se volvería un cliente frecuente. Era su primer año en Elon, y sabía que quería encontrar un lugar que tuviera la comida con la que se crió.

“Me acuerdo que un amigo mío que se llama Sammy fue el que me introdujo a Taquería Aztlán,” Figueroa dijo. “Era mexicano, como yo, y estaba buscando todos los restaurantes mexicanos en la zona porque quería algo auténtico.”

La autenticidad de la comida es parte de la razón por la cual Villalobos cree que mantiene sus clientes. Dice que sabe que tiene competencia con los camiones de comida y otros restaurantes mexicanos en Burlington, pero dice que tiene clientes leales que saben que su comida es casera.

“Cocinamos todo en el restaurante, es fresco y hecho a mano,” Villalobos dijo.

El menú es amplio y les da a los clientes bastantes opciones para elegir. La variedad y disponibilidad también intriga a los estudiantes que son veganos y vegetarianos.

“Yo oí sobre Aztlán a través de Paloma,” dijo la estudiante de segundo año Shreeja Shah. “Desde ese momento he llevado a bastantes de mis amigos al restaurante. Soy vegetariana, y realmente son bastante serviciales, entonces si veo algo que me gusta en el menú, lo puedo pedir sin carne.”

La orden usual de Shah es el burrito vegano, pero ella le añade queso. Shah le presento el restaurante a sus amigos del piso internacional y quiere continuar a

recomendando el restaurante familiar a todos sus residentes.

Villalobos dijo que los burritos y los tacos son los platos más populares del menú. Dijo que aprecia a sus clientes frecuentes de Elon y estima que entre 50 y 60 estudiantes visitan su local.

“Es una oportunidad para salir de Elon y disfrutar de la comida con la que me crié,” Figueroa dijo. “También siento que he establecido una relación con la familia del restaurante. La comida la venden a un precio razonable, los tacos cuestan solo un dólar, y el ambiente hace que se sienta como un hogar.”

Figueroa no estuvo en campus durante el semestre de la primavera, estaba en Nueva York para su programa de Study USA. Bastantes meses pasaron hasta que volvió al restaurante, pero cuando regresó, Villalobos todavía se acordaba de ella.

“Volví al restaurante con mi novio hace poco, e inmediatamente me reconoció y me preguntó por qué no había vuelto en tanto tiempo,” Figueroa dijo. “Es increíble, todavía se acordaba de mi pedido. Me dijo, ‘Cuatro tacos de asada, cilantro, sin cebolla.’”

Villalobos dice que, aunque no conoce a todos los estudiantes por nombre, igual los reconoce y se acuerda de sus pedidos, sus relaciones o en qué materias son buenos. El último detalle es importante porque su hijo está en la secundaria y ella siempre está buscando tutores para asegurarse de que reciba la ayuda que necesita.

“Ha tenido bastantes tutores,” Villalobos dijo. “Sus primeros tutores cobraban 30 dólares la hora, y eso se volvió demasiado caro. Yo le pregunté a los estudiantes de Elon cuánto cobrarían y muchos dijeron que 15 o 20 dólares la hora. Para mí es mejor porque es más barato y a él le gusta conocer a los estudiantes de Elon porque son menores.”

A Villalobos no le importa tener más clientes frecuentes de Elon porque le da la oportunidad de conocerlos más. Dijo que está contenta con la cantidad de gente que va al restaurante a comer su comida.

“Es difícil y estresante estar a cargo de un restaurante,” Villalobos dijo. “Tengo otro trabajo de medio tiempo, pero no busco clientes activamente. Todo está basado en recomendaciones, que es bueno para mí porque quiere decir que a la gente le gusta la comida y eso es suficiente.”



SI VAS

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Horas de operación:
Domingo a jueves de 10 a.m. a 9 p.m.
Viernes a sábado de 10 a.m. a 10 p.m.

A Familiar Flavor

ENGLISH

Homemade food from local Mexican restaurant welcomes students with a taste of home

BURLINGTON — All it takes is a 10-minute drive into Burlington for senior Paloma Figueroa to get a taste of home. Taqueria Aztlan is where she goes to eat tacos and visit the store owner who welcomes her each time.

Esperanza Villalobos and her mother have been running the restaurant since October 2006. About four to five years ago was when she first noticed students from Elon University were visiting her restaurant, which also doubles as a store.

“We noticed some Young Life coordinators or mentors would come and visit our store, which I believe were from Elon,” Villalobos said.

It was around the same time when Figueroa became a regular customer. It was her first year at Elon, and she wanted to find a place that had the food she grew up with.

“I remember a friend of mine named Sammy was actually the one who introduced me to Taqueria Aztlan,” Figueroa said. “He was Mexican, like me, and he was searching all the different Mexican restaurants in the area because he wanted something authentic.”

The authenticity of the food is part of what Villalobos believes keeps her customers coming back for more. She said she knows she has competition with food trucks and other Mexican restaurants in Burlington, but she has loyal customers who know her food is made-to-order.

“We make everything on the spot. It is all fresh and made right after you order,” Villalobos said.

The menu is also vast and allows customers to have plenty to choose from. The variety and availability makes Taqueria Aztlan a great spot for vegan and vegetarian students as well.

“I heard about Aztlan through Paloma actually,” sophomore Shreeja Shah said. “I have since taken a bunch of my friends there as well. I’m vegetarian, and they are really accommodating, so if I see something I like, I can ask for it without meat.”

Shah introduced her friends from the International Living Learning Community to the restaurant and plans to continue to recommend the family-owned establishment to all the new residents on her floor.

Villalobos said the burritos and tacos

are her most popular menu items. She said she appreciates her regular Elon customers and considers 50 to 60 of them regulars.

“It’s a chance to get out of Elon and enjoy some food I grew up with,” Figueroa said. “I also feel like I have established a relationship with the family here. The food is reasonably priced. I mean, tacos are only a dollar, and the atmosphere makes it feel like home.”

Figueroa was away for the spring semester for her Study USA program in New York. Several months had passed since she set foot into the restaurant, but Villalobos recognized her when she finally returned.

“I went again with my boyfriend not too long ago, and she immediately recognized me and asked me why I had not come to see her in so long,” Figueroa said. “It was incredible. She still remembered my order too.”

Villalobos said that while she may not know any of the students by name, she still recognizes them and remembers aspects of them such as their order, who they were dating, or even what school subjects they are good at. Villalobos is especially interested in their school subjects, since she has a son in middle school and is always seeking out tutors to make sure that he gets the help he needs.

“He has gone through a few tutors,” Villalobos said. “His first few tutors were people that charged up to 30 [per] the hour, and that got expensive really fast. I asked the Elon students how much they would charge me to tutor him and many said 15 to 20 [per] the hour would be good. It’s better for me because it’s cheaper and he enjoys getting to know the Elon students more because they are younger.”

Villalobos is content with the amount of people that come to eat her food. She doesn’t mind not having more Elon customers because it gives her a chance to know the regulars better.

“It gets hard and stressful running a restaurant,” Villalobos said. “I have another part-time job, but I do not actively seek out customers. It’s all based on recommendations, which is good for me because it means people like the food, and that is enough for me.”



IF YOU GO

Where: 1118 Vaughn Road, Burlington
Hours of Operation:
Sunday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Six hungry patrons of “Taquería Aztlan” in Burlington begin their lunch on Monday, Sept. 23.

Seis clientes de “Taquería Aztlán” en Burlington almuerzan el lunes, 24 de Sept.



FÉNIX MUESTRAN ORGULLO

ESPAÑOL

Dos atletas de Elon representando a sus países a través de los deportes

Grace Morris
News Director | @gracehnmorris

Hace dos años Gabriela Varisco de Oliveira tomó una decisión que cambió su vida. Empacó sus maletas, se subió a un avión y vino a los Estados Unidos, dejando a su familia en Brasil.

“Fue muy difícil. Soy muy cercana a ellos. Hablaba con ellos básicamente todos los días. Entonces fue muy difícil,” Varisco de Oliveira dijo. “Pero después del primer mes, sabía que había tomado la decisión correcta.”

Varisco de Oliveira está en su segundo año en Elon University y corre la carrera de 800 metros para el equipo de atletismo de Elon. Varisco de Oliveira dijo que siempre le han gustado los deportes. De niña nadaba, jugaba fútbol y corría, pero ahora, solo corre.

“Un día simplemente sentí ‘quiero

“

HAY QUE ESTAR ORGULLOSOS DE DONDE SE VIENE Y SIEMPRE ESTÁ BIEN CELEBRARLO.

IÑIGO BRONTE
ESTUDIANTE ATLETA

correr’. Mi padre también corre, así que creo que mi gusto vino de él y pensé ‘quisiera correr’. Encontré un club cerca de casa y así es como empecé y desde ese entonces nunca he parado,” Varisco de Oliveira dijo.

Cuando empezó a correr solo corría una o dos millas al día, pero ahora corre 30 millas cada semana para entrenar para sus competencias.

“Si no corro por uno o dos días, lo echo de menos, me hace sentir bien. Me gusta estar con mis compañeros del equipo y me gusta estar en la pista de atletismo,” Varisco de Oliveira dijo.

La situación es similar para otros atletas como Iñigo Bronte, quien juega para el equipo de fútbol masculino de Elon University. Bronte es de Pamplona, España y atribuye sus inicios en el fútbol a su padre.

“Mi padre era entrenador de fútbol, desde que tenía un año, mi padre me

PHOTO COURTESY OF TROY SAYLES | ELON ATHLETICS

Senior Iñigo Bronte is a forward for Elon University’s men’s soccer team and is the only Latinx/Hispanic athlete on the team.

Estudiante de último año, Iñigo Bronte, de Pamplona, España, es el delantero del equipo de fútbol masculino de Elon University.

llevaba a sus entrenamientos de fútbol,” él dijo.

Pero, la razón de su amor por el fútbol viene de ganar con su equipo.

“Lo que más me gusta es hacer goles y poder ayudar al equipo. Pero bueno, el estar en el vestuario con los compañeros y la sensación de ganar con el trabajo en grupo al final yo creo que es lo más gratificante,” Bronte dijo.

Pero ambos atletas lucharon con sus transiciones a Elon University. Para Varisco de Oliveira y Bronte, el idioma fue lo más difícil de entender.

“Creo que lo más difícil son las barreras con el idioma. Es una cosa hablar inglés con brasileños que hablan portugués y es otra cosa hablar inglés con americanos cuando su primer idioma es inglés,” Varisco de Oliveira dijo.

Y los dos encontraron ayuda.

“El año pasado había otro compañero español en el equipo que me ayudó mucho al principio,” Bronte dijo

Según el Registrar’s Report del 2019, en Elon University sólo hay tres estudiantes de Brasil y siete estudiantes de España, dejando a Varisco de Oliveira y Bronte en la minoría. Los dos dijeron que fue muy difícil adaptarse cuando llegaron, pero que sus equipos los apoyaron.

“Nuestro equipo es súper bueno no solo como compañeros de equipo, pero como amigos. No somos amigos solo por el atletismo. Somos amigos aparte de eso,” Varisco de Oliveira dijo.

A pesar de que sus amigos fueron uno de los aspectos más importantes en sus transiciones a Elon, Bronte cree que la mezcla de estudiantes en Elon es buena.

“También vivir con distintas culturas. Al final yo creo que es bueno para todos,” Bronte dijo.

Pero mientras Bronte cree que la diversidad es buena, él echa de menos sus raíces y la cultura de su hogar.

“Al final yo creo que, las amistades y las familias y el nivel de familiaridad, yo creo que es más cercano quizás tal vez que en Estados Unidos. Y esa es una de las cosas que más echo de menos, estar con los amigos y con la familia,” Bronte dijo.

Los dos están de acuerdo que sus raíces y sus culturas los fortalecen.

“Hay que estar orgullosos de donde se viene y siempre está bien celebrarlo,” Bronte dijo.

PHOENIX SHOWS PRIDE

ENGLISH

Two Elon athletes represent their culture and country on and off the field

Grace Morris
News Director | @gracehnmorris

Two years ago, Gabriela Varisco de Oliveira made a decision that changed her life. She packed her bags, boarded a plane and came to the U.S., leaving her family in Brazil.

“It was really hard. I’m really close to them. I talked to them like every day. So that was hard,” Varisco de Oliveira said. “But once I came in the first month I was like, yeah this was definitely the right thing.”

Varisco de Oliveira is now in her sophomore year at Elon University and runs the 800-meter event for the Phoenix track and field team. Varisco de Oliveira said she has always loved sports. As a child, she swam, played soccer and ran. Running is the only one that stuck.

“My dad is also a runner, so I think it came from him and I was like, I want to run,” Varisco de Oliveira said. “And I found a club at home and then that’s how I started, and since then I’ve never stopped.”

When she started running, it was only one or two miles a day. Now, she runs 30 miles every week to practice for competitions.

“If I don’t run for one or two days, I miss it. It makes me feel good. I like being with my teammates. I like being at the track,” Varisco de Oliveira said.

Varisco de Oliveira’s situation is similar to other athletes such as Iñigo Bronte, who plays for the men’s soccer team. Bronte is from Pamplona, Spain, and attributes his start in soccer to his father.

“My father was a soccer coach from the time I was one year old. My father would take me to his soccer trainings,” Bronte said.

For Bronte, however, his love for soccer comes from the thrill of winning with his team.

“Being in the locker room with my teammates and the feeling of winning as a result of the group work, I think, is the most gratifying at the end,” Bronte said.

Despite their aptitude in their respective sports, both athletes struggled with their transition to Elon. Above all, language was the most difficult thing for them to understand.

“One thing is speaking English with Brazilians who speak Portuguese. And the other thing is speaking English with Americans where

everyone speaks English as their first language,” Varisco de Oliveira said.

However, both found the support they needed.

“Last year there was another Spanish teammate on the team that helped me a lot in the beginning,” Bronte said.

According to the 2019 Fall Registrar’s Report, there are only three students at Elon from Brazil and seven students from Spain, leaving Bronte and Varisco de Oliveira in the minority. Both said it was difficult to adjust when they arrived, but their teams supported them.

“Our team is really good about not just being teammates but being friends.

“

YOU HAVE TO BE PROUD OF WHERE YOU COME FROM, AND IT’S ALWAYS GOOD TO CELEBRATE IT.

IÑIGO BRONTE
STUDENT ATHLETE

We are not friends just because of track. We are friends besides that,” Varisco de Oliveira said.

While their friends were helpful and comforting during their transitions to Elon, Bronte thinks being in a mix of students at Elon is a good thing.

“In the end, I think it’s good for everyone,” Bronte said.

But while Bronte thinks the diversity is positive, he misses his roots and home culture.

“It’s one of the things I miss the most, being with my friends and family,” Bronte said.

Regardless, both athletes agree that their roots and culture make them stronger.

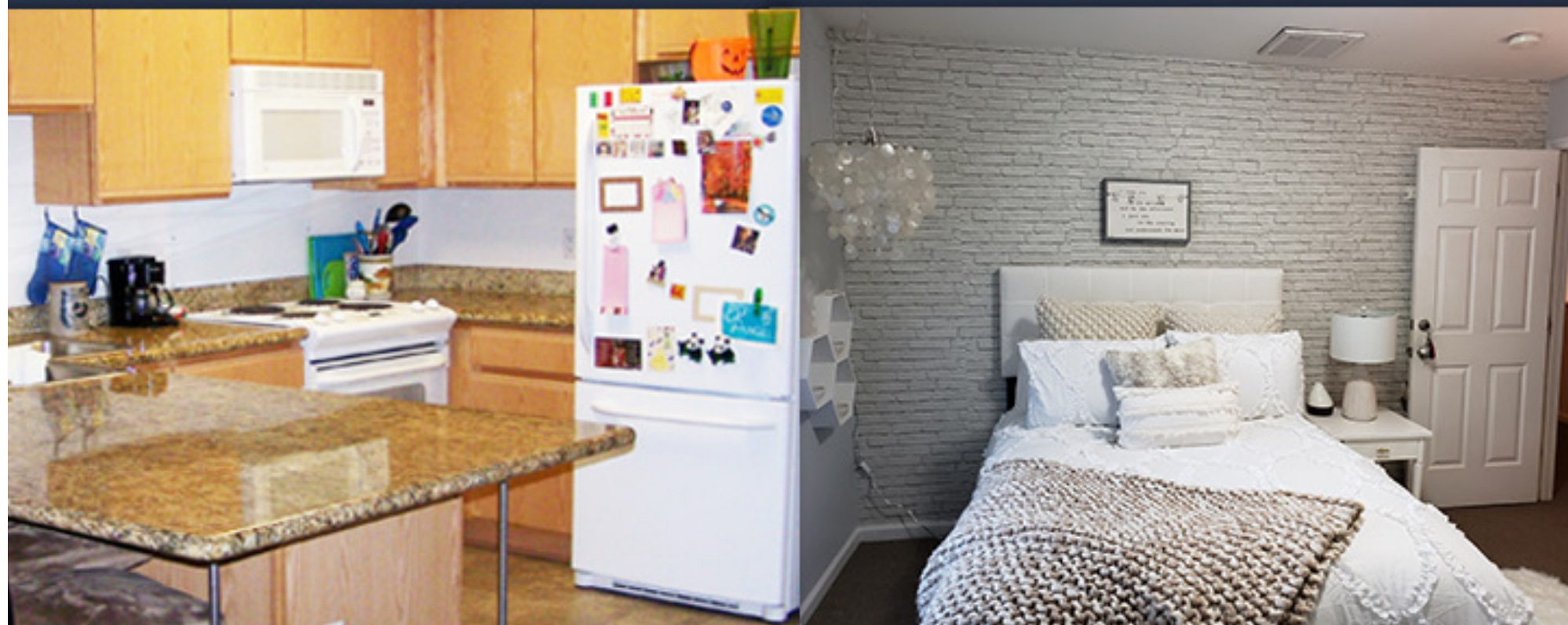
“You have to be proud of where you come from, and it’s always good to celebrate it,” Bronte said.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TROY SAYLES | ELON ATHLETICS

Sophomore Gabriela Varisco de Oliveira, from Brazil, runs the 800-meter event for Elon University’s track and field team.

Estudiante de segundo año, Gabriela Varisca de Oliveira de Brasil, corre la carrera de 800-metros para el equipo de atletismo de Elon University.



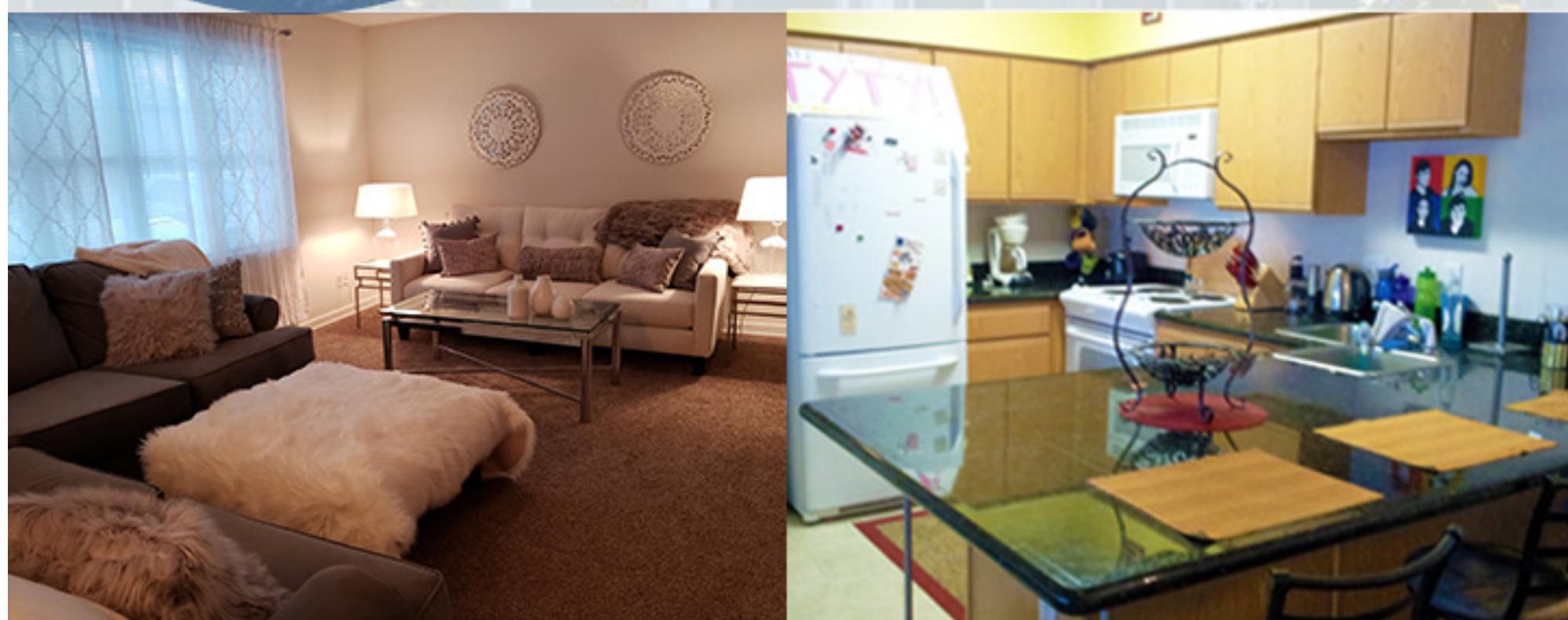


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An aerial shot taken above the Global Neighborhood, showcasing three of the community's residential buildings, as well as Global Commons, a popular study and gathering space for students. CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As The Elon Commitment comes to a close, the university prepares to launch its 2020-2030 strategic plan

Hannah Massen

Elon News Network | @massenhannah

After a decade of capital projects, curriculum changes, enrollment growth and student-centered initiatives, Elon University's

2010-2020 strategic plan is 96.9% complete, according to the plan's website. In the final months of "The Elon Commitment," the university is in the process of finalizing the 2020-2030 strategic plan, which has yet to be named.

According to Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Jeff Stein, who is also co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, the plan should be approved by the Board of

THE ELON COMMITMENT

96.9%

of Elon University's 2010-2020 strategic plan, named "The Elon Commitment," is complete.

Trustees by mid-December.

The Student Government Association will host a forum in The Moseley Center on Thursday, Oct. 3, at 7:30 p.m. to receive input from the student body on the plan. Members of the Strategic Planning Committee are currently reaching out to student organizations for more feedback.

See **Strategic Plan** | pg. 4

'A co-curricular moment': Community contextualizes Nikki Haley's visit

Elon faculty host panel discussing the career of the former UN ambassador and state governor

Emery Eisner

Elon News Network | @eisneremery

Nikki Haley, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, is the keynote speaker at this year's Fall Convocation. Haley's visit has sparked discussion on campus regarding her political beliefs and her previous role in the Trump administration.

"This is an interesting moment in American public life," said Jason Kirk, associate professor of political science and policy studies, explaining that Americans are now more civically aware than in the past.

The address is set to take place on Friday, Sept. 27 in Schar Center.

Days before her visit, Elon University's faculty hosted a panel entitled "America First' in Action — Ambassador Nikki Haley, the United Nations and Political Leadership in Turbulent Times."

Featured panelists included Jason Kirk, Carrie Eaves, Sandy Marshall and Kaye Ustry, professors who share professional expertise in either domestic or international politics.

According to both Kirk and Eaves the panel was hosted in hopes of providing



Nikki Haley, U.S. ambassador to the U.N., answers a question posed by Peter Feaver, professor of political science and policy studies, during Haley's lecture at Duke University on April 5, 2018. ANTON L. DELGADO | MANAGING EDITOR

students with a better understanding of Haley's speech and academically "interesting" career.

"It would just be a waste to not let students have that conversation. We would be doing you a disservice by not putting that expertise forward," Eaves said.

The goal of the panel was to critically analyze Haley's career from an academic rather than a partisan point of view, according to Kirk and Eaves.

"We see it as an opportunity to have a learning moment, a co-curricular moment," Kirk said.

Eaves agreed that an emphasis on non-partisanship was important in studying

Haley.

"It's more to take an academic look at her record and what we can sort of glean broadly from her record," Eaves said. "Our hope is to provide a broad overview of Nikki Haley for students who don't know much about her. We'll try to cover it from both sides, both how she fits in as an American politician and her sort of global role, and we'll each speak for a brief amount of time."

All questions from the event's moderators, as well as those during the Q&A portion, were not pre-selected, according to Eaves.

See **Haley** | pg. 5

T-Pain to be Homecoming performer

Anton L. Delgado

Managing Editor | @antonldelgado

Elon University's Student Union Board announced that T-Pain, award-winning rapper, singer, songwriter and producer, is this year's Homecoming concert performer. The concert is set to take place on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in Schar Center.

Tickets to attend the Homecoming concert can be reserved online on SUB's website.

Alternatively, tickets can be picked up in the SUB office located in Room 120 of the Moseley Student Center. SUB will continue to make tickets available in the same location on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$20 for faculty and staff.

Alumni tickets will be available starting at 8 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 30, and public tickets will be available starting at 8 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 7. Tickets are \$20 for alumni and \$25 for the public.

TICKET PRICES:

Students: \$10

Alumni: \$20

Faculty and Staff: \$20

Public: \$25

At the Door:

\$30

See **Homecoming** | pg. 5



NEWS • PAGE 7

Former university physician and health center namesake dies



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 7

Class of 2023 elects student government representatives



OPINIONS • PAGE 8

Student political organizations discuss Nikki Haley's visit

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

Established 1974
Volume 45, Edition 6

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

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Meghan Kimberling, Ted Thomas, Ella Williams, Olivia Parks, Taylor Truitt, Caroline Bunder, Audrey Raphaels, Nyah Phengsitthy and Emily Jacobs contributed to the design of this edition.
Matt Reichenbach, April Roberts, Nina Crocco and Thomas Denome contributed to the copy editing of this edition.
Maria Ramirez Uribe, Carolina Ferreyros and Sylvia Muñoz contributed to the translating of the Hispanic Heritage Month special edition.

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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.

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

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

Contact
corrections@elonnewsnetwork.com
to report a correction or a concern.

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

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Elon Local News
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ELN Online Exclusive
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CORRECTIONS

There were no corrections issued for the last edition of The Pendulum.

COMIC

HI! TIDE



COMIC SAMS – SAM POROZOK

CALENDAR: SEPT. 25 – OCT. 1

GAMES

How to Play: Guess the missing word in the five clues, then find them in the word search below. Words can be found backward, diagonal, etc.

1. Robert _____ is the founder for the Act-Belong-Commit initiative. *See Page 6 for answer.*
2. Nikki _____, former U.N. ambassador, is the 2019 Fall Convocation speaker. *See Page 1 & 5 for answer.*
3. _____ and astrophysics are the two new majors offered this fall, both in the Department of Physics. *See Page 6 for answer.*
4. Robert _____ Sr., is remembered for transforming Elon University's aid station into a health center. *See Page 7 for answer.*
5. "The Elon _____" is the name of Elon University's 2010–2020 Strategic Plan. *See Page 8 for answer.*

T	N	E	M	T	I	M	M	O	C	N	A	W	O	S	K	M	L	R
L	M	F	H	Q	P	G	W	H	O	K	P	C	G	I	V	K	L	A
P	F	J	E	J	N	V	Y	A	L	X	W	G	F	Z	F	K	N	O
C	T	M	Y	D	F	T	F	L	K	V	O	S	R	K	A	J	T	H
K	L	H	S	A	M	G	R	E	E	L	R	Y	Q	S	G	W	O	P
X	U	R	M	C	V	O	L	Y	T	L	T	E	T	A	H	X	X	J
K	B	J	J	Z	G	H	W	D	J	X	L	R	G	Q	I	J	X	U
I	U	X	A	L	A	X	A	P	O	D	O	I	A	V	X	I	L	B
I	R	H	P	N	S	N	T	A	P	N	L	Y	N	G	T	C	Y	Z
W	S	P	A	A	G	X	X	E	O	J	O	W	M	G	W	H	U	N
N	Z	K	P	B	X	I	E	M	K	G	F	V	D	S	T	S	E	R
R	C	V	Z	U	J	Q	Y	W	C	N	H	I	A	B	C	O	J	D
Q	P	R	T	F	V	J	T	C	J	M	N	V	K	N	R	K	N	E

<div>FOOD TRUCK WED. 10 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD BASKETBALL COURT 1</div> <div>25</div>	<div>MEN'S SOCCER VS UNC GREENSBORO 7 P.M. RUDD FIELD</div> <div>25</div>	<div>DIY NIGHT 10 P.M. - 12 A.M. MOSELEY STUDENT CENTER</div> <div>26</div>	<div>UNIVERSITY FALL CONVOCATION: NIKKI HALEY 3:30 P.M. - 5 P.M. SCHAR CENTER</div> <div>27</div>	<div>WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS HOFSTRA 8 P.M. SCHAR CENTER</div> <div>27</div>
<div>DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY CONCERT 7:30 P.M. - 9 P.M. WHITLEY AUDITORIUM</div> <div>27</div>	<div>COFFEE/BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENT 8 A.M. - 9 A.M. KOURY ATHLETICS WEST LAWN</div> <div>28</div>	<div>FOOTBALL VS JAMES MADISON 2 P.M. RHODES STADIUM</div> <div>28</div>	<div>ROCKAPELLA SHOW 6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. 8:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M. ALUMNI GYM</div> <div>28</div>	<div>ALLISON JOSEPH, GUEST READING 7:30 - 8:30 P.M. JOHNSTON HALL 100</div> <div>1</div>



A young girl giggles during a face painting session at the Burlington Carousel Festival on Saturday, Sept. 21.

ANTON L. DELGADO | MANAGING EDITOR



Elon University's freshman middle blocker Jenn Krezeminski serves the ball during the volleyball game against Winthrop University in Schar Center on Tuesday, Sept. 17.

LUKE JOHNSON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Garnett Ball, 8, attempts to conquer the rock wall during his visit to the Burlington Carousel Festival on Saturday, Sept. 21.

ANTON L. DELGADO | MANAGING EDITOR



From left to right: Freshman tight end Ian Drummond, sophomore wide receiver Avery Jones and redshirt sophomore defensive lineman Torrence Williams celebrate a moment in the game between Elon University and Wake Forest University on Saturday, Sept. 21.

GRACE TERRY | DESIGN CHIEF



SCAN FOR MORE ON
FOOTBALL

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

THOMAS DENOME | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Redshirt junior forward Tuki Tayali kicks the ball during the men's soccer game between Elon University and Appalachian State University on Tuesday, Sept. 17.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE PLANS AHEAD FOR NEXT DECADE

STRATEGIC PLAN | from cover

The 2020-2030 strategic plan's creation was a community-wide effort. The 47-member strategic planning committee — which includes students, alumni, professors, trustees, President Connie Book, faculty and staff — received additional input through surveys and open listening sessions.

Stein said hearing the community's hopes for the future has been a rewarding experience.

"The Elon family has articulated a bold vision of Elon being even better at being Elon," Stein said. "The vision is, let's build a better Elon, not try to be someone else."

The Elon Commitment included eight themes, but the 2020-2030 strategic plan has just four: rise, learn, thrive and connect. The

COLLEGE ENROLLMENT DOWNTURN

The 2008-2009 recession caused fewer babies to be born in the United States. This will result in fewer high school graduates in 2025, and even fewer college enrollments.

goals outlined in each of these themes will dictate the university's actions and initiatives for the next 10 years.

"Any goal that we put in the strategic plan we're going to make sure that we can model and we can accomplish, but we're going to make sure it stretches us," Stein said.

One of the first goals outlined under the "rise" theme is the university's intention

to more than double the endowment to \$625 million, with more than 80% dedicated to funding student scholarships.

Gerald Whittington, the senior vice president for business, finance, and technology, said the influx of funds would come from donor support.

According to Stein, offering affordable tuition rates may help the university stay competitive during the 2025 college enrollment downturn.

"One thing that all colleges and universities are thinking about is there's going to be even more competition, and that means that colleges and universities have to be even better," Stein said. "This is what President Lambert used to call a 'long-play,' but we believe that if we work hard enough and in the right ways, we can double the endowment."

Current and incoming students will see new science and technology courses offered in the coming years, as well as the addition of a STEM quad. The "learn" theme of the 2020-2030 strategic plan emphasizes the importance of STEM education for all students.

In addition to establishing a nursing program and a "leading school of engineering," Elon will offer short courses, pop-up learning opportunities and certificate programs on digital literacy and data analysis across all disciplines.

Shefali Christopher, assistant professor of physical therapy education and strategic planning committee member, believes that offering more STEM opportunities is key to the university's development.

"More engineering options, more pathway options like the 3+1 that would allow students to come sooner to physical therapy school, things like that are really good for the value and growth of Elon and having a place as a national university," Christopher said.

According to Stein, the push for more STEM programs is partially due to feedback from alumni who wished they would have had more experience with data before graduation.

"STEM is exciting. It's bold and it's something that's been in the works for a number of years," Stein said. "We know that we have to deepen our efforts there, both for students to find jobs as well as to provide all students with those abilities."

The university also plans to institute a new four-year mentoring model in which students will build a network of advisors instead of having only one.

Tim Peeples, senior associate provost for faculty affairs and strategic planning committee



Top: An aerial shot taken from above McMichael Science Building, home to many of Elon's science classrooms and labs.



Bottom: An aerial shot showcasing morning light above the Alamance Building, a hallmark of Elon University's campus.

“

THE ELON FAMILY HAS ARTICULATED A BOLD VISION OF ELON BEING EVEN BETTER AT BEING ELON. THE VISION IS, LET'S BUILD A BETTER ELON, NOT TRY TO BE SOMEONE ELSE

JEFF STEIN

VICE PRESIDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND CO-CHAIR OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The plan's final theme, "connect," promotes greater engagement between the university and Guilford and Alamance counties. According to Stein, the surrounding areas have identified education, health and economic development as their priorities, and the university intends to help them meet those goals.

"The plan suggests that we believe we can do better in terms of our connection with those communities," Stein said.

According to Stein, the strategic planning committee worked hard to ensure the new strategic plan reflects the needs of everyone at Elon.

"We have a history of identifying stretch goals together and working towards them," Stein said. "But I think a liberal arts university that provides the world's best engaged learning and mentoring leads to graduates who change the world. That's the goal."

RISE

This theme outlines the university's financial goals, such as doubling the endowment, increasing student scholarships, maintaining high graduation rates and completing the Elon LEADS campaign.

THRIVE

This theme focuses on supporting student, faculty and staff well-being and the university's intention to advance diversity, equity and inclusion.

LEARN

This theme discusses Elon's upcoming academic initiatives, like more STEM programs, a new four-year mentoring model and ensuring access to the ELRs

CONNECT

This theme outlines Elon's proposed community partnerships and commitment to supporting alumni and athletics.

member, said the new mentoring model will help students gain real-world networking skills.

"Relying on one person to do all things for you is really not a wise way to go about mentor relationships. So in reality, most of us have a number of mentors who serve different roles," Peeples said. "One of the things we're going to be focusing on is helping students develop a broad constellation, or set, of mentors that help them in all facets."

One of the goals outlined in the "learn" theme is ensuring even greater access to internships and study abroad opportunities. In consideration of the relationship between international travel and climate change, the university hopes to become carbon neutral by 2037. Stein said there is currently no plan in place for how the university will accomplish this goal.

"This is a strategic plan that throws out ideas, but implementation is later," Stein said.

Much of the "thrive" theme is dedicated to promoting well-being across campus, starting with the students.

A renovation of the Koury Center will combine recreation, mental health, wellness and social centers into one space. According to Christopher, the university hopes to give students the resources and resilience they need to get through school.

"You hear all the time that students have increased pressures to perform in universities, to keep up with scholarships, and we want students to be healthy so they perform well," Christopher said. "That's probably one of the things that I love most about the plan: we are investing in our own students, and we are helping them be the best that they can be."

The plan describes an Elon where students, faculty and staff "experience a deep sense of support and belonging."

Leigh-Anne Royster, director of the Center for Equity and Inclusive Excellence, said while The Elon Commitment was about building the capacity for diversity and inclusion, the 2020-2030 strategic plan is about making further progress.

SPACIOUS COMMUTER HOUSE FOR LEASE

Furnished rooms for rent: This large rambler group house is a **30-minute commute to Elon**. The house offers a view of a golf course and nature preserve. The place is quiet, good for concentrating and studying.

There are **three bedrooms** available for **\$500 a month** (110-150 square feet) that share a bathroom. Security deposit is one month's rent.

Common areas include kitchen, brunch area, TV room and sun room. The fourth bedroom and the master bedroom is optional. Preference goes to seniors/graduate/medical/law and post-doctorate students who want to lease all rooms for one year lease. Single parties are welcome too. The house comes with cable/Wi-fi, HEPA filtered heat and air conditioning, ceiling fans, dishwasher, washer/dryer, microwave and optional cleaning service.

Please call **Gregory Daly** at **202-302-1449** or email **gdaly.pphs@gmail.com** for details and to set a time to visit the house.

FORMER US AMBASSADOR TO THE UN VISITS ELON UNIVERSITY

HALEY | from cover

“Part of bringing these big speakers to campus is that they negotiate their contracts,” Eaves said. “It’s not unique to Nikki Haley. Most of them are not doing sort of an open mic thing, but this event will give students an opportunity to ask their questions and have an academic panel try to provide them some feedback.”

She added that while the featured panelists have expertise related to Haley and her work, they cannot speak on behalf of the former ambassador.

“Obviously, we can’t speak directly for Nikki Haley and what she’s thinking about things, but we can talk about ... how we should think about her in American politics and globally,” Eaves said.

The framing of the panel as a scholarly opportunity has been an important theme among panelists, according to Kirk and Eaves.

Kirk, who conducts

research related to Haley’s career, said Haley’s speech at Fall Convocation has presented a “unique opportunity” to talk about “general issue areas that were prominent during Haley’s ambassadorship” such as the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement during Haley’s tenure.

According to the U.N., the agreement aimed “to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change” by attempting to control changes in global temperature this century.

After President Donald Trump decided to withdraw, Haley said the U.S. must work to “balance economic growth and

environmental protection” and that “moving away from a flawed agreement” was one way to do so.

The panel also covered topics related to Haley’s governorship.

Haley was governor of South Carolina during the 2010 midterm elections, when the fiscally conservative Tea Party movement rose to prominence. She also dealt with what Eaves called the “domestic terrorism incident” in Charleston in 2015, where nine African Americans were killed at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Haley’s response to the incident involved the removal of the Confederate flag from the South Carolina statehouse.

“I think she is someone we will continue to see

on the national scene,” Eaves said. “I think she’s an important figure to follow for that reason.”

Kirk agreed that following the trajectory of Haley’s career is important, describing her as a “rising Republican star.”

Kirk said that Republicans could be “looking to diversify their appeal,” a goal with which Haley’s career aligns perfectly. As the first female and first Indian-American to become South Carolina’s governor, Haley’s prominence lies in the historical significance of her career.

“There are few Republican women that have achieved the level of success that she has, so I think she’s interesting in thinking about sort of how she navigates the Republican party as a female politician,” Eaves said. “She’s also just come about at a really interesting time.”

Kirk, who has previously conducted research involving Haley and has an upcoming book currently under review, stressed that his involvement in the panel was not in any way promotional, but rather aligned with the overarching goal of the panel: context.

Kirk said he was asked to help “contextualize” Haley’s visit. Eaves agreed that the purpose of the panel was to provide a wider context around Haley’s career.

“I don’t think I’d use the word ‘controversy’ as the reason we’re doing this,” Eaves said of the panel, which did not plan to gloss over Haley’s stance on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. “But I think it’s important to have broader context and then let students make that decision for themselves about whether or not they think she’s controversial or what her motivations are.”

This situation becomes especially important, according to Eaves, when considering the diverse range of exposure some students may have to Haley.

“Some students will know a lot about Nikki Haley,” Eaves said. “I mean, I teach Intro to American Government, and I’m always surprised by the breadth of knowledge ... some people might know her more as a governor, some

people have only heard of her as a U.N. Ambassador, so knowing more about that role as a governor will be important when thinking about where she stands on an ideological spectrum will be important.”

According to the Washington Speakers Bureau, Haley can be booked to speak exclusively through the agency. The WSB lists Haley’s potential speech topics as ranging from “American politics” to “leadership” to “inspiring lives.”

The WSB did not respond for comment on the cost to book a speech by Haley, though a representative said the information is available.

Tickets for Fall Convocation are still available at the Center for the Arts box office as well as in neighborhood offices across campus. According to senior Jasmine Walters, an employee at the CFA box office, there were as many as 130 empty seats remaining as of last Friday afternoon, Sept. 20.



Nikki Haley, then-U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, at the U.N. in New York on Sept. 11, 2017.

MICHAEL BROCHSTEIN | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

T-Pain coming to Schar Center



EVA RINALDI | FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

T-Pain performs during the 2012 “Supafest” music festival hosted in Sydney, Australia.

HOMECOMING | from cover

Day of show tickets can be purchased at Schar Center ticketing windows for \$30.

T-Pain, born Faheem Rasheed Najm, is best known for his nominated songs and features such as “Bartender,” “Good Life,” “Buy U A Drank (Shawty Snappin’)” and “Low.”

Most recently, T-Pain released his sixth studio album “1UP” in February, for which he is currently on tour. T-Pain will be sandwiching his Elon performance between concerts in Royal Oak, Michigan on Nov. 1 and Cleveland, Ohio on Nov. 3.

“With our move into the Schar Center and as a result of the feedback we got from last year’s concert. SUB knew we wanted to bring an artist to campus that was different than any other show we have done before,” said senior Erin Eady, SUB’s performance chair, in a press release. “Through the results collected from the survey, we were able to understand what type of concert experience our students want to have. We were able to narrow the list down to a show that brings together various music genres and highlights the caliber of artist that students are looking for,” Eady said. She declined Elon News Network’s request for further comment.

The day before T-Pain’s performance, on-campus a cappella group Vital Signs will be performing on Friday, Nov. 1 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium.

The 2018 Homecoming concert sold out Schar Center with performances from Jesse McCartney,

SUB KNEW WE WANTED TO BRING AN ARTIST TO CAMPUS THAT WAS DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER SHOW WE HAVE DONE BEFORE

ERIN EADY
SUB PERFORMANCE CHAIR

Sean Kingston and Quinn XCII. Last year, Elon’s Student Government Association approved a \$65,000 special allocation to cover the artist fees. The total projected cost of the concert was \$180,345, according to SGA and SUB’s budget allocations.

Despite SUB saying they had oversold the venue, Schar Center appeared rather empty. Then concert director Colton Caradette said that he hoped this year’s Homecoming could be “a little more” oversold.

Last year’s event became extra memorable when Kingston jumped into the crowd, prompting attendees to cross the barriers separating the floor seating and the lower bowl. Caradette said the staff was not anticipating that to happen, explaining that SUB staff would have prepared differently had they expected it.

Artists such as rapper Jon Bellion and indie duo Matt and Kim have headlined past Elon Homecoming concerts.

IF YOU GO
When: Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Where: Schar Center
Tickets: Online or the SUB office in Room 120 of the Moseley Student Center



SCAN FOR MORE ON THE LAST
AMBASSADOR TO VISIT ELON

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

Registrar's Report highlights student popularity decline and rise in different majors

It's always been Geoffrey Claussen's dream to expand the study of religion at Elon University. Now, in his eighth year as a professor of religious studies and second year as chair of the department, that expansion has been accomplished. The University Curriculum Committee has approved nearly 10 introductory courses, six being brand new, in the Department of Religious Studies.

"We hope that these introductory classes create a pathway to introduce students to the field of religious studies," Claussen said. "Our department wants to make sure that first-year students are excited about an academic field that most coming to Elon might not know about."

The curriculum process Claussen went through began in February — taking nearly eight months to get approved.

"It is wonderful to have a faculty-controlled committee, where faculty can work with faculty to develop a strong curriculum throughout the university," Claussen said.

The committee reviews two to three dozen proposals for new or revised majors and minors in a given year, according to Jason Kirk, chair of the curriculum committee and associate professor of political science and policy studies.

“Decisions to add structurally new university elements with important implications for the curriculum ... are strategic decisions taken by university leaders in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders,” Kirk said.

According to Kirk, faculty initiative and student interest are critical for curriculum change.

On Sept. 18, the Office of the Registrar released its annual fall report, which outlines trends in Elon enrollment, religious traditions, state and country representation and majors.

"The report is important because it provides a snapshot of the pulse of our institution," said Casey Hayes, assistant registrar for data management and reporting. "You can see where our growth is at and how much we have changed, semester to semester, and year to year."

One of the report's largest sections documents student enrollment in different majors throughout Elon's four undergraduate schools.

As overall student enrollment continues to grow, naturally so does the number of students in different majors. However, 35 of the 83 active, transitioning and discontinuing majors listed in the Registrar's Report showed a decrease in student involvement from last fall.

One of the more ambiguous categorizations in the report is the transition majors. For example, the Sport and Event Management major has been rebranded as Sport Management, despite the curriculum staying the same. Students interested in this field are being placed in Sport Management in order to continue phasing out the Sport and Event

Management major.

When analyzing the number of students in each major, it is important to note that the Registrar's Report also accounts for the 512 students currently undeclared. Additionally, the Office of the Registrar has confirmed the report counts each major of every student, including double and triple majors — there are 877 double majors and seven triple majors at Elon.

“We are a liberal arts institution. We want to see healthy enrollment in all of our majors,” University Registrar Rodney Parks said.

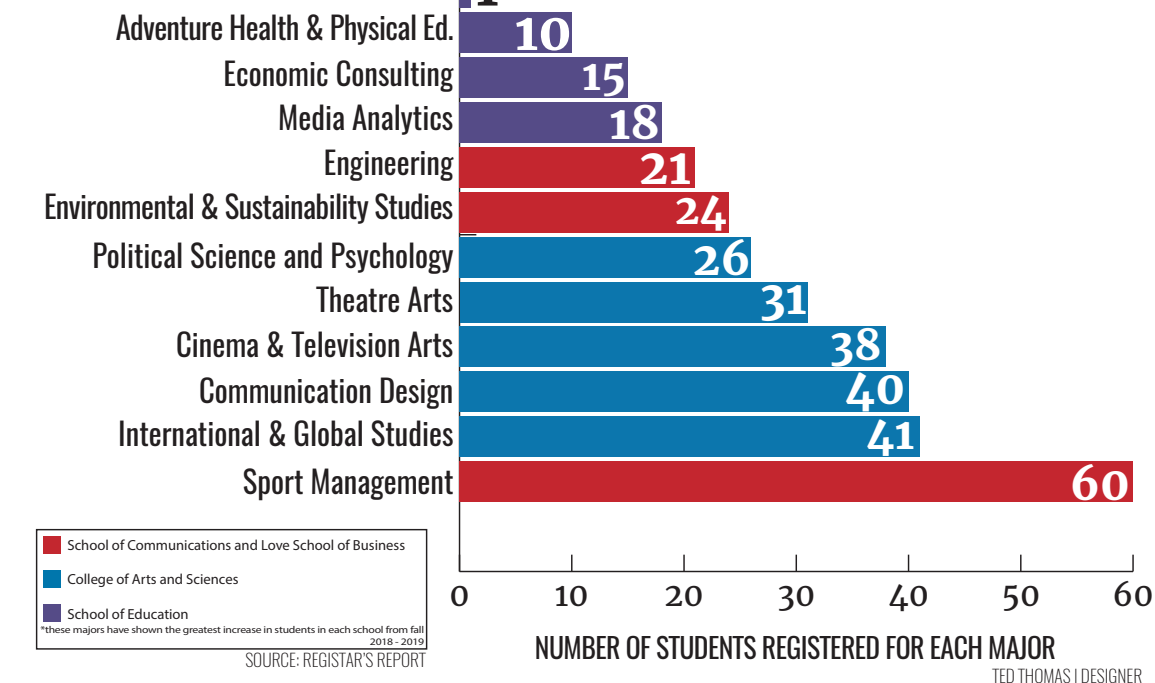
Astronomy and astrophysics are the two new majors offered this fall, both in the Department of Physics. In the past three years, three majors have closed: computer information systems, information science and public administration.

Hayes, who is in charge of

compiling all the report's data, is expecting a significant increase in the number of major declarations among freshmen and sophomores next spring. During the last academic school year, between fall 2018 and spring 2019 the number of undeclared majors decreased from 516 to 366.

The next Registrar's Report is expected to be released in mid-February.

Science, Middle Grades and Early Childhood Ed.



Mental Health Summit introduces new Act-Belong-Commit initiative on campus

Madalyn Howard | Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

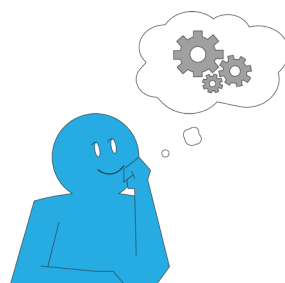


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SAM PORZOK

Elon University will unveil new, campus-wide mental health measures for students and faculty this week. Referred to as the Act-Belong-Commit initiative, this framework will launch during a two-day Mental Health Summit beginning today.

The two-day summit is free, open to the public and includes a diverse lineup of speakers and panelists. Among those scheduled are mental health clinicians, members of the Elon campus community, and international mental health advocates.

This new mental health initiative corresponds with Elon University's Strategic Plan 2030, the university's master plan to create a more committed, engaged and inclusive culture. The plan includes nods to campus-wide well-being initiatives; programs that promote emotional, physical, and social health among students and faculty.

The summit comes after almost two years of planning by Elon faculty and staff. Eric Hall, professor of exercise science, and Caroline Ketcham, professor and chair of the Department of Exercise Science, have been in charge of the summit since the initial stages of planning.

"The purpose of this summit and of the A-B-C campaign is to destigmatize some of these issues around mental health and view it much more positively," Hall said.

Ketcham hopes the summit has a positive impact on the discussions about mental health.

"We're just trying to change the culture on how people talk to each other — being more open and vulnerable, understanding that all of us deal with struggles," Ketcham said.

Hall and Ketcham cite the first step to reaching these goals as the implementation of the Act-Belong-Commit initiative, which will be officially introduced and explained

over the course of the event.

Larry Mellinger, director of campus recreation and wellness, is excited for Elon to become one of the first college campuses to fully implement the framework in the U.S. Mellinger, along with Hall and Ketcham, has been a leader of the Mental Health Summit since its conception.

"Act-Belong-Commit is really about the choices that you make on a day-to-day basis," he said. "A-B-C isn't about doing more; it's about knowing what you need."

The first pillar of the foundation, “Act,” encourages students and adults on campus to be alert, active and engaged with the community. “B” stands for “Belong,” encouraging participation in organizations like classes, clubs, sports or residence life. Finally, “C” stands for “Commit,” encouraging community members to take up causes that provide purpose and meaning in their lives. This framework was designed by Dr. Robert Donovan and Danish researcher Ziggi Santini.

Hall, Ketcham, and Mellinger said she wants the Mental Health Summit to emphasize the powerful simplicity of the framework, as well as the importance and ease with which it can be implemented in everyday life.

"I hope people walk away from it thinking about mental health more positively," Hall said in regards to the two-day summit.

Mellinger agrees, noting his excitement for the lasting, positive impacts of the campaign.

"People on our campus and other campuses ... are working really hard to make this a better place," Mellinger said. "I couldn't think of anything better and more important that we could be doing."

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A central collage of nine framed images showcasing various festival activities. At the top left is 'JOUSTING' showing two riders on horseback. To its right is 'FALCONRY' featuring a man holding a bird of prey. Below jousting is 'COMEDY' with two men in medieval attire. Below falconry is 'MUSIC' showing a woman playing a lute. In the center is a large frame labeled 'LIVING MERMAIDS!' featuring a woman dressed as a mermaid, with a starburst above her saying 'DON'T MISS THE MERMAIDS!'. Below the mermaid are three smaller frames: 'FEASTING' with a woman holding a fruit, 'GAMES & RIDES' with people at a game booth, and 'CRAFTS' with a person working at a craft station. The entire collage is set against a blue diamond-patterned background with decorative gold borders.

The Carolina Renaissance Festival is a medieval amusement park, a 14 stage theater, a 25 acre circus, an arts & crafts fair, a jousting tournament and a feast – all rolled into one non-stop, day-long family adventure! Time travel to the greatest party since Camelot!

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CLASS OF 2023 SGA REPRESENTATIVES

Livi Lesch & Borghild Kvaeven
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

NEWLY ELECTED FRESHMAN CLASS President Jumar Martin brings the foresight and motivation to innovate various Elon University amenities that could be beneficial to the whole student body. Such changes include addressing accessibility issues and making the OnTrack user experience smoother.

“Enacting huge change and being really radical about things [is a goal],” Martin said. “We really want to do something cool for the next four years, not just this year alone ... I’ve set some pretty lofty goals, but I’m up for it.”

Martin’s drive to become the freshman class president started with a blog post declaring a set of personal goals. At Elon, he developed an admiration toward the class of 2023.

Martin is from Charlotte, so going to



JUMAR MARTIN
PRESIDENT

Elon was something his mom was very excited about since he wouldn’t be too far away. The academics, as well as the beautiful campus which he describes as “movie-like,” are what drew Martin to Elon.

In addition to his personal goals, Martin also wants to change Elon for the better. Although this is his first time participating in student government, Martin has already identified changes he intends to make. One of his priorities as student president is making Elon more accessible to everyone.

“Being a link between the students and administration wasn’t really a priority in my high school; it’s more of a priority here,” Martin said. “Not that I have experience as a president; I have experience being under such structures, and I didn’t like it. So instead of hating it and not doing anything about it, I decided to do something about it. I think it’s a good fit for me.”

Martin always makes the effort to be out and about on Elon’s campus, whether it’s his morning run, meeting with his SMART tutor or even creating stickers in the Maker Hub. Martin wants to encourage his peers to express any concerns or suggestions they have.

Elizabeth Crouse
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

THE CLASS OF 2023 elected Victoria Seymore as its vice president on Tuesday, Sept. 17. When asked why she wanted to run for vice president, Seymore responded, “I wanted the opportunity to serve my class, and I’m glad to have the chance to do it.”

As for what she wants to achieve as vice president, Seymore said she hopes to work toward creating a more diverse campus. She also explained that she wants to be “radical” with the changes she plans to make on campus, stating she “will do whatever needs to get done.”

Seymore plans to major in political science, which is one of the reasons she chose Elon University. She also cited Phoenix Fusion Weekend as another reason, saying the people she met there were inspiring. When she talked to those involved with the Student Government Association, she was impressed by what they were accomplishing.

However, Seymore did describe a feeling of being “duped” when she got to Elon. The diversity did not measure up to her expectations based on her experience at Phoenix Fusion.

Looking to change the status quo, Seymore is learning to define diversity in a new way. “It’s not just race,” she said. “It’s where you’re from and how you think and what you bring to the table.”

Tyler Oldham & Emerson Wells
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

KIMBERLY CASTANO WAS ELECTED secretary for the Class of 2023 on Sept. 17.

A native of Wolson, Connecticut, Castano discovered Elon University during her sophomore year of high school. She said, “It was like everyone in high school told me: ‘When you step on campus, you know that you know.’”

Castano has previous experience in student government, serving as class officer her freshman, sophomore and junior years of high school. During her senior year, she served as vice president. It was this experience that inspired her to get involved with Student Government Association at Elon.

As secretary, Castano will act as a liaison between students and SGA. Her

duties include planning and organizing events, taking attendance and notes at SGA meetings and scheduling.

“Student government has always been so much fun, and I love being behind the scenes at a lot of events,” Castano said. “I hope I can do the exact same thing here and put my own personal spin or experience on Elon.”

Beyond her responsibilities as secretary, Castano plays for Elon’s club field hockey team and is a part of the Life, Chemistry and Environmental Studies Living and Learning Community.

To her peers, Castano emphasizes the importance of student voices, feedback and participation.

“SGA’s main commitment is to the students of Elon, promoting campus safety, civic engagement and school spirit,” Castano said. “We really want to hear back from the students ... what can be changed and what can be better.”

Lily Blake & Zoe Rein
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

TREVOR MOLIN WAS ELECTED as a Student Government Association treasurer on Tuesday, Sept. 17 in an unopposed election. The freshman from Wake Forest came to Elon University knowing he wanted to do more with his involvement at Elon. He wanted to make a difference.

“Elon has been something that I’ve been hearing about for over a decade now, and it’s always been in my life,” Molin said. “Now I have been presented with the opportunity to actually make a change, and that was just too good to pass up.”

Molin ran for the position because he felt that he could do the job confidently, given his lengthy resume of leadership experience in high school. Molin was involved in organizations such as National Honor

Society, Distributive Education Clubs of America and student government.

Molin said making an impact on his community was a major source of inspiration to run for office. “I want to leave my mark on Elon as not just someone who went here for four years, but someone who actually had a part of the processes and what was going on on campus,” Molin said.

Just days after his election, Molin is already passionate about expanding dining hall hours and defining what diversity means to the Elon community. “As Elon, we should get behind one of those definitions and push that forward,” he said.

Regarding the senate body as a whole, Molin said he wants to promote collaboration and communication. “I think that’s really important that every single one of us comes into senate every single day with that mindset that ‘I want to have my mind changed’ or at least ‘I’m open to it,’” he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
Dr. Robert Ellington speaks during the Aug. 20, 2013, rededication of a student health center that bears his name.

Namesake of health center dies

Robert Ellington Sr. is remembered for transforming Elon University’s aid station into a health center

Anton L. Delgado
Managing Editor | @antonldelgado

Whether it be for a common cold or counseling, Elon University community members know to walk to the Robert N. Ellington Health Center, which houses Counseling Services, Student Health Services and Faculty/Staff Health & Wellness Clinic.

The center’s namesake is affectionately known as “Dr. Bob,” who is credited for treating thousands of members of the Elon community during his nearly 30-year tenure as medical director, spanning from 1985 to 2003.

Ellington died on Friday, Sept. 20 after a lengthy battle with Parkinson’s disease.

At Elon, Ellington is remembered most for transforming the health facility from a part-time first-aid station with one doctor and nurse to a full-time acute-care center.

“Elon Student Health Services would not be what they are today without the dedication and vision of Dr. Bob,” said Ginette Archinal, medical director of student health and university physician.

In 2005, Ellington received the Elon Medallion, the university’s highest honor, in recognition of his service to Elon. In 2013, the health center moved to its current location in South Campus and was rededicated.

“We’ve got a ... wonderful university and I look forward to my relationship them,” Ellington said at the rededication ceremony of the health center. “All I want to say is that I am happy.”

Outside of the medical center, Ellington was the host of golf tournaments, physician to basketball teams and adviser to the Sigma Chi fraternity.

Ellington’s legacy at Elon continues through his wife, Helen, who previously served as coordinator of special events in the president’s office, and his daughter, Anne, who currently sits on the Board of Trustees.

A memorial service celebrating Ellington’s life will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29 at Front Street United Methodist Church. His family plans to receive friends following the service.

“
ELON STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES WOULD NOT BE WHAT THEY ARE TODAY WITHOUT THE DEDICATION AND VISION OF DR. BOB

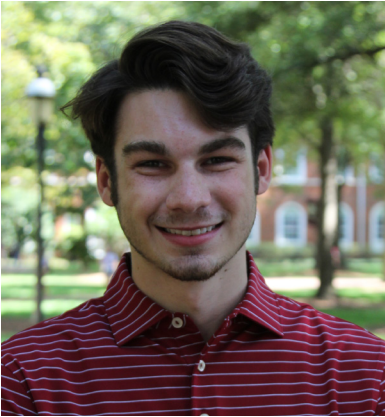
GINETTE ARCHINAL
MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF STUDENT HEALTH, UNIVERSITY PHYSICIAN



VICTORIA SEYMORE
VICE PRESIDENT



KIMBERLY CASTANO
SECRETARY



TREVOR MOLIN
TREASURER

OPINIONS



U.S. Senator Joni Ernst gives the crowd a thumbs up, alongside Gov. Kim Reynolds and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley in Boone, North Carolina on June 15.

LOGAN KAHLER | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Student Republicans and Democrats talk Haley



Gabrielle Cifelli
Public Relations Chair of the College Republicans
Senior

My sister gave me some really good life advice before I started college: “Sometimes you have to be a little ninja.” A little ninja does not associate with any concrete set of qualities but overall embodies someone who is determined to succeed. She told me this because as a woman entering the real world, there can be a lot of cards stacked against you if you want to work your way up to a leadership role. Some people will unintentionally (or in some unfortunate cases intentionally) think that you are not as smart, capable or skilled as they are because you are a woman. Though that is not always the case, it is prevalent in some settings – especially politics.

When I heard Nikki Haley was coming to campus, I was really excited to meet a little ninja. Nikki Haley is a woman who has accomplished so much in her career and has transcended the titles of her many roles as a governor, ambassador and above all else, an American. I look up to Nikki Haley as a strong female role model and as a young woman aspiring to work my way up the corporate ladder. Anyone can look up to her as a person with great passion and leadership skills.

Sometimes I feel as though college campuses foster the amplification of some political voices over others. At Elon, I have never felt afraid or discouraged to share my opinion in a classroom debate or essay assignment, but in social settings, I am afraid to share my views. The political spectrum has become so

polarized to the point where some people will not like you simply because you don’t share the same beliefs. For instance, my sophomore year I “came out” to my roommate as a Republican by asking if I could host a College Republicans gathering in the apartment. One roommate pulled me aside and said she wouldn’t feel safe having so many Republicans come into her home. I ended up not having my friends over, and I noticed how after that instance, she was treating me differently. It was clear that until that point, she thought I was a Democrat, and when she realized I wasn’t, she didn’t like me anymore — suddenly, I was the one who didn’t feel safe in my own home because someone who I considered at that time to be a friend was painting me as a bad person because of my beliefs. This is when I realized the severity of political polarization.

With this awareness, I started to really analyze in classroom and social discussions why some students hold this negative attitude toward people who share my beliefs. Over time, I have come up with the hypothesis that when most Elon students think of a Republican, they envision an old white male. With that, I am so happy that Elon invited a Republican woman to come speak because she breaks that stereotype. She is a strong, intelligent woman and was given such an awesome opportunity to speak to my peers – I am really looking forward to hearing her speech.



Hank Credle
Member of the College Democrats
Sophomore

Nikki Haley championed human rights and challenged human rights violators across the globe. This is how Elon described Nikki Haley in her biography for their Speaker Series. This is how Elon described a politician who has systematically denied the right of Palestinians to exist. This is how Elon described a mother who defended a policy of child separation at the border that was deemed “child abuse” by the American Association of Pediatrics. This is how Elon described a woman who lied about made-up violations of the Iran nuclear deal by Iran to the American Enterprise Institute which some have dubbed “Neocon Central.” Nikki Haley is not a champion of human rights, period.

If Nikki Haley stands not for human rights, what does she stand for then?

One of the answers would be Zionism. Her dedication to the state of Israel and disdain for Palestine has been well documented during her time as United Nations ambassador. One of the lowlights of this has to be her praise for Israeli “restraint” on a day when the Israeli Defense Forces killed 62 Palestinians. Another would be her subsequent walk out of the U.N. Security Council Chamber as Palestinian ambassador Riyad Mansour began his statements. Other lowlights include her defense of the U.S.’ decision to cut all funding for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, withdrawal from the U.N. Human Rights Council due to “bias against Israel” and thinly-veiled threat that the U.S. was “taking names” of those who voted against their position of Jerusalem being the capital of Israel.

Another plausible answer would be U.S. imperial ambitions, with a major target being Venezuela. Her attempts to undermine Venezuela’s Nicolas Maduro were done by leading the charge to decry Maduro’s

government as illegitimate, not because it was undemocratic, as she has no problems cooperating with dictators (Erdogan of Turkey, Sisi of Egypt etc.), but because it was a country that was strongly against U.S. foreign investment and imperialism.

An additional theory would be placating Saudi Arabia, as during her time trashing Venezuela, Haley was actively supporting the territorial ambitions of Saudi Arabia, including the Saudi’s genocidal war in Yemen which has an estimated death toll of 17,729 civilians as of 2019. This blindness to U.S. culpability in atrocities whilst condemning other nations for similar crimes cannot be explained by sheer ignorance. Plain and simple, it is malicious hypocrisy.

A final possibility is simply wishing to go to war with Iran, as Haley is also guilty of beating the war drums against Iran for much the same reason as Venezuela. This is not due to her or the U.S.’ values, but because it is a force against American ambition in the Middle East. You can see this in Haley’s claims in September 2017 that Iran had “been caught with multiple violations over the past year and a half” and that Iran also had “not allowed inspectors everywhere they should look.” These claims were debunked by Ilan Goldberg, the Iran team chief in the Pentagon under Barack Obama, decrying them as “dishonest in many ways.”

In the end, what does this tell us? Some may say that the blurb was put up by some Elon employee with little thought of its implications. But to that I counter that this blurb is emblematic society’s willingness to glaze over people who have caused suffering that we cannot easily see. This willful ignorance by Elon should not continue, and I hope that change for the better occurs soon.