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THE PENDULUM

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Vice President and Dean of Students Smith Jackson looks back on his Elon career | pg. 5

Univision reporter Maity Interiano '07 returns to campus to deliver commencement speech | pg. 10

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF

Established 1974

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

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

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CRIME REPORT

May 14
WEST HAGGARD AVENUE
ELON
Public Urination

Elon University freshman Andrew Kleinert was arrested Sunday, May 14 for resisting arrest after he was spotted urinating on the side of the road.

According to the Town of Elon Police Department, Kleinert was urinating in plain view of West Haggard Avenue early Sunday morning when Officer Connor Rice attempted to make contact with him.

Kleinert ran from the officer into a barn behind the residence where a party was taking place, but was found and arrested.

May 14
Alamance County
Rape

The Alamance County Sheriff's Office arrested a man accused of raping a juvenile.

According to the Burlington Times-News, Janike Dubar Holt, 21, was arrested Saturday and charged with felony statutory rape of a child 15 or under, felony larceny and felony obtaining property by false pretenses.

He was held in the Alamance County jail under bonds totaling $37,500.

MAY 18
SPENCE STREET
BURLINGTON
Attempted Murder

A home with three people inside and a nearby vehicle were hit by gunfire in an early morning shooting, Burlington police say.

Just before 1 a.m. Thursday, Burlington police responded to shots fired. Officers found "multiple spent shell casings" in the street, and found that a home and a vehicle in the front yard were hit by bullets, according to the Burlington Times-News.

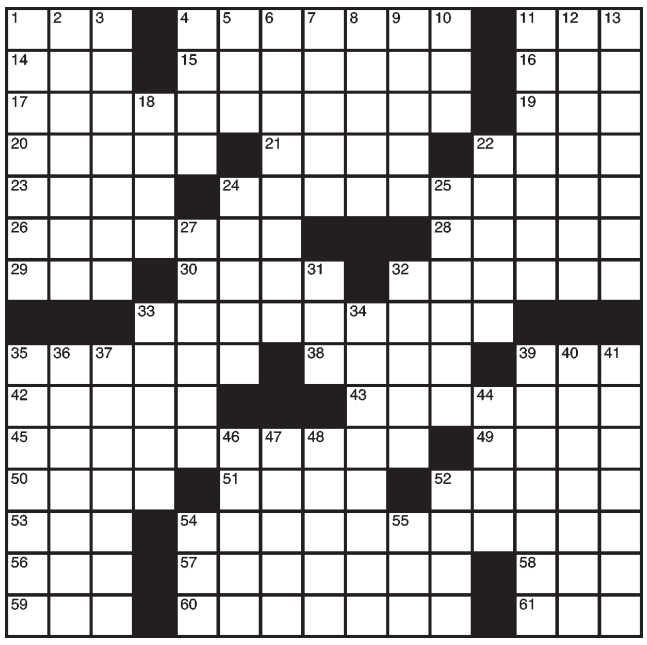
No one was injured and police are still looking for the suspects.

GAMES

FOR RELEASE MAY 19, 2017

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis



By Jeffrey Wechsler **5/19/17**

ACROSS
1 1987 Michael Jackson album
4 Road where Mozart was born
11 Recurrent behavior
14 Henri's here
15 Identify
16 "Bambi" doe
17 Aging hero Jones, in his latest film?
19 Sci-fi setting
20 "... let __ put asunder": Matthew
21 Send out
22 Island band The __ Men
23 Shakespeare's jet?
24 Pitt portraying Shakespeare?
26 Acquires through cunning
28 Undefeated Ali
29 Norm: Abbr.
30 His, to Henri
32 "John Wick" star
33 Skill displayed at the gift counter?
35 Fish-eating raptor
38 Sassy
39 Boorish sort
42 Sound
43 Where Mozart was born
45 Times when hokey humor prevailed?
49 Loosen (up)
50 Storm
51 Settled on a branch
52 Beatle ending
53 Cakes go-with
54 Early stage of muffin production?
56 Decide not to stop
57 Off one's rocker
58 Vital statistic
59 Paul with guitars
60 Landlord's customers
61 Ergotamine derivative popular in the '60s

DOWN
1 Front page material
2 One seen in a ring
3 One seen in a ring
4 Short drive
5 Lading measure
6 Kentucky Derby call
7 Jungian concept
8 Solemn
9 Introduction to Domingo?
10 Greek letter
11 Mediterranean metropolis
12 Saddled with debt
13 Seaside resort array
18 Half a philosophical duality
22 Called from the field
24 Fasten, at sea
25 Groups at sea
27 City on the Rio Grande
31 Net neutrality beneficiary: Abbr.
32 Any "Twilight Zone" episode, now
33 Omega holder
34 Part of a traditional holiday gift
35 From one extreme to the other
36 Frozen dessert brand
37 Seven-movement Holst work that omits Earth, with "The"
39 Like the olfactory nerve, e.g.
40 Television fare
41 Flawed
44 "__ brillig ... "
46 Denmark's __ Islands
47 Highland groups
48 Sounds from pens
52 Pine for
54 OPEC unit
55 "... such stuff / As dreams __ made on": Prospero

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

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COMMENCEMENT EVENTS: MAY 19 – 20

1:30 P.M. | Receptions for Graduates and their families 19

3 P.M. | Baccalaureate 19

5 P.M. | Celebration of Leaders of 21st Century 19

5 P.M. | Legacy Reception 19

6 P.M. | Reception for Internation Graduates 19

9:15 A.M. | 127th Commencement Exercises 20

TBD | Reception for Graduates 20

Letter from the editor:

Growing pains symbolize change for community

Emmanuel Morgan
Managing Editor
@_EMorgan704

The more I reflect on my sophomore year of college, the more I realized how similar it was to Elon University's 2016-2017 atmosphere. At one point or another, I am positive that the gamut of emotions and phases of life that I experienced were reflective of the Elon community as a whole.

It was a time of elation. It was a time of challenging yourself to your breaking point. It was a time of questioning why things happened.

It was a time of growth.

If you asked me in August what I wanted to accomplish at my second round of college, the answer would have been to simply outperform the first. One thing my freshman year taught me was that Elon will provide all the opportunities I could ever imagine. But it was my responsibility — and my responsibly alone — to capitalize on them. I made it my mission to do so this year.

But nothing could have prepared me for it.

In the span of nine months, I chased around presidential candidates from New York City to Washington, D.C., joined a fraternity and became the editor of The Pendulum.

I still don't know how I did it all.

Now that I'm at the other side of these things, I know I'm better for it. A famous line from one of my communications professors is to "believe in the struggle" and that motto represents my sophomore year as a whole.

The same can be said for Elon.

The trials and tribulations our community has gone through this year are a sign of transformation. Growing pains are a common sign of life. And if we want to see the Elon we want, we have to go through the fire.

And the fire Elon went through this year could have been enough to bring us to our knees.

Losing a legend like Dr. Danieley, as well as current and former students such as Derek Winton and Nicole Dennion could have been enough to seep the joy from a campus known for its liveliness. Suddenly learning of President Leo Lambert's impending retirement could have made us question the future stability of our school. The divisive nature of this past presidential election, as well as Elon's continued tense dialogue on issues of inclusivity could have been enough to shred students into groups against each other. It almost did a few weeks ago.

But that didn't happen. In fact, it only showed Elon's resolve in a world that constantly seems like it doesn't make sense.

As we celebrate the success of our graduating seniors this commencement and depart our separate ways for the summer, we can't forget the progress Elon has made this year. From creating a new Communications school, electing a black SGA president and seeing the upward trend on multiple sports teams, it's evident that Elon is elevating itself little by little.

> CHANGE IS NEVER EASY. AND AS ELON SEEKS TO EVOLVE AND BECOME THE CAMPUS WE ALL WANT IT TO BE, WE HAVE TO TRUST THAT EVERYTHING WILL FALL INTO PLACE.

Change is never easy. And as Elon seeks to evolve and become the campus we all want it to be, we have to trust that everything will fall into place. There were times this past year when I didn't understand why things were happening. There were times where I was frustrated. There were times I was angry. But looking back, I realized that all of those emotions were what made me grow the most.

Instead of being caught up in the struggle, we need to embrace it. Instead of blaming each other and dividing, we need to have those tough conversations. We need to use everything that happened this year as a guide to fortify our bond with each other and our bond with Elon.

And if we do that, then we'll be on the path to a school where everyone bELONgs.

Commencement, no longer "Under the Oaks"

FILE PHOTO BY PENDULUM STAFF

Zach Skillings
Contributor
@zach_skillings

Traditions have long been a staple of the culture at Elon University — among them is the annual Commencement "Under the Oaks."

But despite its long history, commencement will no longer be held "Under the Oaks." According to Executive Director of Cultural and Special Programs Jeff Clark, commencement will be located on Scott Plaza for the foreseeable future.

Due to the construction of Schar Hall last year, commencement relocated to the plaza in front of Alamance building. After this year's graduating class was surveyed by the student class officers, it was decided that commencement would remain in front of Alamance instead of returning to its original location.

"We decided to do it differently. The students spoke up and the students did a survey of the students and everybody wanted to be 'Under the Oaks,'" Clark said. "But we don't fit 'Under the Oaks' anymore. So, everybody was okay because we were at least close to 'Under the Oaks.'"

Before the construction of the expanded communications facility, "Under the Oaks" was capable of holding 11,000 people. The completion of Schar Hall and Steers Pavilion, has reduced that number to 8,000, making the move to Scott Plaza necessary.

According to Clark, this new venue provides "more space, better sight lines, central location, more accessible to other buildings for restrooms and indoor viewing, safer emergency egress, better access for special needs guests."

Despite the positives of Scott Plaza, this location provides much less shade than "Under the Oaks." To make up for this, Clark said shade tents, water stations and air conditioned indoor viewing locations will be provided to help alleviate this problem.

Though a tradition is being broken, Elon seniors recognize that the move to Scott Plaza is necessary and the result of a growing university.

"It is, in a manner, sad that commencement is not going to be taking place 'Under the Oaks' like it's been tradition," senior Steven Armendariz said. "However, just like this university, it's ever-changing, it's growing and honestly we're growing at a rapid pace."

Armendariz explained the benefits of holding commencement in front of Alamance.

"More students will be able to accommodate family members and friends and relatives that they want to invite to commencement. And in addition, there are a lot of logistic issues with having commencement 'Under the Oaks right now.'"

Similarly, senior Austin Krauss expressed his support of the change in location.

"This comes with any sort of innovation, change or progress, but things have to be done differently because, all of a sudden the prior circumstances are now no longer applicable," Krauss said. "And there's a reason for the change because the student population is growing and becoming larger and then with more people coming in such as family and friends, they can no longer support what was the old way of doing things and the old situation is, like I said, no longer applicable."

Though a plan has not yet been created for a situation in which Scott Plaza becomes overcrowded, Clark said that this has been discussed and the new location is expected to be large enough for several years.

Frequently Asked Questions: Commencement

What if it rains?

In the event of rain, Commencement will be moved indoors to Alumni Gym for two separate ceremonies. Bachelor of Arts candidates will receive their diplomas during a ceremony at 9:15 a.m., and Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration candidates will receive their diplomas during a later ceremony at 1:15 p.m. Family members without rain location tickets will be able to watch the ceremonies from other on-campus locations.

What's a 'rain plan ticket'?

Because seating in Alumni Gym is limited, each graduating student can pick up two rain location tickets for their guests. Students can pick up these tickets beginning Monday, May 1 from the office of the Vice President and Dean of Student Life in Alamance 109.

How will we know if the rain plan has been implemented?

Implementation of the rain plan will be announced on the university's website, social media accounts and on a special phone line: 336-278-RAIN(7246).

Will there be a professional photographer be in attendance?

Yes — GradImages is the official commencement photographer. Photos of each student receiving their diploma will be available to view on their website, www.gradimages.com, after commencement and copies may be ordered.

Where is special needs seating?

Because Commencement is held outdoors, special needs seating has been made available in Alumni Gym where comfortable air-conditioning will be provided. Additionally, this area will provide access to wider wheelchair-accessible aisles and restrooms. Individuals accompanying guests with special needs may sit in this area as well.

Will hearing aides/interpreters be available to the audience?

Yes, but the supply of hearing assistance devices and Spanish interpretation devices is limited. These devices will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis at the Information table after 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning. A sign language interpreter will also be present near the stage during the ceremony.

What do we do after the ceremony?

Guests should meet with their graduates following Commencement on the Inman Admissions Welcome Center lawn where the academic departments will be holding receptions. Students and guests should attend the reception corresponding with the graduate's major.

Where can I get more information?

If the Pendulum hasn't answered all of your questions, check the Elon Guides app for more information. To get this app, visit the Apple App Store or Google Play store, search "Elon Guides" and download. Select "Commencement 2017" from the list of "Public Guides" or type "Commencement 2017" in the search bar and click the button that says "Get This Guide."

FILE PHOTO BY THE PENDULUM
Leo Lambert (left) sits next to William Gortney '77, who spoke at the Class of 2011's Commencement.

TOSSING ON A **NEW CAP**

Elon President Leo Lambert reflects on commencement traditions

Emmanuel Morgan
Managing Editor
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Elon University President Leo Lambert knew when he announced he'd step down this year, he would embark on a journey of doing everything for the last time. During this year's commencement, he'll most likely be addressing the community for a final time as president. But while he said it will be an emotional day for him, he doesn't want the attention.

He wants it to be on the students.

"My primary focus is to have commencement be about the students," Lambert said. "I want to keep the focus on the students and their commencement and graduation from Elon. I'm really not interested in having the focus be on me."

In Lambert's 18 years as president, he said commencement has always been one of his favorite days. But it's also bittersweet. While he said it's encouraging to see the pride on student's faces, it's equally sad to see people leaving who had developed close bonds with the campus and each other. This time, Lambert is leaving with them, which makes this a special occasion for him.

"In the back of my mind and also thinking from a personal point of view, I know that this might be the last time I could confer degrees," Lambert said. "So this commencement will have extra meaning for me, I'm sure."

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
(Clockwise from top left) Callie Lambert, Laurie Lambert, Leo Lambert, Mollie Lambert and Isabella Cannon smile together at Cannon's 95th birthday in 1999. Cannon spoke at the Class of 2000's Commencement ceremony and is one of Lambert's favorite Commencement speakers.

Lambert said commencement has always been a day of tradition, and he has been grateful to have helped drive some that are still in tact today. One of them has been to have an Elon-affiliated person annually speak at the ceremony. Lambert said early in his career, he wanted to make commencement more centric to the community, and having a recognizable face was a perfect way to do it. While he said having renowned convocation speakers such as Watergate reporter Bob Woodward can be powerful, giving members of the Elon family a podium to speak has been one of his favorite hallmarks.

"Whether that be alumni, current students, faculty, trustees, parents and people who really know this community, I really like that tradition a lot," Lambert said. "I think that it's absolutely wonderful for alumni to come back and share with students who have walked the same brick walk that they've walked and share with them their perceptions on the world and the future."

By far, he said one of his favorite commencement speakers was Isabella Cannon '24. In 1999, Cannon endowed a $1 million gift to create Elon's Global Education Center. At 96-years-old, Cannon delivered the 2000 commencement address, and Lambert said she was incredibly nervous. Because of her height, which Lambert said was barely above 5 feet tall, the grounds crew had to make a special podium so she could see the crowd. She was also anxious because she didn't want to go over her allotted 10-minute speaking time. She gave her speech in 12 minutes,and Lambert said she did so well that the "Today" Show came to campus the next week to interview her.

"Even when you have members of the family speaking, it can draw national attention to the university and it's all for good," Lambert said. "I'm glad that we've kept this tradition alive."

While Lambert is proud of the traditions he has set, he said he is looking forward to following in the footsteps of another one. Whenever Elon picks a new president, Lambert will transition into an emeritus role. During future commencements, Lambert said he hopes to be sitting in the crowd and follow the footsteps of one of his mentors, President Emeritus Earl Danieley, an Elon staple who died last December.

"In my new role, I'm sure I'll be sitting in the same place Dr. Danieley was sitting in, right with the faculty," Lambert said. " There's a good long precedent for having president emeritus in the audience at commencement and that's right where I'll be."

Because Lambert is leaving with the class of 2017, he said his legacy will most likely be intertwined with theirs. Because of that, he said he hopes they remember him well.

"If they remember me by anything, I hope it will be something positive, but I've never given that question really much thought," Lambert said. "I hope it's something as simple as, they knew who I was on campus and they thought I worked hard on their behalf."

THE MAN BEHIND THE EMAILS

Students, staff reflect on impact Smith Jackson left on Elon community

Tommy Hamzik
Senior Reporter
@T_Hamzik

CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor
Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Smith Jackson smiles for a photo on the campus that has been his home for the past 23 years.

The story's been told dozens of times, from meetings to presentations and speeches, and now, with special circumstances, it's being told one last time.

Smith Jackson and his wife, Rene, were driving along Interstate 40 with their sons on a spring-break trip to Washington, D.C. Rene was reading the Chronicle of Higher Education when she saw a job listing for Dean of Students at Elon College.

She pulled out their atlas book — this was 1994, mind you — and found out the campus was just a few miles down the road.

They stopped by.

They haven't left.

Until now.

Smith Jackson, the then dean of students at Huntington College in Montgomery, Alabama, applied for and took the job at Elon. He's been in student affairs for 43 years and here 23 ½ years — years that have seen unprecedented growth institutionally, and a renowned focus on integrating student life with academic affairs.

On May 31, he'll work his last day as Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students. Jackson will then transition to a different role, one where he'll be working on some special projects in the president's office and partnering with the School of Education to work on a master's program in Higher Education.

Hallowed by students as the man behind the emails, heralded by faculty and colleagues as a genuine, compassionate visionary and treasured by loved ones and mentees as an open-minded, supportive confidant and adviser, Jackson leaves a sizable legacy.

It's measured, in part, by his accomplishments with regard to inclusion and the growth of Student Life, his responses to emails and phone calls in the wee hours of the night and his willingness and commitment to put students' best interests at the focal point of every discussion.

"I'll walk out the door saying, 'Hey, we can do this,'" Jackson said.

Leaving a legacy

The nature of Jackson's work is he works long hours and deals with innately delicate issues. He meets with students facing potential expulsion from the university, families who have lost their son or daughter and situations that aren't necessarily black or white. They're complex.

"There have been dozens and dozens of Elon students who have been in Smith's office, who have said, 'That was a point in my life where he helped me figure out what I needed to do to get myself back on track,'" said Elon President Leo Lambert. "That permeates all the way down in the Student Life division."

He's worked, among many other initiatives, with Elon Experiences, establishing the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education (CREDE) and the Gender and LGBTQIA Center (GLC) and helping install the two-year residential requirement for students, which led to a boom in on-campus housing interest and has now evolved into the Residential Campus initiative, a key part of Elon's latest strategic plan.

"He really began to say we're part of the learning process," said Jana Lynn Patterson, dean of Health and Wellness who's worked under Jackson since he began at Elon. "If we're going to have student activities, we need to help people understand why student activities enhance the academic experience."

More than a 'mystical deity'

The kids in Smith Jackson's neighborhood used to run at the sight of him barreling down the street on his roller blades with ski poles to help his balance and enough protective gear to make him look like Darth Vader.

Jackson roller blades two or three times a week, a passion that began after years of running took a toll on his knees and the sight of his children playing street hockey outside their house.

When he doesn't, he runs on the elliptical. Then, he retreats to the backyard, where he'll meditate for 20 minutes.

This is the Smith Jackson students don't often see.

"He is such a great listener," Rene Jackson said. "I think people know that about him if they spend any time with him. I discovered that about him very early in our relationship.

"I remember having this moment on one of our first dates. He had asked me something, and I suddenly realized, 'This guy's really listening to me.' He's hearing what I'm saying. He's not just sitting there until it was his turn to talk again. I was really struck by that. He remains that way. He's my number one confidant."

Senior James Fariello, working as Jackson's executive intern, collaborated with Jackson on an extensive research project looking at a cappella groups' relationships with their host institutions around the country, developing a survey to poll 200-300 groups and then putting together a manual for a cappella groups at Elon and presenting at a conference.

In addition, he did research on involvement offices at other universities, eventually helping create and open the Connections Office in the Moseley Center.

"To a lot of students, I think he's just kind of a mystical deity who just sends emails when school is canceled," Fariello said. "But he's so much more than that. I wish every student had the opportunity to develop a relationship with him. I think everyone would foster from that."

Thanks for the memories

It's a Wednesday afternoon, four weeks from Smith Jackson's last day in his current office. After he turns the reins over to Jon Dooley, currently the assistant vice president for Student Life and Dean of Campus Life, Jackson will move to a new office in either Powell or Long, he says.

"I'm thinking about what I'm going to say," Jackson says.

He launches into the narrative of his accidental entry in the field of student affairs and higher education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Smith Jackson speaks at a Habitat for Humanity event in the 1990s.

He was a senior psychology major at University of Alabama when he passed a flier advertising graduate assistantships in Residence Life at Kent State University in Ohio.

"If they have that at Kent State, I wonder if they have that here?" Jackson thought to himself.

He went to the Residence Life office, and soon enough, he was enrolled and working toward his master's degree.

When asked about his legacy, Jackson balks at the idea of anybody talking about him at Elon in five or 10 years. He talks about the ability to design systems, put them into place and feel the satisfaction of having his hands on something that becomes successful.

And as he reflects on his time at Elon, the countless hours he's spent in this seat, he smiles and says he hopes people remember him for moving student life into educational experiences.

"It's been a real grand, thrilling ride to be part of something much bigger than any of us," Jackson said. "To have been on that ride when things have just blossomed at Elon. So many positive changes. All changes for the right reason."

A HISTORY OF SMITH JACKSON

- **1974-1976** Assistant Dean of Students | Muskingum College
- **1976-1978** Graduate Resident Advisor | Auburn University
- **1978-1980** Director of Magnolia Dormitories | Auburn University
- **1980-1982** Assistant Director of Housing | Auburn University
- **1982-1990** Director of Housing | St. Louis University
- **1990-1994** Dean of Student | Huntingdon College
- **1994-Present** Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students | Elon University

TOP 10 STORIES

1 LAMBERT TO STEP DOWN

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

In February, Elon University President Leo Lambert announced to the Board of Trustees at its spring meeting that he would be stepping down as president and transitioning to a new role.

Lambert, the influential figure who guided Elon from college to university, from Fightin' Christians to Phoenix, from small regional school to mid-size national school, said he would stay in office until a new president is in place.

"It seemed, to me, to be the best thing for the university to have the person who was in charge of the leading that planning, leading that visioning be here to see that plan through," Lambert said. "It would not be appropriate for me to chart a course for the university to 2030, then depart my post."

Once the new president is hired, Lambert plans to take a sabbatical year then return in a president emeritus and professor role to support the advancement and alumni engagement offices.

The Board began a national search for Lambert's successor immediately after his announcement.

2 ELON COMMUNITY MOURNS DEATH OF FORMER PRESIDENT, J. EARL DANIELEY

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

A legend of Elon University and Alamance County, President Emeritus J. Earl Danieley died Nov. 29, 2016 at 92, succumbing to a number of health issues that hindered him in his final years – years he spent still teaching at the same school from which he graduated.

Beloved and known affectionately as "Dr. Danieley," he served as president from 1957 to 1973 then as a professor in the chemistry department for many years after, retiring in spring 2016 and leaving behind an unmatched legacy across the Elon community.

3 PAVING THE PATH: BODENARAIN'S ELECTION SEEN AS A SPARK TOWARD DIVERSIFYING CAMPUS

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

On Feb. 21, junior Morgan Bodenarain was elected SGA executive president. Bodenarain is the sixth black student to serve as student body president, but only the second black woman to do so. The first was Akilah Weaver in 2000.

Bodenarain said when she first arrived as a student, like many, she was struck by the lack of diversity on campus, by the 15.9 percent freshman minority admissions rate in 2013-2014 — her first academic year. Because she experienced the struggle firsthand, she has an added motivation to help those who need it.

4 ELON COMMUNITY ADDRESSES DIVISIVENESS AFTER ELECTION DAY

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

For a tense, reflective moment, Elon University senior Josh O'Neil stared at the Nov. 11 front page of The New York Times, which was plastered with a picture of President-elect Donald Trump shaking hands with President Barack Obama at the White House.

It was a picture he never thought he would see.

But while he grieved over who his country elected, one of his peers was excited the United States chose Trump as its 45th president.

"At 2 a.m., when they hadn't called Florida yet, I turned off my TV and went to sleep and was like, 'I'll see what happened in the morning,'" said senior Francesca Collins. "But then my roommate came in and we turned on the TV, and there he was, about to give his acceptance speech. We were like, 'What just happened,'

"I was happy because I was hopeful that the next four years, we would be able to get our country in check."

On either side students have taken, polarizing statements have been made: O'Neil said Trump was "endorsed by hate," and Collins said Trump was "the best candidate in the election."

Because of this stark differing of opinions, the community has fear to pick up the pieces.

5 CELEBRATING INCLUSIVITY WITH ALAMANCE PRIDE

MARITZA GONZALES | Staff Photographer

Gary Cooper was shocked by what he saw in downtown Burlington the first weekend of October. A resident in the town since the 40s, he never imagined he would see rainbow flags and the community coming together to celebrate LGBTQIA and inclusivity.

As part of LGBT History Month, Alamance Pride, a nonprofit that serves the LGBTQIA community, organized a festival to celebrate and educate Alamance County about the importance of equality.

The festival opened with an interfaith service with speeches and prayers from various churches around the area, including Rev. Phil Hardy from Elon Community Church and Joel Harter, associate chaplain for Protestant Life at Elon.

As a pioneer in the Burlington LGBTQIA movement and founder of Alamance Pride, the Oct. 1 event showed Cooper how far the community has come in terms of acceptance, despite the many challenges.

OF THE YEAR

COMPILED BY THE PENDULUM STAFF

6 TWO YEARS AFTER ACCIDENT, FORMER ELON STUDENT GABRIELA ROSALES SHOWS PROMISING RECOVERY

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GABRIELA ROSALES

As Gabriela Rosales crossed the Williamson Avenue crosswalk on March 16, 2015, she was excited to attend her first meeting of the Eta Zeta chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha at Elon University. Instead, she was struck by a Toyota Camry that left her with a shattered skull and multiple fractured bones.

Gabriela was flown by helicopter to UNC Health Care in Chapel Hill and her family that lives thousands of miles away in Managua, Nicaragua, were notified of what had occurred.

On Oct. 27, 2015, Gabriela was discharged from WakeMed and allowed to return to her home in Managua. She arrived as a surprise for her younger sister Maria Fernanda's 15th birthday.

With hopes of returning to Elon as a full-time student, Gabriela is currently a student at Universidad Americana in Managua. She is studying marketing with a minor in business administration.

7 INTERVARSITY WORKING TOWARD RECONCILIATION

November 2016 marked the deadline for staff members of national InterVarsity to leave the organization if they disagreed with its reiterated theological stance against same-sex relationships, premarital sex, divorce and masturbation.

The move by the national collegiate evangelical Christian ministry, which has a chapter on Elon University's campus, created outcry in the LGBTQIA community after it was reported by Time Magazine in October.

While the edict applied only to staff members — not student leaders or members — it caused many students at Elon to try and distance themselves from the national organization's position and prompted questions about the role of inclusivity and theological debate within the fellowship organization.

In a letter sent in mid-July, InterVarsity leadership encouraged staff who disagree with its position to "alert their supervisors and conclude their work" by Nov. 11.

8 'CATS' THEATER DESIGN TAKES A BROADWAY FAVORITE TO NEW CREATIVE HEIGHTS

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

The Elon Department of Performing Arts opened its production of "Cats" Feb. 9 in McCrary Theatre under the direction of Associate Professor of Dance Lynne Kurdziel Formato. Formato was supported in costume, makeup and design by guest designer Caitlin Graham '11.

Based on T. S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," "Cats" follows a tribe of cats who come together on one fantastical night for an annual ball. Winner of seven Tony Awards, the show is the fourth longest-running show in Broadway history and is now successfully sharing its story to a new generation in the "Cats" Broadway revival tour.

The loose parameters of the lyrics and music allowed for freedom in the design.

In most productions, there are a certain amount of costume elements that be can pulled from costume stock, rented from someone else or purchased, but this show was completely built and created from scratch. There were a lot of steps in the process.

DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

9 SEXUAL ASSAULT: IT HAPPENS HERE, TOO

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CAROLINE BREHMAN AND STEPHANIE HAYS | Photo Editor and Design Chief

An in-depth project by Elon News Network looked into two sexual assault cases that happened at Elon University in the past five years and analyzed their effect. Many of the people interviewed, including the survivors, said the problem can be solved through cooperation between students and the university to spread awareness of the situation. By doing that and holding each other accountable for their actions, many said the problem will eventually get better.

About 20 percent of college women have experienced sexual assault, according to a 2015 Washington Post and Kaiser Family Foundation survey project. The same survey also shows how opinions about consent differ between men and women. Those surveyed stated that 89 percent have not been held responsible for the incident while 10 percent were.

10 STUDENTS SEEK TO HAVE VOICES HEARD AT KATHLEEN PARKER BAIRD LECTURE

COURTNEY CAMPBELL | Senior Reporter

ASHLEY BOHLE | Senior Reporter

A planned Baird Pulitzer Prize lecture in October from the syndicated Washington Post columnist was met with hostility among the Elon community, as more than 300 students, alumni and others signed a petition asking the school to cancel the event. The petition, spearheaded in July by senior Becca Nipper and called Parker "dangerous," was ultimately brought to the attention of the Elon administration after being forwarded to faculty and staff. Parker gave her talk and was met with support and disdain from the packed crowd, which also had members of the Alamance community in attendance.

TOP PHOTOS OF THE YEAR

1 CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor
Auston Henderson celebrates during the annual Holi event on Young Commons April 7.

2 JACK HARTMAN | Staff Photographer
Elon University football team runs down the field ahead of a game against Fayetteville State.

3 CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor
Protesters make their voices heard at a Black Lives Matter protest during the Democratic Convention in Philadelphia last summer.

4 DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer
A cappella group Twisted Measure performs at the Acapocalypse fundraiser in Whitley auditorium Oct. 8.

5 DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer
Martha and Dwight Schar and Elon University President Leo Lambert break ground on the Schar Center during Homecoming.

6 CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor
Junior midfielder Meave Cowley lines up her shot against Hofstra during a final home game of the season April 23.

7 A.J. MANDELL | Staff Photographer
The late Elon University President Emeritus J. Earl Danieley attends the groundbreaking ceremony of Schar Center

8 A.J. MANDELL | Staff Photographer
Kim Schifino, drummer of band Matt & Kim, dances during the Fall Homecoming Concert Nov. 5.

9 FILE PHOTO BY LYDIA WILLIG
A Tibetan monk draws a sand mandala in the Numen Lumen Sacred Space in September.

RETURNING TO HER BELOVED ROOTS

Univision's Maity Interiano '07 to speak at Commencement

Diego Pineda
Contributor
@Diego_Pineda19

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MAITY INTERIANO
Sofia Vergara (left) and Maity Interiano (right) pose together after Interiano interviewed Vergara.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MAITY INTERIANO
Maity Interiano (center) poses with Elon President Leo Lambert (left) and CREDE Interim Director Sylvia Munoz (right) after recieving one of the 2012 Top 10 Under 10 Elon Alumni.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MAITY INTERIANO
Maity Interiano holds her Emmy award that she won in 2015 for hosting the Rose Parade.

> I LEARNED THAT NOT ONLY DID I HAVE MY FAMILY, MY BLOOD FAMILY, BUT I ALSO HAD BUILT A FAMILY AT ELON. ELON CONFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ABLE TO HAVE A TEAM, BEING ABLE TO RELY ON PEOPLE, TO LEARN FROM OTHER PEOPLE BECAUSE THAT WAS THE ENVIRONMENT.
>
> **MAITY INTERIANO '07**
> UNIVISION REPORTER

Maity Interiano '07 said it will be an "emotional and special full-circle moment" to return with her family to Elon University's campus as the Commencement speaker at Elon University's 127th Commencement ceremony May 20.

"I am hoping the right words come out of my heart, my mouth and myself in terms of encouraging these new professionals to go out and conquer all their dreams and do everything that they can," Interiano said.

The moment Interiano stepped foot on Elon's campus for the first time was the beginning a new chapter in her life.

"I was excited," Interiano said. "I remember looking right, left, everywhere as I was very impressed by the campus, at how green it looked and all the flowers and all the brick buildings."

In 2012, Interiano, who has worked as a reporter for Univision for five years, was named one of the Top 10 Under 10 Alumni at Elon. In 2014, she won the 2014 Televisa and Premios TV y Novelas Award for "Mejor Conductora Favorita Del Publico" (Best Reporter and Crowd Favorite). In 2015, she won an Emmy for hosting the Rose Parade. Last year, she was selected to join Elon's President's Young Leaders council.

"I'm not used to getting awards," Interiano said. "They always surprise me in a good way. I think they come to reassure that what I am doing is right."

Interiano, born in Gainesville, Florida, was raised in San Pedro Sula, Honduras and had never left her home before going off to live on her own. She recalled having mixed feelings when arriving on campus because at that moment, she knew she was about to separate from her parents and younger sister. But the people she encountered reassured her that she was in the right place.

"I remember feeling happy to be at a place that was definitely different to what I was used to, but it felt like home from the moment I stepped foot there," Interiano said.

Sylvia Muñoz, interim director for the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education (CREDE) and director of the Spanish Center said that Interiano stood out to her the moment she met her as a freshman.

"She was very sure of herself," Muñoz said. "She knew what she wanted since day one, and she was determined to make her dream of becoming a journalist true."

One of the major reasons Interiano decided to attend Elon was because of its communications school. She knew she wanted to enter communications and once on campus, she became involved with Phoenix14News, the predecessor to Elon Local News.

"Going to Elon just gave me that experience of having hands-on opportunities to do on-camera, production, behind-the-scenes and all kinds of work," Interiano said. "It confirmed, yes, that is what I want to do."

> **Interiano knew she wanted to enter communications and once on campus, she got involved with Phoenix14News, the predecessor to Elon Local News.**

Her first time on camera was doing the weather segment for Phoenix14. She had never been in a television studio before, but she said she added her "Latin flavor" to her segment.

Anthony Hatcher, associate professor in the School of Communications, said Interiano was always enthusiastic about her work and the stories she wanted to tell.

"I've taught many, many students," Hatcher said. "She stands out as being friendly, open to critiques of her work, and met deadline. She was always eager to learn how to improve."

Knocking on Univision's door

Growing up in Honduras, Interiano watched the Univision network regularly.

Interiano knew that Univision was where she wanted to work after college. The summer following her sophomore year, she secured an internship at the network.

Interiano was assigned to work at an entertainment show, "Escandalo TV," in the mornings. Wanting to do more and stay busy, Interiano went to the Human Resources department and asked them if she could do more even if she did not receive credit for it.

"The fact that I went out and was vocal about telling them, 'Listen I want to do more,' helped me out and it was a great experience because I was doing the entertainment show in the morning and in the afternoon I was doing 'Aqui y Ahora,' which is an investigative news show."

Through her experience that summer and the connections she made, Interiano applied and got a part-time position at "Aqui y Ahora," the following summer.

Interiano says that Elon prepared her for what was to come in her profession. The close relationships that she had with her professors and mentors helped her form relationships with her bosses and colleagues.

"I learned that not only did I have my family — my blood family — but I also had built a family at Elon," Interiano said. "Elon confirmed the importance of being able to have a team, being able to rely on people, to learn from other people because that was the environment."

On the job, in the field

The relationships Interiano built while at Univision helped her get a temporary associate producer position at "Escandalo TV" following her graduation. This eventually became a permanent position.

Interiano says that position was the "best school" to learn how everything worked behind the camera, and a few years later, she began reporting.

"I love what I do," Interiano said. "I invest a lot of time on my stories. I love producing them, writing them — I even log my own interviews now so I can better write and do everything that needs to be done."

Interiano was eventually relocated as a reporter to Univision's top-rated morning show, "Despierta America." She began working for the morning show as a reporter and is now an on-air talent. She hosts a daily entertainment segment and has covered a variety of events such as Premios Juventud, Premios Lo Nuestro, Latin Grammy, the Oscars and the 2014 FIFA World Cup. She has interviewed international celebrities such as Shakira, Johnny Depp, George Clooney and Angelina Jolie among others.

"Maity was fortunate enough to start at Univision at a young age," Hatcher said. "She hasn't let her position go to her head and retains a genuine sweetness about her."

Muñoz said she is delighted to have Interiano back on campus and hopes other students will be inspired by it.

"She represents Elon's goal of 'Preparing graduates to be the ethical leaders the world needs,'" Muñoz said. "She was able to put knowledge into practice since day one, and that led to obtaining the internships and experiences that ultimately led her to her career."

FILLING THE VOID WITH COLOR

First class of Communication Design majors graduate

HANNAH SICHERMAN | Designer

Margaret Malone
News Editor
@megretjeane

Walking down the aisle at Elon University's 127th Commencement will be senior Haley Longbottom, a member of the first class of Communication Design majors since the program was created in 2014.

The program was created to teach students about the design of print publications, advertisements and websites or mobile media because, according to the university's website, "The design of media and communication messages is important in a visual world."

According to Harlen Makemson, a professor of communications and member of the steering committee responsible for the major's creation, the program "fills a void."

"We felt like it was an area that was sort of lacking in the program — that visually we could do a lot better," Makemson said. "In part, we felt like there was a need in the industry for people who can combine visual skills along with storytelling whether it be journalistic, or whether it have a communications aspect."

Enthusiastic support from members of the School of Communications' Board of Trustees reinforced their decision.

Longbottom was a rising sophomore when the program was created. She said she was impressed by the faculty most of all.

"When you have a new major, it can be tough to pick and find specific faculty who are great at what they do and can cater to this new major," Longbottom said. "But every single faculty member that I have had within the major has been absolutely incredible."

Though she loved her experiences within the program, Longbottom said she thinks the program will continue to evolve.

"I think there's room for improvement, but I think that comes from going through multiple classes and seeing what works and what doesn't," she said.

From her perspective, Longbottom said the program's most prominent pitfall is a lack of electives, she said she feels confident that administration and faculty members are taking students' input seriously.

Makemson said faculty members meet regularly to discuss what is going well and issues that might need to be addressed within their classes and overall curriculum, but he said not much is likely to change until next spring at the earliest, after the school's accreditation evaluation period.

The School of Communications was nationally accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications in 2012, but that was prior to the creation of the Communication Design program.

Longbottom said that in spite of opportunities for enhancement, the program has served her well and she feels prepared to enter the professional field.

"You need to have guinea pigs to understand what can go wrong and what can go right," she said.

Makemson said he thinks the overall School of Communications has benefited from the program's short existence.

"We thought it would raise the level of competence in the other five majors, and I think we're seeing evidence of that. When I see student work at The Pendulum or at Live Oak, the visual quality is much higher," he said. "I think it's sort of raising the level of our visual competence in general."

Hitting the road to help the homeless

Courtney Campbell
Senior Reporter
@courtcamps

In 2014, 39.8 million United States households, more than a third of all, were housing cost-burdened, according to the Harvard University Joint Center for Housing Studies. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has cited affordable housing as the leading cause of homelessness.

To raise awareness for this issue, after graduation senior Jack Pasi will hit the road with his girlfriend Charolotte Robin in a 48-square-foot tiny home on an 11,000 mile cross-country journey towed by 2005 Honda Pilot in a project called "Coast to Coast, Cote a Cote."

"I wanted to connect it to a larger cause bigger than myself, and what better way to spread awareness about affordable housing than doing this?" Pasi said.

The tiny home, called MOBii, was created with refurbished materials from Elon University, has all the functions of a regular home and cost only around $3,000 with little waste in the construction — a possible solution to the affordable housing problem.

The idea came from the course "Humans and Nature in Spring 2015" when Robert Charest, associate professor of environmental studies, asked students to come up with a with a space containing of the functions of a home with the smallest footprint possible.

"A lot of students helped build it, not just me," Pasi said. "It was pretty much Robert's idea, just teaching the students how to build stuff, and I don't know, I guess I was dumb enough to say I want to take it on the road."

The small space includes a loft above a built-in table and chairs, sink, counter, wet bath and some storage — just enough space to live in for a few months. Additionally, Pasi plans to construct a deck and a hutch with a solar panel for off-grid energy before they take off in June.

CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor

Senior Jack Pasi (left) will travel the country in a mobile home following ENS 110 with Professor Charest.

"We're trying to be as frugal as possible," he said. "I haven't really thought about what I'm bringing yet. I guess just the bare essentials."

Pasi and Robin's journey to 30 cities will begin June 19, starting from his hometown of Exeter, New Hampshire. From there the two will travel down the East Coast, stopping in places such as New York City and Washington, D.C. before reaching Florida.

From there they will head west to Southern California, up to San Francisco, trek to North Dakota before heading down south to Missouri and Tennessee until they reach their final destination of Chapel Hill.

While on the road, Pasi plans to keep a blog on his website, CoasttoCote.weebly.com, to record his experiences as well as reach out to various media organizations to spread more awareness on the affordable housing issue.

"We would meet people organically — just stopping in the streets people are going to go up and talk to you," Pasi said. "I feel like the homeless people don't have the means to build all of this. So I feel like you need to reach out to the larger community who's more willing to help other people."

Though Charest does not believe that incredibly small houses gave the absolute solution to the affordable housing problem, he does think it is a step in the right direction for building awareness and smaller ecological footprints.

"I'm very happy and proud of him to have come up with a broader perspective other than just building tiny," Charest said. "Everyone's building tiny, but this has a social component to it."

Instead, he believes that affordable tiny house community model that complies with building codes and zoning ordinances, such as the one he is working on in northern Burlington, would be better suited for addressing affordable housing.

"I think that has a better chance to impact more people," Charest said. "These one-offs we do are interesting laboratories to see how we can just live in small footprints, but I don't think they are the solution to affordable housing."

So far, Pasi has spent two nights sleeping in MOBii when he presented the tiny home at the 2017 Tiny House NC Street Festival in Pink Hill. Though it was it bit crammed, Pasi said it was manageable — but it might be tight with two people.

At the festival, MOBii created quite the buzz due to its small size. Attendees asked if they could purchase building plans or wanted to know where they can buy one.

Pasi hopes this kind of excitement and interest will continue when he begins the actual journey.

"I guess there's no real tangible goal, it's more of a continual aim," he said. "Obviously this isn't going to solve the affordable housing crisis but it's spread more awareness — trying to do the most good you can. It's better than nothing."

CHECK THESE OFF BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

ELON BUCKET LIST

LUCIA JERVIS | Designer

1 Introduce yourself to senior staff members such as President Leo Lambert and Smith Jackson

This is the last year President Leo Lambert and Smith Jackson — who both have given around two decades of service to our university — will be involved in commencement. They have dedicated so much of their life to this university and deserve to be recognized for their work. If you have not introduced yourself to either of them, or any senior staff members, take the time to do so. Thank them and ask for any advice they can give.

2 Reach out to your mentors to recognize and thank them for all they have done

Many students find mentors in their professors, advisors, friends, bosses or other people they interact with on campus. If anyone has inspired or motivated you during your time at Elon, tell them. This can be in the form of a short email, handwritten note or in person conversation — it doesn't matter how you say it, so long as you reach out and tell them.

3 Thank staff members for their service to our university

Staff members who work in physical plant, Aramark or other areas across campus do so much to keep our campus looking beautiful, running efficiently and our students happy. But, too often, their hard work goes unnoticed or under appreciated. Take time before you leave to visit different dining halls, talk to physical plant workers as you see them across campus and recognize the work of others.

4 Volunteer in the Alamance County region

Even in your last few days on campus, there are many ways you can give back to the Alamance County community. Volunteering for a day could also be a great way to bond with your friends one last time while also helping others.

5 Jump in a fountain and document the experience

It may seem cliché, but all Elon students deserve their own iconic fountain picture. Hop into your favorite fountain with any of your friends and post a photo on social media, expressing your love for Elon.

6 Donate old clothes, books or other belongings to those who need them

Instead of selling your clothes or throwing them away, consider donating gently used clothing, books or other belongings to donation centers such as Gooodwill or Salvation Army. You can donate anything from old furniture to old formal dresses. This a convenient and easy way to give back to the community before leaving.

7 Start thinking about where you would like to plant your oak sapling

It is said that you should plant your oak sapling where you want to end up in life. Whether you have a job lined up for after graduation or your plans are still up in the air, consider this tradition a reason to think about your future goals.

Class of 2017 President hopes to have left impact with SGA

Junie Burke
Contributor
@burke_junie

SGA Class of 2017 President Kelsea Johnson will be speaking at Commencement on May 20, 2017. And while she is excited for the future, she can't help but look back on the progress SGA has made.

"I think this previous term was extremely successful. We had a lot of forward movement as an organization," Johnson said.

SGA Faculty advisor Jana Lynn Patterson agrees.

"This is the best senate I've had in many years," she said. "SGA has become the leader when this campus is ready to tackle difficult subjects."

One way this leadership has been expressed is through the implementation of town halls, introduced during SGA's spring 2017 term.

"The implementation of town halls this year is [SGA] saying that we've got to be the leader in that change," Patterson said.

Town halls are meant to get students more involved in vocalizing their opinions to SGA without being overwhelmed by an intimidating setting, Johnson said.

"The idea was that once or twice a month, students had the opportunity to come in a totally informal setting and make their voices heard," Johnson said. "Kicking that off was really key.

"We had to start to take measures to get to know the student body better. I would say in terms of creating a stronger relationship with the student body, SGA did really well this past term, and town halls are one example of that."

Johnson said that the One Phoenix campaign was also a deriving factor in SGA's push for inclusivity this year.

"Elon students are very passionate, very involved individuals, but we realize that you associate yourselves with those cohorts you're involved in, before you associate yourself with being a part of Elon as a whole.

We knew that students did want to feel more of a communal environment on campus, so it started as a campaign that could help create that sense of unity," Johnson said.

Patterson said she is proud of the work Johnson and the rest of the seniors have accomplished.

"Kelsea and the rest of SGA have made more strides than I have seen to bring folks back to being one phoenix," Patterson said.

"You don't graduate as a member of ENN, you don't graduate as a member of a fraternity or sorority, you graduate as someone from Elon University. And I think her legacy is pulling that together."

Johnson hopes her legacy as senior class president will be remembered.

"I would hope people would remember that I really do care about others. I really do want to dedicate myself to making experiences better for other people. I hope this can be my legacy," Johnson said.

The class of 2017 stands out to Johnson as a one of especially driven students.

"I think we are a class of very passionate and opinionated people, and in some cases during our four years that has created hard conversations.

"There have been issues that affect campus climate, I think it's really cool that our class has not been afraid to speak up on our opinions and thoughts. We persevere really well," Johnson said.

As far as the future of the class of 2017, Johnson is confident in their utmost success.

"We are a class of future leaders. There are a lot of changemakers in the class of 2017. I am so excited to see where our different socio intellectual strengths take us," Johnson said.

CAMPUS VOICES

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

It is up to students to recognize white privilege

June Shuler
Senior

As a white female on campus, I have many privileges: one of which is to turn a blind eye to bigotry and hate if I choose. I have the privilege to do so because nothing in my life would change. I would continue to have the privilege of walking across this campus never considering the implications of the color of my skin. I would continue to be in the majority in every single space on campus.

I know that if I speak out, I will not be faced with being called "an angry white woman" I will not be told "that I am too sensitive" and that I should "go back to Europe." All because I have white privilege. White privilege. White privilege. Maybe if I repeat it enough, our campus will become less afraid to use the term.

As a majority student, I believe that with that sort of privilege comes responsibility. The responsibility to acknowledge our white privilege. The responsibility to acknowledge our biases. The responsibility to speak out if we see or hear discriminatory acts. Our immediate response will speak louder than any soullessly aloof apology given later.

I am tired of white individuals on this campus hiding behind their white privilege. Acknowledge it. We shouldn't be ashamed of it or feel the need to apologize for it. There was no intentional hurtful act behind being born with white privilege. However, what we do need to be ashamed of is the act of not using this privilege to stand up for justice. The act of staying silent is dangerous and hateful in itself.

In Desmond Tutu's words: "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor". So while the majority of our campus is not excluding students of color from parties, or stomping on NPHC plots, or expressing hateful thoughts, the few of us standing on the sidelines shaking our heads in dismay are also failing. We are failing to act upon instances we know are wrong. We are failing to call out our fellow privileged peers for their abhorrent words and actions. Our silence has chosen the side of the oppressor.

We love Beyoncé's "Lemonade" or Drake's "More Life" or Kendrick Lamar's "Damn.", but do we understand the underlying social commentary of our favorite black artists? How many times have we used the word "on fleek" to describe our outfit? How many times have we used the word "no shade" following a harsh remark? Or how many times have we used the word "yaaasss" to describe our excitement?

What all these words and expressions have in common is the fact that these terms were coined within the Black community. White society has gone about appropriating these words. Let us acknowledge that, once again, white society has taken something and made it our own without due acknowledgement of its origins.

How many themed parties have taken place on our campus where offensive and false stereotypes are being used to continue a negative and deadly racial narrative? If we attended or did not speak out, we were once more silent. And once more, we allowed ourselves to be on the side of the oppressor.

So, if you have no problem blasting Drake's "Passionfruit" at parties, or using terms like "on fleek" and "yaasss" when talking to friends, where are you when it actually comes down to supporting our diverse community and supporting racial, ethnic, religious and national div ersity and equality on our campus? As a predominantly white campus, we fail our peers, professors and staff of diverse backgrounds. Where is the white majority's outcry on our campus after an incidence involving bias? Where are the #ActualSororityMove hashtags? Where are the #OnePhoenix hashtags? Where are our voices?

> AS A MAJORITY STUDENT, I BELIEVE THAT WITH THAT SORT OF PRIVILEGE COMES RESPONSIBILITY.

The majority's silence is deafening and symptomatic of a larger problem on our campus.

Does our Elon education, which focuses on molding us into global citizens, not strive to teach us values of globalism, inclusiveness, acceptance and justice? Or do those lessons only count when we can get 200 likes on an Instagram post of us posing in an "exotic" country?

If you feel personally victimized by this opinion, you may be part of the problem. Take the time to acknowledge your privilege on this campus. Take the time to talk to someone who does not share the same lived experience you do. Truly live up to what it means to be a global citizen, an engaged learner and an Elon student. Perhaps you will feel less inclined to batter someone with your words and stomp over traditions and sacred spaces that were not designed for you.

Let us give our peers a reason to believe that Elon does care about its students of color and diverse backgrounds. Let us use our position of privilege for the betterment of our entire campus. Let us truly be #OnePhoenix.

Thank you, faculty and staff

Cas Levy
Columnist
@ElonNewsNetwork

Whenever I get asked about my favorite thing about Elon University, whether by my family, friends at other colleges or prospective students and their families, my automatic response is the Elon community. Admittedly, I'm not usually thinking about Elon's faculty and staff when I talk about how much I love Elon's community. But that's my own momentary short-sightedness, and not a reflection of the incredible people who are working at Elon.

> WE ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR OUR CAREERS, AND THE REST OF OUR LIVES, BECAUSE OF EVERYTHING ELON'S FACULTY AND STAFF HAVE TAUGHT US.

My first year at Elon I was in a living learning community. Dr. Pardini and his family lived in the building and hosted a breakfast for the first years after we moved in, letting us know we could come to them if we ever needed anything. It's easy to say that was his job as faculty in residence, but he always went above and beyond.

After getting to know each of us a little more and learning that I didn't have a car, he offered to drive me to Greensboro, where the nearest synagogues were, if I ever wanted to go to services. Now at the end of my senior year, he always asks about how I am and how my research is going when we pass each other on campus.

I'll admit that as a first year it felt strange for an adult other than my relatives to seem to care about what was happening in my life. Four years later, it's something I know I'll miss when I leave, because it was hardly a rare occurrence.

My classes have been invited for meals at our professor's house. I've gotten emails with cute designs related to my research and suggestions about job and volunteer opportunities from various faculty and staff members outside of department listserves.

At a campus event, a member of Elon's administrative staff asked how I was doing as he was walking past me on his way to talk to someone else. I told him I wasn't doing great with a forced smile and a shrug, fully expecting him to respond with a quick apology or some words of encouragement and continue on his way. Instead, he stepped back towards me and asked what was wrong. We talked for a few minutes, and I felt a lot better afterwards.

There are a thousand more moments I could talk about in which my Elon experience was improved by our more senior community members, and I know I'm not alone.

Other students at the student forum with Elon's presidential search consultants pointed out times that President Leo Lambert had given them directions to buildings when they were still getting to know the campus. My friends have shared life advice and words of encouragement they've received from their professors.

One of the models for faculty that Elon likes to emphasize is their role as a teachers, scholars, and mentors. In my experience, Elon faculty and staff have absolutely excelled in their role as mentors, in both my professional and personal growth. I know that as our graduating class enters life after Elon, we are better prepared for our careers, and the rest of our lives, because of everything Elon's faculty and staff have taught us, both in and out of the classroom.

Greetings post-ENN life

Tommy Hamzik
Columnist
@T_Hamzik

THIRD FLOOR, ELON TOWN CENTER — All I wanted to do was cover some Elon sporting events.

I had dreams of sitting in press boxes over campus and across the region, chowing down on all the food I could get my hands on and writing about Elon's athletic highs and lows.

I couldn't have imagined the lengths to which student media would stretch and push me to grow into a versatile journalist who's as well-versed in what kerning and inch-counts are as the format of VOSOTs and NAT pops.

I'll look back on my four years with student media at Elon fondly, thinking of the amazing colleagues and advisers, the dozens of ridiculous inside jokes and the transformation we underwent from two separate legacy media organizations to one merged, digital-first news network.

Or should I say mobile-first?

From being deemed the "Future of The Pendulum" while I covered my first sporting event (hat tip and hair sniff to you, Matt Krause and Adam Smith), to lengthy small talk conversations about nothing with Colin to later being tasked with leading the merger of The Pendulum and Elon Local News, it's been a special ride filled with red ball, ill-advised trips to Smitty's for milkshakes and just a few uses of the salute, "Greetings!"

There have been trips to Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Austin, Texas, where I'm still wondering how Michael and I ran into Colin and Uncle Tommy at the Bier Garden. There were cookie skillets consumed at O'Neill's in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and hugs shared with Feather in Biegel's basement in Baltimore. And, somehow, someway, there was a plastic flamingo involved.

But beyond the fun and games, we worked as a team to cover some of the most important stories in Elon's history.

We covered the transitions of Smith Jackson and Leo Lambert to new positions, the first NCAA Tournament trip for the women's basketball team and the opening of the Global Neighborhood and probably a bunch of other buildings I'm forgetting.

But we were also challenged with some tougher stories. The deaths of Dr. Danieley and a number of students, multiple racial incidents and the entire 2016 election.

Through it all, Elon News Network remained steadfast in its commitment to fairness, accuracy and integrity. That, more than anything, is what I'm proud of.

I can't express enough gratitude to fully convey how thankful I am to the dozens of other students I've worked with, our three fantastic advisers — Colin Donohue, Kelly Furnas, Rich Landesberg — and you, the Elon community, for letting us share your stories and inform you.

I'd be remiss, too, if I failed to mention that I met and grew closer with my wonderful, supportive girlfriend, Caroline, through our work at The Pendulum, surviving Monday nights then celebrating the cause Tuesdays.

As I end my student media retirement, shed my Lame Duck status and venture off into this alleged concept of the real world, I'm indebted to everyone I've worked with at Elon for the success I've had and for all I've learned.

When I first started at The Pendulum, we had one adviser, one TV in our office and we had to take a painstakingly slow elevator just to reach that office. ENN wasn't barely a concept on the table.

Times have changed. As have I.

Both for the better.

TOP 10 SPORTS STORIES OF THE YEAR

COMPILED BY THE PENDULUM STAFF

1 Women's basketball earned spot in NCAA Tournament

Elon University's women's basketball team beat James Madison University in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament to advance to the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history. The 11th-seeded Phoenix lost in the first round to sixth-seeded West Virginia University 75-62. Despite the loss, many on the team said they are motivated to surpass their goals for next year.

2 Elon University's women's lacrosse earned spot in NCAA Tournament

The Elon University lacrosse team qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time in the program's four-year history, but lost to the University of Virginia 11-9. The Phoenix finished the season with a 13-7 record, the most wins in Elon lacrosse history.

Three Elon players were named to the CAA All-Tournament team after their performance this weekend. They include Stephanie Asher, Alexis Zadjura and Rachel Ramirez.

3 Cross Country runner won second straight CAA Individual title

For the second time in as many years, Elon University cross country sophomore Nick Ciolkowski went to the Colonial Athletic Association championships and emerged victorious, defending his CAA individual title in Newark, Delaware. Ciolkowski finished with a time of 25:08.10 in the eight-kilometer race, running just a few seconds more than a five-minute-mile. As a team, the Phoenix men finished third in the tournament.

4 Redshirt junior pitcher Robbie Welhaf throws no-hitter

Redshirt junior pitcher Robbie Welhaf threw the first no-hitter in the Elon University baseball team's Division I era Feb. 17, needing 100 pitches to beat Longwood University 7-0 at Latham Park.Welhaf struck out a career-high eight in Elon's 7-0 win over Longwood, with just a walk and a hit-by-pitch against him.

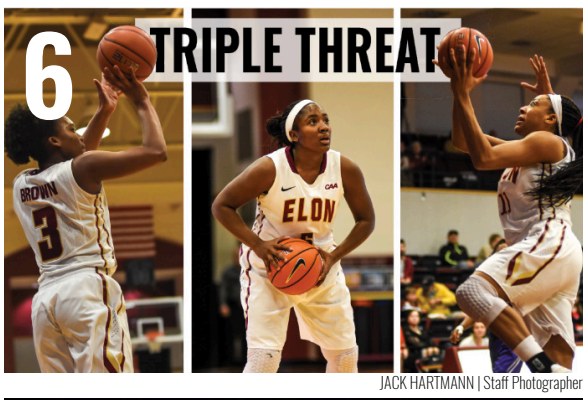
5 Men's basketball wins game a day after President Emeritus J. Earl Danieley's death

The Elon University men's basketball team beat Florida International University 84-81 Nov. 3, just one day after President Emeritus James Earl Danieley's death. Danieley, beloved by the community, was a staple at basketball games. Head coach Matt Matheny said that this win, while good for the record book, had an added meaning.

"It's a very good win, and a special night, when we can pause and think about the impact Dr. Danieley had and will continue to have on this campus," Matheny said. "We feel fortunate to get the victory on a special night."

ALEX SIMON | Senior Reporter

CAROLINE BREHMAN | Photo Editor



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

HANNAH SILVERS | Senior Reporter

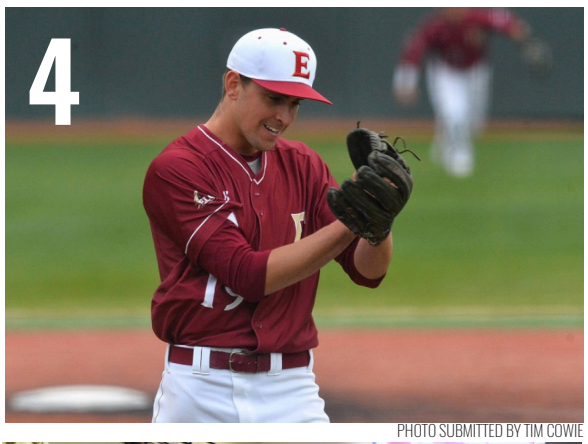
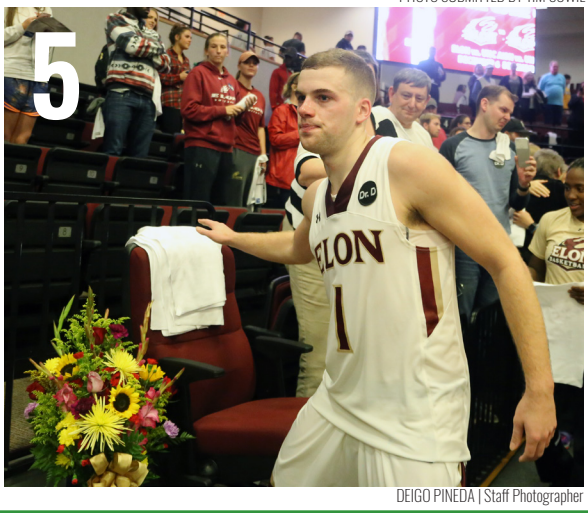


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY TIM COWIE



DEIGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

ALEX SIMON | Senior Reporter

6 Three women's basketball players score 1,000 career points

Senior forward Jenifer Rhodes became the 23rd player in program history to score 1,000 points in her career. And with that, she joined senior guard Lauren Brown and junior guard Shay Burnett as Elon players who reached quadruple digits this season, the first time in school history that three players did so in the same season.

7 Football topples No. 8 seeded William and Mary

Elon University's football team defeated William and Mary University, ranked No. 8 at the time, 24-13. It's was the second victory over a Top-10 opponent since the Phoenix moved to Division I. The other time it happened was Oct. 20, 2007, when the 24th-ranked Phoenix won at No. 6 Wofford College 24-13.

8 Women's soccer honors the life of Nicole Dennion

Elon University's women's soccer team honored the life of their former teammate, Nicole Dennion, at their final spring game against Belmont Abbey April 19. Dennion died in November after battling Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer. The team paired up with Vs. Cancer foundation and raised just under $7,000 for the fight against pediatric brain cancer.

9 Football and men's soccer hire new coaches

Elon University's football and men's soccer teams both hired new coaches this year. Curt Cignetti took over for Rich Skrosky after he left the football team in December. Marc Reeves took reins of the soccer tam in February after Chris Little stepped down. Both are looking to see more success for their squads after both failed to make the playoffs for their respective seasons.

10 Charlotte Smith wins Coach of the Year

Elon Women's basketball Head Coach Charlotte Smith was tabbed the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Coach of the Year, the organization announced March 23. Smith becomes the first Elon head coach to earn ECAC Coach of the Year to date. In her sixth season at the helm of the program this year, she was named CAA Coach of the Year while guiding Elon to a 27-7 record, the program's first Division I conference regular season and tournament titles and its first appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

From BASKETBALL JERSEY to LAB COAT

After successful college career, Brown will enter masters thesis program at UGA

Ellie Whittington
Contributor
@reporter'stwitter

Senior Women's basketball forward Lauren Brown has an impressive statistics sheet on the court, but her academic skills are just as awe-inspiring.

Brown works as a research assistant with Elon BrainCARE, where she conducts concussion research with other student athletes.

Brown walked into an empty Alumni Gym in a dress and heels she is wearing due to a prior speaking engagement at a women's philanthropy event. She entered the gym as confident and poised in business attire as she seems to be in a uniform on game day.

Brown helped her team win the Colonial Athletic Association championship this season. It was the first conference championship Elon has played in since 2001. The team's successes didn't stop there, as they were the first Elon team to make an appearance in the NCAA tournament.

"There was a lot of support," Brown said. "I walk around campus and people will speak and show their appreciation. It has been nice to know that we have done something special for the university."

Brown said this past season was the most special of her college career with the conference championship as one of the highlights.

"Our championship game was so unreal. James Madison has the most support out of any team in our conference. Keep in mind they have won it the past three years. They have a player, senior guard, Precious Hall, who is really a star. James Madison did a video of her where she said, 'I won't let anyone celebrate on my court.' After we won, it was such a surreal feeling."

Brown said life after basketball is different and she is amazed by the amount of free time she has, which is occupied by "relaxation and Netflix."

While it may seem that Brown has more free time on her hands, the research and academic work in the health sciences department shows differently. Brown works as a research assistant with Elon BrainCARE, she conducts concussion research with other student athletes. There, she adds game-like situations to fellow Elon athletes and often her teammates.

> I WAS IN THE FLOAT POOL, WHICH MEANS THEY HAD THE FLEXIBILITY TO SEND ME EVERYWHERE. WHEN I WENT TO THE MOTHER/BABY UNIT I FELL IN LOVE. IT WAS SUCH AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE.
>
> **LAUREN BROWN**
> SENIOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FORWARD

Brown plans to continue her research by entering a masters thesis program at the University of Georgia — her home state — this fall. She has also recently been named Elon's next Youth Trustee.

She says working at Alamance Regional Hospital this past summer helped her discover passions outside of basketball.

"I was in the float pool, which means they had the flexibility to send me everywhere. When I went to the mother/baby unit I fell in love. It was such an amazing experience," Brown said.

Brown said after her master's degree, she wants to attend medical school to pursue becoming an OB-GYN or Neonatologist.

As far as basketball, she says, "I absolutely love basketball, but at this point I am focused on my career." But, she hasn't completely thrown in the towel.

"I have a friend at UGA on the basketball team that I played summer ball with. I am literally going to go to the coach at UGA and be like 'Hey can I be a practice player or can I do anything to help out.' I already miss it."

She said Elon allowed her to pursue a passion in basketball ,but also helped her excel in academia as well.

"I am honored to have had the opportunity to represent this amazing university," Brown said. "Not only to play basketball, but also to pursue my other passions off the court. I think something that is awesome about Elon is that I have never been pigeon-holed into just being a student athlete."

126 GAMES
160 3-POINTERS
1,160 REBOUNDS
263 POINTS

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

COMPASS

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Shane Malloy '16 works for Compass Realty in NYC. He encourages any graduating or interning student looking to move to NYC to reach out. Compass has offices in several regions across the country including L.A., D.C., Miami, Aspen, San Francisco and Boston, in which case he can refer anyone looking in those regions to an agent. He is on the Impact Living Team.

The Impact Living Team donates 10 percent of each commission to charity. The founder is a leading expert who has sold and rented over $440 million in real estate over the last 10 years.

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ADVICE FOR SENIORS

BROOKE BARNETT

INTERIM ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

"Keep developing those habits of mind and heart. Be curious. Broaden your friend base. Write notes of appreciation. Keep learning. Be an active and engaged citizen and community member. Work in partnership to make things better for all members of your community. Find ways to serve and make sure they are helpful to the community or issue you want to impact. Pay attention to your own ethnocentrism and seek to understand perspectives different than your own. Find ways to live in the bridge space in our polarized times and create better understanding. Focus on equity and justice. Listen more. Ask good questions and really pay attention to the the answers. Try to better understand things you have not experienced personally. Think critically about who you are and who you want to be."

GREG ZAISER

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

"How we respond to situations makes all the difference — whether personally or in a professional work environment. In our electronic age, people are quick to judge and often make decisions and statements that are uninformed and hurtful. Think before you act. Be kind and gracious. Put yourself in other's shoes. Understand context and respect difference. There are multiple perspectives to every scenario and an educated, well rounded person should reflect on things before responding or acting.

Additionally, do the best work you can for the job you are hired to do. Don't assume or expect anything other than your determination to do a good job. Focus on the work at hand. In doing your best and demonstrating commitment to something, people will notice and good things will come. And if you work in a team environment, don't compare yourself to others. Do your best. There will always be people who are better at something than you are. Take advantage of what you can learn from these people. You'll be the better for it."

JAN FULLER

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN AND LECTURER

"I will see you at commencement. Not just at the podium, where I intend to bless you at the beginning. I'll see you on the stage at the moment you are preparing to cross it. You will be anxiously eyeing the appropriate Dean calling names in order, waiting to hear yours. You will be eyeing Dr. Lambert, holding a diploma, ready to shake hands. You will, likely, be thinking of other things, like not tripping, like taking the President's hand before the diploma, like hearing your parents cheers in the background. You might not even see me. You might not even know who I am. It might be the first and only time we've ever met each other, there on the right corner of the commencement platform.

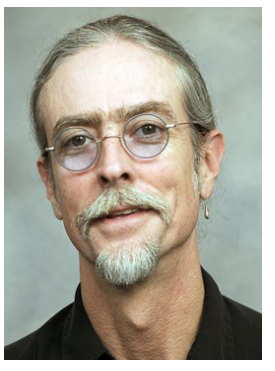
You might think I'm just traffic control as you come up the ramp, that it is my job to stop you there and to send you at the right time. You will be right about that. I'll hold you at the black line for a second, then send you across the stage. But, while it is all about the flow of graduates across the platform, in my own mind, heart, and intention, it's about much more than that.

President Lambert uses the phrase "a tap on the shoulder" to describe the experience of some of our students when they get singled out for a distinct leadership, an opportunity to do research, a special recognition or an occasion to join a community. That tap on the shoulder is an indication that a student is capable, honored, chosen or expected to excel. Most of you have had such an experience in your Elon days and years.

As I send you across the graduation stage, with a very literal tap on the shoulder, I will push you across with my best blessing. I will know that you are capable, honored, loved, expected to excel. In that small touch on your shoulder, I will bless you with the strength to be your best, to take on the shortcomings of this world, to serve those in need. I will tap you with a sure sense that you will make a difference in the world. I will breathe a prayer of courage and blessing for the life ahead of you.

It won't matter if you see or know me. In one split second, I will lay a light hand on your shoulder, in the form of a wish, a hope and a blessing, and then, will whisper to you, "Go!" And you will."

LD RUSSELL



SENIOR LECTURER IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

"Find something you love to do, find someone to pay you to do it, and you will find a rewarding life."

RAGHU TADEPALLI

DEAN OF THE MARTHA AND SPENCER LOVE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

"Four years… where have they gone? Just the other day you were a first-year student starting out in a new place, meeting any number of other first years whom you had never seen or heard of till then. Now, you are ready to graduate with a degree from a fine university with bright prospects for success and a full circle of friends — some of whom will be lifelong ones. What's there not to be happy and proud of? Indeed, your future is now in your capable hands, for having completed your degree requirements you are now about to start the next phase of your education in that world-class university called "The University of Life." Believe me the "University of Life" can provide you with all kinds of thrills and chills. The key is to know that beyond your degree you have a set of skills — you can work well with others, you can write and speak well, and most important of all, you can handle uncertainty and ambiguity. In fact, uncertainty and ambiguity are going to be present all the time going forward. Disappointment too. How do you deal with them? The key is not to make work and the workplace the centerpiece of your life. Pick a social cause and volunteer, or pursue hobbies, or play sports or adopt a pet. That will give you an outlet and you will meet a whole lot of people like yourself. That in turn will expand your group of friends.

When you think about this, isn't that what Elon is all about? Certainly the academics are important, but if there is one thing uniquely powerful about the Elon experience it is all the activities that you participated in outside of class. You will hear a lot of well-meaning people say "follow your passion" and as nice as this sounds, I can tell you that the first few years in your first job, your main tasks are to watch, learn, follow directions and build your set of accomplishments. This takes a lot of commitment and self-discipline. In spite of showing commitment and self-discipline, sometimes things won't work out the way you hoped they would. Don't feel sorry for yourself. Pick yourself up with the help of your family and friends and know that thrills and chills are part of life. Much has been given to you till now, but in the "University of Life," you have to earn everything yourself. As you leave Elon University remember our very best wishes are with you. Make us proud, but more importantly, make yourself and your loved ones proud. Long live Elon!"