

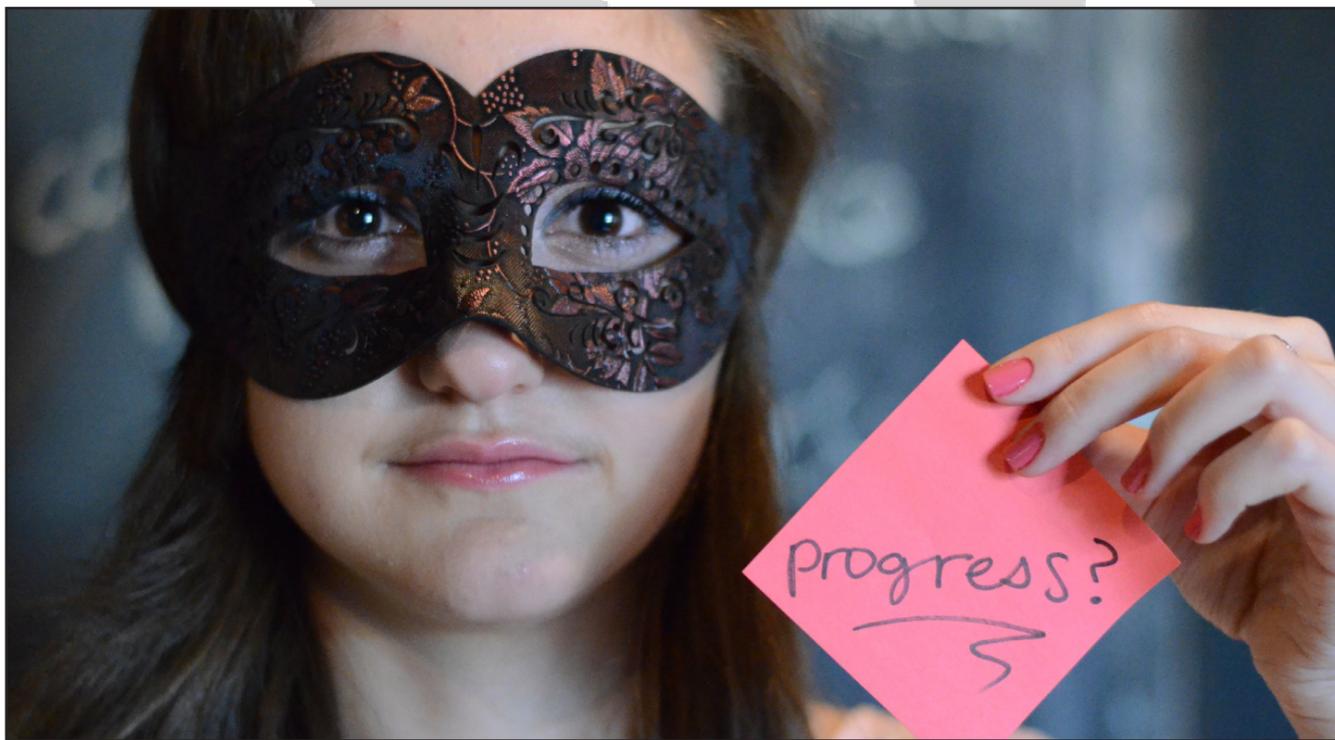
# THE PENDULUM

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## Moving past mission statements

*As Elon triples international students, are experiences equal to growth?*



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

Over the past five years, Elon has almost doubled the number of international students, but resources may not be keeping pace.

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

Tripling the number of international students on campus by 2020 was one of eight main goals highlighted in the Elon Commitment, a 10 year, \$586 million strategic plan approved by Elon University's Board of Trustees December 2009.

When the goal was announced, 187 students — 3.3 percent of Elon's student population — were considered international.

Five years later, the number of international students has more than doubled to 386, or 6 percent of the population.

With the rate of international students that have been enrolled over the past five years, it looks like Elon is on track to achieve the Elon Commitment goal of close to 600 international students on campus by 2020.

But increased or even rapid growth doesn't always mean an equally successful experience for international students, especially when success requires a large staff to attend to the needs of the increasing number of international students.

Bill Burress, assistant director of international programs, said he would advocate for the hiring of a full-time interna-

tional student life coordinator who could devote all of his or her time to leading programming and could be available to help students on a daily basis.

"It's a resource problem," Burress said. "We are very well-staffed in this office relative to other universities, but even with as well staffed as we are, the resources allow for limited expansion of opportunities."

Burress runs the three-day orientation program for international students before school begins in August.

During international orientation, students learn about important documents like an I-20 form — a Certificate of

Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status that is crucial for international students when entering and leaving the country — purchase cell phones, create bank accounts and even adjust from the metric system.

But after orientation weekend is over, there are no follow up sessions or meetings for students during the year.

"There was definitely a lot of valuable information, but I felt they should have had workshops after Orientation weekend," said Singapore native

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## Coffee controversy brews in downtown Elon

Michael Bodley and Leena Dahal  
Editor-in-Chief and Assistant News Editor

Plans by Elon University to bring a Starbucks to campus next fall have been met with fierce grassroots opposition, saying the corporate coffee giant will disrupt local business and impede the growing artisan vibe of downtown Elon.

Patrons of The Oak House — a locally owned and operated coffee, beer and wine shop that opened its N. Williamson Avenue doors last fall — take issue with the location of the Starbucks, planned to set up shop in place of what is now Acorn Coffee Shop, adjacent to the Oak House.

While Phil Smith, who owns Oak House, said he's confident his shop could co-exist with Starbucks, he's not inviting the chain in with open arms.

"I was disappointed to learn that Aramark was putting a Starbucks next door," Smith said. "As for The Oak House, I believe what we are providing in downtown Elon is exactly the type

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## Campus sustainability slowed by growth

Katherine Blunt  
Senior Reporter

Though Elon University's environmental initiatives have earned it praise from a number of its stakeholders, its rapid expansion has encroached on some of its sustainability objectives and challenged it to find ways to reduce emissions as the campus expands and enrollment rises.

Between 2008 — the baseline year for carbon emission measurements — and 2014, Elon added about 670,000 square feet and about 850 students to its campus. It succeeded in shrinking certain aspects of its carbon footprint during that seven-year period, but its growth has outpaced its overall rate of emissions reductions and highlighted the conflict that can sometimes exist between sustainable development and building aesthetics.

During the measurement period, Elon's carbon emissions increased by more than 10 percent, according to the school's most recent greenhouse gas inventory. The university is not on track to reduce net carbon emissions by 5 percent this year, an interim goal set five years ago in the university's Climate Action Plan.

"In terms of sustainability, a challenge today and in the future is changing behaviors," Elaine Durr, director of sustainability, said in an email. "Another sustainability challenge in terms of resources — personnel, time, financial — is

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page 6

## Campus fed up with racism, not giving in

*Continued bias incidents dampen minority mood*

Michael Bodley  
Editor-in-Chief

There are only 333 black students at Elon University, a tight-knit community where whispers of discrimination spread much faster than bias notification emails from the administration to the student body.

The latest reported this spring — in which a female black student said she was the victim of a racial slur shouted from a passing car on N. O'Kelly Avenue two weeks ago — has led minority student leaders to voice their frustrations of a system they say is too slow to change.

"A lot of times, people just



MICHAEL BODLEY | Editor-in-Chief

Across campus Tuesday, students scribbled phrases such as these.

feel like they don't belong," said junior Danielle Williams, president of the Panhellenic Council, who is black. "We're in the shadows."

Williams and others — such as junior Alex Bohannon, president for the Black Student Union — work as both leaders among the black

community on campus and as liaisons to communicate student concerns to the administrators who control campus initiatives on a larger policy level.

"I think that with anything, sometimes we don't necessarily understand the gravity of certain situations until we get to a point when we have to say, 'This is enough. This is too much,'" Bohannon said.

Though there have been more than a half-dozen reported incidents of racial bias since 2011, it's important for Randy Williams, dean of

See **BLACK STUDENTS**  
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## Elon Dining: A year in review with manager Pulkitt Vigg

Morgan Smith  
Senior Reporter

As Elon University's dining program winds down its first year under Aramark's first new manager in 22 years, the staff continues to look to diversify options, such as planned additions of Starbucks and Einstein Bagels slated to open next fall.

A focus on theme dinners and special events had differentiated Aramark's resident district manager Pulkitt Vigg — who started at Elon in July 2014 — time at Aramark from his predecessor's.

"Our first and foremost goal is to try and find out what the student population wants," said Vigg, who holds degrees in hotel management and hospitality management. "It starts with the students and ends with the students. It's all about them."

Sophomore Taylor DeFord feels as though Starbucks and Einstein Bro's will be great additions to the campus. She also hopes that new chains continue appearing.

Although Vigg can't say exactly what chains will be arriving within the next few years, he wants to assure students that they will be premium level.

"We want students to have a unique dining experience instead of the same generic brands they're used to seeing," Vigg said.

Keeping close ties with Elon's focus on study abroad and international experiences, Vigg has begun to restructure Aramark's focus to look outside of North Carolina for culinary inspiration.

"We're connecting with the university's mission of globalizing Elon," Vigg said. "If you try something here, when you go



Elon Dining has gone through changes since Pulkitt Vigg, Aramark resident district manager, began July 2014. The additions of a Starbucks and an Einstein Bagels is set for 2015-2016 year.

abroad you aren't afraid to try it there. It helps you be the generation of tomorrow by diversifying yourselves."

"Bollywood Night," which took place in Lakeside Dining Hall in early April, was a crowd-pleasing example, with 98 percent of students who responded to an Aramark survey saying they were "exceptionally pleased" with the event.

Indian food was coupled with traditional music and belly dancers to set the dinner apart — what Vigg likes to call a "monotony breaker" for students.

Before Vigg took over, students were critical of such monotony across campus dining.

"The person before me was here for 22 years and had done a great job with the

program," Vigg said. "The team was just looking for a new, different kind of leadership."

DeFord hopes Vigg's new perspective will bring even more changes to the dining program in her time at Elon.

"Within the past two years, there haven't been any changes, and I've grown tired of the options," DeFord said.

To Vigg, clarity matters — he says he can't act on vague student complaints. He's in search of specifics.

"We want to make it as personalized as possible," Vigg said. "When people say, 'We want more variety,' it tells me nothing. If you tell me exactly what you want, I'll do my best to make it happen."

Putting it in perspective, students who

have come to Elon from elsewhere have a more favorable outlook.

"Elon's dining experience for me has been far beyond what my previous school had to offer me," said freshman Ryan McGarvey, who transferred to Elon from the University of South Carolina. "The food is good and I can have as much as I want."

Vigg's job does come with challenges — he said he wants to take care of everyone, regardless of their needs.

"I want a person with a gluten allergy to be able to sit with his friend who's a vegan and a friend who doesn't fit either of those lifestyles," Vigg said. "A goal of mine is to make sure all three of them can come together and eat at the same place."

Although DeFord agrees that Elon has made strong attempts to diversify food options, she wishes Elon would come up with more healthy options because she's tired of eating Freshii everyday.

Additions such as Green World last year are a start, but Vigg knows there is a long way to go.

Vigg plans on even more improvement within the next few years because he said he wants Elon's dining to walk hand-in-hand with the rest of the school.

"I want our chefs — and everyone here, for that matter — to be proud of what we do," Vigg said.

Vigg's long-term goal is to make Elon's dining program the best in the country.

"I want to be the No. 1 dining program in the United States," Vigg said. "When people talk about Elon, I want them to first talk about the academics, and then for them to bring up that Elon's dining is in the top 10 in the country."

## Solar panels expected to pay for themselves

Courtney Campbell  
Style Editor

By the end of May, the 9,900 photovoltaic panels that now occupy 10 acres of Loy Farm will officially be generating power into a grid that connects to the railroad tracks by Williamson Avenue.

The project, which broke ground in early March, is estimated to produce 4,500 megawatts of electricity annually—enough to power 415 homes—according to Robert Buchholz, Elon University's associate vice president for facilities management and director of Physical Plant.

"There's two ways we look at it," Buchholz said. "There is a percentage of what Elon uses for the whole year, and that's 10 percent. During the day, that's 40 percent of the energy that we use. Students use a lot."

Buchholz said the amount of energy produced depends on sun and clouds—power will be generated during the 12-hour window of sunlight.

The panels cost about \$3 million and will have about a 20-year payback. This compares to the \$5 million Buchholz was told it would cost about seven years ago.

The project was developed by Suntuity and funded by Loy Farm Solar LLC, who are leasing the property from the university for the next 20 years. As an incentive to pay for expensive projects like the solar panels, they are given 65 percent subsidies by the state and federal government. In other words, for every dollar paid, 65 cents are given in

tax credits.

Elon is not directly benefiting from electricity produced by the panels yet but receives money for renting out the farm and hopes to obtain the solar farm in the near future.

"It takes about seven years to get the best benefits out of the project," Buchholz said. "It means that the investors who put up the money would all have their tax benefits out of it and hopefully we can buy the farm."

Students will have the opportunity to study the equipment and economic model of the operation as well as the legal side.

"I've been with this project from the very beginning," Buchholz said. "The purpose was to be used in the academic side so questions and answers could be made from the business, law and environmental studies programs."

Students think the potential of the project will outweigh any drawbacks in time and costs.

"Overall it will be good down the line," said sophomore Samantha McCabe, an Eco-Rep. "But it's still in an early stage and will take a few years before they power buildings and such."

Not all are convinced the panels will be as beneficial as they are made out to be.

Professor of Health and Human Performance Michael Calhoun proposed the use of solar panels at a long range planning committee more than 20 years ago. But he doesn't believe they are as cost-effective or environmentally friendly as he originally thought technology would be



The solar panels on Loy Farm are scheduled to begin generating power by the end of May.

by now.

"In order to construct a solar farm it is not cost effective unless you get subsidies, in this case taxpayers dollars," Calhoun said. "I personally don't want to spend my tax dollars on something that's not cost-effective."

In addition to being costly, Calhoun points out the energy and fossil fuels it took to make the steel structure, copper wiring and panels as well as the transportation and labor involved.

Calhoun said it's doubtful the photovoltaic panels will ever return to the grid what it took to make and pay for it.

He does agree the panels fit with Elon's mission to be a sustainable model.

"It's nice," Calhoun said. "It makes a great statement. It looks very sustainable, but I'm reasonable sure it won't do what it's intended to do."

Calhoun suggests for Elon to be green, cost effective and efficient, a graduate nuclear physicist program should be started and a nuclear energy producing, micro-reactor should be installed.

Calhoun believes the university could sell the energy back to grid and pay for the costs of the reactor and

program. He also said it's impossible to make nuclear weapons from it and the university has room to hold it.

"Let's be the university that has the courage to be cutting edge," Calhoun said. "We could be a model for the rest of the world."

Although it is not known how much energy and fossil fuels were used to produce the solar panels, Buchholz still believes Suntuity chose the most cost-effective panels. He also sees this as an opportunity for students to investigate the efficiency and costs of solar panels as their own research.

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## Trekking across the tracks

*Elon expands to South Campus to add more space*



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

Departments move to South Campus in search of a growing need for space and resources.

Sam Sullivan  
Senior Reporter

At 10 a.m., the 20-minute walk to South Campus begins. Across the street, through the tunnel and down the road is the path Colonnades resident and sophomore Chelsea Weber takes every Tuesday and Thursday.

In August 2014, Elon University officially opened a newly renovated facility on South Campus for the use of faculty, staff and students in the upcoming fall semester.

This new building became the home of the psychology and human services studies departments.

The Elon School, a local private high school, previously owned the building. The building changed ownership when The Elon School merged with Burlington Day School in 2013 to become a larger institution.

The university then stepped in and took ownership of the space.

“For the most part, we’re happy here, but we do feel a little bit isolated from the rest of campus and students complain from time to time that they have to run over from far away from another class to get over here in time,” said Beth Warner, associate professor and chair of the department of human services studies.

The two departments were previously housed in Long and Alamance.

“All of my core psychology courses for my minor are in the new building, and since I live in Colonnades this year, it’s a bit farther of a walk than it was to Long,” Weber said. “But it’s honestly not that much farther in my opinion.”

Although some students don’t mind the walk to South Campus, others feel differently.

“I had a psychology class there in the fall, and it was in-

convenient,” said freshman Grace Lekel. “I didn’t feel safe walking home alone when it was dark after class.”

South Campus is less populated and less developed than Elon’s main campus, with only one academic building compared to the main campus’ dozen.

“Specifically in that area of campus, it’s less well lit, and there is less traffic regulation,” said junior Ryan Sienerth. “In the past this wasn’t an issue because people rarely went over there by foot. I guess it’s just one of the qualms that comes with expanding the campus.”

The two departments moving could be a reflection of the future expansion Elon may pursue down the road.

Warner said there are no immediate plans for expansion onto South Campus, but if there is any new growth or need for more space, South Campus is the place that will be able to accommodate an addition.

The switch in location for the two departments occurred when both made separate proposals to the dean’s office. They wanted larger space and new technology to accommodate their growing needs. The building on South Campus was available, beginning the transition process.

“We enjoy being in the same building as psychology because a lot of our students double major, and it’s nice to be able to see a lot of new faces that we didn’t really see before,” Warner said.

The building features new technology for students to get valuable hands-on experience. Additionally, there are more open areas to work, meet and do research.

“Our students do role-plays in working with people, so we needed some new recording equipment to do that and specialized rooms that would model counseling-type settings,” Warner said. “We were able to get that in the new building.”

At any time of day, a walk of more than 10 minutes may be inevitable for students and could affect their schedules.

“I have minors in both psychology and digital art, so I have classes in Arts West as well as the new psychology building,” Weber said. “A downside to having classes beyond a 15-minute walking distance of each other is not being able to have back-to-back classes.”

Warner said she knows if Elon grows, new buildings will be needed.

“I don’t really consider it inconvenient to walk to South Campus,” Weber said. “I don’t have a car so I’m used to walking everywhere. Our campus is very small in comparison to a lot of other schools so, to me, it isn’t a very long walk.”

## Health center moves away from walk-ins

Sam Sullivan  
Senior Reporter

To keep a smoother schedule, Health Services has switched to an appointment-only policy, leaving some students concerned about its effects.

The change was somewhat sudden but was meant to be beneficial for both the practitioners and the patients. Student Health Services wanted to reduce waiting times by accommodating the students better, according to Patterson.

“We have always recommended that students make appointments, but with walk-ins what we were seeing was sometimes we’d have nobody but then we’d have 15 people coming in at one time, and that can back people up for hours,” said Janna Lynn Patterson, dean of student health and wellness.

Having everyone scheduled for specific appointments provides more of an organized system, according to Patterson.

“I think it makes things easier in a lot of ways,” said junior Rasheed Cheek. “You don’t have to die waiting in line, and you don’t have to carve time out of your day to come wait. It helps save time from being wasted.”

Patterson said having only scheduled appointments is not reducing the amount of people seen every day. Instead, it reduces the wait times and makes the flow of appointments more consistent.

“We’re not taking away anything,” Patterson said. “It’s better for you to call ahead and schedule something because at some point throughout the day, we’d have to say we can’t take anymore walk-ins.”

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to make an appointment ahead of time so it works with their schedules. But for college students, planning ahead may not always be possible.

“I think having to make appointments is sort of difficult because if you have an emergency that’s not bad enough for you to go to the hospital—like a really high fever—they usually can’t take appointments that day,” said freshman Mariana DeBare. “If you call in the morning for something later in the day, everything’s taken, so I think it makes it sort of hard.”

Health Services has created a service to accommodate the long distance.

“We did recognize that this was on the southernmost tip of campus, so that’s why we have Sick Rides Monday through Friday,” Patterson said. “If a student feels like they can’t get here, then we’ll come pick them up.”

Despite these efforts during the week, the weekend protocol is different and perhaps less accommodating. Health Services is open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, but only same-day appointments can be made.

Transportation is not available either.

“I think, in general, Health Services should have an emergency line that you can call and say you’re not sick enough to go to the hospital but you want to be seen now,” DeBare said. “Just something like that where they take priority.”

She also suggested having certain standards to the emergency line so people won’t abuse it.

As for the weekends, DeBare said she thinks there should be an on-call doctor available when Health Services is closed. The doctor would be there for emergencies not urgent enough to go to the hospital.

Health Services directs students needing care after hours to local urgent care clinics in Burlington. But some students don’t have a car to get there.

According to the Health Services website, students may call either them or Campus Security to make travel arrangements. A taxi will be dispatched for their transportation to these off-campus medical services. Students are responsible for the costs.

“I just feel like there should be easier options available for us that are more convenient, because if I’m in a situation where it’s not urgent enough to go to the hospital, Health Services is closed, and I can’t get to Burlington for whatever reason, I just don’t really know what I would do,” DeBare said.

# Lavender Graduation lauds LGBTQIA seniors

Michael Bodley  
Editor-in-Chief

Though Commencement Under the Oaks May 23 is just around the corner for the Class of 2015, Elon University's LGBTQIA students and their allies held a celebration of their own Monday night. Lavender Graduation — affectionately dubbed “Lav Grad” by those who know it well — recognized progress Elon's gay community had made, including an all-time high ranking of 4.5 of 5 stars in a recent Campus Pride index evaluation.

“Together, we've really been able to make some massive steps in such a short time,” said Matthew Antonio Bosch, the director of the Gender and LGBTQIA Center who emceed the event.

These steps, he said, are sure to matter for the 3 percent of incoming students who have identified as LGBTQIA in the Class of 2019 — the first time the demographic has been formally tracked on a university-wide level.

Rattling off a list of LGBTQIA accomplishments that this year include adding sexuality demographic questions to admissions forms, allowing transgender students to change their name on university records and establishing a Gender and Sexuality living learning community (LLC) in Colonnades,

Bosch at times cracked emotional when talking about his students.

Joining Bosch at Lavender Graduation was President Leo Lambert and other members of Senior Staff, including Smith Jackson, vice president for student life.

Praising the Lavender Graduates for making a “definite difference” at Elon, Lambert asked the audience to consider what kind of place they wanted the university to be in 50 years, even knowing that it's “hard to think about you being 72 years old.”

“Elon is going to need you involved and committed to this place forever,” Lambert said. He added, “So make us better. Stay connected. Stay very close.”

Following in the footsteps of the first Lavender Graduation, held at the University of Michigan in 1995, Elon held a celebration of its own along with 150 other colleges and universities throughout the country this year.

The dozen-plus graduating LGBTQIA students were given purple lavender graduation caps before posing for a group picture, complete with a hanging rainbow tassel representative of gay pride.

While the caps can't be worn to formal graduation in a couple of weeks — the university requires all of its graduates to don the same maroon attire — Bosch was quick



Senior Broadway Jackson walks through the gathered crowd at Lavender Graduation to accept an award.

to point out that the seniors can “wear and rock the rainbow tassel” when they shake Lambert's hand on the Commencement stage.

Though there were a number of categories for which students, faculty, staff and departments received recognition, Lynn Huber, associate professor and chair of religious studies, drew laughter from the crowd when she mentioned how impressed she was with student research work on LGBTQIA and gender issues.

“You really want to read these papers,” Huber said. “Normally, professors don't say that — let me take that back, we do, we do want

to read all of your work, but these are especially interesting.”

Later on, Bosch gave a special recognition to the volunteers that keep the cogs turning within the Gender and LGBTQIA Center.

“When we first started, we weren't sure how many people would want to sit in a room and be a shiny, friendly face ... We had a lot of response to this,” Bosch said.

Graduating seniors at the event all expressed the changes they've seen since their time at Elon — some small, some larger, but mostly for the good.

“There's a huge call to action now, across the university,” said

senior Dan Sheehan. “It's not only in the language we use, but also the facilities we now have to take advantage of. It's kind of fantastic that I had the opportunity to grow in my own identity in coordination with the growth of the university.”

After Lavender Graduation wound down, Bosch's characteristic charisma didn't let me up talking about the students he's grown to take so much pride in.

“When we see students, staff and faculty, they all say it is such a different place than it was two years ago,” he said. “[The university] has come up in a huge way to empower students.”

# Elon's bar scene shifts, again

Morgan Smith  
Senior Reporter

Tony's Pubs-N-Subs began vying for a piece of Elon's shifting bar scene, forcing its competitors to move away from the nightlife, preferring to set themselves apart in a different fashion.

West End Terrace's new ownership has positioned its business as more of a restaurant and less of a bar. At the same time, Elon University has succeeded in cornering a segment of the student event organization market with its repurposing of Tap House.

Reclaimed in fall 2013, Tap House is becoming one of the most popular places for student-run organizations to hold events, a distinction once held by West End. Since last fall, the university-owned space has held 155 events.

Though Tony's hosted only five events since opening this winter, its doors are usually packed on a Thursday evening with swarms of students. According to bar owner Tony Caruso, it isn't exactly hurting in the revenue department.

“We're just very popular because of word of mouth,” Caruso said. “We don't do a ton of advertising, but on a college campus, word of mouth wins every time.”

When it comes to events, cost also matters to students. Tap House charges a base fee of \$85, with additions for the sound system, food or provided alcohol. Tony's prefers a flat rate that comes with a DJ, which varies event-by-event.

Though he's hosted less than a half-dozen events so far, Caruso said he's looking to expand. He points to a difference in the kind of patrons who seek out what Tony's has to offer.

“Most of my events have been nighttime theme parties,” Caruso said. “The most common patrons we host events for are sororities

and athletes.”

Caruso's statement sums up the biggest difference between Tap House and Tony's: their clientele.

Adam Bell, assistant director of student activities, said groups ranging from student organizations to morning music classes reserve Tap House.

“Almost everyone who rents out Tap House belongs to a student-run organization,” said A. “We rarely have Greek life members or athletes wanting to rent out Tap House, although we highly encourage they utilize the space.”

Tap House isn't limited to parties, though. Campus Rec often uses the facility for different purposes along with formals and banquets.

“It's a great place to rent because of the state-of-the-art sound system and stage set up,” Bell said. “That's what makes it popular.”

Recent events held at Tap House include Spectrum's Dragstravaganza, the Class of 1994 reunion, open mic nights and the music department's fall and spring concerts.

Despite the fact that Tap House has hosted some events with success, it often flies under the radar for students.

Freshman Caroline McLaughlin recently attended a date party held at Tony's.

“Even though Tony's is new and is still working on meeting the needs of its customers, the overall experience was fun and enjoyable,” McLaughlin said. “It's great to have another bar around campus.”

## Securing the spaces

In addition to clientele, the process for renting out Tap House and Tony's vary.

It's slightly more complex to rent out Tap House because two members of an organization must be trained with using Elon's Space,



Tony Caruso, owner of Tony's Pubs-N-Subs, chats with a client on the bar side of his growing business.

Planning and Calendar Event Scheduling (SPACES)

“SPACES training happens once a semester,” Bell said. “It's a training process two students in an organization must go through in order to be granted permission to rent spaces for an event.”

In addition to being SPACES trained, one must file a formal rental request with Bell. After the request has been received, forms asking for various pieces of information are sent.

“The forms ask for a description of the event, set up details, and contact names,” Bell said. “It's also important to know whether or not they'll need the sound system set up in Tap House or not. The equipment is expensive, and student workers will need to run it for the event.”

Another unique perk of Tap House is that students are allowed to have alcohol in the building.

“It's the only place on campus that alcohol is allowed,” Bell said. “However, we have to be aware in advance so we can hire officers to monitor the location.”

If an organization wants to have food at its event, coordination with Aramark is necessary — and if there's alcohol, it is required there is also food present.

Other than food cost, renting Tap House is fairly inexpensive for students.

The process for renting Tony's is much simpler than that of Tap House.

“Typically I'll receive a call from someone asking about renting the space for a particular date,” Caruso said. “All I'll really need to know is what sort of event they're throwing and whether or not they'd like food provided.”

While the process takes less time, it can be slightly more expensive than Tap House.

“The most I've charged an organization is \$300,” Caruso said. “Most times, regardless of the price, we'll provide a DJ.”

Bell recognizes that both Tony's and Tap House are needed to provide the student body with a variety of event locations.

“I know Tony's is the popular hot spot right now, but I also know that Elon organizations need this space,” Bell said. “We need multiple venues for many different events.”

## ENVIRONMENT from cover

staying current on the most effective and efficient technologies that will help reduce emissions.”

Between 2008 and 2014, emissions per student decreased by 4.6 percent, and emissions per 1,000 square feet of building space decreased by 18 percent. But building energy usage increased slightly between 2013 and 2014, when the school added 185,145 square feet to its campus.

“I think it’s just catching up with us that we added more square footage than people coming in, and now we’ve hired more faculty and staff here and they all use all kinds of energy,” said Robert Buchholz, associate vice president for facilities management and director of Physical Plant.

Despite the 4.6 percent reduction during the measurement period, energy usage per student has been growing steadily since 2011, in part because the university has built more on-campus housing, Buchholz said.

“If you’re bringing students back in to live on campus, then you’re going to see an increase in the amount of electricity used,” he said.

Elon’s commitment to the environment developed in earnest in 2006-2007 academic year, when it developed a sustainability master plan that set an overarching goal to achieve carbon neutrality within 30 years and recommended a long list of other green initiatives.

“It is truly fabulous,” said Robert Charest, an associate professor of environmental studies at Elon who teaches sustainable design and architecture. “To have a department devoted to sustainability is truly remarkable at a small university, and it really feels like a priority.”

Since 2008, Elon has made strides in achieving a number of the goals outlined in the plan. It has expanded its recycling and composting programs and installed a geothermal system for five residential buildings

and solar thermal water heating systems for five buildings on campus.

The university has also created more opportunities for faculty, staff and students to learn about and teach sustainable practices through classes and programs. And it is now working with New Jersey-based Suntuity to build a 15-acre expanse of solar panels near Loy Farm, where many of Elon’s sustainable agriculture and design classes are taught.

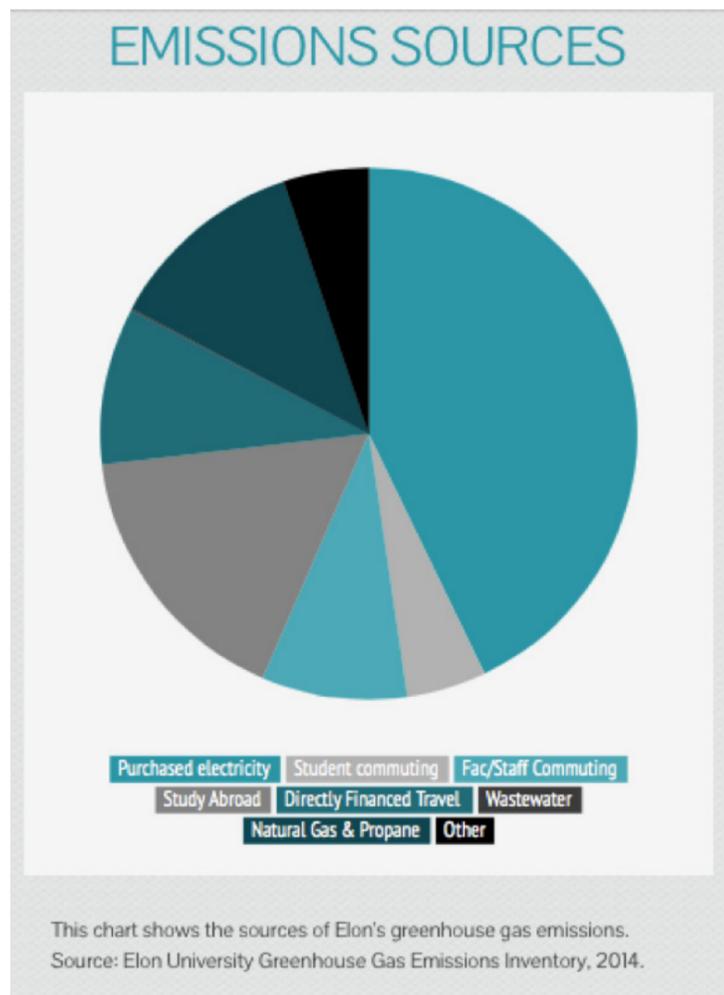
“The nice thing about having Loy Farm here is that we’ve managed to get the university’s blessing to bring together two of the most challenging phenomena for the world, which are agriculture and food production and land use for building structures,” Charest said.

In February, Elon shared its most recent sustainability data with the Princeton Review and the Sierra Club, organizations that factor eco-friendliness into their university rankings. In the fall of 2015, the university plans to share the information with the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), a program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education that rates universities based on self-reported data related to environmental, social and economic components of sustainability.

When Elon last submitted a STARS report in February 2014, the university earned a Silver rating. It scored relatively highly in the “Education & Research” and “Planning, Administration & Engagement” categories.

But it earned less than 50 percent of the points available in the building, climate and energy subsets of the “Operations” category, which took into account how much the institution had reduced its emissions and building energy usage from a 2005 baseline, as well the LEED certifications it had obtained for new and existing buildings.

The LEED certification system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, scores buildings on site sustainability, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF KATHERINE BLUNT

resources and indoor environmental quality. A building may achieve certified, silver, gold or platinum ratings depending on the number of points it earns, and the cost of certification depends on the size of the project.

According to the most recent data from February 2015, the university added more than 34,500 square feet of LEED Gold certified space since the publication of the 2014 STARS report. But certification does not necessarily take into account the many variables that could affect a structure’s sustainability during and after its construction, Charest said.

“There has to be framework, and LEED is a good framework, but I think that it’s a system that is based way too much on honor,” Charest said. “The commissioning agency that oversees it doesn’t have a really strong presence, as least it’s not re-

quired by LEED standards.”

More than half of the university’s LEED-eligible space has achieved certification, but the certified areas constitute only about 500,000 of 2,590,000 square feet of total building space on campus. Because the university has not pursued LEED certification for existing buildings, it earned less than three of the seven points available in the STARS buildings operation and maintenance category.

Buchholz said the money it would cost to certify existing buildings might be better spent on other sustainability projects. He is working to develop a system that can track the use of electricity, water and gas throughout campus, as well as a dashboard that would allow him to manage the amounts from a central location.

“I hope to spend money on that, and not on LEED certification (for existing buildings),” Buchholz said. “It’s a matter of what you think. There are things you can do now in the STARS report, and things you can target later on and hopefully pick up more and more points.”

Buchholz said he hopes the university will include the system, which could be developed and installed for less than \$700,000, in its next budget and fund it over a three-year period.

“Everyone wants to be able to meter things, so the prices of the meters are coming down and the prices of the systems are coming down,” he said. “Stuff like that will help us do better and get our energy usage down.”

Despite the fact that most of Elon’s new buildings are LEED certified, Charest said he thinks the university might have missed an opportunity to teach students about sustainable architecture when it decided to model many of them on existing campus buildings with brick veneer and fiberglass columns.

“We still have to stop building buildings that are built in 2015 but look like they’re built in 1887,” he said. “Buildings, in one way or another, should be edifying tools part of the learning environment, especially at a college, and that just doesn’t happen here. The impression we’re left with is on this kind of homogenous campus, if you fly through really quickly, is that all of the buildings look like they were built at the inception of the university, but that is really fake.”

And some of the newer designs, though constructed in adherence with LEED standards, have aesthetic components that decrease their overall energy efficiency.

The high ceilings in the great hall in the new Global Commons building make it more difficult to heat efficiently, Buchholz said.

“There are things you can do, but still, you’re heating space that nobody is using,” he said. “Ceiling fans can push the heat back down, but you’re not going to get it down to the energy per square foot (of a smaller room).”

## Elon working to monitor the number of transfer out students

Tanza Loudonback  
Senior Reporter

Dozens of students transfer to Elon University each year, but there’s no certainty they’ll finish their college career here.

Elon’s first-year student retention rate increased this academic year to 91 percent from 90 percent over the last four years. Slightly fewer students are transferring or dropping out within their first year. Elon’s registrar office is unable to pinpoint the number of students who’ve left Elon prior to completing their degree.

“This is a tough one to capture because we don’t know all the students that transfer out,” said Rodney Parks, university registrar. “Only within the last year did we start collecting electronic data of students who fill out the university withdrawal form that officially notifies us of their intent not to return to Elon.”

College students transfer for a number of reasons: changing majors, moving on from a community college to a four-year college or university, taking a gap semester, or because their school wasn’t a good fit.

The Elon registrar’s office is planning to explore new strategies in the coming months

to collect data on students who leave Elon. By tracking these students and their reasons for leaving, Elon will be able to guide policy and resources for ensuring success for students in the future, Parks said.

Collin Campagne, a first-year Elon student who made the decision to transfer to the University of Vermont beginning in fall 2015, decided to apply for transfer within his first few weeks at Elon.

“I knew what I was looking for and wanted in my college experience, and Elon wasn’t it,” he said.

Campagne applied to Elon last year through the gap semester program while deferring his regular admission to spring 2015. During that time, he also applied for the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) course—a gap semester program that teaches wilderness and leadership skills in the Rocky Mountains.

A self-described nature-lover and born explorer, Campagne ended up choosing the NOLS program instead of Elon’s gap semester program and arrived at Elon Feb. 1 to begin his spring semester. Soon after the novelty of starting college wore off, he found himself struggling to find his place on campus, he said.

“I love my classes and professors, but I found myself drifting further away from the students,” Campagne said. “I am not preppy. I don’t own a single thing from Vineyard Vines. I despise Greek Life. I don’t drink, and I don’t do drugs.”

Eventually, though, Campagne began to make friends through Elon Outdoors and the Sierra Club, groups on campus dedicated to the advancement of outdoor ethics, leadership skills and nature exploration. But Campagne noticed a common thread among his new group of friends that eventually facilitated his decision to transfer out of Elon.

“Something [that] seems to be very resonant with the members [of these groups] is the desire to leave Elon, the displeasure toward other Elon students and how there were not enough opportunities to get outdoors,” he said.

Campagne is happy with his decision to return to his home state of Vermont where the surrounding college town is more suited to his outdoor lifestyle.

“The outing club there is also huge, and the nonconformist, eccentric culture is one that I identify with more than the preppy, upper-middle class culture here,” he said.

Campagne said he’s grateful to the NOLS program for changing the way he sees the world and making it easier to realize that Elon wasn’t right for him.

Allyson Enos, another student who began at Elon in February, chose to study at a community college in the fall after being deferred to the spring 2015 semester. Enos was one of about 20 total spring admits, said Kevin Napp, associate director of admissions and director of transfer and special admissions.

Napp said Elon has a program in place in which incoming and current transfer students are paired with spring admits to ease the transition.

“The mentors reach out via email a few weeks before classes begin to answer any questions, and we encourage them all to meet their mentee in person,” said Napp. “We try to facilitate a meeting with a meal and activity. Last spring, we did a dinner and basketball game.”

Enos discovered soon after arriving, though, like Campagne, that despite Elon’s efforts to assimilate transfer students, Elon wasn’t what she’d expected.

“It’s a very small school, and there is too much focus on Greek Life for my liking,” Enos said.

## INTERNATIONAL from cover

junior Ameya Benegal. “What would have been nice if they had a workshop with us when they issue us our W2 forms to walk through the process.”

While Burress works with international orientation, he also has extensive responsibilities with study abroad programming and events, which requires him to shift his attention away from international students many times throughout the year.

Elon has only one faculty member, Director of International Student and Faculty Scholar Services Francois Masuka, who dedicates 100 percent of their time to assisting international students.

Amanda Zamzes, Global Education Center (GEC) business and data manager and Kristen Aquilino, international career fellow, are beginning to work with international students, as well.

All the same, Benegal still feels that something is missing.

“I think they’re a little understaffed, as well,” Benegal said. “Francois is the main point person, and sometimes it’s hard to get an appointment with him.”

Risa Ashida, a junior Japanese exchange student who began her two years at Elon in the fall, said she felt the support offered by the GEC and from others while adapting to U.S. culture and life at Elon.

When Ashida’s bedding from Japan was backordered for more than a month, a student leading some of her orientation programming gave her sheets and blankets.

A semester later, Ashida faced a problem more serious than lost bedding. In March and April an infection sent her to Alamance Regional Medical Center’s emergency room.

She said Masuka lent support each time she was hospitalized, even though she never alerted anyone of her condition and hospitalization.

“It was very helpful mentally and physically because I don’t have a car,” Ashida said. “When I was feeling so bad, it was nice to have someone with me and have the support of Elon.”

### Job hunting a challenge for international students

While Ashida said she is pleased with her transition to Elon, she struggled to find adequate assistance on the job front.

Many U.S. companies are hesitant to hire international students because of strict visa and green card requirements.

“There aren’t so many international students, first of all, on campus, so Elon hasn’t really had a great supporting system when it comes to helping international students finding a job or internship,” Ashida said. “That’s been a big struggle especially because I don’t have a car. It could have been easier if I was in New York or a big city.”

Benegal sees the hiring of Kristen Aquilino, an international career fellow, as progress.

“I would say there has been some improvement on their part with the recruitment of an international career fellow this year,” he said. “The international career person says, ‘Okay, even if you don’t want to work in the United States, we can help tailor your resume and cover letter towards those and at the same time, you being an international student, you have a set of skills that other students do not have.’”

Many rising seniors question which major U.S. city they will flock to after graduation, but Ashida, like other international and some domestic students, take into account the entire world.

“I don’t even know where I’m going the next stage after graduation,” she said. “Am I staying here? Am I going back to Japan or am I going somewhere else? What will I do



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

International students celebrate the school year at the Elon International Society (EIS) banquet May 3.

with my career?”

If international students want to stay in the United States after graduation, they face barriers to cross and hoops to jump through.

Ana Preciado, a senior from Panama studying marketing and communications, enrolled in Elon’s Bridges Program in New York City, which transitions students to the working world by providing housing and mentorship during the summer after graduation.

She hopes to work for one year and then attend graduate school in the United States, but then plans to return to Panama.

In order to work in the United States after completing school, holders of an F1 student visa are required to apply for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Graduating international students are only eligible to apply for an EAD three months prior to graduation, leaving many uncertain as they wait for approval.

An EAD is only valid for one year, though, so if Preciado wanted to stay in the United States after one year of work under an EAD, her employer would need to take the steps to sponsor her.

“That’s the huge barrier,” Preciado said. “You have to say, ‘Yes, I’m definitely here and am a valuable resource you want to sponsor. I’m worth your time and effort into this and am worth you going out of your comfort zone to see how to sponsor me.’”

### Global learning communities create sense of belonging

The Isabella Cannon International Pavilion

“[THE LLC] GIVES THEM A PLACE TO SHOW WHERE THEY’RE FROM AND FEEL PROUD OF WHERE THEY’RE FROM.”

VANESSA BRAVO  
INTERNATIONAL LLC ADVISOR

Living Learning community (LLC), located on the second floor of Global Neighborhood building D, is home to 37 students — from freshmen to seniors — hailing anywhere from the state of Georgia to countries across the world like Nepal, Japan and Singapore.

Above the International LLC, which was formed five years ago in what is today the Honors Pavilion, are the French and Spanish language LLCs.

Vanessa Bravo, the International LLC advisor and assistant professor of communications, said she sees the living learning communities as a place for both international and domestic students to share their culture.

“If you are coming to a new country, you

want to have people to share in your home country, home food,” Bravo said. “It gives them a place to show where they’re from and feel proud of where they’re from. It sounds cliché, but many students with the Global LLC have found their place.”

Benegal said living in the International LLC was central to his transition to Elon from Singapore.

“I lived in the International LLC my freshman year and plan on living there next year as well,” Benegal said. “I think living there played a major role in the transitioning because you’re living with students who have a big interest and understanding in who you are and where you’re from.”

### International students make ‘Local Friends’

Apart from the living learning communities and support from the GEC, another, often unsung hero for international students is Local Friends, an organization run by local residents from surrounding churches that provides a support system for international students.

Elon resident Marj Bennett created Local Friends in fall 2003 after she ran a similar program in Winston-Salem and saw the need for one at Elon after moving to the area.

Years before, she lived abroad with her husband and children.

When it was time for her children to go to college, they chose universities in the United States and found a home away from home with programs similar to Local

Friends.

“I started it with the First Baptist Church of Burlington,” she said. “But I contacted other churches and have always had wonderful responses from them.”

Students feel the effects and support of the organization.

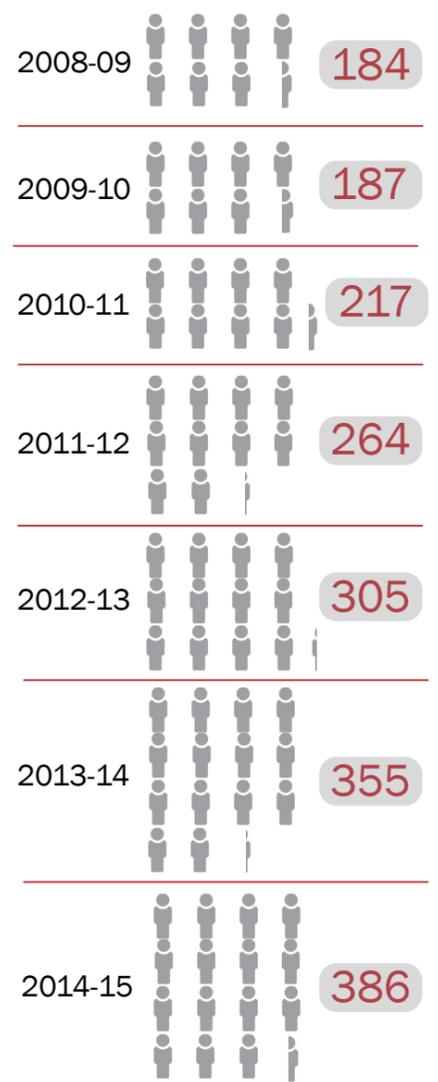
“Local Friends has played a really major role in my transition here,” Benegal said. “I cannot state how much they have done for me and other students.”

When Benegal recently took steps to obtain a driving permit, a Local Friend drove him to the DMV on a Tuesday afternoon.

“I failed the test that Tuesday, and he drove me again on Thursday,” he said. “Some of these people will genuinely go out of their way to help international students.”

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT ELON

1 icon = 25 PEOPLE



MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor

Members of the organization host international students for Thanksgiving, bring “Christmas cheer” during exam time and act as a support system for students, many of whom are thousands of miles away from home.

The 25-30 members of Local Friends find space every May at First Baptist Church of Burlington to store international students’ belongings over the summer break.

Three months later they drive—many times in the early hours of the morning—to pick students up from the airport and help move them into their new residence at Elon.

In recent years, Bennett passed the reigns of Local Friends down to Burlington residents Ralph and Donna Harwood, who said meeting and interacting with students is very enriching and fulfilling.

“I’ve seen strides with Elon’s international program,” Donna Harwood said. “They’re doing more to make international students more accepted.”

### Increasing international student population

The recruitment of more international students can play a crucial role in the population’s experience.

“We don’t have a sort of critical mass of any one group of students,” Burress said. “If you’re recruiting in China, we don’t have a Chinese individual who can go recruit and we can’t say that we have a large Chinese community in the area that can help support the student, which I think is a draw for many students.”

A solution Burress gave to grow the number of Elon students from different countries and regions of the world: money.

“The biggest obstacle that we face is we don’t give out a lot of money as a university,” Burress said. “A lot of universities are competing for the same students. More and more, [the] universities that can offer scholarship packages will get those students.”



HALI TALUXE | Staff Photographer

NPHC President Danielle Williams said Elon has come a long way with racism since she's been here.

## BLACK STUDENTS from cover

multicultural affairs and special assistant to the president, to remember that such episodes at Elon are the exception, not the rule.

"The vast majority of students on this campus don't support racism, don't support racial bias," Randy Williams said. "It's the ones that do that are the problem."

Stereotyping happens a lot more often than people think, according to Danielle Williams. Because she looks somewhat Hispanic, she said, more students than one have asked for help with Spanish homework or made a snickering comment to that end. It can be frustrating.

"Don't ask me if I can help you with your Spanish homework," she said. "I haven't taken Spanish since my senior year of high school. Leave me alone."

Freshman Kat Chang, who is Asian, has taken on the role of outspoken social media advocate when she picks up on discrimination at Elon, often turning to Facebook groups to blast what she can't

stand to keep to herself.

"We've had discussions where I've mentioned an incident, and I've said, 'Well, what can we do? The thing is to step up and say, 'Hey that's not funny — that's insulting to some people. You shouldn't say those things. Actually step outside of your comfort zone and confront the people who say these insensitive things.'"

Late at night on a recent Tuesday, Chang was grabbing sushi from the Winter Garden Cafe when she overheard two male students snickering and bantering about the food in mock Asian accents. Though they didn't notice her at first, an icy glare from Chang halted them mid-sentence and sent them scurrying away, red-faced.

"While it is an overall issue with American society in general, I think that it is a bigger issue at Elon since there is hardly any diversity," she said.

The classroom isn't always a safe space, either.

"In classes here, a lot of times I am considered the spokesperson for all black people everywhere, because I am the only

black person in the room," said junior Imani Mobley. "So whenever we have a discussion about race or something similar, people ask or direct things at me and ask if I think that's okay. I am the voice for every black person ever in their life when I'm really just me."

Randy Williams said so-called "micro-aggressions" can hurt minority students, too, if in less obvious ways.

He added that increasing campus diversity goes hand-in-hand with working with admissions to bring more black students to campus — which requires an increase in financial aid to attract more. Despite Elon's small, yet growing, endowment of \$191 million. Still, the Class of 2019 reflects a 14-percent increase in black students from the previous year's, according to Smith Jackson, vice president for student life.

"Unity is really what [this campus] needs right now, especially with these kinds of difficult conversations that we're having about issues that we're facing," Randy Williams said. "It's sad that I can honestly be afraid to walk home, just because someone might say something to me."

In a tone that Danielle Williams categorized as "definitely harsher, definitely more to the point" than incident emails that have come before it, she said President Leo Lambert's April 24 email was a step in the right direction toward recognizing the extent of the problem.

"Let me be as clear as possible: Our community will not tolerate acts of racism, which undermine and contradict our core values and cause fellow members of the community to feel unsafe and devalued as human beings," said Lambert, in an email. "I ask every member of the community to join with me in taking a public stand and putting a stop to this kind of behavior. We must send a message, collectively, that racial hatred and ignorance do not belong at Elon."

With reports at Elon on the rise of incidents of racial bias, Randy Williams said that while he's "appalled" by the be-

havior, Elon may be doing a better job of documenting than other colleges and universities, thanks to its anonymous bias reporting system.

And while it may be more pronounced in public, racism and bias is hardly unique to the university, according to Leigh-Anne Royster, director of Inclusive Community Well-Being.

"This has been a very difficult year in the United States in terms of race relations and racist behavior," said Royster, in an email. "We are addressing our own issues on Elon's campus and are in conversations with colleagues at campuses all over who are struggling in some of the same ways."

To students and administrators alike who are grappling with such a big problem, small steps matter, said Brooke Barnett, associate provost for inclusive community.

Taking into account demonstrated campus patterns combined with a U.S. and larger global focus, the Inclusivity Community Council (ICC), which Barnett helps lead, said the council wants to here more "broadly from the community to hear students' perspectives."

The ICC has recently rolled out a program where members will buy students willing to share their thoughts on campus inclusion a cup of coffee at the Oak House.

"The whole team sees this as a continuous effort to improving our campus with respect to these issues," Barnett said. "Our goal is to listen and respond in order to make Elon better."

Minority students are keeping a close eye on the administration and its response to incidents of bias to ensure lines of conversation are kept open, to ensure Elon is well aware how much a slur can hurt.

"Because our community is so small, we know these things are happening, almost right when or right after they happen," Danielle Williams said. "A lot of times, we know almost right away. We're waiting to see if and how [the administration] reacts to it."

# Memories remain at demolished First Baptist Church

## *Original site of Elon's first African-American church lasted for 93 years*

Max Garland  
Assistant News Editor

Brick by brick, members of the Elon First Baptist Church collected 68 years of memories on a Saturday morning.

The original Elon First Baptist Church building on Trollinger Avenue was demolished April 18. The demolition company left a bucket of bricks at the site for anyone who wanted one as a keepsake.

The building had not been in use since 1990, when the church moved to its new location on Lynn Street, but thoughts of past Sunday mornings were still there for a few members.

"I went by that morning to see the church and there was this old gentleman just collecting all these bricks from the site," said Tracy Kennedy, Elon First Baptist's business administrator. "The construction guys were helping him out, and I asked them, 'How long has he been out there?' They said all day."

After the move to Lynn Street, Elon First Baptist tried to register the original church as a historical site. Talks with the North Carolina Historic Commission fell through because the costs of renovating the church were too much.

"It was just going to be too expensive to try and do a big project like that," Slade said. "So we decided to have it demolished. The church was becoming an eyesore for the city."

There was limited turnout at the demolition. Kennedy said the current church members were either too old to collect bricks from the site or too young to have any attachment to the church.

"There were about three or four people collecting things from the site when I went," she said. "I don't want

to say no one cared about it, but I haven't heard a complaint from anyone about it being torn down. The ones that wanted to be there got what they wanted."

Lawrence E. Slade, Elon First Baptist Church's chairman of the deacon board, grew up in the original church. When he collected his bricks, he was thinking about the future instead of the past.

"I got about 25 bricks," he said. "That's all I needed. And one day I'll pass them on to my daughter. She was about six years old when we moved into the new church, so she doesn't remember much about that old one."

Elon First Baptist Church was founded by John McMullen in 1922, building the original church on his land with the help of Slade's grandfather. It was the first African-American church built in the town of Elon.

The church was untreated and unkempt for years. Original plans to tear down the church began about seven years ago, but they stalled until the church's transition to its new pastor, Rev. Eddie Spencer, in 2011.

"Our old pastor wasn't quite as hands-on as our new pastor is," Kennedy said. "He doesn't like to sit around. He wants to see things happen. Our old pastor wasn't quite that way about things, so nothing happened to the original church for a while."

The demolition process sped up with Spencer in the fold and the increasing danger of the old church.

Kennedy said they were afraid of the collapsing structure hurting community members. Elon students occasionally went inside the church to hang out and explore. The condition of the building made it likely that someone would eventually get hurt, according to Kennedy.

"When we looked at the church, it was dilapidated and the roof was compromised," said Sean Tencer, Elon's town planner. "It was a liability waiting to happen for anyone that went in there. The church had been in this



HALI TALUXE-STEWART | Staff Photographer

The church moved to its current location on Lynn Street in 1990.

The church also wasn't practical for accommodation purposes. No heating, ventilation or air conditioning made it difficult to hold any events inside it.

Elon First Baptist occasionally held services outside of it after the move, but that was the only activity, according to Slade.

The Town of Elon signed off on the demolition permit, and Elon First Baptist went to D.H. Griffin, based in Greensboro, to set up the site's deconstruction.

"D.H. Griffin did a good job," Slade said. "They cleaned up the site well and added fresh grass, so it looks like nothing has ever been down there."

The building is gone, with only the cemetery next to it as a sign of what it once was. Elon First Baptist is now entrenched in its current location for the foreseeable future, but the old church had a big role in the community, according to church member Mary McManus.

"It was like a little hut," McManus, an Elon First Baptist member her entire life, said. "But we had a lot of memories there. It made us into a family."

## Administration seeks to increase diversity in faculty

Lauren Phillips  
Assistant Style Editor

Diversity in Elon University's student population has been a popular and pressing discussion topic for years, and many student organizations and campus initiatives are devoted to increasing and celebrating it.

With so much of the campus' attention on student diversity, it is easy to overlook diversity in Elon's faculty, which has issues of its own.

Elon's faculty-gender ratio is less than equal and unrepresentative of the student population, and the racial breakdown shows that the vast majority of faculty members are white.

"I will say it's really not diverse," said Li Li, assistant professor of English. Li was newly hired at Elon for the 2014-2015 academic year.

While the general student population may not be fully aware of these problems, university administrators are, and they are working to resolve them.

"[Faculty diversity] is something that we do care very much about," said Brooke Barnett, associate provost for inclusive community.

Carla Ugboro, assistant director of human resources for employee relations, agreed and said race and gender are not the only areas in which the university is working to increase diversity.

"When we talk in terms of diversity, we're not talking just racial diversity," she said. "We're talking veterans. We're talking women. LGBTQ. Age. So when we talk about diversity, we're talking about in the broader perspective."

Diversity in areas other than gender and race can be difficult to change, especially in areas such as LGBTQIA where individuals may

be unwilling to self-identify.

"We can't make people identify, so it's all about self-identification," Ugboro said.

At Elon, progress is slow, but it is still taking place.

Barnett said Elon has been successful in recent years in increasing diversity in its faculty, even though it can be difficult for universities to adjust their faculty demographics because they don't hire often.

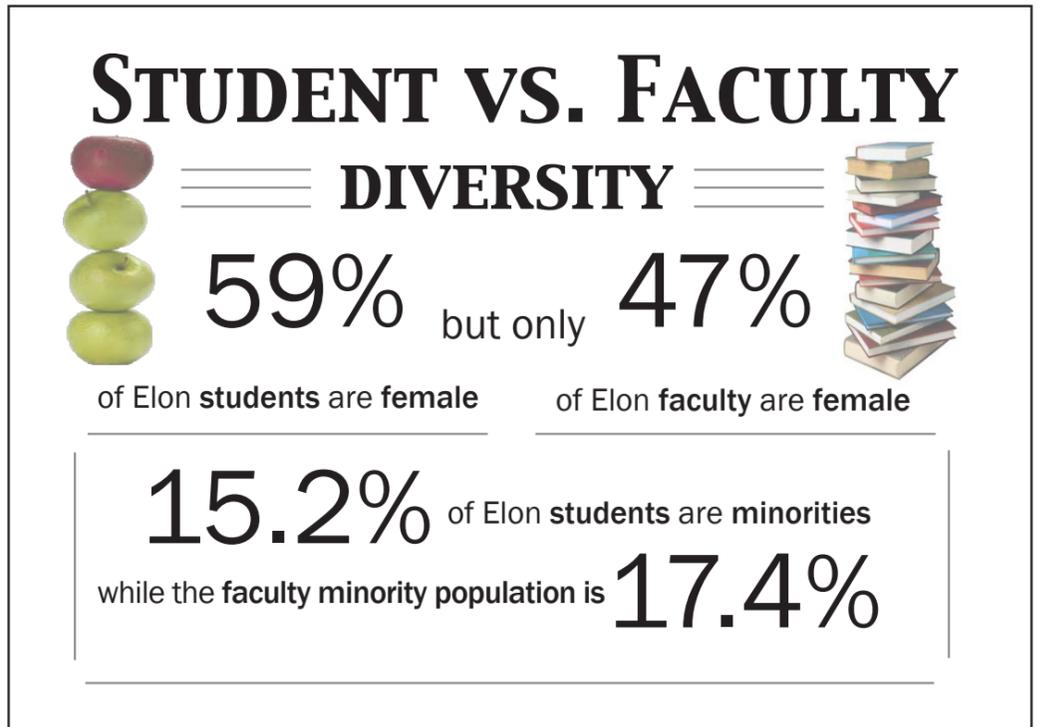
"I've seen that people are very receptive to the information around hiring and hiring practices," Ugboro, who has worked at Elon since June 2012, said.

According to the Elon Fact Book, the male-to-female student ratio at Elon is 41 to 59 percent as of the 2014-2015 academic year. Despite the steady growth of women's college enrollment and graduation rates across the United States in comparison to men's — which has stayed the same — Elon's faculty ratio does not reflect that.

At Elon, the gender breakdown for full-time faculty is 52 percent male and 47 percent female. Though higher than the national average, it does not reflect Elon's student population.

As of the 2010-2011 academic year, 41.8 percent of full-time faculty were women. In this, Elon's faculty has more gender equality than most institutions of higher learning, though the ratio didn't change significantly within the last two years, the percentage of female faculty actually decreased by 1 percent.

When it comes to racial diversity, Elon's faculty is more representative of its students, and minority numbers are increasing each year. Of full-time faculty members, 17.4 percent are minorities. Compared to the 15.2 percent of undergraduate students who are minorities, the



faculty population is actually more diverse than its student counterpart.

Both the faculty and the student populations are similar in that they are predominantly white, with black coming in second. Both populations have increased in diversity over the last few years.

The university gained eight new full-time faculty members between 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, but these new additions to Elon did nothing to sway the faculty gender breakdown. They did increase racial diversity, though: administrators hired three white professors, one black professor, one Hispanic professor and one Asian/Pacific Islander professor.

"The university is moving in the direction of diversity and making an effort to recruit minorities and diverse students and faculty," Li said.

Part of the challenge Elon's administrators face when trying to increase diversity among the faculty is the university's decentralized hiring process, in which individual academic departments hire for themselves. Departmental search committees determine what is taught and who teaches it, so they are tasked with interviewing and hiring the professors they think would be the most effective instructors. Committee members undergo a one-time, mandatory training with Human Resources (HR) to ensure all hiring practices are fair and ethical.

HR also helps search committees post their job listings in places where diverse candidates are likely to see them.

"The search committees know exactly who they're looking for," Ugboro said. "They know the job re-

sponsibilities, the key responsibilities, the knowledge skills and abilities and the education that's needed. They're the specialists in that area. We are support, like we are in any other way. We just make sure the jobs are being posted where they need to be posted, and when they need to be posted, and seeing if we're missing anything there."

Elon's growth and expansion allows departments to hire more faculty, but it also has another benefit in the effort to increase faculty diversity.

"We are growing very rapidly, and I think word of mouth and networking has helped us tremendously," Ugboro said. "So as we cast our net, as we attract more diverse candidates, as we have more diverse employees on campus, the word is out that everyone is welcome at Elon."

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# Demystifying the admissions process

## *How to gain access to your admissions records*

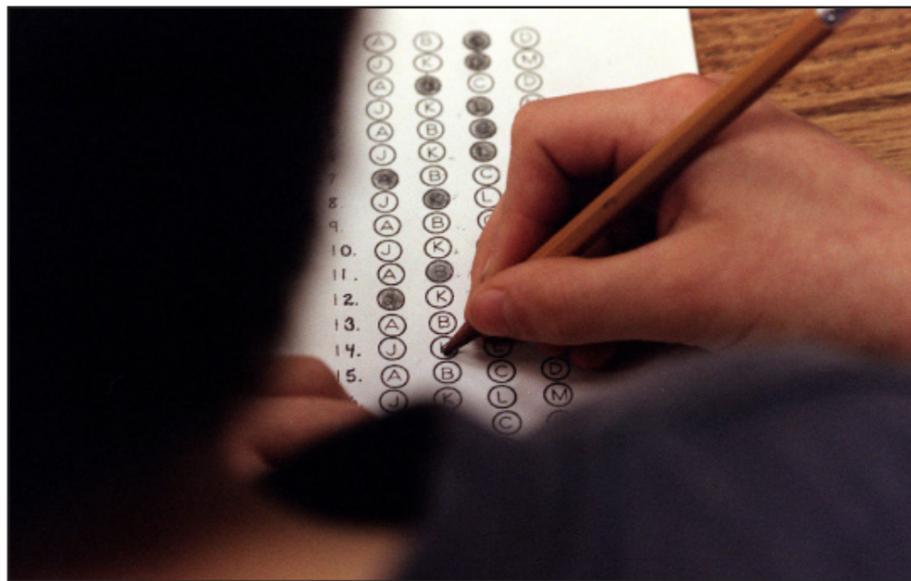


PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Students can obtain admissions records under the Family Educational Right and Privacy Act.

**Bryan Anderson**  
Sports Editor

After being accepted to Elon University, many students get wrapped up in celebration and don't consider why there were accepted. What many don't know is that they can, under a provision of the Family Educational Right and Privacy Act (FERPA), gain access to their own admissions records. These records can offer clues to the thinking behind a potentially murky process.

Students across the country realized they could request access to their admis-

sions materials in January when The Fountain Hopper, an anonymous newsletter published by a group of Stanford University students, explained some of the difficulties with getting access to admissions records. Only people enrolled at Stanford could see their records, so rejected applicants could not find out why they were turned down.

As a freshman fresh out of the admissions experience and interested to see what exactly about me stood out among the stacks of Elon applications, I asked about my own records. The response came quickly and painlessly, just one day later.

Other freshmen who want to investigate their application materials can follow the same steps I did:

### Step One: Putting in the request

The first step to viewing admissions files is emailing the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the university registrar. In the email, plainly request access to any documents held by the office in your name.

The response email — which according to FERPA must come within the next 45 days — will invite you to go to the registrar's office to schedule a time to look at your admissions information from one of the office computers.

### Step Two: Viewing the records

The information you will be able to see will depend on your class year. The older students get, the more information they can obtain — that is, files can get added as a student gets progresses through college. While the admissions materials, including the application, are available to freshmen, the academic record grows over the course of a student's college career, expanding the number of documents a student can access.

For example, the overall academic record files store pass/fails and withdrawals, which accumulate through the years. Although there weren't as many files I could see as an upperclassman, I still found value from looking at my records.

Admissions evaluators don't comment directly on applications. According to Rodney Parks, the university registrar, counselors stopped keeping any written records more than a decade ago, so students can only view their electronic record, including their application, letters of recommendation and high school transcript.

With a lack of comments, the most revealing information becomes the sections of applications materials that admissions officials highlighted. These sections might include information about deadline selection, age at high school graduation, race, leadership positions held, activities you might continue in college, and sections of personal essays.

### Step Three: Recognizing limitations

FERPA goes into effect once a student officially begins classes. As a result, notes that disappear before the first day of classes won't make their way into student-accessible records, according to Parks.

Since the request is only available to students once they arrive to Elon, rejected applicants aren't guaranteed access to their admissions records.

Also, the process for some students might be lengthier than mine. Because Elon has a finite amount of staff members in the registrar's office and few computers with student access to admissions records, getting access could take a bit of time.

## STARBUCKS from cover

business that augments the community."

University administrators said almost 50 percent of respondents of two student surveys said they would like a Starbucks on campus — so the backlash has come as a bit of a surprise.

"We worked through facts, through students ... it didn't come from me waking up one day and saying, 'Starbucks is going to go up there,'" said Pulkit Vigg, Aramark's resident district manager.

Tony Crider, associate professor of physics, is a strong local business supporter who started a change.org petition Monday afternoon to urge the university to reconsider Starbucks for the space. As of publication, the campaign had gained more than 2,480 supporters, just shy of its goal of 2,500 signatures.

Though the speed of the community's support for his initiative took Crider aback at first, he said it proves that Oak House, and local businesses like it, matter to campus climate and provide space for intellectual conversations.

He's more against the location than he is against the Starbucks brand in general, though.

"There is a time and a place for Starbucks, but I tend to think that place is over in university commons," Crider said. "It's not right next to our partner The Oak House."

With student complaints flowing into SGA, representatives are at work researching and figuring out what the next steps for the organization should be, according to SGA executive president Avery Steadman.

"Though I would like to hear more from a wider range of students, I support local business," Steadman said, adding that SGA found out about the plans at the same time as the rest of the student body. "I think that Aramark has a better use of that space. It's another situation in which people are speaking out because they feel strongly about it."

But there may be only so much the university can do—an agreement already exists between Starbucks and Aramark, including tentative design plans for the construction of the new location.

Vigg's vision for dining on the Historic Neighborhood side of campus is a large one, which he said has taken a backseat to the kind of amenities students living in the Global Neighborhood and elsewhere enjoy in terms of proximity to a variety of food options. Aramark and the university have designed a "domino effect" plan to replace Acorn with Starbucks, move Acorn to what is now Varsity and add a Kosher deli to the south side of the McEwen School of Communications after the building is renovated by the fall of 2016.

"Our goal, again, is how come Historic Neighborhood doesn't get the new, swanky stuff and how come Danieley, Colonnades and Global get all of it?" Vigg said. "So as a dining solution provider with students in mind, it seemed to make common sense because this is what the students wanted."



FILE PHOTO BY JANE SEIDEL

Many students have banded together in support of The Oak House, a small local business, for fear of what a large brand name like Starbucks could do to local Elon businesses.

When it comes to plans for Starbucks in particular, students are taking action on their own — and they're not waiting on an update from the university.

To accompany the change.org petition, junior Allison Pichowicz turned to Facebook to organize an "Oak House Appreciation Day," set for this Friday. She — and more than 600 Facebook attendees — plan to populate Oak House at the end of the week to show "Elon that we value this business as a culinary institution and a hangout."

"I found it very unsettling that Elon went from supporting this local business to putting up its antithesis next door in less than a year," Pichowicz said. "I saw that many of my friends felt the same way, so I created an event to physically supplement the petition."

Because Starbucks has a higher turnover rate and more of an in-and-out atmosphere, Aramark and the university feel the two can actually co-exist. Acorn sales were not impacted much by Oak House's open-

ing, and Assistant Vice President for Administrative Services Chris Fulkerson said the community can support two different coffee shops — even a couple right next to each other.

Crider sees another side. For those visiting campus, Starbucks is the obvious, safe, choice, according to Crider, who said visiting students and their families probably won't gravitate toward Oak House as often.

But Oak House developing the kind of client base that it has should keep that impact at a minimum, Fulkerson said.

"Starbucks will capture the parents of students who are here to look at Elon because it's got the name recognition, but the clientele [Oak House] has developed will continue," Fulkerson said.

Smith is concerned, nonetheless.

"I think when you switch that to a full-on Starbucks, the issue for me is going to be all the visitors and guests who don't know what we are going to look for the national brand sign," he said.



CAROLINE FERNANDEZ | News Editor

A poster announcing Starbucks' arrival fall 2015 was placed in Acorn, the future home of the retail location, Friday, May 1.

# Top 3 trending stories this week

*2016 Presidential candidate additions, Muhammad Art Exhibit Shooting, latest on Baltimore protests*

## News Briefs

### Elon announces four speakers for 2015-2016 year

Elon University announced that four speakers — columnist Leonard Pitts Jr., violinist Itzhak Perlman, MSNBC host Melissa Harris-Perry and CEO Walter Isaacson — are scheduled to speak during the 2015-2016 year.

Pitts, currently a pop culture, social and family life columnist at the Miami Herald, will deliver the Baird Pulitzer Prize Lecture.

He is a former writer for Casey Kasem's radio show "American Top 40" and author of "Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood."

Fifteen-time Grammy award winner Perlman will headline Elon's Fall Convocation October 6 in Alumni Gym. The Israeli born violinist has received honorary degrees from Harvard, Yale, Brandeis, Roosevelt, Yeshiva and Hebrew universities.

In 2003 Perlman received a Kennedy Center Honor by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Six years later he performed at President Barack Obama's inauguration with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, clarinetist Anthony McGill and pianist Gabriela Montero.

Harris-Perry will speak in McCrory Theatre January 6 to open Winter Term. A graduate from both Wake Forest and Duke University, she now hosts "Melissa Harris-Perry" on MSNBC Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Isaacson currently serves as president and CEO of the Aspen Institute, a nonpartisan educational and policy studies institute in Washington, D.C.

Prior to the Aspen Institute, Isaacson was the chairman and CEO of CNN and the editor of TIME magazine.

### Breaking ground on the School of Communications

Expansion plans for the School of Communications will officially be put into motion June 1 with a projected completion date of August 2016, according to Brad Moore, Elon University's director of planning. Three new buildings — a glass atrium, a communications building and a pavilion — will be added next to the McEwen Communications building at the completion of the expansion.

"The School of Communications is spread out in five different areas right now," Moore said during his presentation of the expansion to the Town of Elon's Board of Aldermen May 4. "This project will put communications majors in the same area and give them room for growth."

Over the summer, renovations on the existing building, McEwen, will be made — the total project will involve 62,000 square feet of additions and 71,000 square feet of renovation. A section of the wall will also be removed to create a plaza and glass atrium — connecting campus to downtown.

"There will be some disruption to communication classes," Moore said. "There will be a fence, some noise, but it will really be all worth it for the new space."

### Three more Republicans added to 2016 race

Carly Fiorina and Ben Carson announced their candidacies for the 2016 presidential election Monday, and Mike Huckabee followed suit Tuesday. All three are seeking the Republican Party's nomination.

Fiorina was the CEO of Hewlett-Packard 1999-2005. She has never held public office before but Fiorina said her experience with executive decision-making makes her a strong candidate who can improve the economy. With Monday's announcement, she became the first woman to join the Republican field for the 2016 election.

Carson is a retired neurosurgeon and the first black candidate to run for either the Democrats or Republicans this election cycle. Like Fiorina, he has never run for office. He is an outspoken critic of the Affordable Care Act and wrote in a Washington Times column that it should be replaced with health savings accounts.

Huckabee served as the governor of Arkansas from 1996-2007 and ran for president in 2008, where he won the Iowa caucuses but ultimately lost the Republican nomination. This time around, the former Fox News host is positioning himself as someone with small town roots who can relate to the concerns of average American families.

Fiorina, Carson and Huckabee join Jeb Bush, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio and others in the race for the GOP presidential nominee. A recent RealClearPolitics poll has Carson in eighth place for the Republican nomination out of 14 candidates. Fiorina placed last.

### Shooting at Muhammad drawing contest

Police shot and killed two men who opened fire at the Muhammad Art Exhibit and Cartoon Contest in Garland, Texas, May 3, according to the Garland city government.

A spokesman for the Garland Police said the men drove to the front of the building as the Prophet Muhammad drawing contest came to a close and began shooting at a security officer. Officers then shot and killed the two men. None of the officers involved sustained life-threatening injuries. The event was put on lockdown and businesses in the area were evacuated.

Federal law enforcement later identified the shooters as Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi and said Simpson tweeted messages supporting



Ben Carson, a former neurosurgeon, announced his run for the GOP presidential nomination Monday. Carly Fiorina also announced her campaign for the Republican party's nomination the same day.

ISIL (also known as ISIS) before the shooting. This wasn't Simpson's first clash with the law — in 2011, he was convicted of lying to FBI agents about his travel plans and sentenced to three years' probation.

Visual depictions of Muhammad are considered forbidden in Islam because of the possibility of idol worship, and this isn't the first time violations have resulted in violence. Earlier this year, gunmen killed 12 people in the offices of French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, which has published several cartoons of Muhammad.

### Baltimore protests update

Protests and demonstrations — some that turned violent — were held in Baltimore the past two weeks in light of the death of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man who died of a spinal injury he sustained while in police custody.

Mayor of Baltimore Stephanie Rawlings-Blake announced a weeklong curfew for

the city April 28 — nine days after Gray's death — requiring residents to be indoors 10 p.m. -5 a.m.

Protests in response to Gray's death were not exclusively held in Baltimore. Demonstrations took place in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Denver April 29. New York police arrested 143 protesters for blocking traffic, and Denver police arrested 11 for misdemeanors.

Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby announced criminal charges May 1 against the six police officers involved in the arrest and transport of Gray. All officers were charged with manslaughter, assault and misconduct in office. The driver of the car was also charged with second-degree depraved heart murder, a charge indicating reckless disregard for the victim's life.

Rawlings-Blake lifted the city's curfew May 3, and the National Guard is preparing to exit the city over the next week, according to CNN.

## CRIME REPORT

### May 3 LARCENY

W. HAGGARD AVE., ELON: An Ingle & Son Landscaping employee reported to police that a company-owned trailer he was supposed to retrieve at 961 Burlington Ave. was not found at the location. He did not know how long the trailer was parked for or why it was left on the property, according to police reports. Police attempts to contact Ingle & Son Landscaping were unsuccessful.

### May 3 DRUG VIOLATIONS

S. WILLIAMSON AVE., ELON: Police pulled over a truck that crossed into the opposite lane multiple times. The officer detected the smell of marijuana from the car and conducted a search, and found 2.4 grams of marijuana, tobacco products and drug paraphernalia. All three occupants were charged for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

### May 3 VANDALISM

E. HAGGARD AVE., ELON: A visitor reported damage caused to the left side mirror of her car near Sheridan Place apartments between 8:00 p.m. May 2 and 1:00 a.m. May 3. No other damage to the car was found. No fingerprints were found on the car, according to police reports.

## EDITORIALS

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

### Elon should support current international students

Elon University boasts about its international population in many of its publications and all over its website, but this population is marginalized even as the university works to expand it.

The university has a small international student population and is making an effort to further develop the program, but in its attempt to increase the number of international students it has forgotten to provide adequate support for the international students already here.

According to the Elon Fact Book, 6 percent of all graduate and undergraduate students at Elon — 386 out of 6,483 — are international students. In comparison, the College of William & Mary — one of Elon's peer institutions — has 667 international students, making up 7.9 percent of its total student population.

But Elon's statistics for international students aren't as impressive in reality as they seem on paper.

While Elon claims 386 international students, only 107 students are citizens of a country other than the United States. Elon counts U.S. citizens living in another country — also known as "Overseas Americans" — as international students, regardless of how much time they've spent in another country. Elon also includes legal U.S. residents in its statistics for international students.

Overseas Americans comprise 14 percent of Elon's international population. Together with dual citizens and green card holders, U.S. citizens or legal residents make up 72.3 percent of Elon's "international" student population.

These students don't always capture the diversity implied Elon's international student statistics.

The statistics imply Elon's international student population is larger and more diverse than it really is. They also mislead incoming international students by preparing them for an engaged international population when, in reality, they may not

find the one they anticipated.

Excluding U.S. citizens and legal residents from the international student demographic, Elon's international student population drops to 107 students — 1.7 percent of all students.

Understandably, Elon is working to bring more international students to campus and improve this number. But the university needs to shift its focus from attracting more international students to supporting the international students already enrolled. Services for these students should be moved to a more central location, such as Moseley Center, and opportunities for them to explore the United States beyond Elon's campus should be increased and promoted.

The International Fellows program, which brought many international students to campus, has been discarded, and the current freshman class of Fellows is the last one. Additionally, only one campus employee — Francois Masuka, director of international student and faculty scholar services — works with, assists and supports international students full-time. Other staff support is only part-time.

Bill Burress, assistant director of international programs, said Elon's international student support team is well-staffed compared to other universities. He also said he and his coworkers are attempting to increase the number of people working with international students, but adequate resources are still a problem.

Additionally, the programming Elon does provide for international students is usually internal, meaning most events are attended only by international students, without involvement from students from outside this community. This creates a bubble out of the international students' population, a bubble in which they tend to only socialize with each other.

At a recent Student Government Association meeting, Associate Provost for Inclusive Community Brooke Barnett reaf-

firmed Elon's goal to triple its international student population by the end of The Elon Commitment Strategic Plan in 2020.

But Burress said current resources still only allow for a limited expansion of opportunities for supporting this growing international population.

If Elon devotes more resources to helping the international students already at Elon feel supported and involved on campus, more international students will be interested in attending a U.S. institution that puts caring for its students before attracting new ones.

International students come to the United States to experience a new country, and they come to Elon for the opportunities it offers. The university should combine the two and offer international students the experience they expect to receive.

### INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

**6%**  
of all students are international

**386**  
international students

**55**  
Overseas Americans

**107**  
visa holders

**47**  
countries represented

GRAPHIC BY MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor

### Lambert's stern racial bias email appreciated but overdue

The all-too-familiar racial bias email from Elon University administrators got revamped April 24 when President Leo Lambert's tone and language finally matched the severity of the issue. Flare-ups of racism on campus have marginalized Elon's black population, and the administration appears to be serious about correcting the problem.

The biting language in Lambert's most recent email was visibly different from previous messages from the administration because it put racism at Elon into a national context.

In January 2015, when a black female student was verbally assaulted on the streets of Elon, the ensuing email from Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Smith Jackson spelled out the obvious — that racism is not tolerated by the administration.

"We are saddened by and condemn this behavior, which is totally unacceptable ... This incident serves as further evidence that all members of our community must work every day to eliminate this kind of ignorance and lack of respect, both on campus and in the wider community," Jackson said in his email.

He then pointed to resources available to students in light of the incident — an open forum hosted by the Black Cultural Society and gathering in the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education in collaboration with the Black Cultural Society.

Meaningful discussions undoubtedly took place at those events. But they mean very little in the larger picture of racism at a national level. Racism that plagues an entire country is only exacerbated on Elon's predominantly white campus.

Similar language has been used in email alerts of racism on campus dating back to September 2013, when Jackson brought certain bias prevention measures to the university's attention.

"As in society and on other university campuses, disrespectful and hateful acts do occur on the Elon campus," Jackson wrote.

Lambert's most recent email stated the obvious and then some, pointing a finger at the blanket of privilege that blinds Elon's majority from recognizing and engaging with racial bias prevention.

"Let me be as clear as possible," Lambert wrote. "Our community will not tolerate acts of racism, which undermine and contradict our core values and cause fellow members of the community to feel unsafe and devalued as human beings."

He went on to make remarks about how incidents of racial bias at Elon should be viewed as part of a bigger picture:

"These incidents at Elon should be understood in the context of the racial tensions that are boiling over on college campuses and in communities across the country. Bias and bigotry are not unique to Elon — indeed racism seems to be part of an increasingly toxic environment in

modern society."

Lambert's message is at the very least an acknowledgment that Elon is not exempt from the problem but is, in fact, a part of it. It demonstrates to the Elon community that this campus is not free from the realities of discrimination — realities that steal national news headlines and spark widespread discussion.

The change is welcome.

This sentiment has been omitted, though not denied, in previous alerts to the student body, where the emphasis has been on controlling the issue within the confines of campus.

They've relayed information about group discussions and dialogues, as well as provided instructions about how to report incidents of bias. This is important information, but it doesn't address the root of the problem, which Lambert summed up in his email.

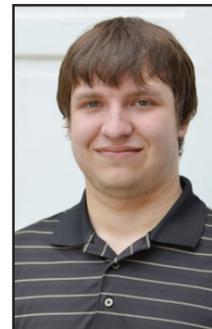
"We must express our support for these students and foster a more welcoming and caring environment in which everyone can flourish, not simply endure."

This excerpt is an indication that the administration recognizes that members of the black community have, in fact, endured despite the obstacles they face in a white majority.

It would be easy to applaud the administration for taking a hard stance against racism on campus, but it took too long to get there.

### Make volunteer work voluntary for maximum gains

When I think back to my time as an incoming freshman two years ago, I can remember my desire to find activities



Tim Melton  
Columnist

beyond the classroom in which I could actively participate. One of the first programs I joined here at Elon University was the university's chapter of Habitat for Humanity, from which I learned both the demands and the benefits of volunteering.

But thinking back to my time spent volunteering has also shown me a serious issue among many volunteers: an issue of obligation.

While I certainly can't fault certain organizations — Greek Life, for example — for prescribing a set number of volunteer hours for their members, the requirement does interfere with how members approach the concept of volunteering in the first place. When volunteering is made mandatory, with an established code of consequences for those who fail to volunteer as often as expected, volunteers hardly want to reflect on what their time and efforts really mean to them.

To them, the point is that they did it — and not for the sake of volunteering itself, but for some third-party program.

The question of why we volunteer is becoming progressively harder to answer, and the only way to fully take advantage of opportunities in volunteering is to approach it with an open mind, as if it were our choice to participate from the start. We should carefully consider how we go about volunteering and how we inspire those around us to approach it.

In the immediate sense, volunteering is a gratifying experience because it can bring about positive change in the community. But what we take from volunteering in the long term depends on why we choose to do it and what we ultimately retain from doing it. In this sense, we shouldn't have to stress about how often we volunteer. The focus should be placed on the quality of the experience — not the quantity.

In general, Elon is a proactive community, and it shows in the university's numerous volunteer programs. But next time you engage in any kind of service work, consider your priorities for volunteering and what you could expect to take away from that work when acting under those priorities.

There's no question that volunteering can be a positive force in both the internal and external sense, but the first step to realizing its full potential is to understand what we want volunteering to be, and how we can act to achieve that goal.

Submit a letter to the editor  
at [elonpendulum.com](http://elonpendulum.com)

## Counseling services: free and worth a visit

From a young age, we're told that people around the world have larger problems than we do. You can list off the top of your head



Allison Hren  
Columnist

the number of people who "really need therapy." But the idea that your problems are insignificant compared to other peoples' leads to the problems we need to go to therapy for in the first place. Therapy is thought of as a

worst-case scenario for some people — a place to go when there's no other option — but preventative measures need to be taken for mental health.

Elon University's Counseling Center is a resource that students should take advantage of. College is a time for self-discovery and change, and the counseling center serves students for free. Therapy sessions that are independent of college environments are costly and are rarely conveniently located in such close proximity.

My first experience with the counseling services at Elon in March 2015 was fantastic, and I immediately wished I had taken advantage of them earlier in my college career.

My first year, I could have used some counseling during my friendless Friday nights, the feelings of inadequacy I experienced around everyone else who seemed to

be adjusting so well and the day after leaving sorority recruitment when I felt like the most unwanted person on campus.

I overlooked two anxiety attacks, eventually experiencing two days of suicidal thoughts before finally making an appointment. If I had made an appointment earlier, maybe I could have saved myself from those thoughts, or at the very least been equipped with coping strategies.

I've always seen myself as a self-sufficient person, as someone who didn't need anyone's help, someone who could work through my own mental anguish and personal issues.

Eventually, I realized I tried to take on too much.

In the months before I made my first appointment, I talked to many friends who opened up about their own experiences. A friend described his experience as "talking to a nice person for an hour a week," and several other friends casually mentioned their therapists. Once I started to share my experience, more people were open and candid about their own therapists, who they had been seeing for months, years, on and off on Wednesdays since they were 16, etc.

Therapy isn't something people talk about, and there are aspects of the experience that people don't realize. If you are going to a therapist and you don't click with him or her, you need to find another. Just as it may take you a while to pick your friends, it may also take you a while to pick a therapist. You may need just one session. You may need one weekly.

The fear of facing your personal monsters is not fun. Growth requires you to look at your failings. But, oddly enough, it also requires you to look at what you do well. We are expected to downplay our accomplishments and best traits. We remember the times we screwed up. How much of our consciousness is positive and self-affirming? There are always things to fix and improve upon.

Taking ownership of my failures and my successes was a major takeaway from my sessions. Learning not to compare my accomplishments to anyone else's was another. I had been told this before, but hearing it from a third-party source changed everything.

Talking to your friends or family members isn't the same as talking to a licensed therapist. Family members and friends are too close to the situation, and they've given us advice so many times we don't even hear it. But counseling provides the unique experience of having someone listen to you talk while they try to read between the lines.

At Elon, we take 160 or so credits teaching us how to use InDesign, how to measure ammonia levels in water systems, how to write the perfect essay. Few, if any, provide you with strategies for conflict resolution, teach you how to forgive yourself and others, or say you're not broken — you just need guidance. The most valuable assignment you can take is to work on yourself, and the counseling center offers

## Letter to the Editor

Written by Cheri Armour Samples '09

I graduated in 2009 from Elon, and throughout my incredible four years there, I remained incredulous each year when, each April, on a beautiful afternoon, the walls and carpets in the residence halls would be streaked with mud.

Incriminating footprints would lead from the bottom of the stairwells to the top, and often, a frustrated RA (me throughout the final three years at uni) would have to report the mess to Physical Plant, who, in addition to their typical duties, had to add "cleaning up after a bunch of over-privileged brats who write condescending pieces in to the school paper blaming the school for their sloppy behavior without so much as a thanks" to their to-do list.

I was horrified when someone submitted "University should minimize Festivus damages," a piece that outlined the reasons why Elon was somehow responsible for the mess that students left behind following the Festivus romp in the mud. The reasoning provided for why Elon was responsible was because Elon had not provided students with hoses to clean off with, despite the fact that the school has, for years, attempted to disassociate itself from the activity.

Among the reasons that the writer felt that Elon "should" provide students hoses, he or she listed the following:

It "was inconsiderate of university administrators to expect Physical Plant staff to clean up a mess that was exacerbated by the university's efforts to restrict an event that doesn't align with the crystal-clean image the administration would like to portray" (The mess is actually exacerbated by students who don't put any forethought into how they might clean up that day.)

That physical plant didn't deserve such treatment. (You're right about that one.)

"It prevented students who took part from doing what they could to minimize the damage." (What?)

Let me respond to this ridiculous bit of entitled garbage. (And keep in mind, as a millennial, I am never one to jump on the "millennials are entitled" business. I was underemployed for three years, I don't want to hear that I don't want to work for what I have.)

So first off, Elon University doesn't sanction the event because the event involves drinking for a full 24 hours while you slop around in mud in jean shorts and a sports bra. The school would be absolutely reckless to sanction the event because the first year someone dies, gets paralyzed (which, quite unfortunately, occurred during my time at school), or someone goes missing, Elon is now on the line for sanctioning an extremely dangerous event.

So, no, Elon doesn't sanction the event, and therefore will not be providing hoses for a bunch of adults who willfully choose to roll around in a mudpit with their friends all day. Their decision to not provide hoses doesn't mean that the university now bears the responsibility for when you or your friends stumble up the stairs barefoot, leaving chunks of mud in your wake, and then when you clog the community bathrooms with mud.

So let me clear something up for you. I enjoy day-drinking just as much as the next 20-something does.

However, when I day-drink, and when it involves making a mess, you know what I do? I clean up after myself. I don't blame others. I don't hold anyone else responsible for my actions. And I for sure don't write an embarrassingly bratty letter into The Pendulum in attempts to blame an education institution for saddling others with my mess.

Get it together.

# DOCTOR'S ORDERS

## PRESCRIBING THE ULTIMATE END-OF-YEAR BUCKET LIST



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano  
Columnists

With only a few more days of class left, we're staring down the barrel of the end of the year. It's days like these we realize time is fleeting. We are but fragile specimens dancing along the tenuous edge of the mortal coil.

There's still time to do everything you've never dared to — like learn your professors' names, learn your hallmates' names or even brave the hike to Danieley and see if there's really a Qdoba on campus. (Five bucks that's an extravagant lie they're telling to make Danieley more appealing.)

If you're a senior, your situation probably feels pretty dire. You're getting hit with a lot of vicious nostalgia, and you probably want to carpe some diems or something. We're here to help you during these last, sacred days of the Best Time of Your Life (college). Remember, it goes downhill from here after you graduate.

First things first: you should write your own bucket list. Then you should throw it away, because our bucket list is infinitely better.

Step two: Take on the bucket list.

1. Construct a miniature version of Elon out of the bricks you stole. Remember the Elon tradition of stealing a brick?

What you didn't know is the real tradition involves stealing as many bricks as you can to construct a to-scale model of the college you so dearly love.

2. Get on first-name basis with President Leo Lambert. Then come up with nicknames for each other so you know it's real. You'll need to think of something top-notch, because LL Cool Prez doesn't kick it with just any Elon student. You'll need to brush up on your nomenclature skills if you want to make it onto Leo Lambo's Very Important Phoenix list at Club Belk (2.5: Find this Club Belk you hear other students talking about. It's supposed to be "The Move" during finals week).

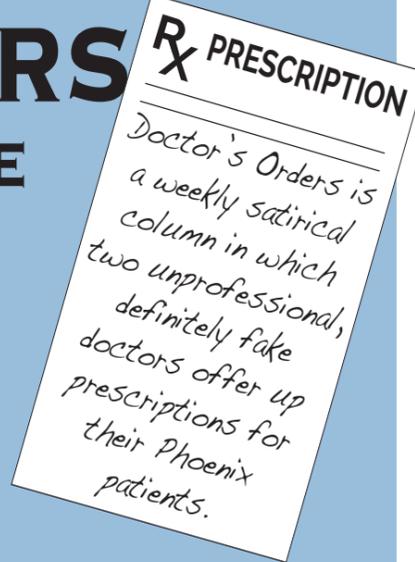
3. Hold the door for a cute squirrel. You see them all over campus, outside the dining halls or in your classes if you can snag a window seat. Get to know your neighborhood squirrels. We hear their favorite place to get coffee is Acorn. Incidentally, let a squirrel hold the door for you, too. Chivalry isn't dead, surely, but it also isn't human-specific.

4. Read The Pendulum cover-to-cover. Forward it to your friends and relatives. Maybe direct them to your favorite article, maybe the funniest column?

5. Return your honor coin. You're not fooling anyone at this point.

6. Prepare yourself to take root. Plantage is imminent, so you'll have to carefully pry up your current roots for parts unknown. It's mathematically proven (we used a calculator, you don't need to double check, don't worry) that most people stay in the city they move to post-grad. So pick wisely. No takebacks, no do-overs, no relocating.

7. Volunteer for Safe Rides. It's good to give back to the community. It's a free, no-holds-barred confessional with an unsuspecting slew of interesting and memorable



characters. You'll want these valuable memories.

8. Do something spectacular to have an article written about you on E-Net. You're not an Elon student if you're not over-achieving. If you haven't been on E-Net already, you probably shouldn't graduate at all. Haven't you completed your five-plus internships yet? What clubs are you president of? Are you sleeping more than four hours a night? You shouldn't be sleeping more than four hours a night.

9. Sleep more than four hours a night. But only if you've completed the rest of this list.

10. Find ways to make home more like Elon. Cut the grass twice a day. Install a fountain in front of every door. Or in every room. Wake up your family on Tuesdays with doughnuts and coffee (this one actually just makes you a nice person). If you're looking for a real rush, hang out at the train station for a couple hours. You know what they say, "Home is where the railroad runs through your backyard."

But don't stop at just these 10 suggested goals. If you finish your bucket list, then go forth into the so-called "real" world. There's nothing here for you any more. The student has become the master. Unless you're going for your Master's degree. In which case prepare to do the whole "school" thing yet again.

# A comeback for Constantine

## Former basketball player takes on a new role



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

Adam Constantine '10, Elon University's new social media manager, uses Twitter and other social media to catalyze real-life interactions. Constantine is taking advantage of his return to Elon to experience parts of campus he didn't have the chance to explore as an undergraduate.

Tommy Hamzik  
Managing Editor

The potent energy once displayed on the basketball court is now reaching audiences in a different form.

Instead of blocking shots or grabbing rebounds, Adam Constantine '10 is filling Twitter and Instagram feeds.

The former Elon University basketball player has shed his jersey and sneakers but kept his massive beard for Facebook likes and Twitter retweets in his new role as Elon's social media manager.

It's a fitting task for the former center, who played professionally in Finland, Ukraine, Germany, Israel and Turkey for four years and who has what friends describe as a loud, outgoing and enthusiastic personality.

He's excited to be back at his alma mater, too.

"You walk onto campus and feel how alive Elon is," Constantine said. "I want that same feel to be shown on social media."

### Different day, different media

Constantine was involved in a number of student media organizations as an undergraduate, serving as an account executive for Live Oak Communications, a film critic for The Pendulum and an NBA analyst for One on One Sports.

He excelled in Janna Anderson's "Media Writing" class during his sophomore year, where his performance on an assignment covering Bill Clinton's speech still stands out to the professor of communications. The professor of communications had him come back and speak to her classes after he completed the course.

"When he was in my media writing class, he learned about all the different as-

pects of communications," Anderson said. "He pretty much decided to do them all. Some people would say, 'I'm going to do one.' He went after everything."

But he said he truly fell in love with social media while playing basketball overseas.

Prominent social media sites such as Twitter were just gaining popularity when Constantine graduated from Elon. When he left his family and friends to pursue his childhood dream of playing basketball, it was one of the ways he stayed in touch with them.

"Yes, I love playing basketball, I love being part of a community that gets to play professional basketball," he said. "But I'm away from my family and friends for eight months. Social media, I found, was the best outlet to still reach my family, my friends and the fans I made in different countries as I moved around."

Constantine left Finland last year after an injury sidelined him, and he took a job as the social media manager for Live Work Play, a digital marketing firm in downtown Raleigh. After a few months there, he interviewed at Elon and began working here in March.

He's in charge of running Elon's social media accounts such as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn in addition to pioneering new ways for different departments and organizations to use social media across campus.

"That's one of the things I like about the job, the day-to-day isn't the same," Constantine said. "The one thing that is the same is content population. We kind of sit down and say, 'OK, what is happening at Elon that is important today, tomorrow, this weekend, map that out and ask how do we want to cover that?'"

So there's no need to look twice when

you see his 6-foot-10 frame walking around campus carrying a stuffed Phoenix or a stuffed squirrel for an Instagram photo.

"We don't post just to post," he said. "We want to make sure that if we do speak on behalf of the university, it is something that we want to share, and we want people to see is an important facet of what we do here."

### A vocal presence on the court

There were some rough patches in 2009-2010, Matt Matheny's first season as Elon's men's basketball coach, but part of what powered the Phoenix through it was Constantine's presence.

It wasn't his 12.1 points and 8.1 rebounds per game as much as it was his vocal cords.

"We knew what a challenging year that first year would be," Matheny said. "[Constantine's] energy became vital for us. We went through a long stretch where we didn't win any games. His ability to stay with positive, high energy was very important."

Constantine, a senior at that time, was seen as a leader on and off the court for the Phoenix. He was an emotional and vocal player.

"I challenge you to find a picture of me playing with my mouth closed," he said.

Constantine earned Second Team All-Southern Conference nods, but there are other memories of Constantine that stick out to former teammates.

Chris Long, a current Elon assistant coach and former teammate of Constantine's, described a sequence one year where Elon went into halftime losing, and then-head coach Ernie Nestor tried to rally the team in the locker room.

"Coach Nestor said something along the lines of, 'I want players who are going to give it their all and literally drop to the floor because they had nothing left to give,'" Long said. "If you give everything you have to give ... and you have nothing left to give, I'll help carry you off the court."

Constantine bought in.

A few possessions into the first half, he blocked two or three — Long and Constantine dispute the number — shots in a row and let out what Long described as a "primal scream" that Constantine compared to Jurassic Park.

Then, he dropped to the floor, seemingly taking his coach's words to heart.

"I was like, 'OK, I might've pushed it a little too much,'" Constantine said. "I wouldn't say I passed out, just say I needed to take a horizontal break for an extended period of time."

Long and some teammates still give Constantine — who was taking some theater classes then — a hard time about it, saying it was all an act.

That sequence describes the passion and enthusiasm Constantine brings each day to whatever task he's performing.

"He's the same way off the court. As much as he talks on the court, he talks just as much off," Long said. "Wherever he goes, his personality goes with him. Wherever he is, he's going to try and carry the conversation."

### Same school, new perspective

During much of the 2013-2014 basketball season, Constantine could be spotted in a courtside seat during Elon's games in Alumni Gym.

He never sat, though. He'd be standing and cheering, bringing back memories of the days when he played.

But you won't see that anymore with his new role.

"That was stated in the interview," Constantine said with a laugh. "Now, you do understand if you get this job, you will have to make a sacrifice in the way in which you cheer enthusiastically for your teammates."

Now, he sits on press row sending out tweets from @elonuniversity. And that's okay with him simply because he loves that he's back at Elon.

"It doesn't feel weird that I'm back and not a student," he said. "In another sense, I almost have more of the student experience now than I did when I was here, just because of the demands of being a student-athlete. I get to go to convocation or speakers, things like that. That's been really cool."

Off the court, Constantine enjoys being with friends and going to movies. He's a self-described movie buff. He went to the midnight premiere of "The Avengers: Age of Ultron" last week.

He doesn't have a favorite social media site because they all bring something different to the table. But one consistency is the interaction — something Constantine has been carrying with his personality for years.

"The reason why I love social media so much is because it's a catalyst to real-life interaction," Constantine said. "It's not 'in lieu of' or 'instead of.' It's something that strengthens it and keeps it strong. That's why the social media draw is so important to me."

# Caring for the Community Garden

## *Garden manager prepares to throw in the trowel*

Courtney Campbell  
Style Editor

Far from the heart of Elon University lies Loy Farm, an environmental center and recently added solar farm. Its lush acres of food and farming systems are home to long-term ecological research, greenhouses and the Design Build Studio for Responsible Architecture, to name a few of its features.

Senior Allison Hren spends almost 20 hours a week making sure everything goes smoothly.

Michael Strickland, lecturer in English and environmental studies, teaches “Garden Studio” classes in which students will spend a few hours over the course of the semester pulling weeds, tending plants and learning about what goes into the food they eat.

Hren works both as garden manager and a teaching assistant for the gardening classes.

“It’s a hard job,” she said. “It is the real world. It’s demanding. But it’s very rewarding.”

As garden manager, Hren serves as the liaison between students, Strickland and Lecturer in Environmental Studies Steve Moore to delegate tasks that need to be done at Loy Farm and the Community Garden, which is on E. College Avenue.

She also coordinates what plants need to be bought, decides where they will be planted over the next year, orders and plants seeds and performs general maintenance and upkeep.

Hren is in charge of Elon’s two major gardening events — the Pumpkin Festival in the fall and the Strawberry Festival in the spring.

This year’s Strawberry Festival will be from 2:30-5:30 p.m. May 8 in the Community Garden and will feature free food, live music, face painting and a plant sale.

Hren devotes her time and energy to all aspects of the farm. She works in the garden, runs errands and organizes schedules. In her role as a teaching assistant, she also helps teach gardening students about the garden and the farm.

“I see the way that gardening connects people together and connects people with the earth,” Hren said. “Connecting students to food is very important. The average American does not see how much work goes into the meal you see on your plate.”

### Providing for the greater community

The farm and garden are not certified organic because of the lengthy and expensive certification process, but they are run as though they were. Neither uses pesticides and everything is hand-weeded, so workers know exactly what goes into it.

The food produced goes to Mill Point Catering, Elon Campus Kitchen and Allied Churches. Eventually, Loy Farm and Community Garden products will be distributed to more than 80 locations.

“It’s nice to know where the food is going,” Hren said. “The goal every day is to do everything as efficiently as possible.”

According to Hren, the end goal for the farm is to provide food to a majority of the dining halls — but is a long way away. The farm would have to expand to encompass at least five greenhouses and would require a full-time staff.

Without this staff, Hren does a majority of the work at the garden and farm. This semester, to keep up with the responsibilities of garden manager while balancing a retail job, she is taking only one class.

“You can’t just pick up and leave without someone to take care of it,” Hren said. “It could mean you could lose an entire crop. Farming is not super forgiving — timing is absolutely everything.”

### Working year-round

Production at the farm doesn’t stop in the summer. The garden manager will stay at Elon to continue to tend the garden, either alone or with a Campus Kitchen intern.

Though Moore stays near campus for the summer, he is often busy with his own lectures, research and family, so most of the responsibility falls on the garden manager.

“Summers are the most productive time for the garden,” Hren said. “There’s tomatoes and squash and corn and sunflowers, and there’s such a large time period to harvest. Ironically, the school year is structured to have time off in the summer so that people could go home and harvest with their families.”

During the summer, the garden manager will also work closely with students from Elon Academy, provide food for Campus Kitchen and hold workdays for Thrive, a sustainability-focused one-week experience for incoming freshmen.

Despite the intense labor and time commitment, Hren believes the job is worth it.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ALLISON HREN

Senior Allison Hren rides a tractor through Loy Farm as she performs her garden manager duties.

“I learn every day,” she said. “There’s never a day that goes by where I don’t learn something new. Like solving an insect problem or figuring out the percentage of phosphorous that needs to be in the soil. I never leave thinking, ‘That was a waste of my time.’ I’m not going to leave this year thinking, ‘That was a waste of time.’”

### Passing the torch

There is no application process to become garden manager — it is a chosen position. Each year, by the middle of the spring semester, Moore, Strickland and the current manager select a student with enough passion to take on the demands of the job.

Hren was a clear choice this time around. She has been involved in the garden and farm since her sophomore year. She has continued to take the gardening course as well as interning and working with friends who were previous garden managers.

Starting this summer, the position will be passed down to junior Alyssa Adler, who has been involved with the garden since her sophomore year and has also interned for the garden.

“I was awestruck by [Hren] and how knowledgeable she was and automatically knew that that was what I wanted to be someday,” Adler said. “Now that I’ve spent the past year working in the garden and putting in countless hours of hard work, I’m excited and ready to take my turn in making the garden and farm the best it can be.”

So far, Adler has shadowed Hren and taken part in the planning processes and procedures.

In the next few weeks, Hren will be working closely with Adler to give hands-on training on how to properly run the

garden and farm. There is a manual that Adler can refer to, but Hren said a majority of the knowledge on how to run the garden and farm comes from experiences and challenges managers run into while on the job.

“Allison and the previous garden managers have done such an amazing job over the years that I know with their guidance and wisdom, the garden and farm will continue to flourish in the oncoming years,” Adler said.

Though there haven’t been any difficulties yet, Adler can already see how much time and energy the job requires and is preparing for the challenges ahead. She is confident she will receive the proper guidance and believes the rewards will outweigh the difficulties.

“I think one of the most rewarding feelings is when you witness someone coming to the garden for the first time and being mesmerized by it,” Adler said. “There’s such a beauty to gardening, and I cherish and welcome any time I can help someone get to the point of satisfaction with their hard work.”

Like Adler’s appreciation for the garden, Hren said both Moore and

Strickland encourage all students to take advantage of the garden and farm, even if they are not enrolled in the course, as an opportunity to volunteer and get in touch with nature.

Sometimes, Hren added, students will simply read or relax in the garden because of the peaceful atmosphere.

“The garden is such a unique place,” Hren said. “It’s my favorite place. It connects people with each other and with nature like no other. There’s something special about working in the earth among each other.”



HALI TALUXE | Staff Photographer

The annual Strawberry Festival will be held in the Community Garden from 2:30-5:30 p.m. May 8.

# Lumen Prize more than research, 2015 Lumen Scholars announced: 15 rising

Lauren Phillips  
Assistant Style Editor

MaryClaire Schulz called her mother in tears on a recent Thursday afternoon.

Her mother assumed Schulz had bad news, but the opposite was true: Schulz was calling to tell her mother she had just been awarded the Lumen Prize.

“She said, ‘Stop crying, you should be happy,’” Schulz said. “And then her immediate next question was, ‘So what is your research even on?’”

Schulz and 14 other sophomores at Elon University received emails Thursday, April 6 informing them they had been awarded the Lumen Prize, one of the university’s most prestigious research scholarships.

“It was really exciting,” Schulz said. “It was very much like, my life is going to be very different [whether I win or not].”

Lumen has awarded \$15,000 to 15 remarkable sophomores each year since its establishment during the 2007–2008 academic year.

Lumen Scholars spend the last two years of their undergraduate careers working on advanced research projects in their respective fields with the help of a faculty mentor. But, according to program director Ann Cahill, professor of philosophy, Lumen is more than simply a research grant.

“I haven’t seen a lot of prizes like the Lumen Prize at other universities,” Cahill said.

Cahill said Lumen takes a holistic approach to research and funding. Rather than requiring all funds to be devoted exclusively to research, the program allows scholars to use the funds in any matter that forwards the student’s intellectual development.

The 2015 Lumen Scholars have only just joined the Lumen community, but the journey to this point began months ago, when Schulz and her cohort began the process

that would lead them to Lumen.

## Deciding to apply

Before they could start the application, Schulz and her peers had decisions to make. Each scholar had a different process that led to him or her deciding to apply, but for most, that began with finding a mentor.

Students must submit a letter of nomination for Lumen from their mentor with their application. Lumen Scholars work closely with their mentors for the two years of their research.

**\$15,000**  
are awarded to each  
Lumen Scholar for  
his or her academic  
and personal  
advancement

“The first step in the application process is finding a mentor who wants to do this intensive, high-quality work with that student for the next two years,” she said.

Lumen Scholars must find a mentor for more than just a nomination, though.

“It’s the mentor’s job to make sure the scholar is developing and the scholar is learning about themselves as a scholar, is learning about the kinds of contributions they can make to a field,” Cahill said.

Schulz, a strategic communications major, said she hadn’t seriously considered applying for Lumen until she met her mentor, assistant professor of communications

Lucinda Austin.

“It really started when I made connections with my mentor,” she said.

Schulz took one of Austin’s classes, where the two began discussing their common interests. They quickly realized they clicked well, and Austin encouraged Schulz to apply for Lumen.

“I always knew I wanted to go into communications,” Schulz said. “Meeting Dr. Austin and starting working on this research definitely solidified those interests.”

But for sophomore Ben Bridges, another 2015 Lumen Scholar, the process began with the decision to apply.

“It’s interesting because, for MaryClaire, she found a mentor then decided she wanted to do Lumen, and I decided I wanted to apply then found a mentor,” Bridges said.

Bridges selected his major, anthropology, in part because he was fascinated by the opportunities for research within that field.

He came to Elon intending to study biology and quickly realized that research in that field did not interest him as much as he thought it would. Bridges spent his freshman year talking to students in different majors and searching for the right major for him.

“Leaving my first year, I knew that I wanted to do social sciences,” he said.

So, when Bridges returned to Elon for his sophomore year, he gave it a try.

“A month and a half into my ‘Intro to Anthropology’ class, I was like, this is definitely where I’m supposed to be,” he said.

Bridges declared his anthropology major in October 2014 and decided to apply to Lumen that same month.

He began the process — which he described as “intellectual courtship” — of finding a mentor in November, and in December he asked professor of anthropology Tom Mould to be his mentor.

## Completing an application

Once they found mentors, Schulz and Bridges began developing their projects and working on their applications. This year’s application was due March 18, but both students began working on it over Winter Break and continued throughout Winter Term and the first half of the spring semester.

“Applicants really know that in order to consider the Lumen you need to start on the application some months in advance,” Cahill said.

The extensive application calls for a significant amount of time spent working on it. In addition to the letter of nomination from their mentor, applicants must have a letter from someone else, such as a faculty member, who can speak to the applicant’s accomplishments and potential.

Students must also submit a transcript and a detailed application that includes an abstract, a personal statement, a project description, a feasibility statement and a specific plan for allocating Lumen funds.

Unsurprisingly, Lumen applications are typically polished products.

“Obviously, for the Lumen, there’s a high level of self-selection,” Cahill said. “Students who apply for Lumen tend to be excellent students. They tend to have already had a significant degree of academic success in their undergraduate years, so we don’t see a lot [of applications] that are just sloppy.”

Applications are reviewed by a selection committee composed of faculty from a variety of disciplines. Members of the committee change from year to year, though some faculty members remain for several years.

After the committee reviews applications, select applicants are invited to the second stage of the process: an interview.

“The night before the interview, I was as

## • ELON LUMEN PRIZE

### Nicole Ackman

Strategic Communications, History  
Project title: “The Salonnières: Women, the Public Sphere, and Education in Enlightenment-Era Paris”

### Brianna Birchett

International Studies  
Project title: “Praise, Pity, and Persecution: The Effects of 20th Century Political Reformists on Modern Conceptions of Devadasis”

### Benjamin Bridges

Anthropology  
Project title: “Navigating Globalization through Myth in Quechua Communities of Southern Peru”

### Leena Dahal

International Studies and Strategic Communications  
Project title: “Chatting With My Best Friends: Intergenerational Responses to ‘Communication for Development’ Strategies in Rural Nepal”

### Nicole Doolen

Exercise Science  
Project title: “Examining the third pillar of exercise prescription: ratings of pleasure-displeasure”

### Jessica Graham

Biochemistry  
Project title: “It’s a No-Brainer: Effects of Exposure of Methylphenidate on Neural Growth and Function”

### Peter Jakes

Mathematics and Statistics  
Project title: “Opening new avenues in STEM research and education: Increasing Accessibility for Solving Higher Degree Polynomials with Galois Groups”

### Ashley King

Exercise and Dance Science  
Project title: “The Effect of Chronic Knee Injury on Kinematic Knee Performance for the Saut de Chat in Collegiate Female Dancers”

# helps students fulfill potential

## *juniors join prestigious scholarship program*

nervous as I was the night before I found out about Lumen,” Bridges said.

Interviews are in front of a panel made up of a committee member and two other faculty or staff members. The panel doesn't always include a faculty member related to the applicant's major or project. The committee member is the only one on the panel to have read the entire application, so applicants are often asked to explain their proposed research projects to the other two without using major- or discipline-specific language.

Schulz and Bridges said this process is intended to gauge the applicant's descriptive ability and to judge his or her passion.

Soon after all interviews have been completed, scholars are informed of their awards.

Lumen Prizes are always limited to 15, and while Cahill was hesitant to share the exact number of applicants, she said that over the course of the program approximately 40 percent of applicants have been awarded a Lumen Prize. She said this number reveals the competitiveness of the program.

Of this year's Lumen Scholars, 12 are women. They come from a variety of majors from international studies to exercise and dance science, which Cahill said is reflective of Lumen's support of all disciplines.

Cahill said selection is based on merit and that the committee has the difficult job of comparing excellence across disciplines while making their final decisions.

“We're really trying to get the 15 applications that show the greatest promise, the greatest intellectual potential,” she said. “We're looking for scholars that are remarkable and that are well-positioned to make remarkable contributions to their fields. We do not consider disciplinary quotas or anything like that when making

our final decisions.”

Of this year's cohort of Lumen Scholars all but one of the award winners are involved in a Fellows program at Elon.

Cahill said that, while the number of Fellows who won Lumen Prizes is higher this year than it has been in recent years, the status of applicants as Fellows rarely comes into play and is not necessarily seen as an advantage, though Fellows do tend to have a foundation at Elon that supports them as they go through the application process.

# 40%

of applicants receive the Lumen Prize

“There's no doubt that Fellows students come into Elon expecting to do undergraduate research, expecting to find a mentor,” she said. “They have great structure to support them in finding really good topics and taking the time to develop really good relationships with their mentors. Students who are in these programs have the opportunity to think about undergraduate research from the very moment they step on campus.”

Schulz and Bridges are both Honors Fellows, and both agreed that Honors requirements prepared them to apply for Lumen. They also said there were older Honors Fellows who had won Lumen who both were able to reach out to during the application process for advice and support.

“Every year, a lot of Fellows get Lumen, so you see the people older than you get Lumen,” Bridges said.

Honors Fellows and Elon College Fellows are also required to do undergraduate research, which Schulz said made information on Lumen more available to her and other Fellows.

“Honors and College Fellows have to do research anyway, so it's like, why not apply?” Bridges said.

### Looking ahead

Now that they have been awarded Lumen Prizes, Schulz and Bridges both have big plans, many of which they wouldn't have been able to do without Lumen's financial assistance.

Funds don't have to be used exclusively for research, which Cahill said is one of the things that makes Lumen unique.

“Lumen funds can be used for experiences or other kinds of costs that forward the student's intellectual development in general,” she said.

Schulz's project title is “International Corporate Social Responsibility and Female Stakeholder Entrepreneurship: The Case of Coca-Cola's 5by20 Initiative.”

While Schulz will be using some of her funds to present this research and see what others are doing with corporate responsibility, she is also using them to support her own development.

“One thing about Lumen I really appreciate and what differentiates it from other research grants is that they want to invest in you as a person, as someone interested in research but with other pursuits as well,” Schulz said. “It's not just money for this project you're going to do and then be done. It's something you're involved in for the entirety of your time at Elon and probably after you leave Elon. It's nice to know they care about you as a person outside your project.”

Cahill said this is one of the goals of the

### LUMEN ELIGIBILITY

To apply for a Lumen Prize, students must:

- be completing their second year at Elon
- commit to attending at least two more years at Elon
- potentially have interest in attending graduate or professional school
- have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher

Lumen Prize.

“The program prides itself on saying, ‘We support scholars, not projects,’” she said. “That is, we're committed to providing a variety of kinds of support to really remarkable scholars so they can fulfill their academic and intellectual potential.”

Bridges, whose project title is “Navigating Globalization through Myth in Quechua Communities of Southern Peru,” is using some of his funds to do his ethnographical research on-site in Peru. He will be studying abroad in Peru fall 2015 and returning to complete his research summer 2015.

Bridges, who wants to pursue a career in academia, said receiving a Lumen Prize validated both his goals and his research. During the application process he downplayed the prestige of the award to his family, but once he found out that he had won, he was excited to explain it to his family.

“I didn't realize how emotionally invested I was in it,” he said.

# 2015 AWARD WINNERS •

## Beth Lester

Independent Major – Industrial Design Studies

Project title: “Designing a Smart Mobility Product for an Elderly Population”

## Kate Levenberg

Public Health

Project title: “The Impact of the Bupropion on Insulin Resistance”

## Justin Morin

Economics, Finance

Project title: “The Relationship Between Income Disparities and Hospitalization Rates of Ambulatory Care-Sensitive Conditions”

## Michelle Reissig

Public Health Studies (Socio-Cultural Context)

Project title: “Childbirth Self-efficacy and Birth Experiences of Primiparous African-American Women: The Influence of Birth Stories Heard during Pregnancy”

## MaryClaire Schulz

Strategic Communications

Project title: “International Corporate Social Responsibility and Female Stakeholder Entrepreneurship: The Case of Coca-Cola's 5by20 Initiative”

## Carly Weddle

Chemistry

Project title: “Quantification of the Chemical Markers of Melanin to Enhance Early Diagnosis of Melanoma”

## Alex Vandermaas-Peeler

Political Science and International Studies

Project title: “Analyzing Women's Post-War Narratives in Bosnia and Rwanda: Implications for Peacebuilding”

# 'A Little Song and Dance' collaboration

## Music and dance join forces for spring wind ensemble concert

Caroline Perry  
Senior Reporter

Adam Kehl, director of Elon University's wind ensemble Phoenix Winds, has long had a dream of collaborating with the dance program. Not many musicians get the

opportunity to accompany dancers, and not many dancers get the needed experience of performing with live musicians.

In the fall, Kehl met with Jen Guy Metcalf, assistant professor of dance, and they decided to collaborate on some pieces for the spring wind ensemble concert.

In the performance, titled "A Little Song and Dance," dancers will accompany Phoenix Winds for two pieces: "Swan Lake" and "Variations of a Shaker Melody."

Beginning in February, Kehl practiced with only the ensemble to work out exact tempos, transitions and other musical elements before incorporating dance.

"Swan Lake" is very classical, while "Variations of a Shaker Melody" utilizes much more modern dance," said freshman Minnie Lane, who will dance in the performance.

Lane has found herself more immersed in the art of dancing than usual.

"Having live musicians helps with the movement a lot because we have more liberty with timing," Lane said. "It's really been great getting to collaborate with Phoenix Winds because having live musicians makes connecting to the music so much easier and more fun."

Both dance and music students have been practicing together to smoothly blend both media.

"[This performance] also gives the musicians and the dancers an opportunity to perform some of the best and most iconic music and choreography ever written," Kehl said. "I think it has been a really exciting, unique artistic experience for both groups."

By incorporating two aspects of artistic expression, "A Little Song and Dance" attracts a crowd that appreciates both.

"I think one of the greatest side effects of this collaboration is that it will expose our audiences to a new artistic experience," Kehl said. "It will give people in the audience who are coming to primarily see the dance performance a chance to hear a wind ensemble concert, and it will give our normal wind en-

semble audience an opportunity to see live ballet and modern dance."

In addition to the dance showcase, Phoenix Winds will also perform the expanded collection of Pulitzer Prize winner William Bolcom's Cabaret Songs for mezzo-soprano and chamber winds, which will feature Hallie Hogan, associate professor of music.

"They are a set of five fun cabaret, jazz, burlesque-inspired songs from one of the most significant American composers alive today," Kehl said. "It should be a wonderfully entertaining program that has something for everybody."

To appeal to all preferences, Phoenix Winds performs a wide variety of music ranging from the classic and traditional to the modern.

Kehl believes concert wind ensembles are some of the most cutting-edge ensembles in the world of classical music today.

"Creative and diverse programming is a hallmark of the modern wind ensemble and something we strive to provide our students here at Elon with," he said.

Phoenix Winds meets to practice one a week for two hours throughout the semester. With the small time commitment, the ensemble hopes students will be able to participate in other musical ensembles or artistic activities and experiences. There is no audition to join Phoenix Winds, but there is a part placement audition at the first rehearsal.

They are currently accepting new members for the fall semester.

"We believe that the more art we can share with the world, the better the world will be, and this was a great opportunity to pursue that goal," Kehl said.

"A Little Song and Dance" will take place at 7:30 p.m. May 12 in McCrary Theatre.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER GUY

Dancers accompany Phoenix Winds, adding an unique active element to the performance.

# 'Beyond the Sky' explores mysteries of space

Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

The mysteries of space have inspired Elon University's Elon Music Ambassadors' (EMA) spring concert "Beyond the Sky," which will be performed 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Yeager Recital Hall.

Virginia Novine-Whittaker, saxophone instructor and the group's director, said she was fascinated by the unknowns of the universe and thought it was a great theme that encompasses several genres and eras of music.

"When people are fascinated by or don't quite understand something, they write music about it," Novine-Whittaker said.

EMA was initially inspired by Novine-Whittaker's previous musical group, a saxophone quartet that toured high schools to recruit potential Elon students.

Four years later, that's still the main goal. The group has grown to include a broader representation of music, from vocals to instruments such as trombone, flute and guitar.

To become a member of EMA, students must be music majors and be recommended by professors in the music department. Novine-Whittaker said students should not only be strong performers, but they must also have leadership qualities and the ability to work as a team.

This semester, the ensemble has 12 students, the largest it has been since it began in 2011.

Senior Nicole Payne got involved with EMA after Novine-Whittaker invited her to join. She said it's a hands-on learning experience because students arrange all of their own music.

"We split up into groups for arranging and write all of the parts," Payne said. "We also write introductions for our concerts, which we make very interactive and educational."

Students spend the first half of the semester collaborating on and researching pieces and the latter half rehearsing.

"Beyond the Sky" has 13 pieces with selections pertaining to outer space, flight and the possibilities of what lies beyond the horizon.

"I love arriving at the moment where everything clicks



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Elon Music Ambassadors will showcase their talents on a tour beginning May 17 to recruit prospective students for the music program.

into place," said senior Lianna Mills. "The music and lyrics suddenly hold a newfound meaning, and we all begin to get pumped for the show and tour."

In contrast to previous concerts, "Beyond the Sky" focuses more on song lyrics and portraying the theme of the mysteries of space than the music itself. The set list ranges from "Fly Me to the Moon" to "Dancing in the Moonlight."

Starting May 17, EMA will go on tour to Maryland schools to recruit high school students for Elon's music program. The group has toured 32 high schools in five states over the past two years, performing for about 4,000 high school students.

Each tour features different genres of music, such as classical jazz, rock and Latin. Novine-Whittaker said it is important to showcase various genres because it can appeal

to every member of the audience, inspiring them to pursue music at Elon.

As director, Novine-Whittaker is involved with every aspect of EMA. She watches her students throughout the creative process and gains inspiration from them.

"My students' creativity knows no bounds," Whittaker said. "When you allow a student to create a climate, their creativity soars."

By working closely together on arrangements during rehearsals throughout the semester, Mills has forged a close bond with the students in EMA.

"I love exploring the group dynamics and getting to know members on a more personal level," Mills said. "That's what music does best — uniting individuals and forming a community."

# Cooler season comes to Elon

## *Res Life attempts to prevent cooler damages*

Danielle Deavens  
Senior Reporter

Every year, college women across the country are invited to banquet — a fraternity's formal — which means a lot more than a weekend of fun. A short beach vacation comes at a big price that might match the cost of hotels and travel, which most fraternity members cover for their dates.

In exchange for an invite to the festivities, banquet dates are expected to paint a cooler.

This is no venture for the weak of heart — or the unartistic.

Sophomore Mackenzie Dunn sat down and devoted a whole weekend to conquering the task of painting a cooler for her date's Delta Upsilon banquet.

### How to make your own cooler:

#### Materials:

Cooler • Acrylic paint • Spackle • Sandpaper • Paint pens • Mod Podge • Wax Paper • Polyurethane • Sealer • Primer paint • Sharpies • Pencils • Brushes • Wax/tracing paper • Painters tape

**1** Sand and spackle

Apply primer

**2**

**3** Pick your designs

Transfer your stencils onto the cooler

**4**

**5** Layer on sealant

Dry and load it up

**6**

**7** Paint the cooler

Let the paint dry

**8**

She said painting the cooler wasn't too time consuming, though she was annoyed about how much money she spent on the cooler and supplies. But in the end, she said it was worth it for the weekend.

"I actually had a lot of fun doing it," she said. "I don't get why girls stress out about it. The guys really appreciate whatever effort you put in."

Many girls stress over their coolers because there are several Facebook pages — such as "The Cooler Connection" — where cooler-painters can show off their finished products.

These cooler designs are often quite elaborate, with different images on each of the four sides and the top of the cooler. The designs are often themed, and most revolve around stenciled renderings of brands of alcohol or stereotypical "frat boy" clothing lines like Vineyard Vines.

Sites like Total Sorority Move, Her Campus and Sorority Sugar post step-by-step instructions for those looking to make the "ultimate Greek cooler."

The first step is to find a large, flat and mostly texture-free cooler then sand down the rough exterior to create a canvas. This process can be shortened with the help of a power sander, if one is available.

Next, girls must cover the wheels, prime the cooler, print and trace the design, transfer it to the cooler, paint on the design and seal it with a glossy finish, usually using Mod Podge.

At Elon in the spring, groups of girls gather in the grass or on sidewalks outside residence halls to work on their coolers. While rain forces some girls indoors, the majority of painting is still done outside, according to Elaine Turner, director of Residence Life.

"We do not encourage them to do it indoors because you have to be using spray paint in a well-ventilated area," she said. "Something like this, to me, is an outdoor activity. We don't encourage them to do the painting, but we know it's going to happen so we're just trying to see what's the best approach to take in terms of safeguarding what we have."

This year, Residence Life and Physical Plant worked together to provide students with drop cloths that could be checked out from area offices across campus. Physical Plant purchased the drop cloths to replace the small supply that was distributed to a few



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MACKENZIE DUNN

Sophomore Mackenzie Dunn spent an entire weekend painting her date's cooler for banquet.

residential neighborhoods last year and went through Residence Life to get the drop cloths to students.

"The staff had them available for students to come pick up from the area offices," Turner said. "Some of them sent emails out to the RAs and emails out to the students. We did have some drop cloths available last year, but it wasn't across the campus. This year, we specifically had drop cloths for all residential areas."

Turner views this as an opportunity to protect buildings and outdoor spaces from paint. Spray-painted outlines of coolers on the grass and sidewalks near residence halls are usually prevalent at this time of year, but Turner said using protective cloths has been successful in preventing the mess so far.

"It was just a preventative measure to assist the students because we know they're going to have fun with their coolers and paint them for their friends," she said. "We just want to protect the facilities and provide drop cloths for them to use so they can safely paint them."

Turner said indoor damages are "very limited" so far, with only one report of damage

to a residence hall's walls and carpet. Damage done by paint results in a fine, including areas where bricks are damaged.

"If students are responsible for any damage, we will have charges to the individual student's account," Turner said. "If it is a common space and we cannot identify who is responsible for the damage, then we will have a community charge to all the students in that respective area."

In addition to fines, individuals might also be drawn into an "educational conversation" about respecting the space and avoiding damage in the future.

Though Residence Life has provided some protective measures, those painting coolers for their dates this spring are urged to keep the cost of spilled paint and primer — as well as the high cost of the project itself — in mind.

With fewer damage reports this year, Turner is now more interested in the cooler painting activity than the mess.

"I'm still trying to get a better understanding of the tradition," she said. "I'm interested to learn a little bit more about painting coolers."



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MACKENZIE DUNN

Banquet guests take pride in their cooler designs and use popular pages such as "The Cooler Connection" to share design ideas and get advice.

# Track and Field on the rise after winning CAA Championships

Kyle Lubinsky  
Senior Reporter

Led by a core group of returners and bolstered by young talent, the Elon University women's track and field team completed its first season as a member of the Colonial Athletic Association with a first place finish in the CAA Outdoor Championships.

Elon finished with a total of 150 points, beating out host College of William & Mary, which finished with 134.5 points. The victory marks the Phoenix's first championship title in any sport as a member of the CAA.

Although the track and field team joined the CAA at the beginning of the season, the championship was its first exposure to many opponents within the conference.

"It's a little different from the other sports because we may see a few of the CAA teams at a couple meets here and there," said head coach Mark Elliston.

Elon won six events at the CAA Outdoor Championships. Sophomore distance runner Kimberly Johansen won the 800-meter and 1,500-meter runs.

She set a new conference record in

the 1,500-meter race with a time of 4:22.82 and set a new school record in the 800-meter event with a time of 2:10.42. These achievements helped her earn the CAA's Most Outstanding Track Athlete of the Meet award.

In her first competition back after a suspension for a violation of team rules, junior hurdler Jen Esposito prevailed in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 59.08. Esposito also set a school record and personal best in the preliminary race with a time of 58.96.

Freshman discus thrower Bryanna Hames set a new school record with a winning throw of 158-1 while junior distance runner Tereza Novotna won the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:22.22, a personal best and the second fastest time in CAA history.

Freshman Emily Dixon emerged victorious in the heptathlon with 4,921 points, setting multiple school records and winning three multi-event titles.

Junior sprinter Simone Jackson took home the title in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.10.

Jackson, a junior from Ellicott City, Maryland, has improved every season of her college career. After setting a school



The women's track and field team placed first at the CAA Outdoor Championships Saturday. PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM PALMER

record in the 100-meter dash last season, she topped her own mark with a 12.07 sprint at the Aggie Invitational in Greensboro this April.

"Simone brings a lot to the team, and she has from the moment she walked on campus her freshman year," Elliston said. "She's been through a lot but she's never given up."

Jackson struggled when she arrived at Elon and felt disappointed with her performances.

Many of the bigger schools that initially recruited her stopped after she tore her ACL her junior year of high school. With a 12.18 personal best under her belt from high school, Jackson struggled to find her pace in her freshman campaign at Elon. Her best finish as a freshman was 12.64 at the Liberty Collegiate Invitational.

"After my freshman year, I was really disappointed," Jackson said. "From there, I just was like, 'OK, I need to set my goals [and] figure out what I need to do.'"

As a sophomore, though, Jackson hit her stride.

"First day of practice, I said to coach, 'This year I'm going to break the school record in the 100-meter dash,'" Jackson said.

Her vision became a reality at the Liberty Collegiate Invitational. She posted a 12.18, tying her personal best and surpassing the previous record of 12.29 set by

Dana Cataldo in 2011.

Aside from individual events, Jackson also competed in the 4x100-meter relay team, which also featured junior sprinters Jennifer Pash, Bria Turner and Sydney Griffin. The group posted a 46.90 in the event this year at the CAA Championships.

Jackson has hope for the future of the track and field program. Many of her younger teammates have wasted no time in establishing a presence during competitions.

"The younger girls, they bring a lot of grit, which I think is something you really need as a Division I track athlete," she said. "They're coming in confident. They're coming in strong. And they're coming in with a hard work ethic."

Elon hopes to send a few athletes to the NCAA Preliminary round, which takes place May 28-30.

The top 48 athletes will be accepted into the preliminary round for each individual event. The athletes have two more chances to qualify — at the Duke Twilight today and tomorrow at Duke University and May 16-17 at the Wolfpack Last Chance meet at North Carolina State University. With just five athletes graduating this year, the Phoenix has promise to continue excelling as a team in the upcoming years.

## EVENTS WON

Kimberly Johansen  
800-meter run | 2:10.42

Kimberly Johansen  
1500-meter run | 4:22.82

Jen Esposito  
400-meter hurdles | 59.08

Bryanna Hames  
Discus Throw | 158'1"

Tereza Novotna  
3000-meter steeplechase  
10:22.22

Emily Dixon  
Heptathlon | 4,921 points

## FINAL RESULTS

ELON  
150 points

WILLIAM & MARY  
134.5 points

JAMES MADISON  
122 points

DELAWARE  
104.5 points

UNC-WILMINGTON  
98 points

NORTHEASTERN  
98 points

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON  
58 points

TOWSON  
52 points

MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor

# Elon, CAA say transition has been smooth through one year

Tommy Hamzik  
Managing Editor

Reflecting back on a year in the Colonial Athletic Association, the feelings director of athletics Dave Blank has gauged from Elon University athletes have been positive.

Elon made the transition from the Southern Conference last summer, a move that meant more travel and an increased level of competition for Phoenix teams.

The women's track and field team provided the lone team conference title, winning last weekend's CAA Championship meet in Williamsburg, Virginia. Senior Luis Vargas added the individual title at the CAA Cross Country Championships in November to Elon's resume.

If it weren't for the track and field championship, it would have marked the first time in more than a decade Elon went a full academic year without winning a team conference regular season or tournament crown (baseball and softball have yet to be decided).

Elon did have a number of individual accolades. In addition to Vargas' championship, Elijah Bryant of men's basketball and Stephanie Asher of women's lacrosse earned Rookie of the Year nods, Stefan Fortmann of men's tennis was named Player of the Year and

Kimberly Johansen of women's track and field was honored as Most Outstanding Athlete of the CAA Track and Field Championships.

Across all sports, Elon earned 21 CAA Rookie of the Week and 19 Player of the Week honors.

"I just think that the programs in general know what we're up against," Blank said. "The student-athletes are liking the level of competition, and they understand it's going to take a while before we blossom into winning championships on a regular basis. But I think if you go deep enough into the programs, you see a lot of team success but a lot of individual successes with players of the year and rookies of the year."

Blank said the biggest adjustments for Elon had to do with travel arrangements and

figuring out places to stay on the road, considering more of the travel was to larger cities. He's happy teams are competing closer

geographically to their hometowns, and that's also shown in alumni attendance at Phoenix Club-sponsored events.

From a financial standpoint, Blank said everything was right on target with the projections set at the beginning of the year, which take into account increased travel costs.

Competitively, Elon has taken its share of lumps at points, but Blank isn't discouraged.

"I don't think we had any program that we felt like, 'Wow, we're really in over our head,'" Blank said. "I think one that people would point to would be football,

and that would be based on how many wins and losses. But if you looked at what the team accomplished and how young they were with

THE STUDENT-ATHLETES ARE LIKING THE LEVEL OF COMPETITION, AND THEY UNDERSTAND IT'S GOING TO TAKE A WHILE BEFORE WE BLOSSOM INTO WINNING CHAMPIONSHIPS ON A REGULAR BASIS.

DAVE BLANK  
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

a first-year coaching staff, it's hard for me to even put that in the negative category right now. The test of time is needed in several of our programs."

Tom Yeager, CAA commissioner, said he thinks it's been a smooth transition for both the school and the league. He made one visit to campus during the year — in October for Elon's first CAA football game, a 48-14 loss to the University of New Hampshire. Yeager presented President Leo Lambert with a commemorative football before the game.

"Throughout the process, everything that the university does is done in a first-class manner," Yeager said. "It's indicative of all the schools in the [CAA]. I know that the feedback I've gotten from the schools visiting Elon for the first time were rave reviews."

Blank isn't worried about establishing a rival — that's going to take more time. Instead, he and Yeager are pleased with the groundwork that's being laid for a successful relationship with the conference and its member schools.

"They really were exactly the kind of school they thought they were," Yeager said. "They have fit in very, very well. I think they're going to be a very vibrant partner with our other nine schools in delivering a unique experience."

# Softball peaking going into CAA Tournament

Bryan Anderson  
Sports Editor

By the bottom of the eighth, sophomore Carey Million stood at bat and anticipated an inside pitch, but she got a low, inside changeup. She turned on the ball and hit it over the fence in left center, giving Elon University a spot in the Colonial Athletic Association Softball Tournament.

As the dugout stormed the field, head softball coach Kathy Bocock sprinted from where she was coaching at third base toward home plate to warn her players in the dugout not to step onto the field and into fair territory.

"I needed to get down the line so the girls didn't get in the way because [the umpires] had already warned them that if they got out there again, then [the run] would have gone away," Bocock said. "They would've taken the run, so I just saw it go, knew we won and had to get down there and make sure the girls didn't get out there too soon to celebrate."

The players slapped Million's helmet when she crossed home, celebrating the No. 3 seed in the CAA Tournament.

After trailing 3-1 at the bottom of the seventh with the bottom of the order due up, Elon defeated the University of North Carolina at Wilmington on the final day of the regular season, seized a third place finish in the CAA and secured one of four spots in the tournament.

Senior third baseman Aly Quintana hit a deep fly ball to left center in the bottom of the seventh with a runner on first base. As UNCW left fielder Brittanne Gasser dashed to the ball and approached the warning track, it appeared she could have had a play on the ball. As the ball went deeper, it continued to fly and found its way over the fence.

Though the Phoenix couldn't get the game-winning run across home plate in the seventh, it carried the momentum going into extras. Million notched the victory and secured Elon's No. 3 seed with nobody on and one away in the bottom of the eighth.

"I was looking for an inside pitch to turn on, and that was the best one," Million said. "I waited on the changeup and it went out. I wasn't expecting a changeup, but I kind of saw it well and went with it."

While the offensive outbursts from Quintana and Million were the highlights of the game, the pitching staff also excelled.

Perhaps Elon's biggest pitching asset is junior Kayla Caruso. She earned wins



Sophomore catcher Carey Million hit a walk-off home run Saturday against UNCW to give the softball team a No. 3 seed in the CAA Tournament.

in each of the three final home games against UNCW and finished the season 12-4 with a 3.23 ERA. She looks forward to the remainder of the season and hopefully generating some noise in the CAA Tournament.

"This is exactly what we needed was a sweep, and we got the sweep," Caruso said. "And going into the tournament, we have confidence, we're happy, we're loving the game and it's what you want."

Despite Caruso's performance over the weekend, the odds were not in favor of the softball team securing one of the four available spots in the CAA Tournament.

The Phoenix was predicted in the pre-season poll to finish sixth of eight teams in the CAA because the roster featured a group of young starters competing in a more difficult conference.

But the strong group of seniors willing to accept the group of underclassmen regularly inserted into the starting lineup helped unite the Phoenix.

"I thank them a lot for their leadership because they came in as seniors, and there's a young group out there that they embraced," Bocock said. "And by them

embracing them and not being jealous and all that stuff, it was huge for them. Everything that they did and the support they did for these young kids is a huge reason why we've been successful this year."

Elon began the season 17-6 entering CAA play but lost four of its next five games.

Later in the season, the Phoenix lost seven of eight, including losses to Hofstra University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and James Madison University. Despite the obstacles, Elon remained devoted in the circle and in the batter's box.

Senior pitchers Caitlin O'Shea and Chelsea White have ERAs of 2.32 and 3.21, respectively. In nearly 100 innings of combined work this season, they have limited their opponents to 39 earned runs.

Sophomore Alli Burdette and freshman Kiandra Mitchum are the other main pitchers. While Burdette works mostly out of the pen, Mitchum starts. In her debut season at Elon, Mitchum has a 3.71 ERA with an 8-9 record. Burdette has pitched 27 total innings this season but has provided depth when called upon.

The offense has been another strong suit this season for the Phoenix. Each of Elon's three lead-off hitters has at least a .338 batting average and a .390 on-base percentage. Freshman Hannah Olson typically hits first and is followed by sophomore Alaina Hall and freshman Kara Shutt.

Olson has a knack for reaching base. She has the lowest strikeout percentage on the team and is almost guaranteed to put the ball in play.

Hall leads the team in batting average at .360.

Shutt is one of the most powerful hitters on the team. She is the team leader in extra base hits with 19 and has hit 13 doubles, three triples and three home runs.

Today matters most for the Phoenix. At 3 p.m., Elon plays Hofstra in the opening round of the CAA Tournament.

Elon has a bit of an easier journey in the first round since it will not play against James Madison.

James Madison routed Elon 9-1, 9-0 and 8-0 in its three-game home series April 25-26. In the final game of the series, the Phoenix failed to record a single hit. The Dukes finished the regular season first in the CAA by a landslide. They are 44-6 (19-0 CAA), have a 35-game winning streak and are ranked 19th in the country.

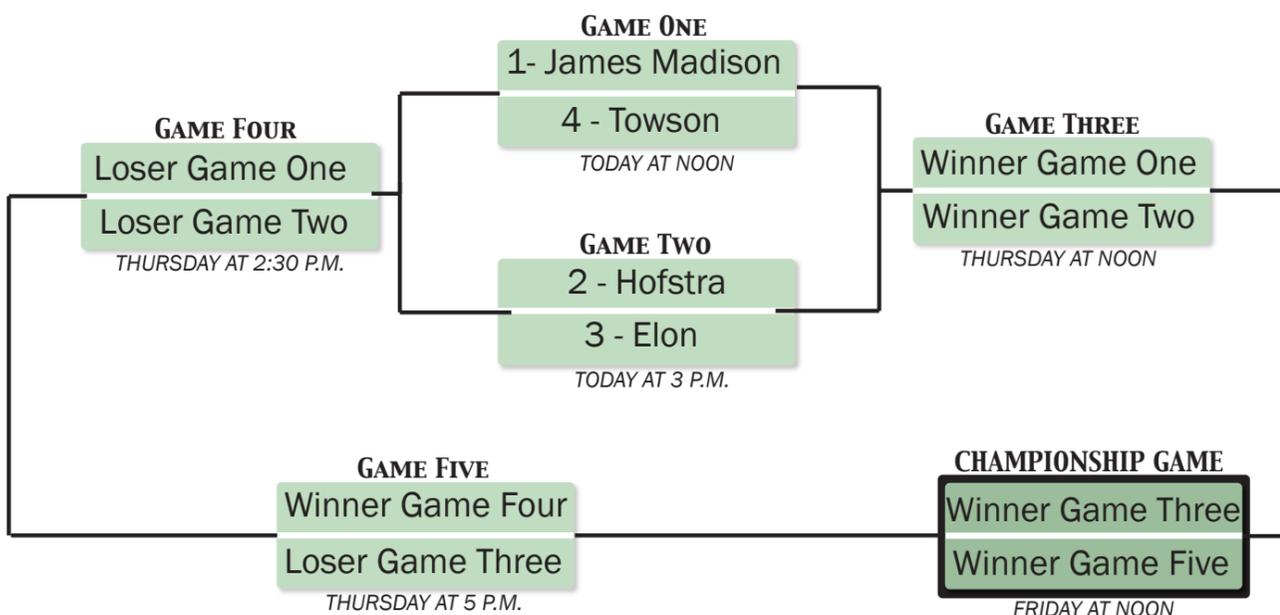
With a win today against Hofstra, Elon will compete against the winner of the James Madison-Towson game Thursday at noon. Should the Phoenix win that contest, it will advance to the championship game scheduled for Friday at noon.

With a loss, Elon will play the loser of the James Madison-Towson game at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. If the Phoenix loses twice in a row, its season will come to an end.

2015 has been a landmark year for the softball team. With new players peaking at the right time and routine starters performing at their best, Elon approaches the tournament with full confidence.

"[Our players] know that they can beat Towson and Hofstra," Bocock said. "And, you know, they actually had some good innings against JMU ... We're just gonna go up there and play like we do and just give it our best."

## CAA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT



# Trainers play vital role in athletic success

## *Athletes rely on trainers' advice for year-round wellbeing*



Senior associate athletic trainer Marty Baker helps sophomore Kimberly Johansen at a recent women's track and field meet.

Alex Simon  
Senior Reporter

Because of NCAA rules and regulations, coaches can only spend a certain amount of time with their players, but there is no restriction on the amount of time players can spend with the training staff.

"The two people who spend the most time with a student-athlete on campus are the athletic trainer and the strength coach," said Eric Storsved, director of athletic training services. "You get to know the student-athletes and see if they're down or

they're stressed."

### Developing a relationship

Head softball coach Kathy Bocock understands the difficulty trainers face between balancing athletic department and team demands.

"The training staff knows that head coaches can be pretty crazy," Bocock said. "We, as head coaches, want all our student-athletes healthy and ready to play. The student-athletes have to feel comfortable with [trainers], but I, as a head coach,

have to feel comfortable with them and trust them, since they are part of my staff."

Senior softball player Eve Clausen found comfort with the support she has received from the training staff, especially with Assistant Athletic Trainer Brandon Jacobs.

Clausen said she formed a special connection with Jacobs because he helped her deal with injuries.

"He's the first one to crack a joke and get people to laugh," Clausen said. "He knows exactly what to say to give us the information while also giving hope that we

can get back on the field."

"You get a different bond when you have to go through some of the more difficult injuries versus being sick," Clausen said. "You're able to open up with the trainer a little more. It's a different level of friendship and camaraderie."

### Getting a player back to health

Storsved, who works as the head trainer for the men's basketball team, saw multiple basketball players deal with serious injuries this past season. Sophomore Brian Dawkins missed the entire season from a knee injury, sophomore Luke Eddy was out mid-season due to a torn ACL and senior Ryan Winters ended his career because of back issues.

When injuries occur, a trainer's job is to get the rehabilitation process rolling.

"[The training staff] gives [players and coaches] the information about the injury, the procedure, the normal recovery time, the potential risks," Storsved said. "We want to give these young adults as big of a picture as we can."

The rehabilitation procedures go beyond getting a player back in shape.

They also make sure they are able to live a healthy life beyond college.

"Sometimes, when an injury occurs and I look at the doctor and say, 'Doc, make sure this student-athlete can pick up their kid when they are 32.' I'm not caring about the sport here," Storsved said. "I care about how they will live and function for the rest of their lives."

### Maintaining an active schedule

For most sports, practice schedules are limited by NCAA rules, but working out and getting treatment is unrestricted. For trainers, this provides a unique challenge.

"In the offseason, I am usually in the office before 8 a.m. and leave right around 5 p.m.," Storsved said. "But in the season, I'm usually here until an hour or so after practices, which can run as late as 9 p.m., and then however late the games go."

# Increasing tennis fan involvement

## *Conferences experimenting with new rule changes*

Jordan Spritzer  
Assistant Sports Editor

Sports fanatics support their favorite teams by cheering them on loudly.

Tennis is different. There's a sense of decorum. It's one of the few sports where officials frequently remind fans to be quiet during points.

But the Big 12 Conference is trying to change that. In an effort to fill seats, Big 12 schools are giving spectators an opportunity to be fanatical.

Michael Leonard, Elon University men's tennis head coach, said he wants fans to become more vocally involved during matches.

"We need tennis to be more exciting," Leonard said.

In mid-April, the Wall Street Journal reported the first installment of a new rule being implemented by conferences in-

cluding the Big 12, which encourages fans to heckle, scream and cheer during rallies even when players are serving.

"People think tennis is more of a gentleman's game and there's no real atmosphere," said redshirt freshman Neal Port. "But if this rule can help change how the sport is viewed, I think it'll be a positive thing."

Leonard said the extra energy from the crowd could create the positive environment the NCAA wants in college tennis.

According to Leonard, there must be rules and systems in place if fans get out of hand.

While many large conferences have umpires at all or most courts, mid-major schools often make due with only one or two umpires.

At small schools, the players themselves officiate their matches. Players have to call their own points and must signal to their

opponent if a ball has gone out.

Fans have the potential to distract players or make fake calls on a ball being in or out, which could create a great deal of confusion sorting out who said what and what the correct calls should be.

Even if the NCAA and the Big 12 create a fan-friendly environment for college tennis, Leonard said the length of matches will always be another deterrent.

Increased fan involvement is not the only new idea made by the NCAA to increase excitement for the sport.

Last year, some college tennis teams experimented briefly with a new scoring system in an effort to shorten matches and make them more pleasing to spectators.

Doubles matches were shortened to six-game pro sets. Singles matches had no advantage scoring — a player needed to only win one point if a game was level at deuce.

Leonard worries that shortening matches would alter the sport too much and thinks it shouldn't be the main method used to attract fans.

"The shortened format is probably not as important as the energy they're trying to create through the fans," he said.

These rule changes are intended to energize attitudes about the sport.

Shortened match time and increased fan involvement rules have yet to be implemented by the Colonial Athletic Association and have yet to directly impact Elon's tennis program.

Poor weather and a 10-13 record lowered Elon fan attendance at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center. But Port said the atmosphere and excitement around the program has been improving.

"Towards the end of the year, we started filling up all of the bleachers," he said. "It definitely made matches a lot more fun."

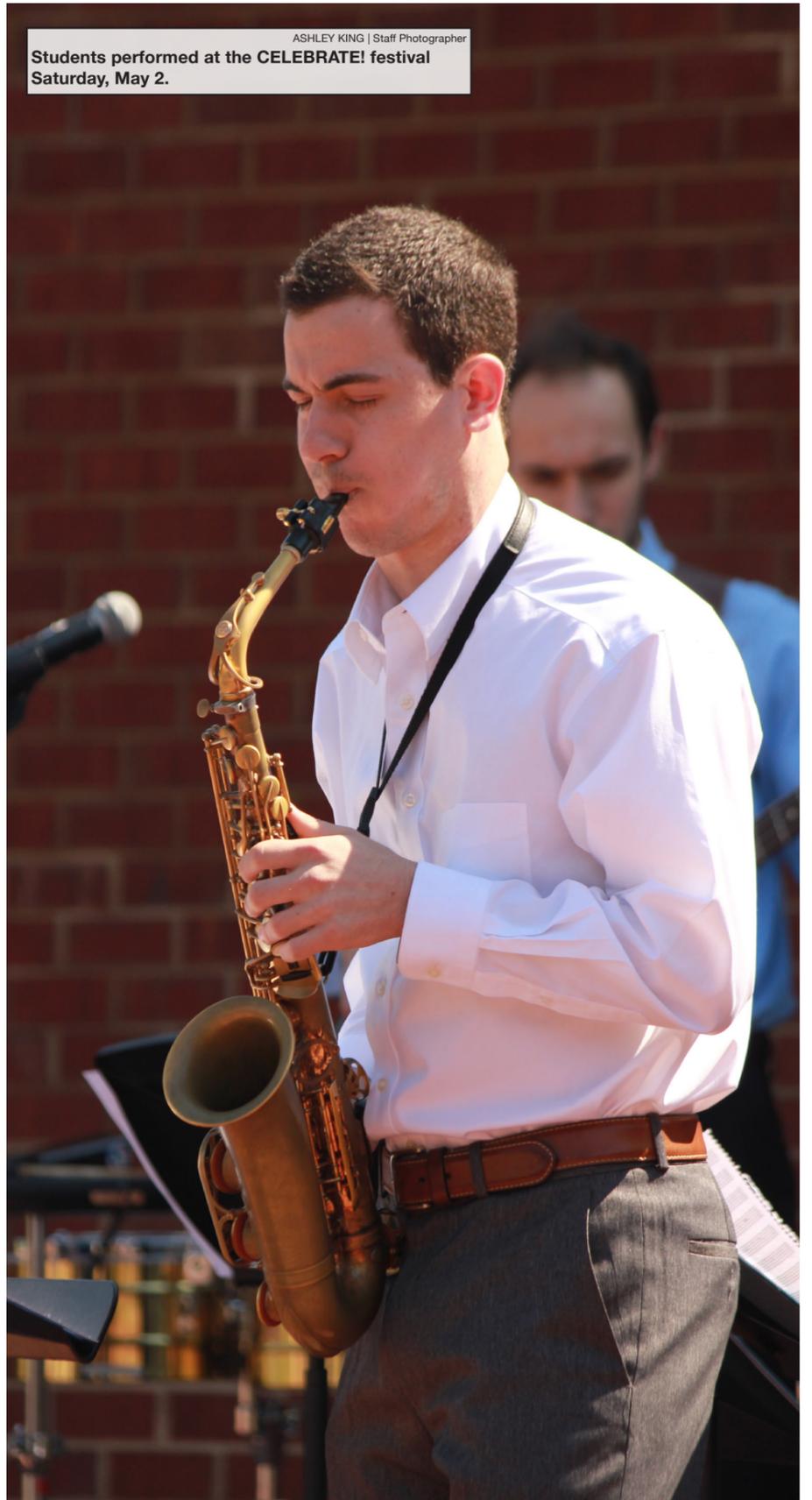
# Top Photos



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
 Music theater majors Maxel Garcia and Joshua Parrot perform a duet at The Oak House Tuesday for a senior showcase.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
 Dorian McCorey performs "Rock Steady" during a senior showcase Tuesday at The Oak House.

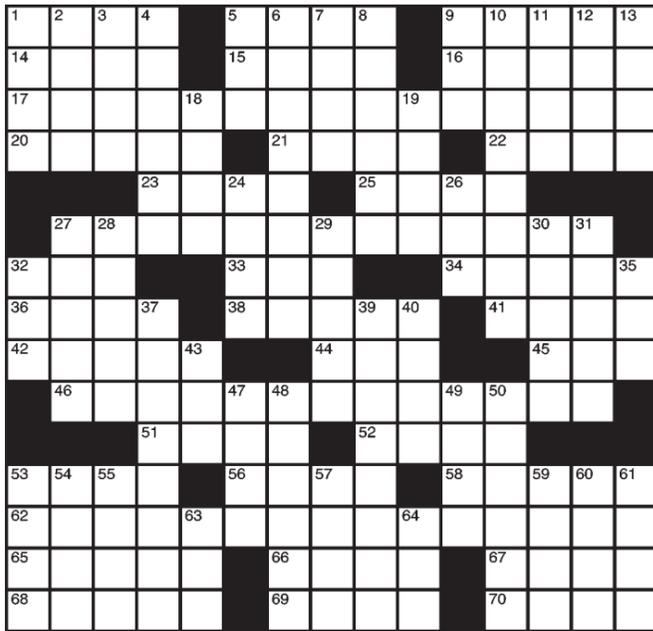


ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
 Students performed at the CELEBRATE! festival Saturday, May 2.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
 During Elon's 4-3 win over UNCW May 2, senior Aly Quintana tagged the runner in a close play at third.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Reject, as a sweetheart
  - 5 Bee Gees family name
  - 9 Beginning
  - 14 Emmy winner Falco
  - 15 Comédie musicale part
  - 16 Beautiful, in Bologna
  - 17 1957 Michael Landon horror film role
  - 20 \_\_\_ Arabia
  - 21 Nightclub in a Manilow song
  - 22 Tootsies
  - 23 Poet Khayyám
  - 25 Exxon's ex-name
  - 27 "You're going to like the way you look" clothing chain
  - 32 Isr. neighbor
  - 33 Listener?
  - 34 "I give up!"
  - 36 Sailor's confinement
  - 38 Struck down, in 39-Down
  - 41 "Finish the job!"
  - 42 Curved like a rainbow
  - 44 "So that's your game!"
  - 45 Function
  - 46 Place to copy keys
  - 51 Baseball stitching
  - 52 Animal on the California state flag
  - 53 Trig or calc
  - 56 Words claiming innocence
  - 58 Higher-ranking
  - 62 "Not in my backyard"
  - 65 Skylit courtyards
  - 66 "\_\_\_ fair in love and war"
  - 67 Extremely dry
  - 68 \_\_\_ to be: destined
  - 69 Jeans brand
  - 70 Women in habits
- DOWN**
- 1 New York footballers
  - 2 Notion



By Kevin Christian and Andrea Carla Michaels 5/4/15

- Saturday's Puzzle Solved**
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| J | U | N | E | A | U | A | L | A | S | K | A |   |   |
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| M | A | G | I |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| T | R | A | N | S | F | A | T | S | C | R | A | P | E |
| A | N | T | I | H | E | R | O | T | E | A | S | E | D |
| L | A | I | D | O | D | S |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
- ©2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 5/4/15
- 3 In \_\_\_ of: substituted for
  - 4 Muscle-to-bone connector
  - 5 Vaudeville bit
  - 6 Banana split ingredient
  - 7 Call in a bingo hall
  - 8 Paging device
  - 9 U.K. honor
  - 10 Recently discovered
  - 11 Wild plum
  - 12 Fashion magazine
  - 13 300-pound president
  - 18 Goals
  - 19 Calamine lotion target
  - 24 Fills with wonder
  - 26 Almost worthless amount
  - 27 Gift from the Magi
  - 28 "Fear of Flying" author Jong
  - 29 Like a loud crowd
  - 30 Clean with elbow grease
  - 31 Beethoven's "Für \_\_\_"
  - 32 Agcy. that aids start-ups
  - 35 French summer
  - 37 "Rhapsody in Blue" composer
  - 39 Holy Scripture
  - 40 Lighten up
  - 43 Ike's initials
  - 47 Wind down
  - 48 Lacking principles
  - 49 Pulled tight
  - 50 Many an adoptee
  - 53 Polite way to address a lady
  - 54 Pot starter
  - 55 "America's Next Top Model" host Banks
  - 57 Prefix with gram or graph
  - 59 Lima is its capital
  - 60 Ireland, poetically
  - 61 Chianti and Merlot
  - 63 Sombrero, e.g.
  - 64 Battleship letters

## Top Tweets



**Elon Gossip Squirrel**  
 @xoGossipSquirrel- May 4  
 Say NO to Starbucks and sign the petition here. Because we are basic enough as it is...



**Meghan Mahoney**  
 @meghanmahoney - May 4  
 I almost just stepped on a squirrel so that's how today is going thus far #monday



**Austin Hamilton**  
 @A\_Ham10 - May 3  
 Big Congrats to our women's track team for winning the CAA!



**Elon University**  
 @elonuniversity- May 4  
 As spring semester comes to a close remember, #MayThe4thBeWithYou



## INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE PENDULUM?

The Pendulum news organization is always looking for reporters, photographers and videographers. All years and majors welcome!

To get involved, contact our Editor-in-Chief Michael Bodley at mbodley@elon.edu or visit our office, located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center.

**OPEN MEETINGS WEDNESDAY 7 P.M.**