

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021  
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ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# THE PENDULUM

## BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

In this special edition, The Pendulum takes a look at women's history at Elon University and the campus community from 1889 to present day.



### I AM THAT GIRL • PAGE 2

I Am That Girl empowers women, creates friendships

### HISTORY OF WOMEN • PAGE 6

A look at Elon University's historic women

### WINTER MUSICAL • PAGE 8

The winter musical brings awareness to race and womanhood



# I AM THAT GIRL

## CREATES SPACE FOR CONVERSATIONS



Elon's chapter of I Am That Girl provides participants with friendships and a place for open dialogue

**Miranda Ferrante**  
Lifestyle Editor | @ferranemiranda

Sophomore Kathryn Broussard beamed with pride as she spoke about the connections she has made through Elon University's chapter of I Am That Girl. IATG is a national organization that focuses on providing a safe environment for young women and girls to create open and vulnerable dialogue. Not only has Broussard met some of her closest friends there, but she said she has the opportunity to continue conversations on women's issues and other topics she is passionate about.

"I grew up in a place that wasn't strongly advocating for these rights," Broussard said. "It is a big thing for me. And I want to continue these conversations with other people."

Broussard is co-president and the philanthropy chair of Elon's chapter. She said at IATG people can truly feel like themselves and accept others for who they are. Elon's chapter of IATG was founded in 2013 and meets each Monday.

The weekly meetings provide an opportunity for women to let down their guard and talk openly about the day's topic, which is chosen by leadership members. Topics can range from personal and relationship boundaries to gender stereotypes on campus.

Broussard said she hopes other members will find close friends through their experience, like she did when she met co-president Caroline French.

French, an Elon sophomore, also serves as the event chair for Elon's chapter of IATG. She said the organization is a space for conversation.

French said dialogue is centered around topics that are prevalent in members' lives, and though the organization is generally marketed toward women, it strives to be inclusive.

Once a semester, IATG hosts an event called "Bring That Guy," where members can bring a man in their life to weigh in and share experiences, according to Broussard. She said it's important to create a welcoming environment and hopes the organization will continue to grow.

French believes IATG is a space free of judgment. She said members who come to the meetings will be made comfortable, and she ensured that both their feelings and opinions will be appreciated and valid. Each meeting, French said members participate in two activities titled "Badass" and "You Are That Girl" to boost self confidence and show appreciation for one another.



I Am That Girl meets virtually on Monday Feb. 22.

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WHEN I WAS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT, I AM THAT GIRL MADE ME FEEL SO WELCOME AT ELON AND HELPED ME TO TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE. I AM THAT GIRL HAS MADE ME FEEL SUPPORTED AND EMPOWERED.

**NIKKI CRONIN**  
JUNIOR AND FORMER IATG PRESIDENT

"I hope that they feel safe to share," French said. "I hope they feel safe to confide in us if they needed to, and if they needed to say something, we have a space that they are able to say it in."

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, Broussard doesn't want meetings to add to stress members already carry — all are encouraged to attend when they can. The flexible structure is something Broussard said she appreciates about the organization, as it allows her to continue forming bonds with other members.

"What I want for other people to get out of it is kind of similar to what I got out of it," Broussard said. "I want these girls to meet new friends, and I get that it's really hard during COVID times because we are having all online meetings."

Broussard said in a time where in-person interactions are sparse, she tries to connect with the girls outside of meetings.

"I think for first-years, having clubs is the best way to meet new people, even if it's online," Broussard said. "We have a couple girls who were still home and have yet to come to campus, and I think it's really important that we establish those connections with them to make them feel part of Elon."

Elon junior and former IATG president Nikki Cronin wrote in an email to Elon News Network that IATG has been pivotal to her college experience, especially when she joined as a freshman.

"Being a part of I Am That Girl has meant so much to me," Cronin wrote.



"When I was a first-year student, I Am That Girl made me feel so welcome at Elon and helped me to transition from high school to college. I Am That Girl has made me feel supported and empowered."

Despite virtual meetings, Cronin said she believes the current leadership is still working hard to continue conversations about topics that impact young women.

"I love seeing all the members of the current leadership council doing such an amazing job, even with moving to virtual meetings," Cronin wrote. "I am so proud and happy to have been part of an organization that helps to build up women and open up conversations about the topics that impact young women."

COURTESY OF CAROLINE FRENCH



# WOMEN'S GENDER AND SEXUALITIES STUDIES MINOR CHAMPIONS INTERSECTIONAL FEMINISM



Elon professors Martha Smith (left) and Seena Granowsky (right) developed and introduced the minor, initially called Women's Studies, in 1988.

ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The interdisciplinary minor has seen several iterations but remains a supportive network for students

**Madalyn Howard**  
Elon News Network | @madalynhoward\_

When sophomore computer science major Milli Kears first arrived at Elon University, she worried the odds were stacked against her. She had an aptitude for math and science and a passion for social justice that rooted her determination to study STEM and enact change in the field. But Kears said she feared she may be overlooked in Elon's STEM departments simply because she is a woman.

"Coming to Elon and choosing a major that is very male dominated, at first, I was very frantic," Kears said. "Like, 'How am I even gonna do this? Can I even do this?'"

Kears, a York, Pennsylvania native, said her secondary education never covered concepts like feminism and gender equality. So when the time came to select her freshman year electives, a course titled WGS 110, Sex and Gender, piqued her curiosity.

WGS 110 is the first of two required courses for students pursuing a minor in Women's, Gender and Sexualities Studies — a 20-credit hour program "dedicated to critical inquiry about women, gender, sexualities and feminism," according to the course webpage.

"I was like, 'I think this would be really interesting to me,'" Kears said. "I come from a school environment where we didn't really have classes like that. I didn't have connections where I could find people that shared my values or learn how to put into words what my values were."

Kears saw that supportive environment in her WGS 110 course, and after, she contemplated pursuing a WGSS minor. While she was considering, Kears said she heard anecdotes doubting the productivity of the minor.

"I got a lot of comments from friends being like, 'What would you do with that?' Or like, 'How, would you make money?'" she said.

The minor, initially called Women's Studies, was developed and introduced at Elon in 1988 by professors Martha Smith and Seena Granowsky, who were inspired to found the program after attending a conference at Duke University on Women's Studies programs, according to Elon University archives. Since 1988, the minor has served as an interdisciplinary analysis of women's issues.

Smith, an English professor who began at Elon in 1963, served as the first program

coordinator for the Women's Studies minor from 1988 until her retirement in 1994. According to Elon archives, when Smith was asked her reasoning for developing the program, she said, "We did it because we wanted to do it, and because the students responded to it."

Smith passed away in 2016, but her legacy is upheld through the Martha Smith Award for Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies, an honor given to a graduating senior recognizing outstanding achievements in the minor.

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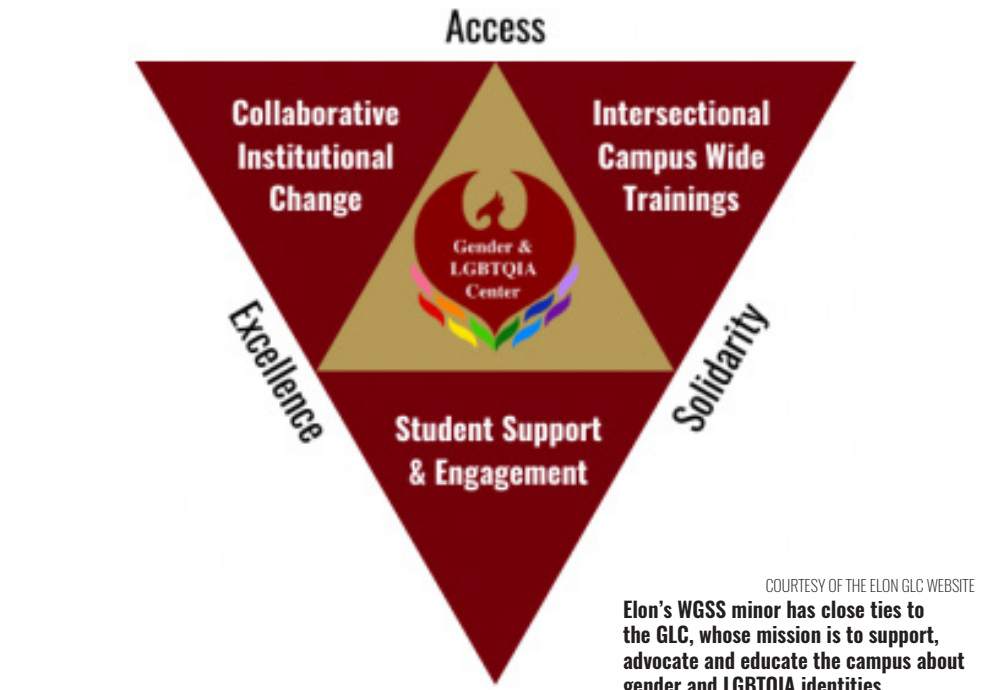
I COME FROM A SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT WHERE WE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE CLASSES LIKE THAT. I DIDN'T HAVE CONNECTIONS WHERE I COULD FIND PEOPLE THAT SHARED MY VALUES OR LEARN HOW TO PUT INTO WORDS WHAT MY VALUES WERE.

**MILLI KEARSE**  
SOPHOMORE

The minor's third coordinator was Elon history professor Mary Jo Festle. Festle came to Elon in 1993 and said she was attracted to the novel program because of its supportive faculty and teachings that aligned with her own personal values.

"There was a lot of excitement both in the world and on campus about taking seriously the study of women and gender," Festle wrote in an email to Elon News Network. "In the mid-1990s, the field wasn't very old, and there were so many questions and issues that hadn't been researched."

The next significant change to the minor came in 2015 when, after a yearlong review by the program's advisory council, the Women's and Gender studies minor became the Women's, Gender and Sexualities Studies minor that Elon students know today. In



COURTESY OF THE ELON GLC WEBSITE

Elon's WGSS minor has close ties to the GLC, whose mission is to support, advocate and educate the campus about gender and LGBTQIA identities.

revising the program, the council established six areas of emphasis: critical inquiry, interdisciplinarity, identity, intersectionality, societal structures and action.

With the updating of the minor, the program strengthened its ties to Elon's Gender and LGBTQIA Center, the GLC, and the Center for Equity and Inclusive Excellence. According to Festle, individuals involved in WGSS have played key roles in the implementation of policies regarding sexual harassment and assault, bias reporting, maternity and paternity leave and universal restrooms, among others.

In 2019, Festle spoke at the annual Women's, Gender and Sexualities Studies banquet about the program's contributions to the university. Festle shared a copy of her speech with Elon News Network.

"While many things have changed in 30 years — like names of the program and the courses offered — what hasn't changed is that students want courses and instructors that make them think about important questions, encourage them to look at the world in new ways and help them to consider how to create meaningful lives and influence their communities," Festle said at the banquet.

In her speech, Festle credited the program as an early example of interdisciplinary collaboration at Elon and emphasized the value of approaching complex societal issues, including feminist causes, from different intellectual angles.

Despite its interdisciplinarity, Festle said the program fosters a community of like-minded individuals. In her speech, she

acknowledged that while it is beneficial interact with people who share different beliefs, it is equally as important to cultivate a space where Elon faculty, staff and students who identify with broad feminist ideology can support each other. Mutual support, according to Festle, is key in order to be a "positive force" in addressing political, social and economic inequity.

According to Festle, she has observed doubts about the minor lessen over the years, adding that companies are increasingly appreciative of students who study humanities like WGSS.

"They put more value on understanding cultural differences and the ability to work with people who are different from ourselves and the ways diverse identities and ideas can enrich decision-making," Festle wrote.

Kears said she believes those who disapprove of WGSS fail to consider the value of taking classes for personal growth.

"I think people are scared of change," Kears said, "and scared of people that know how to put real life experience into perspective."

Kears was a recipient of the WGS 110 Engaged Student Award, and she now credits the class for her ability to advocate for women in STEM and have conversations about intersectional feminism — something she was always passionate about but struggled to communicate before coming to Elon.

"It's kind of mind blowing to hear myself now," Kears said. "I still use many of the definitions that we had to come up with — or the ideas that we had to come up with — and put them into conversation all the time."



# Elon University’s GLC celebrates Women’s History Month

Elon’s Gender and LGBTQIA Center celebrates Women’s History Month

**Cailey Rogers**  
Elon News Network | @caileyrogers1

The Gender and LGBTQIA Center at Elon University wants to create a space where students have a chance to find their identities and engage with a diverse community. This month, their focus is on the intersectionality of female identifying students.

The GLC hosted an event on Monday, March 8 in celebration of International Women’s Day and Women’s History Month where they handed out donuts at the GLC from 2-4 p.m. They also encouraged students to watch the 2011 documentary “Miss Representation.”

“I think the biggest thing for us is inclusivity,” said Ailene Woznicki, a student worker within the GLC who helped organize the event, said. “We’ve been working really hard to try to incorporate every different perspective and voice we can because we know how important that is.”

In previous years, the organization has held a variety of events to support and commemorate female identifying students. The GLC adjusted their events to be COVID-19 safe this year and have focused on managing a social media campaign and hosting virtual events to open a conversation on female identity.

The conversation in recent years has been focused on more than just female identity, but also how it can intersect with other forms of identities, Director of the GLC Luis Garay said.

“For me, professionally, I have an opportunity to work with folks, with students, to think about womanhood [and] feminism

from an intersectional standpoint, you know across race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, status,” Garay said. “So I think that’s really exciting.”

The GLC has worked to maintain a balance between supporting the LGBTQIA community, while also speaking on topics surrounding gender identity, Garay said. The organization has collaborated with other

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I THINK IT’S REALLY IMPORTANT TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY BECAUSE IT’S A MOMENT FOR US TO LOOK BACK AT THE PROGRESS THAT WE’VE MADE AS A SOCIETY, AND REALLY CONSIDER HOW MUCH FARTHER WE HAVE LEFT TO GO TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE IS TREATED EQUITABLY AND FAIRLY IN OUR SOCIETY

**KAI BILOTTA**  
FRESHMAN



GRAYSEN SHIRLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman Kai Bilotta serves a cinnamon roll in Elon's GLC.

groups on campus, such as the CREDE, the Center for Leadership and Gender and Sexuality Studies to elevate discussion on gender and feminist topics.

Woznicki is part of the Gender Based Violence Prevention team, which she said is the basis for gender related issues for the GLC. This team works with Title IX to hold trainings and round table discussions in an attempt to both provide support to those who need it and educate others on important issues.

“It’s one thing to educate yourself, but it’s another to familiarize yourself, and I think that’s super important with this kind of work,” Woznicki said. “It’s not one conversation. You don’t take one training and then you’re the world’s most perfect ally. It’s a continuous education and conversation process.”

Freshman Kai Bilotta sees International Women’s Day as a way to look back on the

significance of learning about women’s suffrage throughout history.

“I think it’s really important to celebrate International Women’s Day because it’s a moment for us to look back at the progress that we’ve made as a society, and really consider how much farther we have left to go to make sure that everyone is treated equitably and fairly in our society,” Bilotta said.

Another member of the GLC, Mac Lengyel, said celebrating Women’s History Month can also be a call to action.

“It’s just so easy to see the disparities and how women are treated, especially women of color, and intersectionality plays a huge part in this as well,” Lengyel said. “You’re able to see the way that women are treated. They’re not treated as humans often, and it’s really important to pinpoint the causes of that and work on being a better activist.”

## Her Campus Elon chapter relaunches with new leadership

The online magazine’s chapter at Elon University is entirely female run

**Sophie Rosenthal**  
Elon News Network | @sophrosenthal

In May 2019, the Elon University chapter of the online magazine Her Campus stopped posting, anticipating its leadership studying abroad the next fall. In March 2020, the unanticipated coronavirus pandemic lengthened the hiatus into what appeared to be a permanent shutdown. Now, after going down almost two years ago, Her Campus has relaunched at Elon.

Her Campus is an entirely female-run magazine that focuses on lifestyle and culture content for women in college. The magazine was founded in 2009 and has chapters on over 400 college campuses both in the United States and internationally.

Chapter President Sarah Broadhurst and Editor-in-Chief Chloe Adams were both contributing writers for Her Campus as freshmen and knew they wanted to bring the magazine back to Elon. Having known the previous leadership, they decided to reach out to them and to Her Campus National.

“It was a really good outlet, a lot of people were interested in it,” Broadhurst said. “So we just thought that, although we have so much going on with [the] pandemic still, it would be a good time just to relaunch it.”

Anyone at Elon can contribute to the magazine. Adams said she wants students to get involved and take advantage of the creative outlet it gives.

“One of my main goals with the relaunch was just to provide students of our community different opportunities and allow them to grow within the field by working for such a nationally accredited company,” Adams said.

Since Elon University’s student demographic skews female, the leadership team wants to uplift female empowerment on campus. Senior Editor Julia Forman said she believes Her Campus can help bring women together during the pandemic.

“Having a magazine that allows women

to speak up and connect students together is really helpful and just helps the community feel connected again,” Forman said.

The magazine is not just meant for women, however. According to Adams, Her Campus is a resource for all college students.

“Initially, when Her Campus was founded, it was only with goals of empowering women,” Adams said. “But since then, the company really focuses on inclusivity and empowering college students of all genders.”

The chapter relaunch has also relied on social media to get the word out. Social media director Emily Rogers said this job has not only helped her gain experience in public relations, but also helped her craft her leadership skills.

“You would think that running an Instagram account would be a one-person job,” Rogers said. “But I found a lot of ways to incorporate other peoples’ ideas and opinions just by creating a mini graphic team or mini campaigns team and a mini content team.”

Broadhurst said Her Campus has been great for building her leadership skills as well. She said as president of the chapter, she gets to work with all of the students involved.

“It’s really nice that I’m able to lead a great group of girls,” Broadhurst said. “I’ve learned so much from them and ... everyone is so different and has so many different talents.”

Broadhurst, Adams, Forman and Rogers all said that Her Campus is a great outlet because it allows students a lot of creative freedom. Whether that be with writing, photography or social media, contributors can make what they want out of their experience.

“I wanted something that would get women being able to really, really express themselves,” Forman said. “I like Her Campus because every week as a senior editor, I’m reading all these amazing articles by the women who are contributors.”

To get involved with Her Campus at Elon, email [hc.elon@hercampus.com](mailto:hc.elon@hercampus.com) or direct message them on their social media: @hercampuselon on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.



SOPHIA VALENTINO | HER CAMPUS ELON

Sarah Broadhurst, Emily Rogers and Chloe Adams for the Her Campus Elon relaunch photo campaign.



# Women Influencers in Sport aims to inspire, empower and connect

Women Influencers in Sport teaches its members valuable life skills that extend past their future workplace

**Caleigh Lawlor**  
Elon News Network | @caleighlawlor

Women Influencers in Sport, or WINS, is teaching Elon's young women confidence and career skills necessary to become successful in the sports industry. Their primary focus is educating young women about what it is like to go into the male-dominated sports industry while empowering them to use their voice to its fullest potential.

Elon sophomore Olivia Lovell, assistant director for WINS, joined in her freshman year after being in organization advisor Shaina Dabbs' introductory Sport Management course. Lovell began attending meetings and got more involved as the year progressed, gaining a mentor and attending everything virtually when the spring semester got pushed online.

"Working in sports can be really hard for females because sports is such a male-dominated industry," Lovell said. "And at times it's really hard to even find females that work in the jobs that you want to work in."



WINS members meet their mentors for the first time at a mentor-mentee mixer before COVID-19 shutdowns.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAINA DABBS

Lovell said her self-confidence and her ability to become a professional in the sports industry has significantly increased since joining WINS.

"WINS has taught me that I can do anything that I set my mind to," Lovell said, "and that just because I'm a female, it doesn't put me at any disadvantage in the industry."

Although COVID-19 has changed the way WINS runs, members are still able to get involved with meetings, attend lectures with guest speakers

and participate in the mentor program. The mentorship program allows for members to be partnered up with an Elon alum in the sports industry. From there, mentors offer advice, teach networking skills and make genuine connections with their mentee.

Lovell said this program has provided her with many opportunities.

"Just the other day, one of my mentors reached out to me and she was like, 'Hey, I have this

connection that I really think you should reach out to and talk to,'" Lovell said.

Lovell scheduled the phone call with the woman her mentor connected her to who then offered different tips and tricks for Lovell's intended sports industry sector. This is exactly what the WINS organization is all about.

Women must be majoring or minoring in sports management in order to join WINS. Students interested in joining WINS can contact advisor Shaina Dabbs.

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WORKING IN SPORTS CAN BE REALLY HARD FOR FEMALES BECAUSE SPORTS IS SUCH A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY. AND AT TIMES IT'S REALLY HARD TO EVEN FIND FEMALES THAT WORK IN, LIKE, THE JOBS THAT YOU WANT TO WORK IN.

**OLIVIA LOVELL**  
SOPHOMORE

ELON NEWS NETWORK  
INTRODUCES

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





# WOMEN IN THE ELON HISTORY BOOKS

A history of Elon University's female leaders

Ava Girardi | Elon News Network

## FIRST DEAN OF WOMEN 1910-1916



Bessie Urquhart

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Bessie Urquhart held the position of Dean of Women, where she oversaw all the women on campus and accommodations for them. Her role was to make sure that women were following the rules within their dormitories and enforce the rules and regulations that were set up for women on campus during this time. Along with being the Dean of Women, Urquhart was also a professor of Domestic Science and Physical Culture. Prior to her career at Elon, she graduated from Toronto Conservatory and Toronto University.

1892

## FIRST FEMALE GRADUATE CLASS OF 1892

Irene Johnson Cook was the first female graduate at Elon University and was the student editor for *Elon College Monthly* — the first student publication at the university. In 1895-1896, she became the first woman to hold the position of officer of faculty and was one of the founders for the Alumni Association. One of her articles, "Is Co-education a success," discusses her support for co-education at that time. After graduation, she became the first female faculty member in the French, Mathematics and History departments at Elon from 1892-1900.



Irene Johnson Cook

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

1910

1963

## FIRST BLACK FEMALE STUDENT CLASS OF 1967

Glenda Phillips Hightower was the first full time Black student at Elon University and received a full scholarship. Hightower was raised in Burlington, North Carolina where she attended the all-Black school, Jordan Sellars High School and decided to strive for higher education after high school. Due to Hightower's health and financial concerns, she believed Elon was the best choice for her. Even though she had the opportunity to join the Elon community, she was not permitted to live on campus with other students. During her time at Elon, she became the first Black member of Elon's marching band as a clarinetist. Hightower would perform at Elon's home and away games for the university's football team. During Hightower's sophomore year, health concerns prevented her from continuing her time at Elon. She then moved to Washington D.C. where she studied at Howard University and Georgetown and George Washington University.



Glenda Phillips Hightower

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

1971

## FIRST FEMALE HEAD COACH 1971-1975



Sandra Kay Yow

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Sandra Kay Yow was the first female head coach for the women's basketball team where she left a variety of achievements including 57 wins, 19 losses, and two state championships during the four seasons she coached. She coached NC State, Florida State University, and also coached the U.S. Olympic team in 1988 where they won a gold medal and won the four Atlantic Coast Conference tournament championships. Yow was also able to gain 20 NCAA tournament bids, as well as reaching the Final Four in 1986. Along with basketball, she also coached the women's volleyball team and women's tennis team. She left an impression on volleyball by finishing second in the state and earning a record of 71 wins and 25 losses.

1993

## FIRST BLACK FEMALE EDITOR IN CHIEF CLASS OF 1994

Tonya Taylor was the first Black woman to hold the position as Editor-in-Chief for *The Pendulum* in 1993. Taylor was a student in the department of journalism and communications at Elon College where she earned her B.A. in communications and journalism. After graduating from Elon in 1994, Taylor went on to earn her M.A. in communications from New York University. During her career, she worked as an Executive Campaign Director for the UNC Chapel Hill Medical Foundation Horizons Program as well as the Interim Director of Corporations and Foundations for the School of Public Health. As director, she led public relations and development operations. Taylor also worked for non-profit organizations including Wilson Commencement Park and the Harley School, where she helped with marketing and public relations.



Tonya Taylor

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

2018

## FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF ELON 2018-PRESENT



Connie Ledoux Book

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

On March 1, 2018, Connie Ledoux Book became the first female president for Elon University. Before becoming president, Book was an assistant professor within the School of Communications in 1999. She taught multiple courses including new media, broadcast policy, news writing and research and production. She then became department chair in 2004 to 2006. Prior to her career at Elon, Book was the first female provost and the dean at The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina. She also was a television producer and reporter in Louisiana, as well as a professor at Georgia College

and State University, North Carolina State University and Meredith College. Some of her achievements prior to and during her career at Elon include publishing her book "Digital Television: DTV and the Consumer," receiving five first-place awards from the National Association of Broadcasters educational group, and her Outstanding Service and Leadership Award from the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters in 2009. Book has also contributed to Elon's educational programs by developing the Student Professional Development Center and the Study USA Program.





# ELON UNIVERSITY NAMES TIFFANY MORRIS AS **CHAIR** OF NEW NURSING DEPARTMENT

The department of nursing opens this fall with around 100 students enrolled in the program

**Naomi Washington**  
Elon News Network

Tiffany Morris was named Elon University’s inaugural chair of the department of nursing in the School of Health Sciences.

Morris — who has a doctorate in nursing practice in executive leadership — began the role as the department chair on March 1.

“I am very excited,” Morris said. “I don’t think people realize the enormous honor it is to be chosen as an inaugural chair, specifically for a community like Elon.”

The establishment of the department of nursing is a part of the Boldly Elon 2030 Strategic Plan. The paperwork for approval by the North Carolina Board of Nursing and a search for faculty began immediately after Elon published the plan, according to Dean of the School of Health Sciences Becky Neiduski.

“We were really fortunate to be able to hire Dr. Morris,” Neiduski said. “We couldn’t have picked a better inaugural nursing department chair who not only will uphold the values of Elon of experiential engaged learning but also is going to be able — with 30 years of experience at multiple universities — [to] help us build an amazing nursing department.”

Approximately 100 students will be in the first class, according to Morris, with 50 students in the bachelor of nursing program and an additional 50 students in the accelerated program. Students in the department of nursing can pursue a bachelor of science in nursing degree through a four-year track or an accelerated 16-month program.

The School of Health Sciences provides “interprofessional education” for students to learn collaboratively in preparation for the health care industry, according to Neiduski. The department of nursing constructed a simulation suite center with rooms that imitate clinical learning experiences.

Lenna Murfin is an incoming freshman who will be a part of the nursing program’s inaugural class. She planned to come to Elon as a public health major until she found out about the opportunity to major in nursing.

“I realized that public health wasn’t as hands-on as I would want it to be,” Murfin said.

The chance to experience technological learning in the simulation labs attracted her to choose Elon.

According to a 2020 study by the North Carolina Health News, the state is slow to shrink inequalities in health care. Morris and Neiduski intend to address the health disparities for people of color and marginalized communities by being “intentional” in their course curriculum.

“We are building the nurses of the future,” Neiduski said. “The Elon nurse leader will be the nurse of the future.”

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WE COULDN’T HAVE PICKED A BETTER INAUGURAL NURSING DEPARTMENT CHAIR WHO NOT ONLY WILL UPHOLD THE VALUES OF ELON OF EXPERIENTIAL ENGAGED LEARNING BUT ALSO IS GOING TO BE ABLE — WITH 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AT MULTIPLE UNIVERSITIES — [TO] HELP US BUILD AN AMAZING NURSING DEPARTMENT.

**BECKY NEIDUSKI**  
DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF  
HEALTH SCIENCES





COURTESY OF ELON IMEDIA

Christine Wanda performs as the lead role in “The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin,” this year’s winter musical. The vocals for the performance were prerecorded and performers wore clear masks on stage to lip-sync.

The semi-autobiographical performance prompts racial awareness in and outside of the arts

Jess Baker & Ellis Chandler  
Elon News Network

“The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin” taught cast members the joy that can be found in tough moments and taught the community the joy that can be made in new experiences.

Originally produced in 2000, the musical is a semi-autobiographical musical about Viveca Stanton, a Black girl growing up in 1960s California. The show follows her through three decades as she grows up and tries to make it on Broadway, all while combating prejudice and industry stereotyping.

Elon senior Lake Sims-Winfrey said she’s excited the arts selection committee chose to tell this coming-of-age story about a Black girl. As a Black woman at Elon, Sims-Winfrey said she often feels like an outsider trying to find ways to fit in.

“This story talks about an experience that a lot of Black women go through, and it’s a way to tell history about not just women in general, but specifically Black women,” Sims-Winfrey said. “I feel like a lot of the times a lot of feminists or women’s movements tend to leave out Black people, and it tends to be catered to more white women.”

Sims-Winfrey served as associate dramaturg, meaning that her job was to discover as much about the show as possible. A website developed by Sims-Winfrey and professional dramaturg cfrancis blackchild allowed viewers to explore the key cultural icons associated with the show. As dramaturgs, their role was to add the historical context important to understanding the show, said Sims-Winfrey, who created the website to immerse the audience in the era.

Elon senior Christine Wanda played the lead role of Viveca and said she’s never felt a resemblance to a character like this before.

“With this show, I so clearly saw my heart and soul in it just completely,” Wanda said. “I felt like I was reading a biography of myself from early childhood up until where I am today, even, and I felt like I was seeing distant memories of myself in first grade with like, the white students around me.”

Wanda said she led conversations after

each rehearsal as a therapeutic practice to help actors who may be bothered by playing an intense role. The technique she applied is called “de-roling” and is used in theatrical intimacy to help actors separate themselves from the role they play on stage. Examples of de-roling techniques include shaking the limbs and body to remove the character from oneself, or handing back a prop or costume piece at the end.

“There are so many truthfully traumatic things that happened within the show, that no one wants to go back home and then be thinking about or have that live inside of them,” Wanda said.

Director Julio Matos said he knew he wanted a show that was written by an author of color that provided opportunities to the Black, African-American and Afro-Caribbean student communities at Elon.

“

I FELT LIKE I WAS READING A BIOGRAPHY OF MYSELF FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD UP UNTIL WHERE I AM TODAY, EVEN, AND I FELT LIKE I WAS SEEING DISTANT MEMORIES OF MYSELF IN FIRST GRADE WITH LIKE, THE WHITE STUDENTS AROUND ME.”

CHRISTINE WANDA  
LEAD ROLE OF VIVECA

“I’m looking to tell the story, they’re helping make sure that the story that I’m seeing is the story that we want to be told and is told through a female character’s perspective,” Matos said.

Freshman Amaya Sheffield attended a watch party for “Bubbly,” and found herself resonating with the women in the show.

“Knowing that it’s Women’s History Month, I think I’m more aware of how all the women in the show had their time to

shine,” Sheffield said. “Being able to show their talent, especially women of color ... in the Elon show is just really nice.”

Elon alum and music director Dan Gibson ‘09 knows the playwright, Kirsten Childs, from his graduate studies at New York University. He said the music in the show has gospel, funk and classic Broadway influences.

“The ability for a composer to write about their life and to allow themselves the complexities and allow themselves to dig in musically to what it’s really like to go through these experiences, I think, is really quite a feat that she accomplished,” Gibson said. “And I think that’s why it resonates with so many people.”

Stage manager Allyson Vogel said she hopes audiences will get a more political message from the piece and believes it is more important than ever.

“I want it to serve as a reminder for those who see the show that those issues are still real, and you can’t just let them go,” Vogel said. “Just because, yes, the world has changed in some ways, you still have to keep fighting for those issues because those are still happening in this world.”

Above all, the cast and crew want one message to be received: joy. After a difficult year, Matos hopes this piece will bring a moment of “light” into the world and remind audiences to keep creating art.

“I just want us to bring some joy to the world for a little bit,” Matos said. “It is just a fun, happy piece, and I want us to keep putting out that energy especially during this time.”

**Bringing discussions on intersectionality to students**

This year’s show fulfills a graduation requirement for participating students, which has never been done before.

Community Outreach Coordinator and Elon sophomore Giselle Watts said she loved the idea of turning this year’s winter musical into a service experiential learning credit when it was first introduced to her by Matos.

Students need two experiential learning requirements to graduate and service learning is one of five ELR options. Tammy Cobb, the associate director for community partnerships at the Kernodle Center for Civic Life met with Watts to figure out what ELR work would look like, who the performing arts department would be partnering with and when the community outreach program would take place.

The end result was cast members

teaching elementary and middle school students at the Boys and Girls Club and CityGate Dream Center in Burlington about racism inside and outside of the arts.

Watts said she and the other volunteers tried to keep the material on the lighter side because this year has been challenging and most of the kids present were students of color.

“Even though ‘Bubbly’ is called ‘Bubbly,’ it talks about some really deep and dark topics,” Watts said. “But it introduces it in such a really great way.”

Watts and the cast also performed numbers from the show and taught choreography to the students. She said her goal was to get kids moving because they spend all day doing school virtually.

“We probably only taught them like four steps of the dance because they were so excited and just kind of wanted to just play with us and get to know us,” Watts said.

The older kids were able to pay more attention, but were hesitant to dance in front of others. But Watts said the message they were trying to instill in the kids is embracing one’s true self.

“It was really cool to be able to encourage them and to show them like, hey, it’s totally OK to mess up,” Watts said. “We’re just learning these steps and we’re just teaching you to have fun.”

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021  
VOLUME 50, EDITION 21  
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# THE PENDULUM

## HISTORIC RUN FALLS SHORT

The season is over for Elon men's basketball after losing 56-63 to Drexel University, advancing the Dragons to the NCAA March Madness Tournament

See **BASKETBALL** | pg. 4



Elon senior Simon Wright bows his head after the Phoenix falls to the Drexel Dragons in the CAA Basketball Championship.

CLARE GRANT | PHOTO EDITOR

## Some North Carolina residents face food insecurity

Food banks and pantries are still experiencing many impacts COVID-19 has placed upon the food resource system

**Cate McCahill**  
Elon News Network

March 2021 marks the one year anniversary of the pandemic, yet as it continues with food insecurity rates on the rise, many food banks and pantries are weary of the strain the past year has put on food resources and volunteers and staff. Food insecurity — the lack of access, at times, to sufficient amounts of food for a healthy life for all household members — has been an issue in North Carolina prior to the pandemic.

“As we get into this year, toward the end of the year and beyond, are we still gonna have the support that we’re going to need?” said Mike Darrow, executive director of Feeding the Carolinas. “We’re still gonna be feeding, literally feeding the Carolinas.”

North Carolina’s food insecurity rate was 14% of the population in 2018, according to Feeding America. Alamance County’s 2018 food insecurity rate was also at 14%; however, the county’s child food insecurity rate tops that at 19.7%. These figures compare to the overall national food insecurity rate of 11.5%, according to Feeding America.

More recent, pandemic-era data on food security has yet to be officially calculated, but projections and Feeding the Carolinas, a regional partner of Feeding America, estimate that food insecurity has definitely increased in North and South Carolina since the pandemic began.

See **FOOD PANTRY** | pg. 4



Roger Barefoot, the pastor of Trinity Worship, stands inside the food pantry space that contains many of the canned goods that are donated.

ABBY GIBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



**NEWS • PAGE 3**  
SGA announces new  
spring candidates



**LIFESTYLE • PAGE 6**  
Hair salon to open in  
downtown Elon



**SPORTS • PAGE 8**  
Volleyball continues  
its season



# THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF  
**ELON NEWS  
NETWORK**

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

**CORRECTIONS POLICY:**

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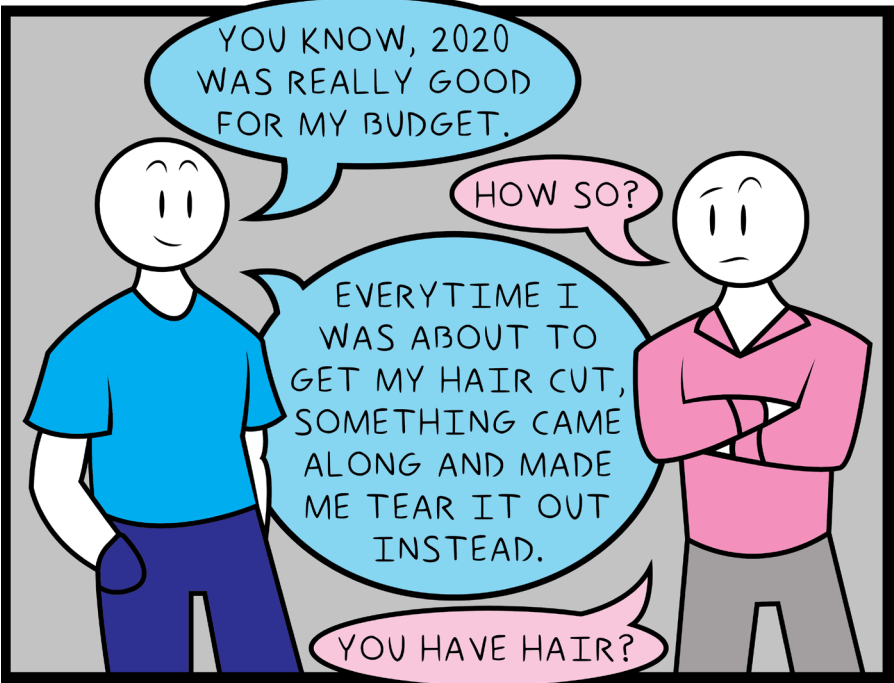
## CORRECTIONS

In the last issue of The Pendulum, it was stated that the Elon University Global Education Center is waiving withdrawal fees for students paticipating in Maymester study abroad. They are instead extending the withdrawal deadline. Elon News Network regrets this error.

In the last issue of The Pendulum, Jon Dooley had his name spelled wrong. Elon News Network regrets this error.

## COMIC

### HAIR CARE



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## CROSSWORD

### The Month of March

By Thomas Denome | @tddenome

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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62				63							64			
65				66							67			

**Across**

1. Sickneses
5. One who suspends an action, at law
11. The 1st of it is a joke
14. Like some church matters
15. Debut album of singer Anderson .Paak
16. Insult when paired with conservative or liberal
17. Flipped out
19. Fit (for)
20. Merit
21. Antiquated
22. Retreat
23. With 30- and 44-across, March
26. One preparing to grocery shop, say
28. Iron Man and Hulk, for two
30. See 23-across
31. Meshlike
32. Survive
34. Radio operators

35. Branch headquarters?
36. Raced again
38. Public radio drive gift
40. sin:virtue::sin:\_\_\_
41. Dip out
42. Consumer
43. Milhouse's best friend
44. See 23-across
45. Binge
46. Jagged
48. It might be major
49. Office stations

50. Do goo
51. Breakfast time
53. Cry loudly
54. NASA concern
55. Just regular folks
62. Face
63. Release, as oxen
64. Nabisco cookie
65. Crafty
66. Kind of license
67. Buddhistriddle

**Down**

1. U.N. workers' grp.
2. John
3. It might be white
4. PC brightness checks
5. Indisposed
6. Noggin
7. Mandela's org.
8. Mambo king Puente
9. Bug eye
10. Atlanta Hawks forward Cam
11. Connections between blood vessels
12. Chinese-American dish
13. \_\_\_ Club
18. Slender and long-limbed
23. Covet
24. Hesitant
25. Weatherman stuff
27. Collection of laws
29. Nikerival
30. Robust
33. North American

36. Ford rival
37. Degree in math?
39. Blows it
43. Aristocratic titles in Asia
47. Consume
49. Anonymous John
52. Pre-stereo
53. On \_\_\_ (without a contract)
56. Type of railroad connector
57. " \_\_\_ to worry"
58. Hit the slopes
59. Ace
60. Pastoral place
61. Forever



# SGA announces candidates for spring 2021 election

Students can vote for candidates and constitutional changes March 18-19

**Kieran Ungemach**  
Politics Editor | @kieranungemach

The Elon Student Government Association announced the candidates for the 2021 spring elections, with 32 positions on the ballot, as well as the new constitutional changes ratified by the organization. Elections will be held March 18-19.

For the executive president position, current Class of 2022 Secretary Jack Corby will be facing off against Class of 2022 Vice President Daniel Dorociak. The executive vice president candidates are rising junior Trevor Molin and rising seniors Chloe Yoon and Ireland Horan.

The executive secretary and treasurer races are uncontested, with Hailey Jurgens running for the executive secretary position and Caroline Penfield running for the executive treasurer position.

All of the class of 2022 races are uncontested, with Liam O'Connor running for the presidency, Andrea Sheetz running for vice president, Mason Yeo running for treasurer and Brooks Lacoste and Anita Harkov running as senators. The class of 2022 secretary position is vacant.

The class of 2023 races are uncontested besides the senator positions, with Blake Dixon, Corinne Rose and Callahan Johnston in the race. Chase Solomon is running for the class of 2023 president, Victoria Burfield is running for secretary and Jamison Skelley is running for treasurer. The class of 2023 vice president position is vacant.

Andrew Lymm and Britt Mobley will



SGA meets physically distanced in Alumni Gym.

FRANCES O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

run against each other for the class of 2024 presidency. Chloe Higgins is running uncontested for vice president, and Matthew Barker is uncontested for the secretary position. Zeth Dixon and Gabriella Gutiérrez are the candidates for the class of 2024 treasurer seat. The class of 2024 senator candidates include Connor Johnson, Demetria Hall and Genesis Tolbert.

For the academic senate race, the College

of Arts and Sciences race is packed, with freshman Whitney McDonnell, junior Sydney Coker, sophomore Georgia Daniel, sophomore Ryan Lockwood, junior Maxwell Mrus and sophomore Charlotte Mattimiro competing against each other.

The School of Communications race is uncontested, with freshman William Wood and junior Nadine Jose as senators candidates. The Love School of Business and School of

Education seats are vacant.

The Finance board race candidates are junior Josephine Williams, sophomore Ben House, sophomore Kiara Hunter, freshman Aleezah Adams and junior Brandon Goodman.

The constitutional changes that will restructure SGA will also be voted on by the student body. If passed, they will go into effect in the spring of 2022, meaning this election is structured off of the current constitution.

# Disabilities Resources continues to provide aid amid pandemic

Disabled students speak on their experiences acquiring accommodations at Elon

**Amelia Arcaro-Burbridge**  
Elon News Network

The abrupt changes brought on by the pandemic have highlighted the importance of Elon's Disabilities Resources Office to disabled students.

Susan Wise, director of Disabilities Resources at Elon University, said that she and her three-person staff worked to ensure consistency in accommodations to those who relied on its support during the pandemic.

Wise declined to be recorded during the interview.

Located on the second floor of Belk Library, the Disabilities Resources Office juggles many duties to accommodate its students. It runs a mentorship program that partners pairs of younger and older disabled students, provides distraction-free testing rooms, connects students with accommodating professors and responds to emails from students who have questions and concerns.

Wise said it was hard to anticipate the needs of students as they were sent home due to the pandemic in March 2020, but the office worked hard to accommodate students and their disability needs.

Wise emphasized that in the community she provides aid to, students need a sense of structure now more than ever. Sophomore Megan Curling, who has generalized anxiety disorder and obsessive compulsive disorder, said the Disabilities Resources Office provided her with much needed stability during rapid changes brought on by the pandemic.

"During the fall, when I first got here, it was really nice because I knew what to expect, and it was one of the only things I knew to expect, so it was nice to know that I had a place that I was gonna be comfortable," Curling said.



GRACE TERRY | MANAGING EDITOR

Elon University senior Jimmy Robinson works on homework in the Belk Library.

“

I THINK THEY ARE AN UNDER-UTILIZED RESOURCE ON CAMPUS BECAUSE IT IS A LOT MORE THAN TESTING ROOMS

**MEGAN CURLING**  
SOPHOMORE

Curling, who utilizes the Disabilities Resource Office for testing in distraction-reduced environments, said that disabled students on campus should take advantage of the resources offered to them.

"I think they are an under-utilized resource on campus because it is a lot more than testing rooms," Curling said. "I honestly should probably be using them more than I do now."

However, freshman Taylor Dunfee, who did not disclose his disability, has had some difficulties accessing disabilities resources.

"It was actually because of bad experiences first semester that I decided to reach out second semester," Dunfee said. "They said they'd get back to me and they haven't yet."

When Dunfee visited disability resources in Belk Library, he said he spent half his time in the waiting room. He said he's still giving them a chance, but something that could be improved is the

amount of time their response is taking.

Senior Jimmy Robinson said the team is fully able to accommodate the university's needs. Robinson said the Disabilities Resources Office transformed his Elon experience, and that even during the period of online learning last spring the office never stopped reaching out.

"They work well together," Robinson said, "because they're all passionate about what they do for others."

Several students emphasized the importance of reaching out to the Disabilities Resource Office in order to receive help. Wise said that self-advocating is even more important given the circumstances brought on by the pandemic, and the office cannot provide aid to students who don't speak up and ask for it.

For more information about the Disabilities Resources Office, visit their webpage.



# THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONTINUES TO AFFECT FOOD BANKS AND LOCAL PANTRIES



Bill Masburn pushes a cart at Trinity Worship Center. Masburn volunteers at the food bank in his spare time.

ABBY GIBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## FOOD PANTRY | from cover

“We’re seeing it in the lines of people, looking for food now. It used to be roughly one in seven adults, one in six kids, and now it’s more like one in five adults, and one in four kids are food insecure, meaning they don’t definitely know where their next meal is coming from,” Darrow said. “Food insecurity has definitely increased and will continue to for quite a while.”

Food insecurity is still being seen at the local level. Trinity Worship Center’s food pantry, a Burlington church, currently provides about 50 families with food per week, according to associate pastor Roger Barefoot. However, the number of families each week has been inconsistent and even decreased occasionally during the pandemic.

“I mean it was really crazy the fluctuation that we had in the people that came,” Barefoot said. “I think because people ... were very weary about coming out.”

Where an individual lives, means to drive to food pantries, the cold weather months and just an overall lack of knowledge on available resources are other reasons why food insecure individuals may not be seeking out help despite the need, according to Marisol Biasetti, a Trinity Worship Center Volunteer.

“Why aren’t they not coming if there is such a shortage?” Biasetti said. “There may be a lack of knowledge in this case, not knowing that they can go to multiple places [pantries].”

Food banks and pantries have had to restructure their distribution methods centered around social distancing and limited-contact to operate safely during the pandemic. This has included implementing mobile drive-thru distribution of pre-packaged boxes of food or offering cold grab-and-go meals rather than the

typical pre-pandemic hot plate dinners. The reliance on volunteers has also been reevaluated after the decline of volunteers during the pandemic’s peak.

“I felt like I always had staff either quarantined due to exposure or had gotten the virus themselves,” said Jason Fields, YMCA Feeds Program director. “It seemed like every week somebody couldn’t work for two weeks because they were in quarantine for one reason or another.”

### Initial Impact of COVID-19 on Food Bank and Food Pantry Resources

Several food banks and local food pantries instantly felt the effects of the pandemic, whether that meant a surge in need amongst community members or being closed due to initial pandemic government mandates, which some church-affiliated food pantries like Trinity Worship Center experienced for a brief period.

“We closed down maybe for a bit. I think it was two months during the initial phase of the pandemic,” Barefoot said. “Instead of people coming into the church ... us interviewing them the way that we do, we always like to pray with them, as well, ask them if they have any needs or anything like that, now it is a drive-thru.”

Darrow said that Feeding the Carolinas and their partner agencies quickly experienced an increase in demand as the small business and hospitality industries took a dive, leaving already financially vulnerable and food insecure individuals at a higher-risk.

“Suddenly, [low income workers] were faced with the prospect of, ‘Do I buy food, or do I buy medicine, or do I pay my rent?’” Darrow said. “Instantly we saw increases in demand of 30 to 40% across the Carolinas of people needing food, and a good one-third of them had never been to a food bank before or had never needed one.”

Not only did the need for food skyrocket, but as food, non-perishables and

“

THE LEAD TIMES FOR PURCHASING FOOD WENT FROM A FEW DAYS TO SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS TO GET FOOD IN. THE AVERAGE [FEEDING THE CAROLINAS] FOOD BANK WAS SPENDING ABOUT \$82,000 A MONTH PURCHASING FOOD, AND IT LEAPED UP TO A MILLION DOLLARS A MONTH.

**MIKE DARROW**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FEEDING THE CAROLINAS

toilet paper began flying off the shelves of grocery stores and retailers, little resources were left to be donated to food banks and pantries.

Trinity Worship Center Food Pantry receives much of their donations from the local Walmart and BJ’s Wholesale Club. Since the pandemic began, donations have been inconsistent, fluctuating between a maximum of 1500 and a minimum of 300 pounds of food, with one family-bag containing about 45 pounds of food, according to Barefoot and Trinity’s food pantry coordinator, Joan Barnes.

“At first whenever COVID was real new...the most difficult thing was actually the picking up of the food from vendors, because there was so much caution in people not being around each other,” Barefoot said.

With a lack of donations and ultimately empty shelves, the food supply for many food banks across the Carolinas became unsteady, and replenishment was not always cheap or easy to come by.

“The lead times for purchasing food went from a few days to six to eight weeks to get food in,” Darrow said. “The average [Feeding the Carolinas] food bank was spending about \$82,000 a month purchasing food, and it leaped up to a million dollars a month.”

The decline in volunteers was another obstacle many food banks and pantries faced during the height of the pandemic. The majority of volunteers at these food resources centers are retired and elder individuals; therefore, in the higher-risk category for COVID-19.

For those who were still able and willing to volunteer, Darrow said that determining how to safely use volunteers and adhere to social distancing was another challenge.

In September 2020, more than 170 members of the North Carolina National Guard were activated to help with sorting, packing and distributing food due to the limited volunteer base. Guard members





Larry Nylin grabs paper bags filled with food and supplies to be filled in a car during the drive-thru food bank on Friday morning.

ABBY GIBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

worked with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina and helped distribute over 6.2 million food bank meals since the pandemic began.

However, not all food pantries experienced a shortage of volunteers. Volunteers of the Trinity Worship Center Food Pantry said they were never afraid of volunteering as their religious values guided them while volunteering amidst the pandemic.

“Faith over fear,” said Cindy Taylor, a Trinity Worship Center volunteer.

### School Closures Impacting Food Insecure Kids

The effects of the pandemic differed for after-school feeding services such as YMCA Feeds, as many of these services were disrupted and some shut down due to the almost year-long closure of K-12 public schools. As a result, YMCA Feeds program director Jason Fields said that YMCA Feeding Program lost five of their feeding sites since they took place in schools.

Under the Child and Adult Food Program, a federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks that are provided to eligible children and adults in child or adult day care centers or after-school care programs, the YMCA Feeding Program was serving nearly 450 meals per day during normal school sessions pre-pandemic, but has now decreased to about 175 meals per day.

“Some of those kids, because you feed them every day, you’d get a relationship with those kids,” Fields said. “Then suddenly, the rug was just pulled out from underneath of us where we were not allowed to go to those sites anymore.”

The Alamance-Burlington School System started a grab-and-go meal program, as well as a mobile meal program where ABSS buses went to low-income neighborhoods to distribute meals and provided a list of other food service resources.

But in the summer months of 2020, food service operations were disrupted once again since virtual school was no longer in session. The Summer Food Service Program, which is federally-funded and state-administered, released several waivers that made providing nutritious meals for kids in low-income areas easier amidst the pandemic.

Fields said that some of these waivers included a milk requirement waiver — traditionally, milk was a required item of the provided meal, but there was a milk shortage during the pandemic — an enrichment activity waiver and a congregating eating waiver enabling kids to



The inside of the food pantry is lined with organized boxes of canned goods.

ABBY GIBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

grab the meals and go, no questions asked.

It was during this three-month period that Fields said he felt they were “battling hunger.” According to Fields, they would hand out hundreds of meals in 20 minutes.

“Those kids were starving as soon as we pulled in ... kids would just swarm the van out of those public housing units — they knew that that was good, healthy food,” Fields said. “Kids would grab that bag, they would take five steps away from the van and sit down right on the curb ... beside each other and eat it as quickly as they could.”

But some parents and families were not willing to risk that limited amount of contact to obtain food resource services, which is fear Fields says still persists today with the recent opening of five virtual learning centers that YMCA Feeds Program serves.

“Families don’t feel comfortable sending their kids to [virtual learning sites] because of the risk of exposure ... so people are having to gauge whether they want to take a little bit of risk in order to get the services that are best for their family, or just not take any risk at all,” Fields said.

Despite site closures and fear amongst

those in need, YMCA Feeding Programs has served about 80,000 meals total over the past year of the pandemic.

### Pushing past the one year mark

The food bank system is finally getting back on their feet after enduring a year of high-demand, inconsistent food supply and volunteer and staffing. But as the pandemic pushes on, with food insecurity rates on the rise, food banks acknowledge that they too must push on.

“That’s one of the biggest things I worry about is the staff fatigue, cause they’ve been going literally nonstop for a year,” Darrow said.

However, morale amongst volunteers at Trinity Worship Center’s pantry has intensified, not declined, Pastor Barefoot said, since many love helping their community members in need and find it rewarding.

“When we were giving out turkeys and meat, a woman said ‘Oh, praise God we got meat’ and I thought to myself, ‘How sad, how long have they not had meat?’ Taylor said.

Another stress placed upon the food bank and pantry system is the flow of

donations.

“We do worry about donor fatigue ... As we ease out of this, are people’s attention gonna shift elsewhere while we still need the support?” Darrow said. “Just how long can this very stressed network of food banks continue on?”

Even for food programs that receive federal aid such as the YMCA Feeding Program are also weary of fatigue in the near future.

“We’ve been struggling through this for a long time and morale is down at times, but then you just have to keep the big picture in mind that there are hungry kids out there,” Fields said. “We have to keep trudging through to make sure that we get the food to them.”

Darrow predicts North and South Carolina’s network of food banks will likely continue to endure the impacts of the pandemic into 2022.

If there is any silver lining of the pandemic, it has exposed many of issues that exist within the food system and the states’ food insecurity levels, according to Darrow. Now that these challenges are at the forefront, solutions can be made to address these issues in the future.



LIFESTYLE

New hair salon set to open in downtown Elon

102 North is set to open its doors in April on North Williamson Avenue

Julianne Quinn  
Elon News Network | @jqquinn383

Shelly Miller and Teighla Norris decided to pursue their dream of opening a hair salon when their dream location opened up. 102 North Williamson is located right on Elon University’s campus and is currently on its way to becoming a boutique salon called 102 North. The building is currently being renovated, but they plan on opening in early April.

Miller and Norris emphasized that being on Elon’s campus was a large part of their inspiration. They believe the location has a target market.

“I love the idea of the rotating students and people coming in and out and the changing of clients, even over the four years that they’re here,” Miller said. They even waited for this specific location to become available before choosing to open their salon. “It’s a perfect clientele market right here.”

Miller and Norris have both worked at numerous salons in the past and specialize in color and stylized hair cuts. “We like natural lived-in color, really natural highlights,” Miller said. “We both really care a lot about the integrity of the hair and the health of the hair.” They also plan on using products that are healthy for hair and the environment.

To ensure a “boutique” feel, the salon

will be kept at minimal capacity. Miller and Norris plan on creating an open space with a minimalist, modern aesthetic. “We want to create the highest quality that we can give on every service,” Miller said. “We both want to work in a very laid back environment and do what we love without the craziness of busy salons, which are great too.”

They both felt the renovation was necessary to open up the space and create the right environment for the new salon. The goal is that “every person has a feel of their space,” said Miller. “We pushed the walls back just to have a little privacy back here.”

Additionally, the pair plans on offering very specific services when they first open. They will not be offering men’s cuts. They will be sticking to their art that they have studied and enjoy most. “We finally found our true passion and kind of color,” Norris said. “[We’re] not working just to be working.”

Along with their passion, both have gained a lot of experience in their areas of expertise. “My mom was a hairstylist, so I grew up in a hair salon,” said Norris. The two also both attended school for hair and have over ten years in salon experience.

Opening a business is a brand new experience for Miller and Norris. They are both self-taught entrepreneurs, and they agreed that the best way to learn was through experience. “I don’t know how anybody would go straight to owning a salon or anything from school,” Miller said. “Being in a salon and seeing all the things for the behind the scenes on the business



JULIANNE QUINN | STAFF REPORTER

Co-owners Shelly Miller (left) and Teighla Norris (right) are looking forward to opening 102 North.

aspect, you understand it then.”

The two are looking forward to joining the downtown Elon community. Miller’s husband works at Elon, and both owners have lived in the area for a while. “We liked the idea in this little community because we both love it a lot,” Miller said.

Miller and Norris are mothers and met through their kids who attended school together. Both of them took time from their hair careers to be full-time moms. “I am just

looking forward to getting back behind the chair,” Norris said. They both are looking forward to being “full-ish” time moms again.

Miller and Norris have Instagram pages showcasing their work as hairstylists. Because they have both worked in past salons, they are able to preview their work for new clients. 102 North will also be launching a website and social media pages in the coming weeks.

THE ELON BITE

THE ELON BITE IS A COLUMN THAT REVIEWS RESTAURANTS AND FOOD VENDORS IN THE LOCAL AREA

Print Works Bistro provides stellar meal with perfect ambiance



Jack Chambers  
Senior

IF YOU GO

Place: Print Works  
Bistro

Where: 702 Green  
Valley Rd, Greensboro,  
NC 27408

When: Mon.–Thurs.:  
7 a.m.–2:00 p.m., 5:00  
p.m.–10:00 p.m.

Fri.: 7 a.m.–2:00 p.m.,  
5:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.

Sat: 7:00 a.m.–11: p.m.

Sun: 7:00 a.m.–9:30  
p.m.

Tuna tartare, confit duck leg, and roasted pork belly are just a few items I tasted this week at Print Works Bistro in Greensboro. As a higher-end establishment that works great for special occasions or date nights, the food was exceptional and the atmosphere of the restaurant was spectacular.

When you walk into the establishment you are greeted with a garden that blends into the restaurant entrance. There, you are met with light piano music and dim candlelight which set the meal that is to come.

To start, I ordered a delicious cocktail with tequila and vermouth mixed with lime and cranberry juice that was nicely balanced and mixed the sweetness of the citrus with the smoky spirits to perfection.

For my appetizer, I started with tuna tartare and toasted crostinis. The chunks of beautiful raw tuna were garnished with black and white sesame seeds and plated over a bed of a citrus zest, slaw and an avocado cream that not only added a tropical element to the fish, but also mixed with the citrus in my drink to have a complete experience. Biting into the tender fish along with the crunchy bread created a wonderful mouth-feel and complex levels of flavor as each ingredient stacked on top of one another to achieve that perfect bite.

For dinner, I ordered a dish that I had never heard of before seeing it on the menu. It is a French dish called cassoulet that combines a confit duck leg, roasted pork belly and a white bean ragout made with pork sausage. This dish was something new and adventurous for me, and I must say it hit the mark. The confit duck, a duck

leg slow-cooked in its own fat and then briefly seared on high heat, was delightful. The meatiness of the leg was satisfying and the taste was so complex in the fatty layering as it was savory, tender and juicy from its time cooking in a pot of its own fat. Truthfully, the idea of cooking something in a pot of its own fat sounded less than appetizing at first, but with the encouragement of my brother Peter, who I was dining with, I tasted the duck and it all came together.

Under the duck leg was a beautiful portion of roasted pork belly. From its time in the oven, the fat had become crispy like bacon, all while the tender meat on the inside stayed juicy as the crust formed. Biting into this was unlike anything I have ever tasted. It was crunchy on the outside, tender on the inside. The meat fell off and the fat melted in my mouth. This beautifully prepared portion of pork may have been the best thing I ate.

Under the pork belly was the white bean ragout, which is basically a white bean puree with ground pork sausage mixed in. This was a new taste and mouth-feel to me, but the only way I could describe it is like a texture combination of Thanksgiving stuffing and mashed potatoes with sausage folded in. Using this as the base for the rest of the dish made it quite rich, and I was barely able to eat half of the plate before getting the rest boxed up.

My brother ordered a piece of roasted trout with glazed carrots and green beans that he let me try, and I must say that dish was just as good. The beauty was in the simplicity of it. The fish was moist yet delicate and flaky as it was cooked to perfection with a light butter and caper sauce.



JACK CHAMBERS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trout at Print Works Bistro.

The real showstopper though was the vegetables. The glazed carrots were cooked perfectly as they retained a slight crunch on the outside while the inside was tender and fluffy all the while the glaze gave them a sweetness I had never tasted before. And the green beans were even better. They had the raw vegetable crunch on the outside but were likewise soft and delicious on the inside. They put my mother’s and even my grandmother’s cooking to shame.

In the end, I had an exceptional meal. I could say this was the best review I have done since I launched this column in the fall. The only thing to be aware of is getting a reservation in advance and being prepared to pay a relatively high price for food worth much more than what you pay. Print Works Bistro gets a 10 out of 10 for me.

JACK’S SCORE

10 of 10

Every week the restaurant reviewed is given a score out of 10.



# SPORTS



Guard Ikenna Ndugba dribble the ball against Drexel. The Elon men’s basketball team lost 56-63 to Drexel in the CAA championship game.

CLARE GRANT | PHOTO EDITOR

## DREXEL DRAGONS DEFEAT THE PHOENIX

### BASKETBALL | from cover

**Annemarie Bonner**  
Sports Director | @annemarie\_bon

The Elon men’s basketball season is over. Drexel University beat the Phoenix 63-56 in the Colonial Athletic Association championship, securing the Dragons a spot in the NCAA March Madness tournament. This was the Phoenix’s first time ever advancing to the CAA championship game and the first time a no. 8 seed has advanced to the final. Head coach Mike Schrage is in his second season with the team and said at the postgame press conference that no one believed they would make it to the conference championship, except everyone in the team’s locker room. “I wanted them to cherish it, but they will be remembered for playing their best basketball in February and March. And that’s what our program is going to be built on,” Schrage said. In the first half, guard and graduate transfer Ikenna Ndugba led the Phoenix with a total of 8 points. Sophomore guard Hunter McIntosh started the game off strong for the Phoenix, scoring back to back four times for a 15-19 by the end of the first half. Drexel guard Xavier Bell had 7 points in the first. Elon started off with a lead, but a lot of back and forth allowed Drexel to gain the lead for the first half. A 3-pointer with 10 seconds to the end of half by Drexel’s guard/forward Zach Walton put them up by 5. The team started out strong in the first half, with seven points scored by McIntosh. However, McIntosh struggled in the second half with scoring opportunities, missing four three pointers in a row,

ending with a 7-17 field goal record for the game. McIntosh said that he does not place the blame on the amount of games that were played over the past few days. “Four games in four days, so I’m not gonna say it didn’t affect this, but that can’t be an excuse for us,” McIntosh said. In the second half, the Phoenix scored two more points than in the first half, but could not keep up with the Dragons. The Phoenix fouled a total of 9 times in the 2nd half. Leading scorer for the Dragons was Mate Okros, scoring 14 points. Hunter McIntosh of the Phoenix scored the team high of 19 points and Ndugba followed close behind, with a total of 16. Back in Elon, there was a watch party on Young Commons. Freshman Adam Patton attended and was happy to come out and support the team despite the loss. “It was fun to come together as a community to support Elon,” Patton said. “And it’s just nice in such crazy times as these that we’re able to have something that we can all come together to kind of root for.” Eleven games were cancelled for Elon this season due to positive COVID-19 cases amongst themselves and other teams, leading their regular season to an abrupt end Feb. 28. “I know the CAA definitely had some struggles, with pauses and interruptions and stuff, but I mean, yeah, there’s definitely challenges that come with it,” McIntosh said. “Our coaches, staffing, you know, a lot of players, we always try to keep a positive mindset.” One of the games that was cancelled was against Drexel. This championship game was the first time the teams faced off this season. Elon had a 7-7 record against Drexel, but now that has changed to 7-8.



Guard Darius Burford takes the ball to the basket.

CLARE GRANT | PHOTO EDITOR



Guards Hunter McIntosh and Ikenna Ndugba try to gain possession of the ball.

CLARE GRANT | PHOTO EDITOR





The Elon women's volleyball team huddles together before their big game on Saturday, March 6 in Schar Center. The Phoenix won a five set match against UNC-Wilmington.

MADDIE SHOSTEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Elon women's volleyball team is finding its groove despite difficult circumstances

**Jacob Kisamore**  
Elon News Network | @jacob\_kisamore

After having the fall season postponed to the spring, the Elon University Women's Volleyball team is back on the court as the campaign nears its halfway mark. Following a 0-3 start, the Phoenix won back-to-back matches against the UNC-Wilmington Seahawks on March 6-7 to improve its overall record to 2-3 and its conference record to 2-2.

According to senior and setter Kodi Garcia, whose 86 assists rank second on the team, it took some time for the team to adjust after not having team practices in the fall. Now, the team is starting to build chemistry and find its groove after a slow start to the season, Garcia says.

"In the beginning, we were a little rough because we hadn't played a match in so long, and we had some freshmen starting their first games," Garcia said. "Our team is playing well and handling the different circumstances perfectly."

Freshman outside hitter Gabi Croll, who is second in kills on the team with 46, feels the shortened season has heightened the team's intensity and focus, as each match is critical for the team's chances of qualifying for the postseason.

"I think the limited season does have more pressure, but at the same time, I think it gives us a lot of motivation," Croll said. "Whatever game we're playing in, we have to treat it like it's our last game."

Croll says the late start to the season gave her the chance to fully learn and understand the team's strategies which eased her transition onto the team.

"It gave me the opportunity to get used to the team and the different defensive plays and offensive tactics we have," Croll said. "Having that time in the fall to learn helped me adjust to how the team runs, which wouldn't have happened in a normal

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IN THE BEGINNING, WE WERE A LITTLE ROUGH BECAUSE WE HADN'T PLAYED A MATCH IN SO LONG, AND WE HAD SOME FRESHMEN STARTING THEIR FIRST GAMES. OUR TEAM IS PLAYING WELL AND HANDLING THE DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES PERFECTLY.

**KODI GARCIA**  
SETTER

UPCOMING HOME GAMES:

vs James Madison, Sunday  
March 14, 3 p.m.

vs James Madison, Monday  
March 15, 4 p.m.

vs Davidson, Saturday March  
20, 2 p.m.



Elon University freshman Gabi Croll spikes the volleyball against her UNC-Wilmington opponent on Saturday, March 6 in Schar Center.

MADDIE SHOSTEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

season."

Croll says she is impressed with how the team has improved since the start of the season and now the team's goal is to qualify for the CAA Tournament.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the team's regular season of around 30 matches was condensed to just 12, including only eight conference matchups. The top two teams in the Colonial Athletic Association's South Division will qualify for the April CAA Tournament, and Elon currently sits in third place with four conference matches remaining.

"Even though there have been some growing pains, we have so much energy on the court and are getting better with each game," Croll said.

Garcia says the season has presented plenty of challenges as players are required to wear masks during practices and games and must follow social distancing protocols during all team meetings and gatherings.

"We are really committed to our

teammates and we know we can trust each other," Garcia said. "We want to play and compete, so we all know we have to keep our social circles small."

Garcia says the team has also made many sacrifices off the court to ensure their health and safety, including limiting social interactions and choosing not to be in large gatherings.

Even though this season differs from her three previous seasons, Garcia is thankful for the opportunity to complete her senior year with the team.

"It was pretty upsetting in the fall when our season got cancelled, but when they said they were going to push it to spring, I was very grateful," Garcia said. "Even though we have a limited number of games, I am so excited to have the opportunity to play with my teammates."

The next scheduled matches for the Phoenix are Sunday, March 14 and Monday, March 15 against James Madison University.