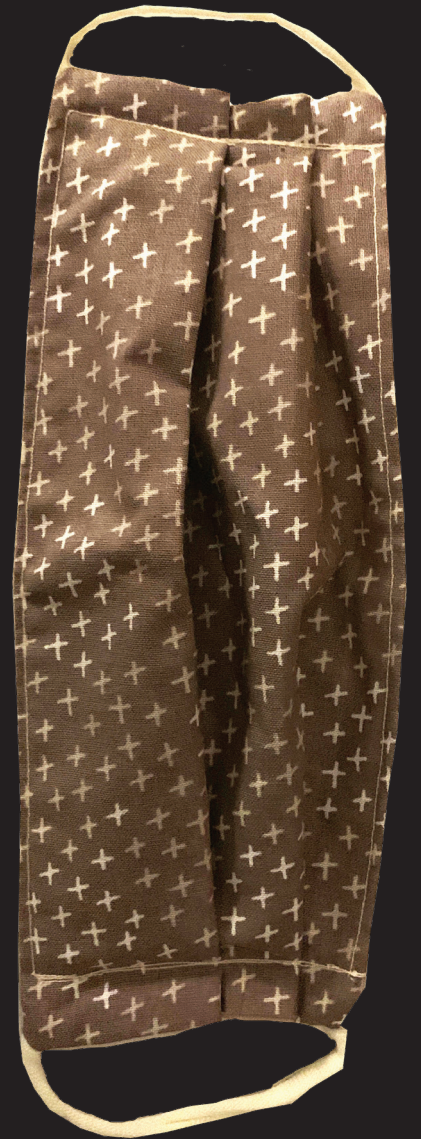


FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020
VOLUME 49, EDITION 22
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

THE PHOENIX AND THE PANDEMIC

Coronavirus Edition



ALAMANCE'S RESPONSE • PAGE 4

How Alamance County is dealing with local coronavirus cases



'HUMANE BUDGET' • PAGE 3

Elon's faculty union submits a new suggested budget to the university



FALL FOOTBALL • PAGE 5

How Elon football is preparing for the fall in a pandemic

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

Established 1974
Volume 49, Edition 22

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

- MACKENZIE WILKES
- GRACE TERRY
- JACK NORCROSS
- LAUREN SINGLES
- ELLIS CHANDLER
- CAITLIN RUNDLE
- THOMAS DENMOE
- MARGARET FAUST
- NYAH PHENGSI'TTHY
- CLARE GRANT
- KIERAN UNGEMACH

- Executive Director of Elon News Network
- Managing Editor of The Pendulum
- News Director of Elon Local News
- Event Coverage Coordinator
- Social Media Coordinator
- Sports Director
- Chief Copy Editor
- New Member Coordinator
- Design Chief
- Photo Editor
- Politics Editor

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

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

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

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

- The Pendulum**
publishes weekly on Wednesdays
- Elon Local News**
broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.
- ELN Morning**
broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.
- ELN Online Exclusive**
broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.
- ENN Radio Podcast**
publishes Friday at 8 a.m.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

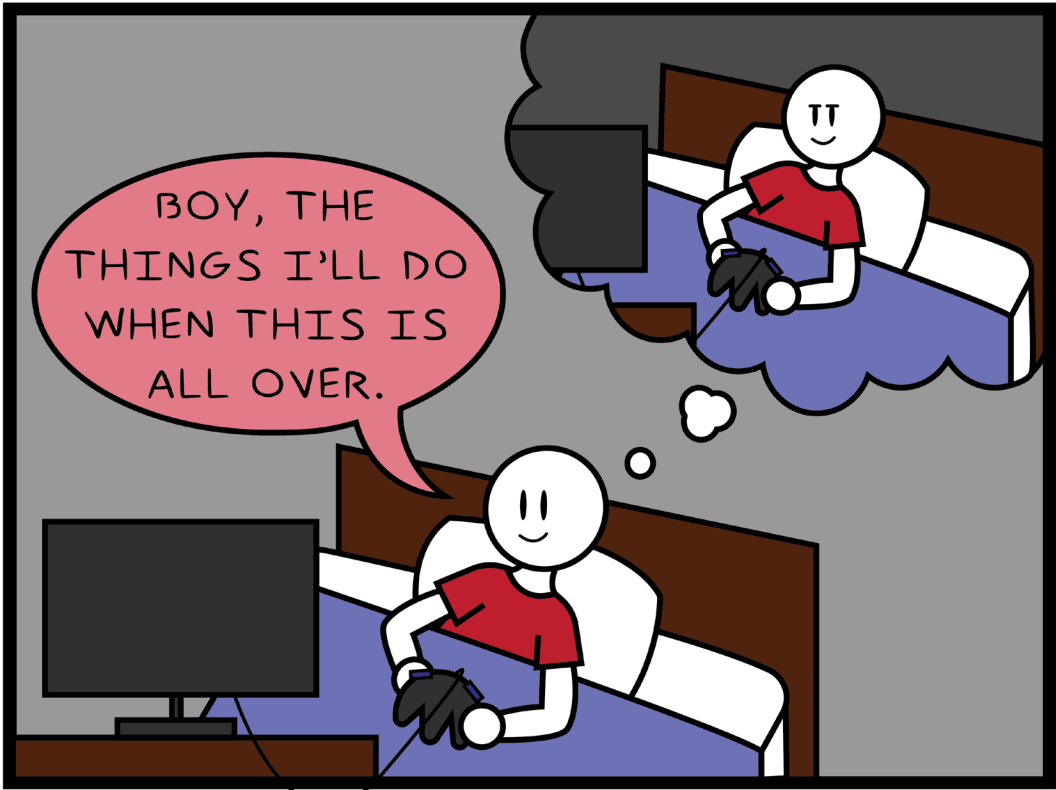
- Facebook**
Elon News Network
- Twitter/Instagram/Snapchat**
[@elonnewsnetwork](https://www.instagram.com/elonnewsnetwork)
- YouTube**
Elon News Network

CORRECTIONS

No corrections were issued in the last edition of The Pendulum.

COMIC

QUARANTINE DREAMS



COMIC SAMs - SAM POROZOK

GAMES

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

- The Elon Faculty Forward Union proposes the '_____ Budget' to university administration. [See Page 3 for answer.](#)
- The Elon _____ team is allowed to start voluntary on-campus practices starting June 1. [See Page 5 for answer.](#)
- Elon University plans to publicly announce its plans for _____ 2020 in June. [See Page 5 for answer.](#)
- Stacie _____ is the director of the health department in Alamance County. [See Page 4 for answer.](#)

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

ELON FACULTY FORWARD UNION

proposes ‘Humane Budget’ to university

The union’s main request is one-year contracts for non-permanent faculty due to the financial strain

Kyra O’Connor
Enterprise Reporting Coordinator | @KO_Reports

Elon University’s faculty union, Elon Faculty Forward, proposed their “Humane Budget” to the university in early May. The proposal outlines how the union wants the university to protect non-tenured faculty in light of the coronavirus pandemic, according to the proposal document.

Catherine Bush, assistant professor of biology and union member since its inception in 2018, said the number one reason for both the “Humane Budget” proposal and the faculty union is job security for non-tenured faculty at Elon.

“We surveyed adjuncts and found that 63% of them said that job security is the number one issue,” Bush said. “And through COVID-19, we surveyed them and they said that 60% are worried about losing their income.”

According to Calvin Deutschbein, adjunct instructor of computer science and union member, the faculty union began work on the “Humane Budget” proposal during the first week of online classes.

Since the proposal went public, 51 faculty members, 112 current and former students and 23 community members have signed the proposal in solidarity.

The proposal requests that the university gives contracts for next academic year to all non-tenured faculty who are teaching this spring semester and plan to return in the fall.

“For the mutual benefit of Elon adjuncts and our students ... we asked Elon to give all non-permanent faculty that are teaching this semester a year-long contract, which most of them have never had,” Bush said.

The proposal suggests non-tenure faculty indicate their intention to return to campus by June 15.

Bush said she has received a response to the proposal from Aswani Voley, the provost and head of the university’s Budget Committee. Voley wrote in an email that the Budget Committee will consider the proposal “along with other recommendations and suggestions it has received.”

Owen Covington, director of Elon University’s News Bureau, declined to comment on the proposal past acknowledging the university received it, and will be considering it along with other suggestions.

In addition to one-year contracts, the proposal suggests taking funds from Elon LEADS — the university campaign to raise \$250 million — to support non-tenure faculty. It also asks to include non-tenure faculty representation on

the university Budget Committee and for senior administration to “commit to a voluntary reduction in their salaries, as a sign of good faith and to share the financial burden.”

According to Deutschbein, guaranteed payroll allows non-tenured faculty to continue providing quality education. They said the faculty union is fighting for the same things now that they were before, such as job security and health insurance, both concerns for Deutschbein.

“Elon doesn’t have to open in the [2020-2021] school year to retain all of its assets and open in another year,” Deutschbein said.

“IF THERE ARE NO CLASSES, WE WOULD STILL HAVE OUR CONTRACT, WE STILL HAVE OUR PAY AND EVERYTHING; INSTEAD, IMAGINE A PROGRAM WHERE WE MENTOR STUDENTS.”

CATHERINE BUSH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

“But if Elon doesn’t open in the [2020-2021] school year, I become homeless.”

According to Bush, a dip in enrollment could cause a lack of teaching jobs available in the fall. The proposal outlines a potential solution, should enrollment numbers dip and there are no positions available for non-tenure faculty.

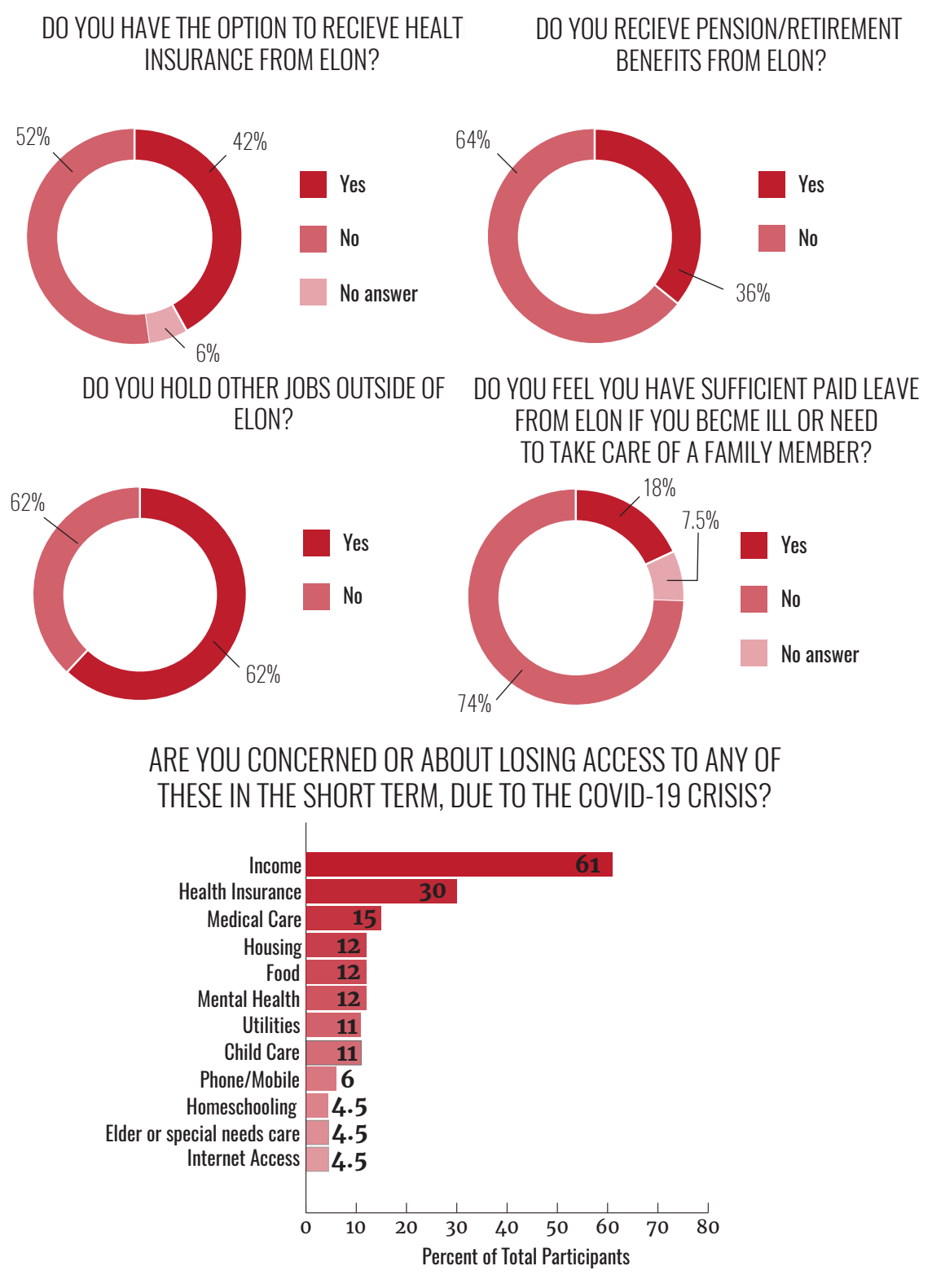
“There are other ways we can serve our university,” Bush said. “If there are no classes, we would still have our contract, we still have our pay and everything; instead, imagine a program where we mentor students.”

At the moment, a mentoring program of this nature does not exist. The proposal also suggests that some faculty can serve in admissions and working as technical support.

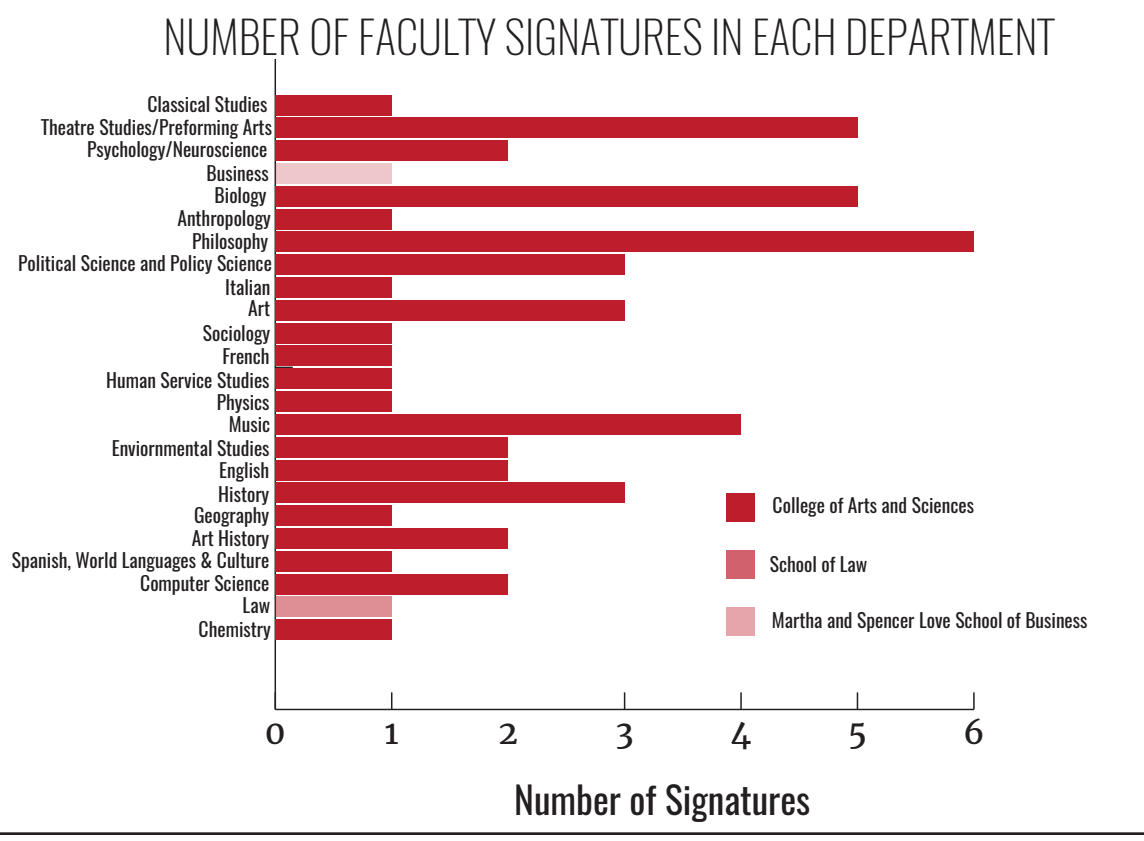
Bush said the proposal was written so that non-tenure faculty supplement, not replace, other staff members and student workers.

“It’s my belief as an educator, and the belief of a lot of educators, that we know how to get Elon through this,” Deutschbein said. “We’re trying to make it as easy as possible for the people with the power to say yes to this proposal. ... We care about the people we work with and this, we believe, is the only viable path forward.”

BREAKING DOWN THE FACULTY UNION SURVEY



PROPOSAL SIGNATURES BREAKDOWN



RESPONDING WITH FUNDS:

ALAMANCE COUNTY FOCUSES ON SAMPLE COLLECTIONS

The county will receive over \$3 million dollars in aid from the state to respond to the coronavirus

Mackenzie Wilkes
Executive Director | @macwilkes

Separated by tape to keep proper social distancing, up to 10 nurses and staff at the Alamance County Health Department work in the case investigation and contact tracing command center. This staff investigates new coronavirus cases in the county and follows up with current cases and their close contacts to monitor symptoms, according to the director of the department Stacie Saunders.

“Days are long and they’re tiring,” Saunders said at the May 18 county commissioners meeting. “But we do have the capacity. We have enough staff to do contact tracing.”

According to Saunders, the county’s coronavirus call center has received 2,400 calls. 915 of them have been referred to the nurses at the command center.

The county declared a state of emergency and recorded its first case of the coronavirus on March 20. As of May 21, the county has 238 positive cases and 12 deaths. There is no data on the number of people who have recovered from the coronavirus.

Alamance County’s response includes the health department increasing access to sample collection and the county working to secure additional funds from the state.

The county does not test for the coronavirus, it only collects samples that are sent to a state or private lab, where they are tested for the coronavirus.

“We’ve been working really hard to increase the access to collection,” Saunders said. “We do the collection; we don’t actually test at the health department and lots of other providers do collection as well. They don’t test necessarily in their facility and then that specimen is collected and either sent to a private lab or a state lab.”

Through targeted collection for vulnerable populations, the health department has been able to identify

BY THE NUMBERS

\$3M

allocated to Alamance County from the state of North Carolina to contribute to coronavirus response

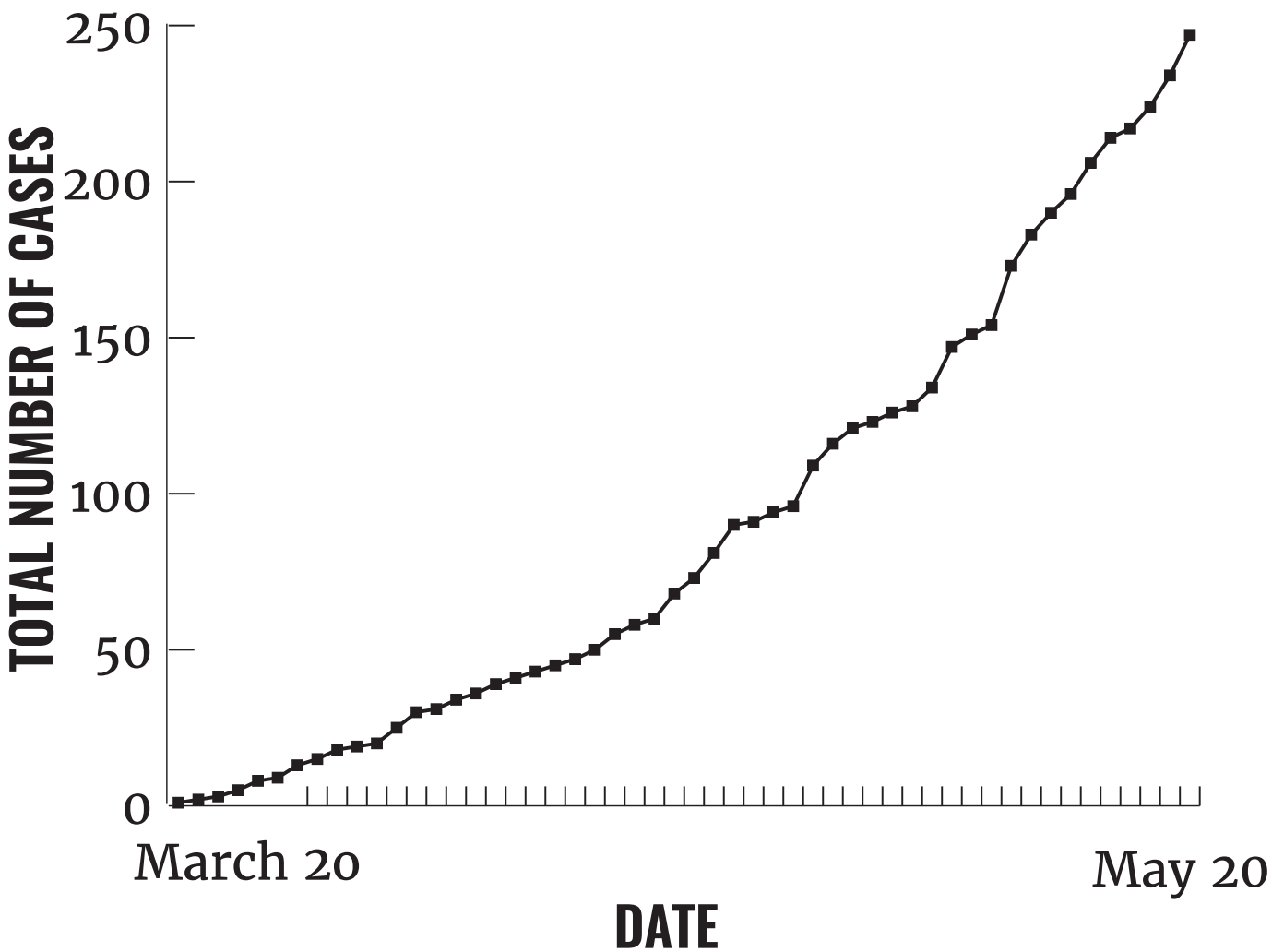
2,400

calls have been made to Alamance County’s coronavirus call center

12

positive cases out of 120 residents tested at White Oak Manor nursing home in Alamance County were found

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES IN ALAMANCE COUNTY



GRACE TERRY | MANAGING EDITOR

“

WE’VE BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD TO INCREASE THE ACCESS TO COLLECTION. WE DO THE COLLECTION; WE DON’T ACTUALLY TEST AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND LOTS OF OTHER PROVIDERS DO COLLECTION AS WELL. THEY DON’T NECESSARILY IN THEIR FACILITY AND THEN THAT SPECIMEN IS COLLECTED AND EITHER SENT TO A PRIVATE LAB OR STATE LAB.

STACIE SAUNDERS
ALAMANCE COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

totals from 2019 census data.

According to County Manager Bryan Hagood, the county applied to receive these funds on May 11. Counties have to outline how the money will be spent by June before the funds are distributed. The plan can be changed after the funds are distributed.

The money has to be used for medical expenses, public health, payroll, providing economic support and any other coronavirus-related expenses. At the Alamance County Board of Commissioners meeting on May 18, Hagood presented a spending plan to the commissioners. In the initial plan, \$216,834 is allocated for coronavirus-related expenses the county has already spent between March 1 and May 15. \$570,462 towards anticipated expenses between May 15 and June 30, including hazard pay and disinfecting the courts.

Hagood estimated the county will spend \$2,220,671 on coronavirus-related expenses starting for the fiscal year 2020-21 including hazard pay, modifying and disinfecting public buildings and physically safe elections, among other things.

As the county is seeing more funds to help in its coronavirus response and the health department works to increase sample collection, Saunders expects to see a rise in case numbers.

“Over time, we hope to see a lower rising curve, like a mound and then a plateau,” Saunders said. “You can clearly see were on the rise and on our way up at two points.”

IN WITH THE NEW



Football head coach Tony Trisciani talks strategy on the sidelines of the Homecoming game against the University of Rhode Island back in 2018 when he was the defensive coach.

Elon football continues to prepare for 2020 season with new recruitment class

Caitlin Rundle
Sports Director | @caitlinr_21

Football head coach Tony Trisciani and his assistant coaches have been preparing for their 2020 recruitment class for over a year, but none of them were expecting the preseason to go quite like this. The original 20 member class has since grown with additions, but so have questions over whether the NCAA will permit college level sports to play in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Trisciani and the rest of Phoenix football are preparing for the season to commence, hoping to see their year of work put to the test on the field.

Trisciani and his staff have been working with these recruits for over a year, following a “roster plan” as well as a “scholarship plan” to direct them in their recruiting process. Trisciani said the process starts with how many scholarships they can offer to each side of the ball — offense, defense and special teams— and then specify to positions.

“So we’ve got 63 scholarships. The way we break them up is we like to have 31 on offense, 30 on defense and then two scholarships committed to special teams,” Trisciani said. “We’d like to have so many scholarships committed to the O-line, so many to the tight ends, running backs, wide receivers and quarterbacks. Then we also have a roster number that’s ideal for us.”

One of the gaps in the Phoenix roster was in the tight end position. The team lost four senior tight ends last season: Alex

Aiello, Alex Parker, Chris Rowe and 2019 First Team All-CAA honoree Matt Foster. Donovan Williams, an incoming graduate transfer from the University of Connecticut, has the chance to fill in those gaps alongside four other teammates.

“He’s an athlete,” Trisciani said of Williams. “He was a high school quarterback and played quarterback at UConn before they moved him to tight end. He’s picked things up quick and he’s brought some maturity to the position, which is very important.”

“

THEY’VE WORKED SO HARD TO BE COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYERS. SO I THINK THEY’RE JUST EXCITED AND ANXIOUS TO DO IT.

TONY TRISCIANI
ELON FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

Trisciani spoke highly of the incoming members, but said that some of them will have to face the in team competition to earn a starting position.

“Cameron Orr is an offensive tackle and he’s competing for a starting job there with two redshirt freshmen, and Cooper Cromer, who is a returner, who missed last season due to injury,” Trisciani said. “We’ve got a lot of competition in that offensive tackle spot and it’s a critical position for us, so that’s good.”

Also mentioned was long snapper Noah Turner, a transfer from Wake Forest. There will

be two other current members of the team who will be fighting Turner for the starting spot: freshman Will McCoy and redshirt freshman Carson Crisp.

Eight players of the original 20 recruited are from North Carolina. Trisciani said they do prefer recruiting “inside out in North Carolina” due to the advantage of seeing the player multiple times.

“If we have two kids and they’re the same player and one’s in-state and one’s out-of-state, we’re gonna recruit a kid in-state that we likely know more about,” Trisciani said. “When you get a chance to evaluate a kid live at your camp or you’ve been following them through their high school career, and you have relationships with their head coaches who come over to practice and maybe visit your facility to talk football, you just make less mistakes that way.”

As life has changed for all of athletics due to pandemic restrictions, Trisciani and the position coaches have adjusted the way they communicate with their players. He said the team will have Microsoft Team meetings regularly, and their incoming freshman day will be held virtually. The recruits went through activities of orientation nature and were introduced to the academic support offered by the university along with the athletic ones.

On May 20, the National Collegiate Athletic Association announced on their website that Division I football and both men’s and women’s basketball will be permitted to return to campuses on June 1 for voluntary practices. These practices will only be permitted if “local, state, and federal regulations are followed”. The decision to practice on campus is left solely in the hands of the student-athlete.

Before this decision was made,

ELON FOOTBALL BY THE NUMBERS

- 8

new players from the state of North Carolina
- 2

state championship athletes added to the team
- 13

scholarship freshmen were redshirted last fall

Trisciani said that in some of the virtual meetings with the players, he didn’t sense any nervousness among the group, more so anxiety.

“They’ve worked so hard to be college football players. So I think they’re just excited and anxious to do it,” Trisciani said. “On a virtual meeting with our other players, we’ll use a lot of that time to just let them get to know each other. They’ve had interactions with our players on their visit or multiple visits to campus, but it’s good to just let them talk and enjoy some company with each other and see somebody else’s face and get to know each other.”

Trisciani and the Phoenix will continue to work and prepare for their season. They are currently scheduled to begin their season on Sept. 5 against The Citadel.

Elon expects to announce fall semester plans by June

The Task Force on Fall Semester 2020 is planning to make a recommendation to President Book by the end of the month

Jack Norcross
News Director | @JNorcrossNews

Elon University is hoping to announce plans publicly for the fall semester by early June. The Task Force on Fall Semester 2020 has been tasked with creating a comprehensive plan for how instruction at the university can continue.

The task force, chaired by President Emeritus Leo Lambert, will provide a recommendation to President Connie Book by the end of the month.

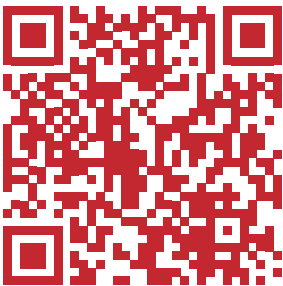
“I couldn’t have picked a better leader for that task force then former president Leo Lambert,” Book said in a recent interview with Elon News Network. “He has a great understanding of the cross functional nature of all the units on campus.”

Book said she is “confident” Elon will be open in the fall, but cautions that a fall semester in the age of COVID will be different. She said the university is considering numerous options to keep within Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines including separating desks and wearing masks.

Book said the university is working on creating an environment safe for both college students and faculty of different age groups, who may have underlying health conditions.

“We have to take a holistic view of what a classroom setting will look like,” Book said

Other universities across the Carolinas have already announced their plans for the fall. On May 17, the University of South Carolina announced students will return for in-person classes, but cancel fall break and move to online instruction following the Thanksgiving holiday. Similar plans have been announced for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where they will expedite the fall semester and hold exams online following Thanksgiving.



WANT MORE ELON CORONAVIRUS UPDATES?

Visit elonnewsnetwork.com or scan the QR Code above.

COVID-19 results in deposit extensions, deferment requests for Fall 2020

Restrictions from COVID-19 results in deposit extension and deferment requests for Fall 2020 semester

Lauren Singles

Event Coverage Coordinator | @lauren_singles

Colleges and universities around the nation are looking towards next semester amid shutdowns from the coronavirus. The uncertainty of the fall and the inability to visit campuses this spring has resulted in deferments and extended deposit deadlines at many universities — and Elon is no exception.

Elon held their May 1 deadline but gave families the option to request a May 15 deadline.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic around 400 schools nationwide extended deposit deadlines to June 1, including Loyola University and Furman University — two of Elon's peer institutions.

"We did not do this because many families said they simply wanted to make a decision and have that done," Vice President for Enrollment Greg Zaiser said. "What prompted this was the notion that families believed they would be able to visit campuses in May which, for the most part, has not come to pass."

Around 250 families requested the extension, according to Zaiser. Being unable to visit campus has created uncertainty for students and families during the college selection process.

Campus visits became limited as restrictions tightened. Although over 1,500 people were able to attend Fellows



CLARE GRANT | PHOTO EDITOR

Students walk past Inman Admissions Welcome Center on Sept. 24, 2019

Weekend, events like Phoenix Fusion and Phoenix Friday were moved online, Zaiser said. Last year over 1,800 people visited campus on tours and through Phoenix Weekends over the course of the spring semester. This year, that number was 39 according to Zaiser.

Around 1,725 students are expected to enroll in the fall as of May 12, compared to the approximately 1,660 this past year, according to Zaiser.

With Elon now on the Common Application, there was a 46% increase in applicants with 10,956 students accepted this year according to Zaiser, an acceptance rate of 72% — 6% lower than last year. Without the pandemic, Zaiser thinks enrollment numbers would be different.

"The goal was to be more accessible

to students, and that was accomplished," Zaiser said. "Had the pandemic not occurred, we would have had more visitors to campus and that experience — for any student on any college campus — is helpful in the decision-making process."

Gap years and deferments have also been reported nationally, with more students than normal opting to wait before going back to school in the fall. While Elon has seen some deferments, there have not yet been gap year requests for the fall according to Zaiser.

"A lot is being written about this but we have not experienced this to-date," Zaiser said. "Presently, we have 13 approved deferrals compared to 29 last year at this time."

Should students decide to defer for the

fall semester and have a Fellows, Scholars, or Odyssey spot, they are not guaranteed spots for the fall of 2021, Zaiser said.

Elon is not the only local university seeing a spike in enrollment despite national trends. Alamance Community College's enrollment data shows an increase in enrollment for this summer, according to Edward Williams, ACC's director of public information. Although it is too early to tell whether or not this is a direct effect of the coronavirus, he does think there is a connection.

"For some, we think, parents realized the hassles of COVID on large dorm-based campuses plus education at a fraction of the price, might be influencing their decision to have their child attend a two-year for a semester or two," Williams said.

Last week, Elon began one-on-one visits to allow families to come to campus, Zaiser said. According to Zaiser, private tours are currently extended through May and larger events are expected to return in June depending on Gov. Roy Cooper's guidelines.

BY THE NUMBERS

1,725

is the approximate number of students expected to enroll in the fall as of May 12

46%

increase in applicants this year, with 10,956 students accepted to Elon

Elon sophomore creates website to connect college students

The College COVID Circle serves students to share different experiences during coronavirus pandemic

Grace Terry

Managing Editor | @gfterry9

Learning to play the guitar was Elon University sophomore Olivia Ruckenstein's first idea when she was planning what to do with the freetime she had due to the coronavirus pandemic but she landed on something much different.

Ruckenstein created The College COVID Circle, a website for students to submit a written piece about their experiences, failures, successes and advice during the pandemic.

Her mother is what really pushed her to do this.

"My mom will always say to me 'take things that you don't think are as good as an opportunity to make something better,'" Ruckenstein said.

She hoped to help college student's deal with this time.

The idea came to her after hearing reports around the country about how college students are being affected by

the coronavirus pandemic. They have been burdened with closures, internship cancellations and missed graduations.

"I wanted more of a connection with students dealing with very similar things," Ruckenstein said.

She wants this to be for more than just Elon students.

"My goal is that I want to get a diverse group of people within a lot of different schools to see how different students from different areas are dealing with being a student during the coronavirus," Ruckenstein said.

She has posts from students that go to University of California Los Angeles, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dartmouth College and Villanova University. Topics range from the perspective of spring sport athletes to internship cancellations to students volunteering.

Through these posts Ruckenstein

said she has realized there is so much she did not know about how her own friends were handling the pandemic.

Hugh Mackenzie, a friend of Ruckenstein from high school and a sophomore at Dartmouth, was



COURTESY OF OLIVIA RUCKENSTEIN

The logo Ruckenstein created for her website "The College Covid Circle".

not expecting to take classes in the spring and planned to pursue an internship in the Philippines. Instead he found himself in no classes in the spring, with no internship and in virtual classes for the summer.

"Given the situation across the country, I knew I could not complain, but was undoubtedly upset. I put it behind me, and aside from the suffering that we see on the news daily, I have grown to be appreciative and grateful for this time," Mackenzie wrote on

his submission for the College COVID Circle.

Ruckenstein said posts like these helped her understand more of how her friends and other students around the country are feeling.

"He's living such a different life as a student right now as we are [at Elon]. So I thought that was super interesting," Ruckenstein said.

She plans to continue updating the website and is hoping to get more people to contribute.

"My first step is really to stick to

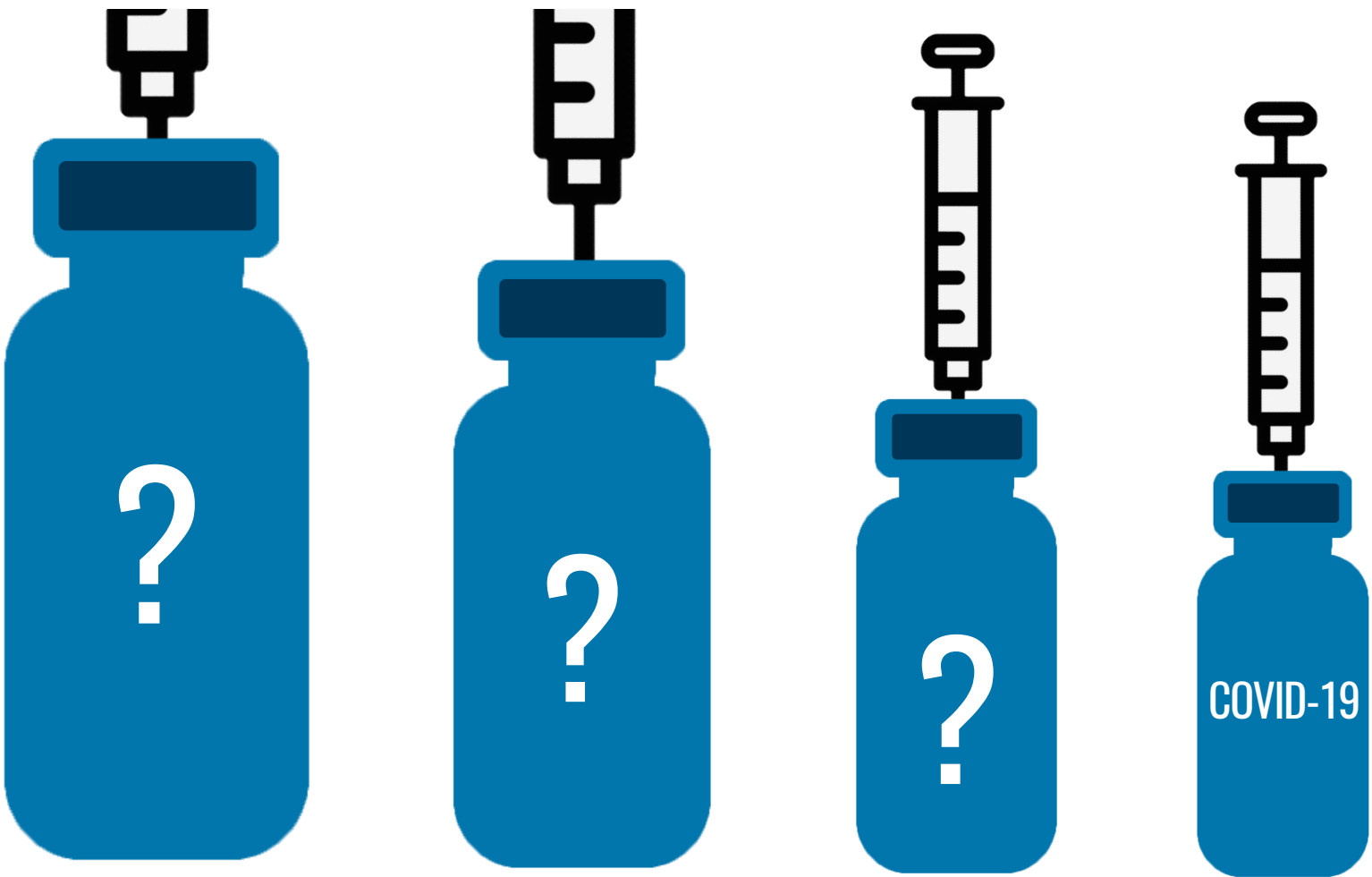
THE WEBSITE

To visit this website go to:
collegecovidcircle.com

reaching out to people, and having them write things," Ruckenstein said.

As of May 21 she has four contributions, but hopes for this number to increase.

Story submissions are taken directly from the website.



NYAH PHENGSIITTHY | DESIGN CHIEF

VACCINES SAVE LIVES, WHY FIGHT IT?



Alex Covello
Elon Senior

We are now about two months into the national quarantine, and since the year began, the topic of the coronavirus has been at the forefront of most people’s minds. Questions arise such as: Where do we go from here? Will we ever find a vaccination? How could we have prevented this?

It is too late to dwell on the past. In the United States, there are more than 91,000 deaths from this virus and over 1.4 million confirmed cases, as of May 21 according to the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. While some medical officials try to focus on finding a vaccine, there has been a noticeable pushback from anti-vaxxers as to find one.

Protesters gathered outside of the capitol building in Austin, Texas on April 18, protesting against Gov. Greg Abbott’s extended stay-at-home order. Those who gathered weren’t just protestors upset with the negative effect on the state’s economy, but also members of the anti-vaccination movement.

Showing up with signs saying “my body, my choice” with a picture of a medical mask crossed out, protesters made their stance very clear. If a vaccine is created they will not get vaccinated, despite that, a vaccine could protect individuals and



THIS SHOULD NOT BE
A POLITICAL STANCE
OR A TIME TO MAKE
THE SEARCH FOR
A VACCINE ABOUT
POLITICS.

ALEX COVELLO
ELON SENIOR

everyone else they come in contact with. The best way to prevent the spread of this virus would be vaccination, according to medical experts who spoke to PBS. The World Health Organization and other medical organizations have been researching and trying to develop a vaccination.

In a time when we should be a united front, we have found a way to become polarized yet again. The virus does not care about who you are or where you come from. We are all at risk and we are all susceptible. The virus is spreading and will not stop, which is why protesting a vaccine is both inappropriate

and absurd.

We no longer have to worry about diseases like polio because we have a vaccine. The National Foundation for Infectious Disease lists 10 reasons as to why you should get vaccinated. So far, no holistic or natural remedies have proven to cure widespread diseases in recent history. Without vaccination, COVID-19 will continue to infect and spread amongst the population. Before you protest in your state, consider how no other remedy can prevent the coronavirus from spreading

The anti-vaccination movement doesn’t just start and end in Texas. These protests are happening in not just our country, but in places like Italy and other countries.

We have adapted to the new normal; Zoom calls have become our late-night hangouts, social distancing is a household phrase and gloves and masks are the latest fashion trend, This will be standard if a vaccine isn’t utilized.

This should not be a political stance or a time to make the search for a vaccine about politics. Vaccines are not about the individual, but for the good of our society and the best way to ensure public health for all.



WANT TO READ MORE OPINIONS
FROM THE STUDENT BODY?
Visit the “Opinions” tab on
elonnewsnetwork.com or scan
the QR Code above.

MAKE HEADLINES

INTERESTED IN JOINING
ELON NEWS NETWORK?
WE'RE HIRING.

OPEN TEAMS:

- Multimedia Reporting
 - News
 - Lifestyle
 - Sports
 - Opinions
- Photography
- Design
- Broadcast Production
- Copy Editing
- Social Media
- Media Analytics
- Business
- Web
- Public Relations

WHY JOIN:

“

BEING A PART OF THE ELON NEWS NETWORK IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT ELON. I'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE ELON COMMUNITY THROUGH ENN AND LOVE GETTING TO DO SO MUCH HANDS-ON WORK.”

GRACE MORRIS
SENIOR

“

JOINING ENN WAS THE GREATEST DECISION I HAVE MADE AT ELON. NOT ONLY DID I MAKE AMAZING FRIENDS, BUT I LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF AND MY FUTURE IN JOURNALISM.”

ALEX ROAT
SENIOR

COME TO PITCH MEETINGS:

TUESDAYS AT 5 P.M. MCEWEN 108

EMAIL US:

ENN@ELON.EDU