

Business school will feature state-of-the-art technology

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relocation of the intramural fields that will be closed upon the commencement of business center construction, said Neil Bromilow, director of construction management at Elon.

When construction begins on the center in spring 2005, contractors will close only one field, leaving ample playing space for students, according to Whittington.

A transportation committee is meeting in regards to the relocation of parking currently available next to McMichael on O'Kelly Avenue. The committee is considering potential transportation alternatives such as a comprehensive tram system to local apartment complexes. Student input regarding such proposals will be sought through the Student Government Association, Residence Life and other campus organizations through the coming months, according to Whittington.

In the future, Elon officials plan to re-route visiting traffic through what will become a north entrance to campus, highlighting the Greek Courts and Moseley Center to the right of incoming traffic and the Koury

Business and McMichael Science Centers to the left. Admissions and University Relations materials will direct prospective students and university guests from one of the local interstates or highways to the Elon by-pass, currently under construction. The university plans to discourage drivers from exiting the by-pass near undeveloped west campus, the most direct route for drivers to reach the university, and encourage visitors to enter campus through what will be the "newest" section of campus, according to Dan Anderson, director of university relations.

"The building is reminiscent of the Academic Village buildings, but has many of the same elements of the older buildings on the campus, too: window treatment, colonnades, and the type of brick," Whittington said, referring to the architectural concept Elon's committee for the business center approved.

"This building will certainly look like it belongs on this campus as all of the others we have built over the last decade have."

Contact Jessica Patchett at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Blackboard includes more integrated features

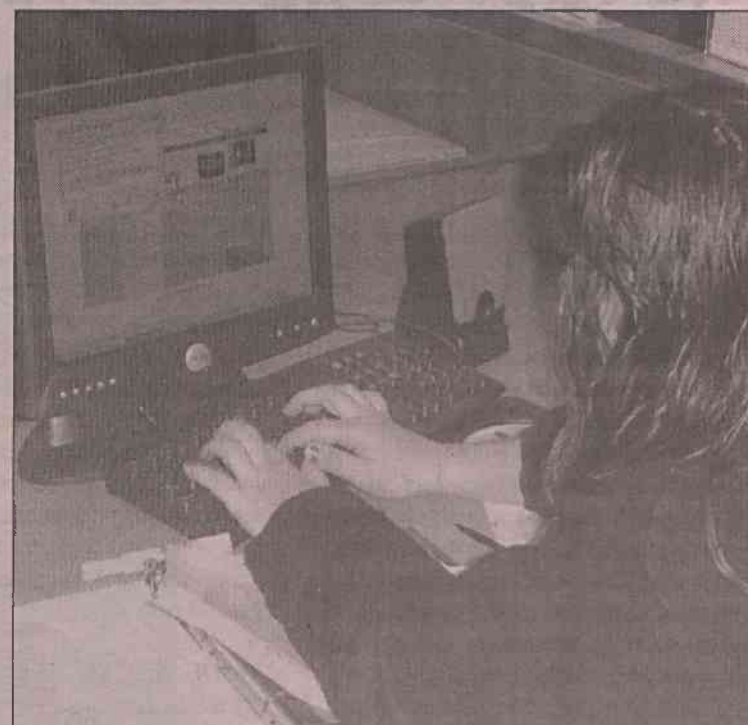
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it will relate to the institution. Driscoll also wants students to know that their network attached storage is now 500 MB, which is similar to another hard drive on the network - but it can be accessed anywhere.

Brown said another difference is, "Organizations are now separate from courses." Brown also said policies will be set up to make sure organizations are kept up-to-date.

Although organizations are still using Blackboard 5 Driscoll said, they will be transferred to Blackboard 6 by mid-February. Brown, Baute and Driscoll all stressed users must use their e-mail password to access Blackboard 6. If students have any problems or have forgotten their password, they are advised to contact the help desk at extension 5200.

Recent changes to E-net include subcategories in the student center and want ads. The additional categories make it easier to find items. New subcategories in the student center section include: general announcements, event announcements, organiza-



Bridgette Guedri / Photographer

Over the next several months, students will be able to access additional features through Blackboard 6. The portal system is expected to be completed by fall 2004.

tional meetings, volunteer opportunities and residence life. New categories in the want ads are divided into apartments, books, electronics, furniture, lost and found, roommates and travel. Look for future

updates on the progress of Blackboard 6 and the portal system and additions to Internet resources.

Contact Ashley Feibish at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Accreditation teams visit business school and physical therapy program

Steve Earley
Copy Editor

February is a big month for Elon behind the scenes with two accreditation review teams visiting the university. Representatives from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business visited the Love School of Business Sunday through Wednesday and a team from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will visit the physical therapy program next Monday through Wednesday.

This week's visit to the business school comes at the end of a five-year AACSB candidacy process. If accredited, the Love School of Business would join a select group of 466 business schools - including 54 outside the United States.

"If we're given the accreditation, we will get the recognition we deserve, and to some extent that recognition will be worldwide,"

said John Burbridge, dean of the Love School of Business.

In order to receive AACSB accreditation, the business school must meet 39 standards in areas such as the qualifications of faculty and their intellectual contributions, curriculum content, instructional resources and achievement of students.

Exit interviews with senior business students helped the school decide what changes it should make in preparation for the accreditation review, Burbridge said. Deficits in the accounting skills and quantitative skills of seniors, for example, prompted the addition of two accounting hours and a second statistics class to the curriculum.

An increased focus on experiential learning was also part of the school's accreditation push. The Jefferson Pilot Business Fellows program, established in 1994, offers select students study abroad

and internship opportunities. The Elon Enterprise Academy, established in 2002, gives students hands-on entrepreneurial experience through running their own companies.

Significant growth of the business school - from fewer than 400 business majors in 1996 to more than 800 today - prompted other changes during the candidacy period, such as the addition of more than 10 full time faculty members since 1998.

Burbridge said he expects a decision on accreditation from AACSB by April.

Next week's visit to the physical therapy program from SACS - the accrediting body for colleges in eleven southern states which accredits all of Elon's academic programs - is a final step in the transition from a master's to a doctorate program.

The program enrolled its first

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—John Burbridge, dean of the Love School of Business”

DPT class in January 2003.

Elon's physical therapy program began as a master's program in 1998. The decision to change to a doctorate program was made in 2001. That same year, the university earned accreditation for the doctorate program from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education - a nationally-recognized accreditor affiliated with the American Physical Therapy Association.

"This will definitely enhance our visibility as an institution for someone interested in physical therapy," Elizabeth Rogers, associate dean of physical therapy, said of

the doctorate program.

As one of about 200 colleges offering a doctorate in physical therapy - among the first 50 in the nation to do so - Elon is helping lead the maturation of a field that began with certificate programs 100 years ago.

"The body of knowledge in the profession has changed and it's grown to be respected among health care providers," Rogers said.

Rogers said she expects a decision from SACS this summer.

Contact Steve Earley at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.