

THE PENDULUM

Elon University
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The Pendulum is published each Thursday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Monday before publication.

Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, double-spaced, signed and include a telephone number for verification. Submissions are also accepted as Word documents on disk or by e-mail and as posts on our Web site.

The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene or potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may have to be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

To reach The Pendulum at 233 Moseley Center, call 278-7247 or fax 278-7426. Contact The Pendulum by e-mail at pendulum@elon.edu. Visit our Web site at www.elon.edu/pendulum.

Each person is entitled to one free copy.

Editorials

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

School of Law: If we build it, will they come?

In this issue we explore Elon's changing academic and physical landscapes. With the new Koury business school building slated to be construction early next year, and Board of Trustees members closely studying the feasibility of an Elon law school, we are in the midst of change.

University officials have opened discussions on the possibility of housing a law school in Greensboro rather than on Elon's campus.

The challenge in creating a law school utilizing a satellite campus is to retain Elon's sense of community while filling a void in the law school market. While expansion of Elon's academic programs is inevitable, part of the school's enchanting atmosphere is its small Alamance county location.

The practicality of a Greensboro campus perhaps overshadows the potential of a disconnect between the two locations. The number of law firms and courts access in a city like Greensboro would offer students more resources, while housing the law school on campus would better facilitate departmental

interaction and cooperation.

As the school struggles to build a solid endowment, the looming costs of funding a law school in Elon or Greensboro raises funding concerns. Administrators estimate construction costs for a law school at more than \$20 million. Similarly, capital improvement and overhead costs must also be taken into consideration should administrators decide to push forward with a satellite campus.

It won't be cheap.

Donations will subsidize the direct cost to students, but tuition will feel an impact at some point.

Over the past few years, Elon has continued to progress toward a reputation as one of the

finest liberal arts schools in the southeast. The introduction of an MBA program and advanced degrees in education and physical therapy have propelled a small college into a university. Like it or not, change was a part of that evolving history. Likewise, change will be a part of the school's future.

As with any long-term project or investment, generating interest in an Elon law school will take time. Although market research indicates a niche opening for such an institution, the reality of economic efficacy is uncertain. In a state filled with prestigious Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill law schools, the competition is steep.

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SGA elections should be full of applicants, not apathy

Applications for Student Government Association positions are due at 5 p.m. Friday—there's still time to complete a packet by the deadline. Elon's SGA is a student "voice" for questioning current university policies and standards and provoking change or affirmation thereof. But of the 4,200 undergraduate students enrolled at Elon, few more than the elected/appointed officials of the Senate participate in student government. The SGA debates and addresses student concerns in the Senate and in open forum Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. SGA members also serve Elon institutional committees that resolve issues such as transportation alternatives and smoking in certain areas on campus.

The SGA is divided into four councils, executive council, at-large council, academic council and organization council. Each spring, the student body elects 34 students to serve on

three of the four councils; the Office of Leadership and Organization Development selects students to serve on the organization council.

Last year, several SGA positions were taken by default. Give your fellow students a challenge and campaign for a position. Four strong leaders with dedication and insight into the Elon community should sit on the executive council, as the student body president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. 18 students, six from each class, sit on the at-large council and 12 students comprise the academic council, two representing each academic division (fine arts/humanities, communications, education/health and human performance, math/science, business/economics, and social sciences.)

Meet the candidates

SGA candidates may submit a photo and 40 words to pendulum@elon.edu for inclusion in the next issue.

The SGA is searching for "students who are qualified and would make solid representatives," according to a solicitation by Jamie Lewis, chair of the SGA Elections Committee. Make sure you are represented in the SGA next year — even if you don't apply for an elected position. Attend weekly SGA meetings. Application packets are still available in the SGA office, Moseley 221-A. SGA elections will be held February 24 - 25.

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Correction

In the Jan. 25 edition of The Pendulum, in a story regarding the winner of the MLK essay, the name of the winning students school was incorrect. The correct name of the school is Turrentine Middle School and, located in Burlington, N.C. The presenter pictured was L'Tanya Richmond.