

# Durr named Elon's first sustainability coordinator

Alexa Milan  
Summer News Editor

Elon welcomed a new staff member on May 27 when Elaine Durr became the university's first sustainability coordinator.

Durr's job involves making the goals laid out in the university's sustainability master plan a reality. This year she will create new ideas for sustainability, and work with and promote the programs Elon already has in place, like the Zipcar program.

She will work on generating more information about sustainability issues and increasing awareness on campus. She will also create a new Web site for sustainability at Elon and will represent Elon at sustainability conferences and meetings.

"The ultimate goal is for Elon to be looked at as a leader in sustainability," Durr said.

Durr found out about the position through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's weekly newsletter and said she was excited when she landed the job. She wanted this type of position when she finished graduate school but had not been able to find the right one until now.

"I could tell that the commitment to sustainability was strong here," Durr said.

Durr said she was attracted to Elon because of its small, supportive environment. She also went to a small private school, Monmouth College in Illinois, before attending the University of South Carolina School of the Environment for graduate school.

Growing up in the small town of Glasford, Ill.,

contributed to Durr's interest in the environment. She was always outside in rural Glasford and said she has been interested in the environment for as long as she can remember. As she reached her teens, she began hearing more and more about environmental problems and wondered why people were not doing something to prevent them.

This frustration is one of the reasons why Durr chose to focus her studies on environmental and sustainability issues. She initially studied water conservation and management and later worked with the green building rating system, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

At the University of South Carolina, Durr combined her two interests and wrote a thesis on LEED's water efficiency credits. The purpose of the thesis was to get people to pay more attention to water efficiency credits - something Durr said she feels doesn't get enough focus.

"The idea of green building just made so much sense to me," Durr said.

She also worked as a graduate assistant for the



Elaine Durr

## Get to know Elaine Durr:

- Went to Monmouth College in Illinois
- Attended the University of South Carolina, where she wrote her thesis on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design's water efficiency credits
- Worked as a graduate assistant for the Sustainable Universities Initiative
- Earned a master's degree in Earth and Environmental Resources Management

Sustainable Universities Initiative. This assistantship is what sparked Durr's interest in campus sustainability.

After earning her master's degree in earth and environmental resources management, Durr wanted to stay in the southeast but couldn't find a campus sustainability job. She worked as a sustainability consultant at Energy Ace Inc., a firm in Decatur, Ga. specializing in creating environmentally sustainable buildings. Durr served as a LEED consultant on various construction projects and managed the LEED certification process.

Now that Durr has secured the campus sustainability position she has always wanted, she said she is looking forward to helping Elon become more sustainable campus.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Eating at Moe's to Support Blood Cancer Research

Eat at Moe's Southwest Grill in Burlington on Monday, July 7 from 5-8 p.m. and some of the proceeds from your meal will go toward the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Elon senior Larissa Ferretti is working to raise money for blood cancer research and support of those with the disease. Her goal is to raise \$3,300.

### Hostage Situation on Campus to Test Alerts

On July 17, there will be police training on campus that will involve a hostage situation and an active shooter. Two SWAT teams, the fire department and an EMS team will be on campus. Mooney lot will be closed. The training will most likely take place in Smith dorm. As a result of the training, sirens and e-alerts will be going off. Check out The Pendulum online for multimedia coverage of the training event.

### New \$570 million terminal at RDU

Raleigh-Durham International Airport has begun construction on Terminal 2, set to open in late October. The terminal will be replacing Terminal C and will house American Airlines, American Eagle, Delta, United, Midwest Connect and Air Canada. The first phase of construction will have 19 gates, seven security checkpoint lanes and 26 shops and restaurants. The second phase will open an additional 13 gates, seven security checkpoint lanes and 17 shops and restaurants. Terminal A will be renamed Terminal 1.

### Portrait Funds Law School Scholarship

Former U.S. president and hero of the War of 1812, Andrew Jackson will help fund an endowed scholarship at Elon University's School of Law - through the sales commissions of reproductions of his portrait. Greensboro artist, Tony Forrest, is donating proceeds from sales of inkjet prints of the portrait to fund law school scholarships. The awarding of a scholarship in Jackson's name is hoped to begin in the 2009-2010 academic year. The law school will temporarily house the original painting starting in October.

### Elon Hits Fundraising Landmark for 2007-2008

This year, \$16.5 million was fundraised for Elon University, breaking the previous record of \$13.6 million during 2005-2006. Another record was made when donors gave \$8.9 million to the endowment, a number that is nearly three times the money raised for the endowment last year.

### Piano Gala to Feature Solos, Duets and Eight Hand

Eastern Music Festival's Steinway Piano Gala is coming to Elon on July 2 in honor of Esther C. Kernodle. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in McCrary Theatre. Tickets are now on sale in the Center for the Arts Box Office. Students, faculty and staff receive a free ticket with a Phoenix card.

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the aesthetic improvements," Moore said.

Moore also said it should not impact students returning to school or other roadways around the school.

Elon administration is hoping this will be the new main entrance into the school. Visitors would then pass immediately by the newest buildings on campus, the Colonnades and the Koury Business Center, before arriving at Moseley Center. A brand new welcome sign will be placed at the entrance.

The project was proposed by Elon University and is proceeding with cooperation from the Town of Elon.



## Interns enjoy summer experience

Alison Hydrick  
Reporter

While most college students soak up sunshine during the summer months, more than 200 Elon University students are gaining practical work experience by completing internships in locations across the country.

Tristan Milder, a junior from New Jersey, is interning at Voice of America in Washington, D.C. Milder works with several VOA Web shows including "The Daily Download," "Election USA" and "Going Green." Milder contributed to the recently canceled news magazine "The World Today," which airs in India.

For each of these shows, Milder researches story ideas, writes scripts, finds and edits video and sometimes films and conducts interviews.

"Probably one of the most rewarding experiences was watching pieces that I wrote and edited go out to millions of viewers in India for the last of our shows sent there," Milder said. "Sure, what I write and edit has to be approved, but I play a significant role in how a story is framed - what the narration is and what images people see."

Also in Washington, D.C., Bobby Chamberlain is currently interning with the United States Department of Defense in the Speechwriters Group. He helps edit speeches the Secretary of Defense will use for public and private appearances.

Chamberlain said one of the

biggest challenges of his internship is that the Secretary of Defense reads some of his work.

"The most rewarding thing about my internship is the fact that I have a chance to, in some small way, serve both my country and the brave men and women in the armed forces," Chamberlain said. "Granted, it is a very small part, but I'm honored all the same to be working alongside them."

Several other Elon students are also interning in the governmental arena. Nine students from Elon University and Elon School of Law were selected to complete a ten-week internship through the N.C. Government Internship Program. Only 100 students were selected for the program from a pool of 586 applicants. The students are working on projects in 22 departments and 50 divisions of the North Carolina state government.

"This outstanding group of students will gain hands-on experience in dozens of diverse jobs across state government this summer," said Gov. Mike Easley. "These opportunities help to prepare our students for the challenges of the global marketplace and encourages public service."

For the past two years, 70 percent of graduating seniors completed an internship at some point during their time at Elon. Completing an internship is one of the most popular ways students complete their experiential learning requirement.

## Jordan Gym gets makeover



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photograph

By the mid-part of July, a new floor and wall padding by the basketball hoops should be in place in Jordan Gym. It was largely an athletic department decision based on the fact that the flooring was put in around 1970. Jordan Gym is used primarily for recreational purposes and infrequently by the athletic department. Construction started on May 27 and is expected to be complete by July 4, just in time for a youth volleyball camp to begin on July 9.