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Elon Founders Day kicks off with College Coffee



(From left to right) Earl Danieley, Welsford Bishopric, Fred Young and Leo Lambert pose for a selfie on Founders Day March 11 at Phi Beta Kappa Commons.

Stephanie Lamm Assistant News Editor

Elon University celebrated its 125th birthday with a special College Coffee to honor Earl Danieley, Fred Young and current university president Leo Lambert.

Hundreds of students, faculty and alumni gathered on Phi Beta Kappa Commons to hear student body president Welsford Bishopric speak and share in Elon's birthday cake.

"This Founders' Day is extra special because of the 125th birthday and the beautiful turnout," said Dianne Ford, a science librarian at Elon. "It's nice to bring everyone out to celebrate together."

In his short speech, Bishopric recapped Elon's history and honored the leaders who sought to make Elon a nationally-competitive liberal arts university.

Danieley became president at 32 years old in 1957. He expanded the library and created the academic advising system, career services, the chaplain's office and many other features of today's campus.

In 1963, Young took over for Danieley, who remained at the university as a chemistry professor. Young pioneered the engaged learning program, including study abroad, internships and undergraduate research. Young's main area of empasis was the improvement of the overall quality of Elon's academic programs.

Lambert became president in 1999 and implemented two separate strategic plans for the university. These plans aimed to increase the academic reputation and transition Elon from a college to a university.

"He has facilitated our transformation

Elon debates tobacco use as standards shift at other universities

Hannah Wolfe Senior Reporter

Twenty years ago, the idea of a tobaccofree campus was all but laughable, particularly in a state that consumes as much of the product as North Carolina does. But as 1,182 institutions of higher learning are now smokefree, portions of Elon University are ready to jump on the bandwagon.

Over the last two years, the number of smoke-free campuses nationally has almost doubled from 586 in October 2011, according to the National Tobacco-Free College Campus Initiative (NTFCCI).

Elon's current policy regarding tobacco states, "Elon University is a smoke-free campus with respect to all facilities, except outdoor facilities. Smoking is not permitted within 30 feet of university buildings or in Rhodes Stadium."

The university expects smokers to deposit waste in the proper receptacles in order to maintain a litter-free campus.

Though Elon is surrounded by old tobacco money — Duke University was built on the crop — the university will keep up with nationally developing standards, according to Julie Lellis, assistant professor of communications and instructor of Health Communications.

"Despite the tobacco culture in North Carolina, I think Elon will try to keep up with what other universities are doing," Lellis said.

NTFCCI, made up of the U.S. Deparment of Health and Human Services, the American College Association and the University of Michigan, encourages universities to adopt tobacco-free policies.

Putting an end to tobacco addiction is the initiative's main purpose, by stopping young adults from smoking in order to prevent them from becoming addicted.

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