



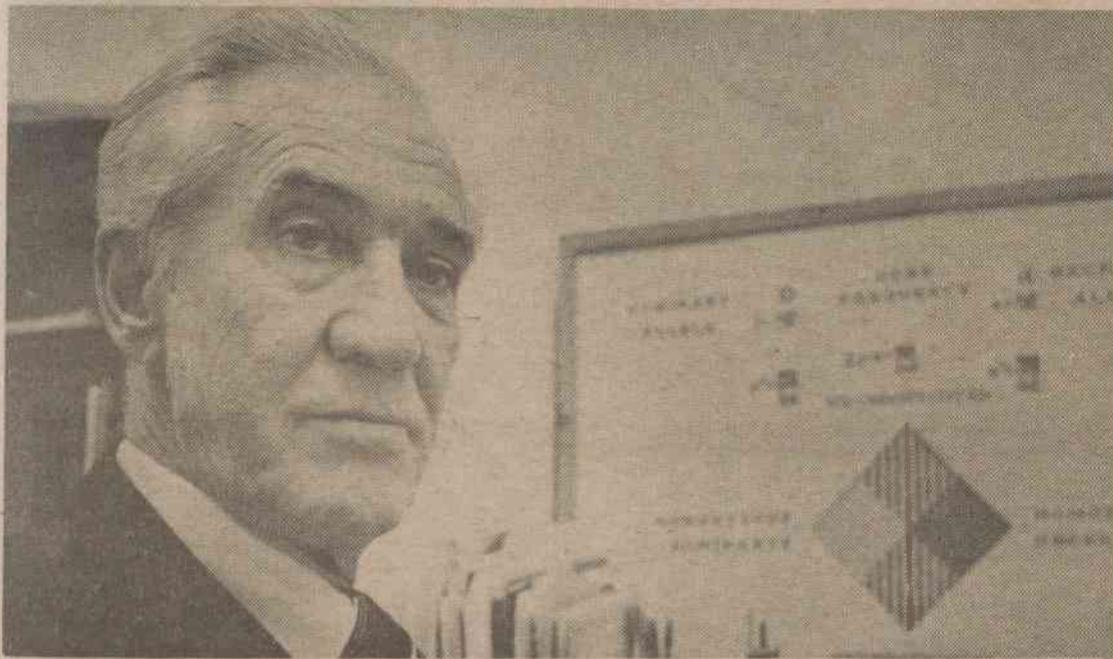
# The Pendulum

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Dr. Maurice Whittinghill, a retired professor of genetics from UNC-CH, came to Elon College this fall. He encourages students to attend his class in human genetics this spring. Photos by Craig Stanfield.

## Elon to get genetics

by Mildred B. Lynch

Some problems in Human Genetics (Bio 271) will be offered for the first time on the Elon College campus this spring. The course is open to anyone, and Dr. Maurice Whittinghill, who will be teaching the course, encourages students who are not biology majors as well as those who are to enroll.

"Students from fine arts, psychology and chemistry as well as biology enrolled in this class when I taught it at UNC-CH because they were interested, and they heard that it was a good course," Dr. Whittinghill said with a modest smile.

The class, which will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for one hour (no labs), will cover such topics as "Normal Humans and Their Environment," "Defects Caused by Known Genes or Chromosomal Alterations" and "Public Policies Regarding Diseases or Conditions." Students will have an opportunity to investigate genetically caused conditions of their own or of someone else.

Dr. Whittinghill is the

first T.E. Powell, Jr. Professor of Biology. This chair was endowed by Dr. Powell, founder of Carolina Biological Supply Co. and former professor of biology at Elon College.

Dr. Whittinghill brings to Elon a wide background in the field of genetics, having taught human genetics, general genetics and genetics in experimental animals at UNC-CH. He is teaching Honors Bio 111, Bio 410 (Genetics) and the senior seminar in biology at Elon College. He has served as the first Wachtmeister professor at Virginia Military Institute and as a parttime visiting professor at UNC-Wilmington.

"I have always had a special interest in human genetics which I have seen grown by leaps and bounds," Dr. Whittinghill said.

His interests and talents are not limited to the biology lab. He is active in the New Hope Chapter of the Audobon Society, enjoys sailing in the summer and skiing in the winter.

He and his wife, a registered nurse, live on Trail's End in Burlington.

## 'Self-murder' is a cry for help

by Kevin Wilson

The controversy concerning the moral aspects of suicide was the topic of Dr. Robert Kastenbaum's lecture Tuesday afternoon in Mooney Theater. The psychology professor from the University of Massachusetts

lectured on the various ways of committing suicide and discussed reasons why people end their lives.

According to Kastenbaum, suicide is known to many as "self-murder." Suicide is morally questionable because it takes away a person's life, though most suicidal cases

are not insane. Before kidney transplants were common, a patient on dialysis jumped out a hospital window, unable to accept the reality of the situation. He simply chose the other alternative, taking his own life. Suicide victims need counseling on a specific problem they feel is personally destroying them, and this help is needed immediately.

A "good death" will have a rational cause, and most people have certain places and situations they prefer to die in. Most people desire to die as late as possible, unless terminally ill or depressed.

The three styles of death, according to Dr. Kastenbaum, are romantic death, accepting death, and teaching death. By committing suicide, the person feels he is doing society a favor, and in many instances, this is seen as acceptable by society.

Dr. Kastenbaum also said the mass media is an influence on suicide and that more older people are taking their lives than younger people although suicide is on the upswing among the young. People who are serious about suicide do not hesitate to complete the act, but suicide threats are really a cry for help.

The lecture presented people with an outlook on how society influences a person to take his life, regardless of the reason.

## Last day for WP

Students who wish to drop a course will receive a WP through tomorrow. After Friday, students will receive a WF. Students who are failing a course will receive a WF regardless of the time at which the course is dropped.

Withdrawing with a WP will not count against the

student. No credit for the course will be given for a WP.

Drop forms may be picked up at the registrar's office. Forms should be signed by the adviser and the course instructor and returned to the registrar's office.

## 75-year-old barber pole, \$1580 worth of signs stolen

Hand carved and painted signs from the Bank of North Carolina and an antique barber pole have been taken from Williamson Avenue buildings, according to Elon College police.

The signs, costing \$1,580, were removed from the face of the bank building about two weeks ago. The barber pole was torn off the barber shop Monday night. It was at least 75 years old and had belonged to the grandfather of R.V. "Sally" Bare's wife.

Upset over losing an item of such sentimental value to

the family, she is offering a \$100 reward for the return of the barber pole. Mr. Bare expressed hope that "someone will bring it back."

A police spokesman said that these two incidents marked the first vandalism and disappearance of signs and other property in the town this fall.

Taking signs of this value is considered larceny which, according to the police, on conviction carries a 20-year jail term.

## MLT program here teaches basic sciences

by Mildred Lynch

"Radioimmunoassay (RIA) is an exciting new field," says Gayle Scott, director of the Medical Laboratory Technician Program.

Two graduates of the MLT Program are employed in this field which uses radioisotopes and antigen-antibody systems to identify and quantitate substances.

Other graduates are employed at Biomedical Laboratories of Burlington, which is a major clinical affiliate of the program, and in small hospitals where they usually perform all of the tasks for which they are trained for, Mrs. Scott says.

The MLT Program at Elon is evolving to a higher level of educational standards and excellence, according to Mrs. Scott. Graduates receive an associate of science degree and may continue at Elon to earn a baccalaureate.

The first-year students are learning the basic sciences and are performing related laboratory procedures on campus. The second-year class is taking advanced courses and will begin clinical experiences at Biomedical Labs in a few weeks.

Mrs. Scott, a native of Georgia, has a bachelor of science degree in medical technology from the Medical College of Georgia. Her experience includes work as a technologist in hematology, blood banking and chemistry. She has served for eight years as educational coordinator for the Medical Laboratory Technician Certificate Program for Atlanta Area Technical School before coming to Elon College.

Anyone who would like additional information concerning the program may contact Mrs. Scott in her office on third floor Carlton or call her at Ext. 245.