

## Guest Editorial

## Grammar/literature?

It seems a shame that literature has taken precedence over a basic grammar course at Elon College. Betty Gerow's grammar class is clearly not a major priority in the eyes of the administration. Unfortunately, many students (and not only freshmen) lack the basic skills necessary for a successful academic life.

The Learning Resources Center is literally teaching basic skills that are simply not taught in high schools today. Although freshmen are required to take an English test as a prerequisite for English 111 and 112, many need to work on their writing and communication skills. Effective communication is not only essential for college students, but of vital importance to a college graduate in the business world.

Why are the wishes of the English faculty forced down the throats of the students? We the students must have a voice in the availability of necessary courses. Although the grammar course was

offered first semester, what will happen to those seniors who could not take it then?

According to Dean Chris White, the grammar course was "an experimental course that was not approved by the faculty or announced in the catalogue." He said, "We were pleasantly surprised by how well-accepted" the course was, and "I agree that there's enough academic interest," for the course to be picked up next semester. Starting next year, "The course will be offered as a regular part of the curriculum at least once a year."

Dean White admits that "We are stretching ourselves quite thin adding another course," to the agenda (Afro-American Literature) but says "We are trying to respond to the students' needs and faculty interest." He also added, "There's never been a schedule set that can't be changed."

It is time for us the students to raise our voices in protest. Straying from the necessary essentials of good writing and grammar is not in the best interests of the students.

Joy Hamilton

We wish to thank Hinton Press for their efforts last week in getting the paper out in spite of major technical difficulties. Because of these problems, the paper could not be proofread as usual.

## Poor response from students

by Jennings Berry  
Academic Counseling

Imagine this: a radio station is broadcasting, but no radios are turned on; there is no communication. Imagine this: notes are sent to students, but the students either don't check mail boxes or don't read the notes; there is no communication. For communication to occur, there must be a sender and a receiver. However, faculty advisers and offices of the college are beginning to feel that while they are senders,

there are no receivers.

For example, faculty advisers and the counseling office have been asking their advisees to come in now in order to help them with course planning. Unfortunately, far too many students ignore notes from advisers or the counseling office. And unless students begin responding better, the result will be that numerous advisees will wait until the last minute to obtain help with selecting courses for pre-registration. When students wait until "the last

minute," it is impossible for the advisers and the counseling office to give each student adequate time.

The problem is lack of student response. The result of poor response is two-fold: the system designed to provide help to students is less effective than it might be; and it is impossible for individual students to obtain the help they need.

The solution is simple: concerning pre-registration, students should see advisers  
cont. on p. 6

## Flunkies to leave

Cont. from p. 1

White says the results of a study of 1978 freshmen have made the change mandatory. The study showed that about 100 freshmen scored 1.0 (D average) or lower at the end of the fall semester 1978. They stayed on at Elon, on probation. Of this number, less than 15 per cent became eligible to attend summer sessions or the fall semester 1979. They had either failed to make the grade or they had dropped out in spite of special helps of several kinds. They turned out to be the problem people in the dorms as Dean White said the same ones were in trouble with student affairs.

"It will cost us money to suspend these freshmen," Dean White said, "but that is short term loss. In the long

term, we shall gain by having higher academic standards and social behavior."

Campus-wide, the academic standing committee last suspended twice the number that had been sent home for the last eight to ten years Dean White said. This will continue this year. At the same time the college has raised admission standards.

The Learning Resources Center has also upgraded work and expectations. Through higher admissions, the lowest skills of previous years are simply not here, the dean said. Qualitatively, the students are a different kind according to proficiency tests and SAT scores.

There is also a general sense that the faculty members are tightening standards, Dean White said. "They are requiring more papers, reports, term papers, and in general expecting more from students. At the same time, many students say they want to get their money's worth. They don't want a 300 course that is a repeat of a 100 course."

In addition the requirement of 36 hours of 300 and 400 level courses for all majors is a demonstrable act by the faculty to force juniors and seniors to take upper division work. The honors program is another facet of the move to raise the level of work at the college, the dean concluded.

## NC-PIRG Refunds

Nov. 5, 10, 11, 16  
11-1 p.m.

Lobby of  
Student Union

Bring a roll of color print film for developing, along with the coupon below, to your nearby participating Fotomat Store. In return, the Fotomate will give you a replacement roll of good, fresh Fotomat color print film absolutely free.

In the event that you can't quite believe what you just read, we'll repeat the key words. Film. Free.

## Free film with developing.

Bring this coupon, along with a roll of color print film for developing, to any participating Fotomat Store. You'll receive a replacement roll of Fotomat color print film free of charge.

E.C.

11/30/79

**FOTOMAT**



## Questionnaire

## Instructions:

Please answer all questions truthfully. Please do not make any stray marks on the questionnaire. Do not sign your name to the completed form; simply mail it to the **Pendulum**, Campus Box 5240, Long Student Center by Nov. 15.

## I. What is your class/academic rank?

Senior	Junior	Sophomore	Freshman
Professor	Associate Prof.		Assistant Prof.
Instructor	Part-time		

## II. What is your G.P.A.? (If applicable)

4.0-3.0	2.9-2.0	1.9-1.0	Below 1.0
---------	---------	---------	-----------

## III. Do you read/listen to:

the <b>Pendulum</b>	the Communicator	WSOE	ALL
---------------------	------------------	------	-----

IV. In the **Pendulum**, do you read:

News	Features	Sports	Editorials
All of the above			

V. How do you think the **Pendulum** could be improved?

more student-oriented coverage  
more local events off-campus  
more student opinion  
more photo essays  
other (specify below)

## VI. Do you read the ads in this newspaper?

Yes  
No

## VII. Do you buy merchandise on the basis of these ads?

Yes  
No

## VIII. How would you describe Elon's student body?

very active  
moderately active  
moderately inactive  
very inactive  
apathetic