



The Pendulum

'Jump Rope for Heart'

will be held
in Jordan Gym
on Nov. 15

from 7 to 10 p.m.

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Elon College, Elon College, N.C. 27244

Thursday, November 11, 1982

General studies requirements change



Anne Ponder

Elon College has changed the general studies requirements that future students must meet to graduate.

The requirements, which were passed last Friday by the college faculty, will not affect students currently enrolled here, but will affect students who enter Elon under next year's catalog. Academic Dean Chris White said.

The revised criteria each student must satisfy include

completion of at least 12 hours of junior or senior level work outside the student's major. These credits must come from three of five general fields including Expression, Science, Reflection, Civilization and Society. Expression consists of art, English, fine arts and music. Science includes math and science courses. Reflection includes religion and philosophy; Civilization embodies a "historical and cultural context beyond the present day in American culture." Society includes economics, geography, political science, psychology and sociology.

"We did it to teach values and how to think," White said, "I think we strengthened the program and plugged a lot of holes."

"We want every one of our graduates to be thought of as a generally educated

person," he said.

The newly passed revision also "strongly recommended that one of these courses be a General Studies Seminar which integrates one or more of the areas."

The new graduation requirements also will demand Math 112, College Algebra, or higher be completed.

Also, at least three hours of English credit beyond 112 must be taken.

Currently the college requires six hours of religion for graduation. Under the new requirements, six hours of reflection are required. Only three of those hours must be religion; the other three can be from either religion or philosophy.

Dr. Anne Ponder, assistant professor of communications and English, chaired the General Studies Committee that developed the revision and submitted it to the faculty since 1980.

She said, "We had no coherent philosophy behind General Studies. There were more professional majors and the curriculum became unbalanced toward professionalism rather than toward liberal education."

She said that the original plan called for the interdisciplinary seminar to be a requirement for graduation but the "strong" recommendation was substituted before the final proposal was submitted.

"The last general revision was in 1971," she said. "In the late 60's and 70's many schools did away with general education requirements. We can thank the basic conservatism of the college. We have to build back much less than other schools."

She said that a federal grant allowed the college to examine every aspect of the college and determine what was necessary to strengthen

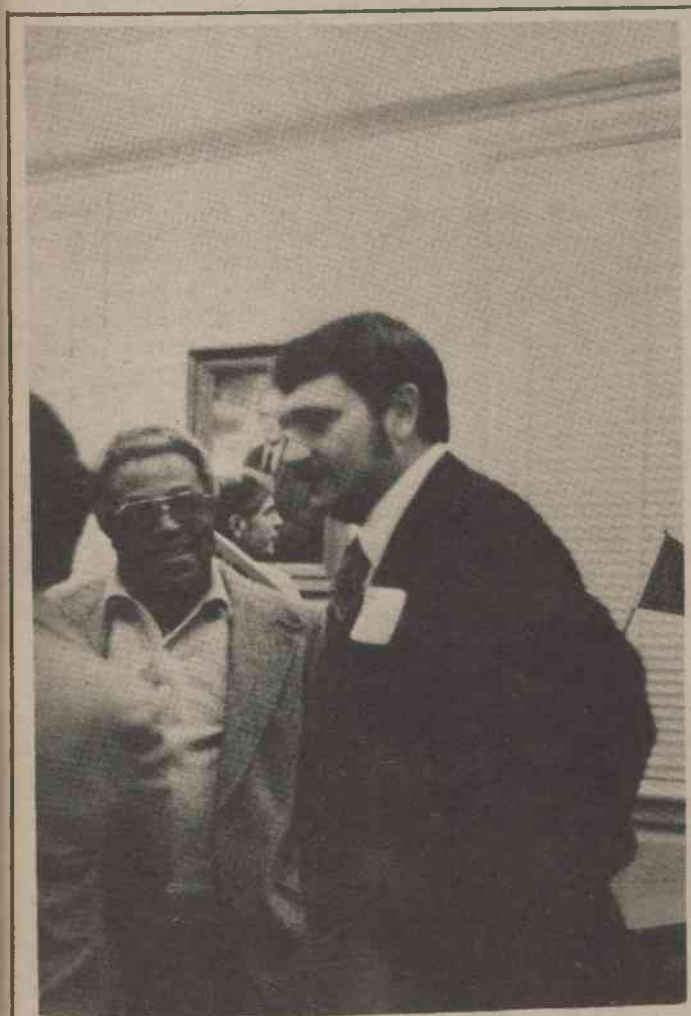


Chris White

that part of the school.

Ponder and White said that additional faculty members were not needed to teach the new courses. She said that the seminars would offer teachers an opportunity to view their disciplines from different angles. She said general education was the last area examined and that a "general upgrade" seemed in order.

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Parents visit campus

PARENTS' WEEKEND featured many events parents could attend. Above, two parents talk to math Professor Richard Haworth in the library on Saturday. For more news on Parents' Weekend, see the story by Michael Roth on page 4.

Senate OK's activities van; debate delays approval

by Vicky Jiggetts
Staff Writer

A special report given by Tracey Walser began the Nov. 4 senate meeting. She explained the survey on raising the drinking age. During the next session of the North Carolina State Legislature, the Senate and House will consider raising the legal drinking age from 18 to 19 or 21. Elon students will give their opinions on the survey.

Vice president Rodney Beebe's special report told about the upcoming North

Carolina State Legislature meeting in Greensboro. On Nov. 21 and 22 at UNC-G, 20 public and private colleges will meet to discuss different issues involving the state.

A controversial discussion was held concerning the only bill introduced. The discussion involved the purchase of a new student activities van which the Student Government Association wishes to donate to the students. President Ted Reinheimer wrote a letter last August to John F. Mitchell, vice presi-

dent, business affairs, to initiate this project, suggesting that it is the responsibility of the SGA to provide dependable transportation.

Later, in a conference with Dean Long, Reinheimer went through some guidelines suggested for the initial purchase of the new van. The first was that the college would contribute \$2,500 to the base cost and they would cover the maintenance and insurance costs. The college would buy the van for the SGA, then the SGA would pay the school back in semi-annual payments until spring 1984. First priority use for the van included cheerleaders, then the students and then faculty.

A debate began when Senator Mark Van Kirk stressed the vagueness of Article III which stated: "The funds for the van will come out of the budget in a number of diversified accounts at the end of each semester." Van Kirk said that Article III of the proposed bill was vague because it did not stipulate where exactly the funds for the van would come from.



Mark Van Kirk



Ted Reinheimer

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