

editorials



SGA book co-op welcomed

According to last week's Pendulum story on the 1983-84 tuition, room and board increase, attending Elon next year will cost \$4,900 if one wishes to live and eat on campus. Added to this, among other expenses, is the rising cost of books.

Students cannot avoid the increased tuition, room and board increases, but the Student Government Association (SGA) is proposing a book co-op program that could help students beat the monopoly held by the Campus Shop on text books.

Currently, students must buy their books from the Campus Shop. The Campus Shop will buy books back from students and resell the used books at a cheaper rate than new books or offer less expensive paperback versions of books.

However, when the bookstore buys books back from students, it offers students half of the original price of the books and resells them at 75 percent of the original price.

For example, if the new price of a book is \$18.50, the Campus Shop will buy the book back from the student (whether the student bought it new or used) for \$9.50. The Campus Shop will resell the same book for \$14.25.

Although some students avoid this by trying to make it through their classes without ever buying books, those who find it necessary to buy books are subject to the Campus Shop's monopoly.

The SGA is suggesting that students adopt a book co-op program.

In this system, each hall of a dorm posts a list of books that members of that hall want to sell. A list of books that the Campus Shop will buy back

and the prices for which the Shop will buy and resell the books accompanies the first list. This serves as a price gauge to help determine fair prices that will benefit the student buyer and seller.

In the previous example of the book originally sold for \$18.50, the used price for the book sold within the co-op program would fall between \$9.50 and \$14.25. That would allow the seller to make more and the buyer to pay less than if they went through the bookstore.

Students would check each hall's book listings to discover where needed books are available and buy the books from a student instead of the bookstore.

The buyer could check several students selling books to find the best bargain.

The SGA plans to begin the co-op this semester, and if students support the program, it will be an advantage to students selling or buying books.

One advantage would be that students selling books could get higher prices by selling directly to other students instead of selling their books back to the book store.

On the other hand, students buying books could get better deals from other students, who would sell their books at lower prices than the book store.

Although the SGA book co-op plan would benefit all students, its success will depend upon student support. This semester will be a trial for the program; hopefully students will help themselves by participating in the SGA book co-op.

Student questions maturity of those who ruin publicity

To the editor:

Within the past two weeks, students at Elon College have obviously noticed the campaign banners and posters around campus. As one may have guessed, it is time for the annual Student Government Association Elections. The time has come for the seniors currently holding office to abandon their posts and pass them on to someone newly elected. Many qualified and responsible people are running for these positions. Publicity has been made available to students to inform them as to who is running for what position. Without this publicity, students would be uninformed, thus making it impossible to vote. While the publicity is very beneficial to most students, there are those few who think that it is unnecessary and are very determined to prove their point.

Much of the publicity that has been placed on campus has been removed due to vandalism, much of it has been removed by unknown sources, and it is usually found in the wastebaskets near its original placement. One would think that college students would have more important obligations in life than to waste their time sketching moustaches and writing obscenities on candidates' publicity. Officers are elected depending upon their qualifications and not popularity, it does not make any difference what one's personal opinion of a candidate is. After all, popularity does not get the work accomplished. It takes someone with

experience, determination who is willing to work for the entire campus community. If the candidates were trying to win a popularity contest, one could be positive that a different approach would be taken.

This year's campaign seems to have taken an uphill time low. Not only has the candidates' publicity been vandalized, but one candidate has received personal harassment. Some students have decided to let the candidate know exactly how they feel by writing obscenities on the candidate's door. One must admit that someone is working deviously to express their opinion. It seems obvious that the students are too immature to express their opinion to the candidate face to face. Instead, they must resort to these childish actions.

This year we must face the reality that qualifications determine the candidate's suitability for the office, a popularity do not make the difference. If one feels compelled to participate in such devious actions, should be concerned as to whether or not he is mature enough to make the decision of whom he will select to represent him. After all, the candidate selected will serve for a term of one year, and during this time many decisions will be made concerning the entire student population. Please take this matter seriously because your decision will determine what will be occurring on campus the next school year.

Danny Sprinkle

The Pendulum welcomes letters, limited to 250 words from our readers. Longer material may be submitted as opinion articles for page 3. Editors reserve the right to edit for length, libel, good taste and accuracy.

The Pendulum Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
News Editor
Ad Manager
Cartoonist
Head Photographer
Sports Editor
Advisor

Jo Crave
Doug Norwood
Loukia Louh
Belinda Peoples
Tawanna Williams
Ron Krupp
Tom Westenhuis
Robert Nowak

The staff meets Thursdays
at 9:30 a.m.
Room 208 in Long Student Center

Published by the Communications Media Board of Elon College. Founded on October 14, 1974 as the student newspaper serving the Elon College community, the Pendulum is published each Thursday during the regular terms except for examination and holiday periods.