



The Pendulum

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Elon keeps tuition, fees low despite rising college costs

While the cost of a private college education continues to increase in North Carolina, Elon College has managed to keep tuition low. A recent comparison among 18 similar colleges and universities in North Carolina shows Elon to be third from the bottom in tuition and fees.

The figures come from a recent issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and were collected by the College Board for a survey, "The College Cost Book, 1984-85." Most colleges and universities in the state participated in the survey.

Elon's tuition and fees of \$3,290 for the 1984-85 school year ranked just above those of two other North Carolina colleges when compared with private, coeducational, four-year, predominantly white institutions. Fifteen similar colleges and universities in the state charged higher tuition and fees than Elon.

The figures range from a low of \$2,800 to a high of \$7,681. Elon's cost of \$3,290 is well below the average cost of \$4,442. All North Carolina residents receive a \$750 legislative tuition grant, reducing Elon's tuition for in-state students to \$2,540.

Elon College President Fred Young said the college maintains a low tuition through two primary programs - a cost-consciousness on the

part of all Elon employees and an aggressive fund-raising plan.

"First, and most important, Elon has maintained a balanced budget for over 20 years," Young said, "by making a conscientious effort to keep expenses as low as possible. Our faculty and staff work hard to make Elon affordable."

"Second, Elon's Development Office raises more than \$3 million a year, about a fourth of the \$12 million budget at the college. These outside funds, from alumni, businesses and other groups, allow students to receive a college education for about three-fourths of the actual cost," Young noted.

Contributions to the college have made possible several improvements in the beautification of the 150-acre campus in the past few years. Most of these projects have been completed through the generosity of individuals in the Elon College community and alumni from throughout the nation.

"We have found that an environment conducive to learning attracts students and builds pride in the institution," Young said.

Elon's successes have not been without problems. With 2,800 students, the coeducational college has the third largest private undergraduate enrollment in the

state. The growth has created overcrowding, and six new residence halls have been constructed in the past three years, a time when other colleges are struggling to maintain enrollments.

Even with the new dorms, the college began the 1984-85 year with dozens of students in a local motel, although most overcrowding in rooms was eliminated.

As word of Elon's academic reputation and low tuition spreads, the number of applications increases, and the college must deny more and more students an opportunity for a college education.

In Virginia, for instance, where Elon's academic reputation and low costs are well known among high school students, more students who left the state attended Elon than any other college in the nation.

Earlier this year, the admission requirements were increased for the first time in several years, and already applications for next year are ahead at the college, which has rejected more students for next year than it had this time last year.

"We're not complaining," Young pointed out. "These are problems many schools would like to have. But they are not without a cost."

A part of that cost is a faculty that

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Photo by Jamie Cobb

White Blanket

Last week's snowstorm which dumped four to six inches on the road left Elon in a winter wonderland. The snow-covered streets have ample material for snowman building.

Faculty OKs Journalism, Mass Comm majors

By Vicky Jiggetts
Student Affairs Editor

Students now have the opportunity to major in Journalism or Mass Communications at Elon. The two majors will replace the previous Journalism-English major, and will give students a chance to focus more on printed media, television or radio. Dr. Gerald L. Francis, dean of academic affairs, said that several professors suggested the idea of offering these majors. "At the beginning

of the semester, Dr. Anne Ponder, Bob Nowell, Gerald Gibson, and Ray Johnson put together a package that suggested that their department offer separate degrees in Mass Communications and Journalism," said Francis. "It passed the department and curriculum committee, and was passed by the faculty last Friday. Beginning now, a student can major in Journalism or Mass Communications."

Francis said that a Television Production course offered this semester, is the first such course devoted to TV for Mass Communication. "They will have the use of the production laboratory in the Learning Resources Center. We have video cameras, a brand new special effects generator, and a new time base corrector," Francis said. "It's a set-up that a small school like Elon can be proud of." The faculty also approved a

Television Writing course.

"We should also note that the college has bought computerized typesetting equipment. It's located in the Print Shop, and this will enable the Pendulum staff to produce the entire paper on campus," said Francis.

"This is a giant step in the technology area. We have a radio station that is 500 watts FM, a typesetter that is the best hardware equip-

ment, and we are producing for the local cable station the "Elon in Review" program each week."

Francis said that these additions offer good experience for students. He said, "The college has made a big commitment to these areas, and we have the facilities for all aspects of communications. Then faculty people in the communications division need to be applauded for their foresight in establishing these two major areas."

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