Page 2 Snow business

Elon's weather policy needs work

Snow and ice once again plagued the state this week, bringing traffic to a standstill and causing the closing of many schools and businesses. Driving and walking were made extremely hazardous due to the slippery conditions caused by the approximately three inches of ice packed on sidewalks, steps and roads. However, in accordance with the college's snow policy, Elon operated on its regular schedule. Why is it that other schools, such as UNC-G and North Carolina A&T University viewed the situation as serious enough to close their campuses down for the day instead of having students and faculty risk their lives to come to class?

First of all, it can be extremely difficult for a student to contact a professor to see if class will be held in the event of inclement weather. If students cannot reach the professor, some will drive to the campus anyway, assuming that their class will be held as scheduled. However, many times the student arrives only to find a note on the board announcing the cancellation of the class. If the college wants to stay open, then all faculty members should be required to come to campus, even if this means that the college makes arrangements for four-wheel drive vehicles to go pick them up and carry them home.

The policy states that "students who elect not to come to campus on that particular day will not be penalized for failure to do so." If this is the case, then professors should do nothing in class that day that they will hold students responsible for or else they should be prepared to give the same lecture again during the next class meeting so that students who could not come would not have missed anything.

If the school is not going to close in most cases of inclement weather, then much more should be done to clear walkways, steps and parking lots. Even when students and faculty do get to campus during a snow storm, the parking lots are covered in snow and ice. This is uncalled for. Arrangements should be made to have the parking lots cleared immediately so that cars can get in and out with a reasonable amount of case.

The college's snow policy needs to be carefully revised to accommodate the needs of faculty, staff and students. The risks involved in trying to get to campus during the inclement weather such as we have had during the past month far outweigh the advantages of coming to class during that particular occasion.

By Michele Lashley Frankly Speaking by Flattrank Unfortunately, intramural touch football is as close to dating as he's been in two years.

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The Pendulum

tor of Elon College's British Studies Abroad Program for a number of years.

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