New president brings lots of change and new experiences, to Sandra Fields' office

Carolyn Lampila
The Pendulum

Sandra Fields, executive secretary to the president, runs much of President Fred Young's life at Elon College. Her primary job at Elon is to help the president and his assistant complete their work.

Fields does everything from preparing reports to helping the president prepare materials for meetings with trustees, to arranging his day-to-day calendar and schedule to answering telephone calls and making the president's travel arrangements.

Fields, who has worked for Dr. Young for five years, will definitely be affected the change that will occur at Elon on January 1, 1999 when Dr. Leo Lambert replaces Young as Elon's president.

Fields, who is currently helping Young wind up his time at Elon, has had wonderful experiences with him

"I have really enjoyed watching Fred Young's mind work," Fields said. "He's very proactive. He's a visionary. He sees what ought to be done in the future and

isn't afraid to strike out and do it. He isn't reticent about diving into



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new things," she added.

While Fields has thoroughly enjoyed working for Young and admires his work ethic and the many things he has done for Elon, she is looking forward to working with Lambert.

"If I have to lose Dr. Young, then Dr. Lambert seems like a delightful replacement," Fields said.

After speaking with Lambert on the phone and talking to him in person, Fields said of the president-

elect, "He's thoughtful and considerate but he seems to have a sense of self-confidence that helps him see where he needs to go next. I've been impressed by his coming in (without taking over, which he certainly hasn't done) and he is determining what he should be about at this point."

Fields adds, "I think it's going to be a pleasure helping him in his presidency."

When Fields is not at Elon running the president's schedule, helping Young wind up his career and preparing for the arrival of Lambert, she has many interests of her own.

Fields is enjoying Elon's El Centro de Espanol as she is working on learning a third language.

Fields, who received a bachelor's in French from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, taught at a high school until her first daughter, who is now receiving a doctorate in chemistry at Berkeley, was born.

Fields' younger daughter is

currently studying in Morocco on a Fulbright award.

She may have inherited her love to travel from her mother, as Fields has visited several areas of the world.

She went to London with Elon and has also traveled to other European countries such as France, Italy and Austria. Fields, who has already traveled in Costa Rica, hopes to visit another Spanish speaking country when she has perfected her Spanish and can interact with the natives.

Another one of Fields' favorite hobbies is reading and she describes herself as an "inveterate reader." She will read anything from fiction to history to biographies to the Sunday comics.

This time in the year is one of Fields' favorites because she loves to walk in the woods through the covered leaves. Fields describes one of her favorite memories as taking family trips to Virginia where she would walk with her family in the comfort of the bright foliage.

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