

SGA student loans offer a chance to pay off debt

Teresa Bateman
The Pendulum

College students around the nation are known for not having money. Elon's Student Government Association took this notion and ran with it, offering student loans to Elon College students. The loans can be valued at up to \$250 for full-time students.

These loans are interest and surcharge-free for an entire semester. At the beginning of the fall semester the student loans were commonly used for textbooks. As the year progresses, students use the loans to pay back credit card bills.

The idea for college student loans came from Jim Crottes, the assistant SGA treasurer last year. This year Christian Wiggins is overseeing the program.

The response to this offer has been strong. Last year in its infancy there were approximately 190

loans given out. Less than a month into this year, 40 loans have been granted to full time students.

Elon's SGA hopes to continue the loan program in the future. As the years go on the SGA plans to revise the program so it can best fit the college students' needs.

Students have been very responsible in repaying these loans. Out of 190 loans granted last year only 17 were not paid back. These students couldn't receive their transcripts or were not able to participate in Elon activities until they paid back the loans.

Loans for the fall semester are still available. Nov. 10 is the cut off date for fall semester loans. All loans must be paid back to the SGA by Nov. 30th.

Should a student want to apply for a loan they can pick up an application in Moseley 231-A. They can also call 278-7253, to speak to Christian Wiggins.

Presidential Debate Watch held at Elon

Kate Brannack
The Pendulum

Elon's Center for Public Affairs held its first Presidential Debate Watch in five locations on Elon's campus on Tuesday. The Debate Watch was a post-debate discussion for students, faculty and members of the community. It gave participants a chance to watch the debate as a group and discuss what they thought about the issues the presidential candidates were debating.

The Commission on Presidential Debates and the University of Kansas inspired the Debate Watch in 1988.

The Commission wanted schools and communities to have the opportunity to discuss and understand Presidential issues after the debate. Participants are also given the chance to tell the Commission which issues they would like to see in future debates.

Dr. Chalmers Brumbaugh, a professor in Elon's political science department, brought the Debate Watch to Elon, through the Center

for Public Affairs, as an outreach to the community and the campus. The Center for Public Affairs is part of Elon College's Institute for Politics and Public Affairs.

"It fits perfectly into what Public Affairs wants to do to involve the

campus," Brumbaugh explained. He said he believes the Debate Watch was a good "feedback mechanism" for participants.

"It basic learning about where candidates stand on issues," Brumbaugh said.

Sourwood Forest Golf Club

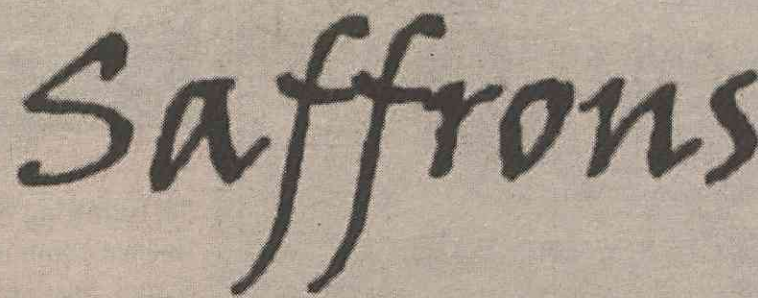
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