

Gisclair keeps a busy schedule through teaching, hobbies

Assistant communications professor's interests span research, student well-being and athletics

Alex Thomson
Reporter

Jessica Gisclair always has a tightly scheduled calendar.

Since she became an assistant communications professor at Elon, the New Orleans native has been actively involved on campus.

"My days are not as bad as they seem, but I cannot let a moment of the day be wasted," Gisclair said.

Her first job as a public relations worker was with a Jewish community service. This marked the beginning of the professor's journey to teaching.

After this job, she returned to school as a student and earned a master's degree in public relations from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss. By this time she already had a bachelor's degree in journalism from Nicholls State University in

Thibodaux, La.

During her time at USM, Gisclair became interested in teaching. She worked as a teacher's assistant and applied for teaching positions as well.

"I decided to try out teaching because I like to try new things," Gisclair said.

She taught briefly at Bowling Green State University while taking a year off and contemplating her next career move.

The next move took her to Toledo, Ohio. She enrolled at the University of Toledo and earned a law degree.

"While I was in law school I clerked, but also taught during the school year. And these experiences helped me decide that



Jessica
Gisclair

"She teaches so much about the subjects, but also shows great concern for us as people."

—Alex Grant, student

teaching was a better fit for me because it felt like I helped more people teaching," Gisclair said.

She accepted a teaching job at Ohio Northern University where she served as director of public relations for five years.

After a brief period at Rowan University, Gisclair was hired by Elon in 2000.

She is keeping herself busy as she has always done and has no plans to leave soon.

"Dr. Gisclair is one of the best professors on Elon's campus," said senior Alex Grant. "She teaches so much about the subjects, but also shows great concern for us as people."

Research is also in Gisclair's

field of interest. She conducted a project on the crisis communications used by Firestone during their call back of many of their tires.

In the summer of 2001, she visited Southeast University in Nanjing, China, and taught classes to Chinese students.

She has presented her work at local, national and international conferences.

"The culture is completely different there and it is clear that people have to be respectful of other people because they live and work on top of each other," Gisclair said.

In her spare time she plays tennis in local sport leagues, kayaks,

rides her road bike and listens to Cajun and Xytoco music.

Gisclair is also a competitive runner and she participates in races across the country.

Her most recent race was in Myrtle Beach earlier this month.

"Running is my time and my thoughts; it gives me a chance to think and really enjoy the beauty."

Contact Alex Thomson at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Got an
interesting
idea for a
feature?

Email us at
pendulum@elon.edu

SGA & Student Life present: Elon's 1st Community Bike Program Debuting Monday, March 3rd

RIDE RACK RELAX

Where are the bikes available?

*The bikes will be placed in RED racks on both sides of the tram path. The bikes may only be taken between Danielely and McMichael. There are 20 maroon & white bikes with signs. Possible all-campus use will be implemented in the fall.

How will the bikes be protected?

*There are trackers inside the bikes & ID#s outside the bikes to find them if they are taken off-campus. Security & the Honor Board will also be notified. These bikes are already for YOUR use. Please respect them and your community.

Who's in charge of Ride-RACK-Relax?

We are **HIRING** one student employee to work with SGA Tuesday & Friday afternoons for 2hrs/day and receive a \$525.00 stipend. Pick up an application in the SGA office beginning Monday, March 3rd. Call x7524 for more info.