

The Pendulum

Established 1974

Enjoy Elon, but travel beyond the bubble

And so it begins: Your experiences within the Elon bubble. A term, that if you aren't familiar with now, will be ingrained into you over the course of the next four years (or more, if needed). But don't paint yourselves into a corner. Break the confines of the oh so restrictive bubble and journey outside into, say, downtown B-Town, where there's more than just LabCorp.

Thrilling, it is not. Important, it is. (Yoda, are we.) Elon offers myriad opportunities for new students, so it's easy to get involved, and you should take on as many activities as you can handle. But for your sanity (and to avoid the stigma that is the bubble), find yourself outside Elon.

Don't be one of those students that discovers Zack's or stumbles upon Burlington Athletic Stadium when they're a junior or senior. Take some time early in the semester to realize what's surrounding you. And believe us, Wal-Mart is not the be-all, end-all.

Here's a quick list of places you should frequent:

- Tokyo Express (inexpensive, tasty food; offers Elon discount)
 - Country Club Lanes (bowling alley that has held Professional Bowlers Association events)
 - Greensboro Carmike 18 (when you just can't handle West End Cinema)
 - Tripp's (restaurant in Greensboro)
- The hubble can be popped.

The Pendulum

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The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene or potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may have to be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

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Each individual is entitled to one free copy.

Mailbox



SGA President welcomes freshmen

Freshmen,

On behalf of the student body, let me welcome you to Elon University. Let me be one of the first to congratulate you on your decision to attend Elon University. Elon offers the opportunities comparable to a larger university, with the feeling of a cohesive community. Our institution has a unique approach to education - Elon will give you a strong liberal arts education with experiential learning in a beautiful, well-kept campus.

At Elon, we are founded on tradition and community, and have an emphasis on academic excellence. Our traditions are constructed deep within our rich heritage, and our community is built upon honor and friendliness. One of the foundations of an Elon

education is the opportunity to apply what you will learn in class to leadership and volunteer opportunities, internships, and research both on campus and around the world.

You will have many opportunities to get involved, discover and apply your talents, and develop at Elon. With more than 140 organizations established for the benefit of the students, you will have the opportunity to find your interests. Through your involvement at Elon, you will have a more meaningful collegiate experience and build strong relationships with others at our school and beyond.

Realize that you are now experiencing a new freedom. Do not abuse this freedom by pushing yourself over your limits. It is important to take responsibility

for your actions and to not make a mistake during your first few weeks that will last a lifetime. You will have a challenging, exciting, four years ahead of you, both educationally and personally.

The purpose of the Student Government Association is to serve you, the students, through hearing your input and your participation. We support programs and events that benefit the campus and help improve the quality of student life. Please feel free to call me at 278-7254 with any suggestions or concerns and be sure to visit our office in Moseley 221A when you arrive to campus. We look forward to meeting you.

Best wishes and good luck in your upcoming year!

Sincerely,
 Mark Gustafson, SGA President

Crossroads of life are quickly approaching

You are about to enter the next chapter of your life. Whether you like it or not college will challenge you in ways few of us have been challenged before. You will have four, five, maybe six years to decide what you want to do with your life. Seems pretty intimidating but hey, every student here at Elon has faced the same problem. Now take a breath, relax, everything will be all right.

If you are anything like me when I moved in a few years back, your parents and siblings are nagging you about what color sheets you want, whether or not to loft your bed and other insignificant details. You are also probably planning a trip to the Wal-Mart to get things you left at home and possibly some snack foods for late nights. You are anxious to have the freedom of a college student, however you should be aware that with privilege comes responsibility. Trust me, move-in day will seem like ancient history compared to your first day of class and your first major test. Once again, soak it in and it will be all over shortly.

Being successful in college, all depends on the person you are. Don't forget that, you are your own person. College will challenge your identity, pressure you to do things that are outside your character and possibly things you may regret. However, don't let these things shake your base of principles that govern your life.

Think back to first grade, when you didn't care about image or who your friends were. Think back about how much fun that was. My advice is to have that same mentality here at Elon. Experience new things, go out with different people, try different foods (I hear we have a sushi bar), and get involved with different organizations on campus. No matter what your interest, there is some way you can get involved. That seven-year-old inside you doesn't care about all the petty things that plague college students, just go out and be yourself.

Regardless of what may happen in these next few years, have fun, remember to be yourself and get involved. College is what you make of it. If you want it to be a great experience it can be, however, the opposite does exist. Elon has made strides in the past years to improve all aspects on this campus, now it is on you to uphold your end of the bargain. The crossroads of your college career await you, good luck.

-Dan Hanson

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