

# Plagiarism more prevalent

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Wise said more students are relying on the Internet as a source of information when conducting research. She explained there is a strong indication that high school students use the Internet heavily as a source of information and that this behavior is carrying over as students enter college.

"It's not the Internet that is the problem," Wise said. "It's just that the technology allows for students to just cut and paste without really thinking about the consequences."

Elon's academic honor code leaves no room for plagiarism. Any professor that suspects a student of plagiarizing or cheating is obligated to contact Wise directly without contacting the student. Wise is then able to contact the student in order to discuss the situation. If the student denies responsibility, judicial action is taken.

Cases of plagiarism and cheating are brought in front of the academic honor board, comprised of both students and faculty, for evaluation. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism most often receive an irreversible failure in the course for which the material was submitted.

Wise explained that using the Internet is not the source of the problem. She said that as long as students correctly cite the information and ideas they use from online sources, there would not be a problem.

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—Mary Wise, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs

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Trouble arises when students fail to accurately give credit to their sources or copy complete works from places on the internet.

Elon is a member of the Center for Academic Integrity, an organization that promotes integrity in academic communities. A committee of both students and faculty has also been formed on campus to discuss issues pertaining to the honor code.

The full text for Elon's academic and social honor code is available online at: <http://www.elon.edu/students/handbook/honcode.asp>.

Contact Matt Belanger at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or 278-7247.

# Students forced offline after worm overwhelms network

Steve Earley

News Editor

The latest variation of the Internet worm disrupted the campus computer network Tuesday, forcing students offline for about an hour.

The worm pushed core network routers to 98 percent capacity by drastically increasing pinging – a common Internet command in which one computer verifies the existence of another.

Excess pinging is particularly disruptive because for every ping request sent out, 10 replies are sent back.

Eccles Wall, assistant director of informational systems and technologies for networking, said routers normally operate around 50 percent capacity.

With problems starting to appear in the 80 percent range, the increased traffic was enough to shut down the routers.

To get the network working again, residence halls were taken offline. Chris Fulkerson, director of instructional and campus technologies, said student computers were identified as the source of most worm activity.

Wall said a scan on Wednesday revealed 300 potentially infected student computers.

The worm enters a network through

## Protecting Your System

Students with Windows 2000 and Windows XP operating systems may download a patch to protect against the worm at:

<http://www.elon.edu/computersupport>

holes in users' Windows 2000 and Windows XP operating systems, Fulkerson said.

It then carries out the associated executable file. The file may delete files, or in this case, create excessive pinging.

To combat future attacks, Fulkerson said a weak point in the network monitoring software, which forced the routers to shut down, has been fixed.

However, both Fulkerson and Wall said the key is that students protect their systems.

"A network is kind of a community resource," Wall said. "A few people who don't protect their computer can bring us all down."

Patches to protect against the worm may be downloaded at Elon's computer support Web site.

Contact Steve Earley at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or 278-7247.

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