

College Coffee, a time-old tradition for Elon, lacks in attendance

Bettina Johnson
Reporter

College Coffee is the only time in the week when students and faculty can gather without the pressure of paper, syllabi and no reading.

It is a time to chat at Fonville Fountain with light snacks and beverages.

Compared to the university's age-old traditions, College Coffee is a new event. Jana Lynn Patterson, associate dean of students, said it is intended to "provide a time of fellowship for the campus community."

College Coffee began in 1984, as a way to encourage interaction between faculty, staff and students over a cup of coffee and a cookie.

Now organizations sponsor the event and decorative assortments of finger foods garnish the tables accompanied by steaming coffee and various

other beverages such as orange-juice.

"Sometimes we have used College Coffee to make important university announcements," explained Patterson. "Such as when we changed to the Phoenix, or to commemorate other celebration events like a major gift to the university." Patterson also said College Coffee is a way to inform the Elon community about campus events and programs.

Attendance isn't what some people think it should be, perhaps because of the time of day College Coffee is held.

"I enjoy going after my Tuesday morning class," said Becky Ferland, an Elon freshman exploring the social events on campus. "But I think that other students miss out on this event because of classes that are going on during this time."

Although students and faculty recognize College Coffee's

importance in fostering a sense of community, fewer and fewer are making the extra effort to participate and keep the 19-year-old Tuesday morning tradition alive. In the event of inclement weather, College Coffee is moved to Moseley Center, but attendance is still declining.

The university's attempt to create a welcoming environment for its family has begun to be ignored and taken for granted. Grab a friend, leave your Phoenix card at home and arrange to meet a professor at College Coffee throughout both the fall and spring semesters and become an active member of the Elon community.

Organizations and offices interested in sponsoring the event can contact Amy Jones, director of student activities, at extension 7271 to reserve tables.

Contact Bettina Johnson at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

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—Jana Lynn Patterson, associate dean of students ”



Katie Walkiewicz / Photographer

Students enjoy breakfast by Fonville Fountain at Tuesday's College Coffee. From left, students Jodie Kowalski and Irene Lacasa grab a cup of coffee on their way to class.

HOMECOMING INTEREST MEETING

A Meeting Will Be Held For All Organizations
Wishing to Participate in Homecoming on:

October 1, 2003
Moseley 215 at 6 p.m.

SGA

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