

THE PENDULUM

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OL's prepare for 'explorientation'



Laura Hals/Photographer

More than 100 Elon students spent the past week training for the 2005 New Student Orientation. The Orientation Leaders, known as OL's, help freshmen adjust to college.

Class of 2009 raises the standards

Lindsey Wernecke

Reporter

As last minute preparations are completed around Elon University's campus, approximately 1,245 freshmen from 37 states across the country will be preparing for their journeys to begin as college students. Leaving home and best friends can be challenging and scary for anyone. But students who have chosen Elon as the place to fulfill their college goals will feel right at home among the shady oak trees, neatly trimmed lawns and matching, red-bricked buildings.

Raising its standards once again, today Elon welcomes the Class of 2009; 67 percent of graduates in the top quarter of their high school class. Upon arriving at Elon, incoming students and their families will be greeted by the enthusiastic faces of upperclassmen, whom they will

come to know as their orientation leaders. Students who are orientation leaders are on campus solely to ensure a smooth transition into college life at Elon not only for freshmen, but also for their families.

Stephen Stone, an incoming Elon freshman and football player from Connecticut, is also a Business Fellow. Students entering as Fellows make up 15 percent of the freshmen class. Stone chose Elon partially because of his desire to play college football.

"I heard about Elon from a friend, so I decided to visit," said Stone. "I loved it the first time I saw it. It seems like a really nice town, with really friendly people."

New Student Convocation will begin the 116th academic year for Elon University and take place at 9 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 27 Under the Oaks. Under these same Oaks for the next four years lies an infinite

number of possibilities for the Class of 2009.

Stefanie Meyers, incoming freshman and member of the volleyball team from Columbus, Ohio was drawn not only to Elon's exquisite campus, but also all of the learning opportunities the university provides its students.

"Volleyball was a deciding factor, but I also liked the combination of programs Elon offers, such as internships and study abroad programs," said Meyers. "I feel really comfortable here, I'm not nervous about anything except trying to balance volleyball and academics, while also making a lot of new friends."

As new students settle in and older students return to campus, everyone will be preparing for the first day of classes beginning on Aug. 30.

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Lessons in safety beefed up

Robin Newton

Copy Editor

Elon has taken measures to implement new safety procedures designed to reduce the number of incidents on campus because of student feedback from incidents last year.

Elon's Campus Safety and Police department has decided to kick off freshman orientation with four sessions of campus safety classes. The main topics of discussion include new parking rules and regulations, drinking laws, and sexual assault.

"All students should become more aware of North Carolina laws and regulations," said Chief Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police.

Officers will crack down to strictly enforce the laws beginning the first week of class.

Leigh-Anne Royster, a graduate and former professor from UNC at Chapel Hill, was hired to fill a new position at Elon. The purpose of her new position as coordinator for personal health programs and community well-being is to provide education and leadership in an organized manner on issues related to sexual assault.

"I hope to bring a new and fresh educational perspective to Elon," Royster said.

She also plans to bring different people to the table such as faculty and other student organizations to create a collaborative response on sexual awareness and prevention. Her main goal is to bring male students together to form their own organization that works toward the prevention of sexual violence.

"I really hope to be a good supporter or advocate for education, not

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