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PENDULUM

Elon University's Weekly Student Publication

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The cost of education

Alyse Knorr
News Editor

Members of the Elon University Board of Trustees will share a conference call meeting today to take a final vote on tuition, room and board fees for the 2007-2008 school year.

Tuition fees have nearly doubled over the past decade, rising from \$10,667 total in 1996 to \$20,441 this year.

The jump from \$18,949 from 2005 to this year's \$20,441 reflects a 7.9% increase. For the past decade, tuition has been climbing up by about \$1,000 dollars per year.

The increase in tuition rates, however, is a complicated issue that occurs for a number of reasons. University expansion and the initiation of new programs accounts for some of the increase, but inflation plays a major role as well.

"Every year, the cost of a library book goes up," said Gerald Whittington, vice president for business, finance and technology.

Inflation causes tuition rates to increase not only at Elon, but at most other universities as well.

"There's no way around it," Whittington said of the increase.

The Elon Board of Trustees meets via conference call today to vote on tuition rates for next year. If trends from the past continue, student expenses will increase.



Tuition Rates 1996-2007

Alyse Knorr/ Graphic

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