

Chemist visits Elon, stresses innovation and sustainability

Margeaux Corby
Opinions Editor

Catherine Hunt is the former president of the American Chemical Society and a leader of the Technology Partnerships, Emerging Technologies of the Rohm and Haas Company and was named one of Pennsylvania's "50 Best Women in Business" in 2007. Her son calls her the Hannah Montana of the chemistry world.

On Monday night, Hunt told a crowd in McCrary Theatre that everything has not yet been done. She stated that her generation has left plenty for the younger era to solve. Hunt emphasized that education, collaboration and innovation are needed to make substantial change. Everyone is responsible for achieving that change, she said. She pointed out the chemistries that affect daily lives, specifically those manufactured by Rohm and Haas, and need to be socially responsible.

"It's about prospering today without screwing up tomorrow," Hunt said. "It's about living thoughtfully, leaving this world in a better way, maybe better than when we got here."

Rohm and Haas is a Fortune 500 Company whose mission, according to the company's Web site, is to "pair creativity with sound knowledge" and help companies "meet ever-changing market demands." The company started from the premises that every accident is avoidable and chemical innovation can be green and work more sustainably.

She joked about the ubiquity of Rohm and Haas products, from the modifiers going into bumpers to the adhesives that go into food preservatives.

"Rohm and Haas makes everything from salt to chips," she said. "From

Morton salt to computer chips." Hunt discussed the use of resources and the "right kind of chemistry" that will be a solution. She stressed that innovation can turn an idea into a real form that people use and produce results.

She encouraged the many students majoring in science with goals of becoming chemists, biologists, physicists, engineers and experts in technology.

"There has never been a better time to be a scientist or technologist," Hunt said. "We have more than enough things right now that need to be solved."

Hunt discussed the difficulty of speaking to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and emphasized the need to understand they often don't have the same scientific background.

"They don't read the American Chemical Society Journal," Hunt said. "They read the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and the Washington Post. We need to be writing for these types of newspapers."

It was made clear from her speech that collaboration of not only scientific schools but governmental and business fields is needed for any scientific goal or program to be successful, no matter if the agenda is sustainable catalyst chemistries or discovering new fuel technologies.

According to Hunt, it was not just a matter of discoveries in the scientific communities but the teamwork and alliance between industry and academia and legislators and researchers.

"I really believe that no one can do this alone and it's going to take all of these sectors working together," Hunt stressed. "It's not a question of whether you want to do it but how well you do it."



ANDREW DODD | Photographer

Chemist Catherine Hunt spoke in McCrary Theatre about innovation and sustainability.

Search for new provost is narrowed down to eight applicants

Andie Diemer
News Editor

The university has narrowed down the list of candidates for the provost position to eight individuals out of the 110 applicants for the position of provost.

School of Communications

Dean Paul Parson said the search committee, which consists of faculty, staff and students, has selected the individuals for confidential interviews that will be conducted before Thanksgiving.

Parsons, who is a co-chair of the search committee, said based on the nature of the

conversations the committee will select around three finalists. They will then be invited to campus for public visits in early December. A public forum will also be held at this time.

In early September, the committee hosted three faculty and staff forums to help develop a better

understanding of the expectations for the new provost.

Gerry Francis is currently Elon's provost as well as the vice president for academic affairs. He will be stepping down from his position to move to the office of executive vice president early next year.

The provost oversees academic affairs, admissions and financial planning, student life, intercollegiate athletics, institutional research, sponsored programs and cultural affairs and also serves as assistant secretary and treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

You know where
MASSIVE MUSIC COLLECTION meets
MINIATURE BANK ACCOUNT? **I'M THERE!**

There are ways to keep your wallet and your catalog of classics packed. Switch to State Farm® and you could save an average of \$426* on your car insurance. Now that really sounds good. Call, click or visit a State Farm Agent now and get a quote, because **Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.**

State Farm
statefarm.com

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL. *Based on 2007 survey of new policyholders who switched to State Farm from another insurer. Actual savings may vary. ©2008 State Farm Mutual. All rights reserved.