

Intern program introduces students to careers in higher education

Kristen Olsen
Senior Reporter

Eight Elon University students were accepted into the Executive Intern Program this year after undergoing an application process headed by SGA Executive President Darien Flowers and President Leo Lambert. The program was created by Flowers and Lambert last year.

According to Flowers, to be chosen as an intern for the program, a student needs an excellent application, transcript and resume.

"We created a criteria for students who excelled academically and in campus involvement," Flowers said. "It's for those who achieve in the classroom and outside the classroom."

The program is designed to give Elon students with aspirations of working in higher education experience working with members

of senior staff, according to Flowers. Internship placements depend on each student's goals and range from jobs in communications, admissions, athletics, finance and advancement.

"This program is extremely competitive," Flowers said. "We want to hone the skills across every discipline on this campus and give an opportunity for those who have thought of higher education."

This year, 20 students applied for the program, and members of last year's program chose eight to participate. During its first year, the Executive Intern Program had only three members because Flowers and Lambert wanted to test certain projects and strengthen the program, Flowers said.

But the pilot program inspired more students to apply. Junior Gregory Honan, an intern in the Office of the President, said he chose to apply for the position to

learn more about working at a university.

"To come into the office and work with people who are smarter and with more experience than you is a great way to learn," Honan said.

During Winter Term, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, the interns develop projects in their respective departments. Their experience will culminate with a presentation in the spring.

Senior Shelby McKay, an intern for the athletic department, is working with Dave Blank, director of athletics, on "Night of the Phoenix," a fundraiser for the Phoenix Club set for February.

"This is a side of Elon you never get to see," McKay said.

Senior David Goltz, an intern for the Office of Business, Finance and Technology, is working to develop marketing programs for Lakeside Dining Hall. Goltz said he hopes to make a significant im-



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
Of the 20 students who applied for the Executive Internship Program, eight were selected. The interns will work on campus in their respective departments during Winter term, gaining experience in careers related to higher education.

pact in University Advancement.

Senior Kathryn Knaus, who is interning in the Office of Admissions, said she aims to develop a program that will last beyond her time as a student. Like Knaus, se-

nior Tyrice Johnson said he views this program as a way to give back to Elon.

"It's an opportunity to learn, an opportunity to contribute," Johnson said.

Elon welcomes higher number of transfer students

Kristen Olsen
Senior Reporter

The community atmosphere at Elon University prompted sophomore Laurel Weibe to uproot from Chicago and relocate to a smaller town in North Carolina.

While Weibe said she loved the big city, she felt Loyola Chicago University lacked a sense of community and personal relationships with the professors.

"Classes were not engaging," she said. "It was like I was being talked at."

Weibe is one of 86 transfer students enrolled for the 2012-2013 school year, slightly more students than average.

Elon typically receives about 400 transfer applications annually. This year, 50 percent of transfer applicants were accepted, and 21 percent of those were enrolled in the university.

To apply for a transfer to Elon, a student must have 12 transferable credits, a minimum GPA of 2.7 and provide both high school and college

transcripts.

Sophomore Kevin Amaya transferred to Elon after spending a year at Mitchville Community College.

"It's all a new experience for me, but I know where my goals are," Amaya said.

Amaya visited Elon before graduating high school, and although he wanted to apply, he chose to stay home for a year to save money.

"I came to the open house and really liked the environment of the school," Amaya said. "I was so excited for Elon before I came, but being here is 10 times better."

Unlike Amaya, Weibe did not originally look at Elon because she did not plan to attend a Southern school.

"I looked for what I wanted and Elon kept coming up," Weibe said. "It's amazing going to a school that everyone loves."

The transfer students for the 2012-2013 school year range from freshmen to juniors, and three are international students.

"We want the students to be suc-

cessful," said Kaitlyn Schultz, associate director of admissions. "We set them up for success."

86 transfer students enrolled in Elon this year

400 transfer applications were received

200 applicants were accepted

20 percent of those accepted were enrolled

12 credits are needed to transfer to Elon

2.7 is the minimum GPA required

2012 TRANSFER STUDENTS

Reality TV program follows Burlington officers in search for local woman

Adriana Miano
Senior Reporter

A missing person report concerning a Burlington resident attracted the attention of a reality television series this season.

This fall, interested viewers can watch as the Burlington Police Department investigates the disappearance of a local woman on an episode of "Find Our Missing" on TV One, a cable channel based in Silver Spring.

The show will follow Staff Sgt. Mark Yancey and his partner as they search for 43-year-old Debra Sellars, who was reported missing April 24, 2012.

"I don't know at this point in time if (the show) will have an influence on the case," Yancey said. "We are hoping it will bring in more information about the possibility of her whereabouts."

Producers for "Find Our Missing," which focuses on locating missing people of color, contacted the Burlington Police Department requesting to film the episode after finding information about Sellars on the internet, according to Yancey.

With the main portion of filming complete, TV crews have now moved

on to the editing process. Because he has never watched the show, Yancey said he isn't sure how the search will be portrayed by the final product, he said.

"At this point, we know what we've told them is true and accurate information about the case," he said.

Elon senior Alexandra Bard, a criminal justice minor, has watched several different reality TV programs centering on police investigations and typically views the shows without skepticism.

"I assume it all to be relatively true," she said. "Sometimes what I'm watching seems like it has been scripted or fictionalized, but it all seems to be true for the most part."

Although Bard initially felt concerned to learn that a woman had gone missing near Elon and that the case was still open, her experience as a criminal justice minor has helped reduce her uneasiness, she said. Bard's studies revealed such instances are not as prevalent as expected, she said.

"I guess watching these shows makes it seem like serious crimes happen all the time," she said. "But by studying the statistics for my classes, I've learned that this isn't always the case."