

Class of 2018 largest yet, but statistics remain consistent

Jonathan Black
Editor-in-Chief

As Matt Cesari walks onto campus as an Elon University student for the first time on Friday, he will be a part of history. Keeping with previous years, Elon will welcome its largest class size in history, with 1,496 students expected to move in.

For Cesari, the diversity of programs was the most appealing factor about Elon.

"If you have a passion, Elon has a way you can show, develop and share that passion," he said. "It's awesome to go to a school that can be bragged about for its academia as well as its artistic side."

The number of incoming students is a reflection of the applicant pool. The school received a record high of 10,442 applicants.

While applicants and incoming students have risen, the demographics of the Class of 2018 are similar to previous years, including the lower number of in-state students.

North Carolina still makes up about 16 percent of the incoming class, the largest of the 44 states represented. For Cesari, a graduate of Leesville Road

High School in Raleigh, this isn't a bad thing.

"I didn't want my college experience to be seeing the same old people from high school, just in a different setting," he said. "I wanted to see some new faces and get a really unique experience."

Greg Zaiser, vice president of admissions and financial planning, said this could be because of state legislation. Historically, state residents going to Elon received a small grant based on state residency alone. In 2012, N.C. legislation removed the grant to create a new program restricted to students with financial aid from the state.

"I'm thrilled we've been able to hold our own in the state without North Carolinians," Zaiser said. "I'd like it to remain our top state, but we're out and about more."

Incoming students who identify as ethnically diverse compose 17 percent of the freshman class. That number has remained the same three of the past four years. But diversity overall has increased when factoring in socioeconomic.

"The percentage of students who are eligible for federal funds shows we are really investing in socioeconomic diver-

sity," he said. "I'm pleased with the fact that Elon is more accessible for students who might not be able to attend."

Twelve percent of the Class of 2018, the highest amount in the school's history, will receive the Pell Grant, a federal grant dependent on financial need, schools costs and full-time student status.

Other changes occurred in international students. This year, Elon will welcome 98 new international students - five fewer from last year - from 18 countries, not including the United States.

Male-to-female association has remained similar to previous years, with females making up 61 percent of the incoming class, mirroring the national trend of liberal arts schools receiving more female applicants.

No matter the demographics, Zaiser has noticed a continuous rise in quality from incoming students.

"Admissions looks at where else these students apply - Wake Forest, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Bucknell University, University of Richmond - are selective schools," Zaiser said. "This speaks very well of Elon and the students we enrolled in."

BY THE NUMBERS:

1,496 students

TOP 5 STATES:

North Carolina, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Connecticut

98 international students

DIVERSITY:

17 percent of students enrolled come from ethnically diverse backgrounds

ACADEMICS:

3.97 average GPA

1834 average SAT score

27 average SAT score

THE ELON RATIO:

61 percent female, **39 percent** male

CLASS OF 2018

ON CAMPUS TV LISTINGS

- 3 - CW
- 4 - UNC-TV
- 5 - ELON TV
- 6 - WLXI
- 7 - HBO
- 8 - FOX
- 9 - CBS
- 10 - ABC
- 11 - ABC
- 12 - NBC
- 13 - PAX
- 14 - NEWS14CAROLINA
- 15 - WMYV
- 16 - ESPN2
- 17 - ESPN
- 18 - ESPN Classic
- 19 - QVC
- 20 - ABC FAM
- 21 - TNT
- 22 - BET
- 23 - TBS
- 24 - AMC
- 25 - DSC
- 26 - TWC

- 27 - MTV
- 28 - A&E
- 29 - NGC
- 30 - CNBC
- 31 - HLN
- 32 - NICK
- 33 - LIFETIME
- 34 - CNN
- 35 - CMT
- 36 - VH1
- 37 - COMEDY CENTRAL
- 38 - CSPAN2
- 39 - CSPAN
- 40 - FNC
- 41 - TRUTV
- 42 - TVGUIDE
- 43 - BRAVO
- 44 - TLC
- 45 - SYFY
- 46 - E!
- 47 - HSN
- 48 - TOON
- 49 - HALLMARK
- 50 - USA

- 51 - FSCR
- 52 - GOLF
- 53 - HISTORY
- 54 - NOGGIN
- 55 - HGTV
- 56 - UNIMSION
- 57 - TCM
- 58 - ONTV4
- 59 - MSNBC
- 60 - FX
- 61 - STYLE
- 62 - TVLAND
- 63 - ANIMAL
- 64 - FITTV
- 65 - FOOD
- 66 - EWTN
- 67 - SPSO
- 68 - SHOP-NBC
- 69 - ONTV4
- 71 - WE
- 72 - LMN
- 73 - DISNEY
- 75 - VS
- 76 - VH1CL

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The Pendulum is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and multimedia. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and dated. All correspondence should be e-mailed to editor@elonpendulum.com or Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

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336-278-6599

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CAMPUS SHOP
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