

What's What With 'WHOS WHO'

For the year 1963-64, seven Elon seniors will be represented on the pages of Who's Who Among Students In American Universities and Colleges. The announcement of the elected students is recognized on campus with greetings of congratulations and praise, but here are many who do not really understand what the honor stands for and what it means for those chosen.

The idea of creating a national basis of recognition for college students that would be democratic and devoid of dues, initiation fees or other cost was conceived about twenty-nine years ago. Then came two years of research, correspondence, travel, and interviews with college administrators, personnel managers, students and undergraduate organizations to determine whether there was a need for such an organization as Who's Who. Endorsement by these groups encouraged the venture and the first publication went to press for the school year 1934-35.

Recognition by Who's Who means that the student was, first officially recommended from the university or college he attends and, then accepted by the organization. Nominations may be submitted annually by four-year degree-granting institutions and college juniors, seniors and students enrolled in graduate courses are eligible for nomination. Selection of nominees is conducted by campus committees and usually involves student-faculty-administrative participation. Nominations must be signed by a member of the faculty or administration or by another staff member designated to verify nominations and related matters for the college. Nominating committees are requested to consider the student's scholarship, his leadership and co-operation in educational and extracurricular activities, his general citizenship, and his promise of future usefulness. In the schools there is an increasing tendency to use objective point systems for selecting nominees. There is no competition among the various institutions submitting nominations, as their curricula and extracurricular programs differ too greatly to permit accurate comparison. Each institution participating is assigned a separate quota large enough to give a well-rounded representation of the student body, small enough to confine nominations to an exceptional group of students, and based upon current enrollment. Students who have been accepted for recognition are notified directly by Who's Who and are required to submit their own biographical material. The entire school year is required to compile and print the publication, each new edition usually being released during the following summer.

At Elon, nominees are chosen by a student-faculty-administrative committee which reviews information blanks submitted by all juniors and seniors. The students of the committee first comb the blanks and then present the names of those eligible. The entire committee then discusses candidates and election is held with unanimous decision required for the naming of any nominee.

Each student who becomes a member receives without cost: a certificate of recognition awarded by the organization and presented at the school; recognition in the annual publication for the year during which he was selected in the form of a writeup of his college and personal record and a listing in the Index under the college from which he was nominated; benefits of the Student Placement Service provided by the organization if he needs assistance in making employment contacts or supplying other recommendation. In addition to these services, Who's Who is designed to render greater, though less conspicuous service:

As a goal to inspire greater effort in those who may not otherwise perform to the best of their ability.

As a reminder that time must be used intelligently to bring the best results from one's college experience.

As a means of compensation for outstanding effort and achievement.

As a standard of measurement for students comparable to other recognized scholastic and service organizations.

In 1962-63 over 10,700 students from some 1100 universities and colleges were represented in the publication. Of these, 32 were from schools in North Carolina and 358 were students residing in this state. The highest number of students came from the state of New York which was the home state of 893 students. 5112 of the students were to receive at graduation the B.S. degree and 4662 the B.A. degree. In the major subject or vocational field the highest number of students, 4286, were planning to teach school. Research, Law, Engineering, Medicine and Accounting were other popular vocations. Only one student was preparing to be an estimator.

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