

Attempted to Revive College Amid Murders at Elon University  
Travelling and Keg-Killing at Elon's Inaugural  
Nativity Party

Both Anderson and Parsons cite engaged learning as a staple of an Elon University education. Small class sizes and an emphasis on ensuring classes are more than just lecture contribute to Elon's commitment to engaged learning. Let's also not forget that because of this commitment, Elon sends more students abroad than any other masters-level university at 72 percent of undergrads.

#### WHERE DO WE STAND OUT MOST?

The School of Communications

Any student who finds joy in reporting the news, producing video or creating unique media projects is bound to feel at home in Elon's School of Communications, along with about 1,100 other undergrads. The program and its students and faculty have received plenty of awards and recognition over the past few years, competing against other top programs in the country.

With a national advisory board consisting of members like Brian Williams of NBC and Michael Radutsky of 60 Minutes, the communications program already has an impressive reputation on a national scale. Big plans are taking shape for the future of the school that will skyrocket its reputation even further.

Parsons outlined the proposal for a new curriculum that could potentially be in place by next fall. It would include two new majors, Media Analytics and Communication Design, as well as changes to the current journalism sequences.

"In the past we've always had a print/online sequence in journalism, and a broadcast news sequence," Parsons said. "We don't want to completely do away with that ... but we want to reduce the walls. We want to talk in terms of a common journalism major." Similar changes will be occurring among the Cinema and Television sequences of the Media Arts & Entertainment major, which is also being renamed.

Along with these new changes to the school's curriculum come massive changes to its facilities. Parsons revealed a construction plan that includes adding a new building where the McEwen faculty parking lot is, featuring a traditional Elon brick face along with large walls of glass for a more modern aesthetic. There will also be an Emerging Media Pavilion and the graduate program will be housed in its own building, Long. This

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Dean of the School of Communications

impressive new layout will be known as the Communications Commons, and will allow for student media organizations to be located on the same floor in what is the current McEwen building.

Needless to say, the School of Communications is a prime example of how Elon is striving to improve upon current programs while also thinking ahead to what students will need in the future.

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This expansion of the school has allowed Elon to gain credibility for its communications department. With a strong network of alumni in the cinema, broadcast and journalism industries, Elon is gaining recognition from employers as a cultivator of highly trained and experienced young professionals. The School of Communications has emphasized preparing students for their futures outside of the university, which has translated into highly successful and reputable adults in the professional environment.

The School of Business

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business (LSB), home to the largest percentage of Elon undergrads, has also received its share of recognition on the national scale. It made the Princeton Review's list of top 295 Business Schools in the country and placed number two on the list of best-administered programs. *Bloomberg Businessweek* named the program among the top 50 in the nation, along with the MBA program as the nation's #1 part-time program.

With such varying rankings it might be

hard to understand exactly what the status of our business program is and what criteria it is being judged on, but one thing is certain: The LSB, like all other departments at Elon, is dedicated to ensuring students receive the quality knowledge and experience they need to succeed in the real world. From the Business Fellows program to the option of completing a dual-degree by studying at prestigious schools in Germany and France, undergraduate business majors have no shortage of opportunity.

Another way the LSB is currently working to expand opportunities for students is by building upon graduate programs. The business and communications programs will be partnering to create a Master of Science degree in Business Analytics. An M.S. in International Business will also be offered, reflecting Elon's commitment to global engagement.

...And Everywhere Else

Elon is, first and foremost, a liberal arts college. And just like with professional studies, it excels in the arts and sciences as well. Forty-two percent of undergrads partake in research alongside faculty members, and Elon is one of about 10 percent of colleges and universities in the nation that has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, the most prestigious academic honor society in the country.

One department at Elon that has been gaining a highly respected reputation is its Performing Arts program. The department was recently recognized by *Backstage.com* as one of the top six best programs for college actors on a budget.

With an impressive faculty roster and commitment to engaged education, it is only fitting that Elon also produces the next top-notch generation of educators. The School of Education prepares students for careers in elementary, secondary and special education and takes the national Teaching Fellows program a step further by requiring all fellows to spend a semester abroad in London or Costa Rica.

These are just a few examples of how Elon places the highest of importance on a fulfilling and enriched undergraduate experience, which has brought the university much deserved national attention. Elon's students have done plenty to earn individual praise as well.

#### STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

You might have seen a certain YouTube