For the first time, Elon competed in the Fed Challenge at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond’s Charlotte branch office. The Fed Challenge is a simulation of an Open Federal Market Committee meeting. Students undertook research, analyzed data on current economic conditions and decided on an appropriate monetary policy. They then deliver a 20-minute presentation being scored on content, teamwork, responses and presentation. This year Elon finished in second place competing against UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington, Clemson, Davidson, Appalachian State, Gardner-Webb, Lenoir-Rhyne, and Winston-Salem State.

The team consisted of: Thomas Gutierrez ’13, Brian McGerigle ’12, George Piland ’13, Charles Rice ’13, Justin Wanner ’13 Thomas Whyel ’13 and content advisors were Zach Power ’12 and Jordan Duffy ’13. Professors Jennifer Platania and Vitaly Strohush coached the team.
Undergraduate Success

Five students presented undergraduate research at the Eastern Economic Association annual conference in Boston, MA March 9-11, 2012. This conference allows members to present their research and act as discussants for other undergraduate papers.

Senior Tyler Zoda appreciated the opportunity, “The Easterns experience was a good one because it was the first time I ever presented my thesis, so it gave me good presentation experience and it allowed me to meet a lot of other smart econ majors from around the country. I also got good feedback on my paper that allowed it to get published in the Issues in Political Economy Journal.”

Grace Foster also presented her paper at the Midwest Economics Association annual conference in Chicago, IL. She was one of twelve undergraduate students selected to present her paper and was selected as the best undergraduate paper of the session.

Grace also presented her paper at the Duke Economics Department Undergraduate Research Symposium. Grace worked under the guidance of assistant professor Katy Rouse and professor Steve DeLoach.

Junior Alex Spitz will be working as a research assistant in Aachen, Germany this summer at RWTH Aachen University. The project he will be working on is a "Macroeconomic Analysis of the Need for Urban Development Funds."

LSB Connect & Recruiting

The Love School of Business is hosting the second annual LSB Connect Conference on Saturday, November 3, 2012. The conference, exclusively for sophomores, focuses on professional development and will include plenary and breakout sessions, as well as an etiquette luncheon and networking reception. For more information see the conference website:

www.elon.edu/lsbconnect

If you are interested in participating as a guest speaker in one of the breakout session, contact Sarah Thomas:

sthomas@elon.edu

For information on the Elon Job Network, an easy way to recruit outstanding Elon students, contact career services:

careerservices@elon.edu
Undergraduate Publications and Presentations 2011-2012

Publications & Awards

Grace Foster, “The Long Term and Short Term Effect of Single-Sex Education on Extracurricular Participation” Best Paper Award, Midwest Economics Association Annual Conference 2012.


Conference Presentations


2011 Economics Graduates

Caleb Luther from Highland Falls, NY, is a Global Finance Specialist for SAP America in Newton Square, PA. He is on the Financing Global Operations team of four members with a quota of €400 million in SAP Revenue.

Randall Anderson from Lakeland, FL is getting his M.S. in Public Policy. He is also a Legislative Analyst for a Tallahassee lobbying firm.

Kaylyn Swankoski is an Economic Analyst for Wells Fargo in Charlotte, NC.

Charles Smith from Burlington, VT is working for the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C. on the staff of Senator Patrick Leahy

Adam Walton works for Bank of America and will begin his M.B.A. at the University of Tampa.

Ted Slusher is stationed at Columbus AFB in Columbus, MS under going Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training. Currently I’m flying the T-6 Texan and will graduate in May 2013.

Allison Stolte is a research assistant in the Labor, Human Services and Population department at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC.

2012 Economics Graduates

Tyler Zoda from Raleigh will be working for Vanguard in Financial Services in Charlotte.

Simone LaHood will be doing Teach for America in Charlotte, NC. She will be teaching middle school math.

Zach Gillis from Chevy Chase, MD will be working for Ernst & Young’s Complex Securities Group in Washington, D.C.

Mallory Gershenfeld from Yardley, PA, will be working for JP Morgan in Delaware.

Joe Patterson from Orange Park, FL, will be doing for Teach for America Dallas, TX.

Grace Foster from West Chester, PA will be working for JP Morgan Chase in Newark, DE as a part of the Corporate Analyst Development Program.

Ben Kanne will be working as an Associate for Savills LLC, a real estate investment banking firm in Manhattan, NY.

Kyle Gay from Ridgefield, CT will be an Analyst for Venture Capital firm Sandbox Industries in Chicago, IL.

Mara Bollenbacher from Chicago, IL will be a Junior Research Associate for Cambridge Associates in Washington, D.C.

Jacob Tyner will be attending law school at the University of Denver.
Several Economics Majors were presented with awards from the Love School of Business at a ceremony on April 16, 2012. The recipients were:

**John Kappas Economics Award**
This award goes to the senior economics major who best demonstrates enthusiasm for economics, potential for leadership, and classroom excellence. It is named in honor of the late John Kappas, a 1985 Elon graduate.

*Recipient: Grace Foster*

**Student Achievement in Economics Award**
This award is given to a senior economics major who has shown enthusiasm and success in his or her courses as well as promise for future achievement.

*Recipient: Simone LaHood*

**The David O. Bowden Economics Scholarship**
Established by David Bowden ’70, the David O. Bowden Economics Scholarship is awarded to a rising senior majoring in economics who has been active in the department and demonstrated potential for future success. At Elon, Mr. Bowden was a double major in business administration and economics. He went on to earn his J.D. from the University of Miami.

*Recipient: Gregory Nantz*

**The Department of Economics Endowed Scholarship**
This scholarship was established in 2005 by members of the Department of Economics for an economics major with a record of academic excellence within the major who exhibits a commitment to social responsibility

*Recipient: Stanton Sandford*

**The James T. Toney Endowment Fund**
This award was established by members of the Department of Economics in honor of Professor Jim Toney. The scholarship is for economics majors and is to be used for off-campus travel.

*Recipient: Kenneth Dunkle*

**The John & Margaret Sullivan GP ’05 Endowed Fund for Engaged Learning in Economics**
This fund was established by 2005 Elon graduate Kathleen Niple for economics majors who are participating in one of the five Elon Experiences program areas.

*Recipient: Kenneth Dunkle*

**The William A. Klopman, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**
This award was established in 1992 in memory of William A. Klopman, Jr., a scholar of business and law. It is to provide scholarship assistance to a rising junior or senior in the Love School of Business who demonstrates high academic potential with preference given to students living in Alamance County, the Triad, or North Carolina.

*Recipient: Scott Bishopric*

**Excellence in Scholarship**

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business Dean’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship recognizes one or more faculty members each year whose scholarly work has a significant intellectual impact in keeping with the Elon scholar-mentor model. Congratulations to Dr. Rouse on winning this award.

*Recipient: Dr. Katy Rouse*
Elon Microfinance Initiative and Muhammad Yunus

The Elon Microfinance Initiative works with both the local community and internationally to help business owners through sustainable giving. Last year was the inaugural year consisting of four members who ran a small business workshop with Alamance Community College. This year they now have 20 members and are growing in other areas.

So far this year, they have worked with two small business owners in the Burlington area. They have assisted the organizations in marketing strategies and business planning ideas to launch their small businesses. In addition, they have organized publicity events to advertise these companies. This included a book signing for JAB’s Love letters as well as a self-defense class. All proceeds to each event were donated to all small-business owners throughout the world. They have a Kiva account, a website that is used to make loans to small businesses and receive payments back. In essence, they choose who to make loans to and then are repaid the money, in which case they loan more to others.

On April 4, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus visited Elon and received the Elon Uni-

New Phi Beta Kappa Inductees

53 new students from Elon were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa on April 16. Phi Beta Kappa is considered one of the nation’s most prestigious honor societies, recognizing students in the fields of arts and sciences. Zach Power and Simone LaHood were the only two economics majors to be honored. Phi Beta Kappa represents 10 percent of institutions in the nation, and only the top 10 percent of arts and sciences graduates are selected for membership. Jonathan Rosenberg, chief technologist for Skype, was the keynote speaker.
"Not many recently graduated economics majors decide to join the army," wrote a nominator, but James isn’t most economics majors.

James Black, a 2009 graduate was selected for Elon’s 2012, Top 10 Under 10 awards, recognizing outstanding young alumni. Upon graduating, Black volunteered to be deployed to Afghanistan and in February of 2011 he flew to Helmand Province as a psychological operations specialist in the U.S. Army. Sangin, a district of Helmand Province, has been one of the best distressed districts within Afghanistan. The people there suffer from terror from the Taliban, such as beatings and murder. This includes limiting education as the Taliban places fear into teachers and parents. In the summer of 2011, Black recognized this and saw the opportunity to help the educational opportunity in Sangin. Black contacted Elon University to promote educational resources. Elon responded quickly, within one month students, faculty, alumni and other donors contributed close to 1000 pounds of materials. The support and responsibility for providing an increase in lifestyle falls on The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIRoA). The supplies were routed through the Afghan officials to local schools – enough to sustain a year’s worth of education. Black has helped inspire children to get an education; exciting them with pencils, papers and markers. With the help of Black and Elon University, Afghans are being provided the tools for a better future.
ODE Inductions

Thirty-four students were inducted into Elon’s Pi chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) the international honor society during the Spring Economics Banquet on April 3.

Requirements for ODE include successful completion of 16 hours of economics courses with a minimum GPA of 3.25.

Kevin Barr, Mara Bollenbacher, Welsford Bishopric, Brandon Brown, Matthew Campbell, Celia Eddy, Adam Crouch, Alexander Dempsey, Lauren DiFiglia, Kathryn Dugan, Katherine Eason, Charles Fambrough, Matthew Florian, Mallory Gershenfeld, Oliver Goddu, Ashleigh Green, Robert Hackett, Lauren Hansen, Chelsea Helms, Caitlin Hickey, Benjamin Kanne, Ryan Kilbane, Simone LaHood, Sarah Naiman, Gregory Nantz, Harrison Olverd, Joseph Patterson, Emily Plante, Nathan Randazzo, Jonathan Riegel, Paul Robinson, Justin Wanner, James Yaworsky, Blaire Zachary
James L. Barbour


Steve Bednar


Jayoti (Tina) Das


Stephen B. DeLoach


Cassandra Dirienzo


Greg Lilly

Jennifer Platania


Katy Rouse


Thomas Tiemann


Douglas Redington

Congratulations Seniors

Congratulations to the economics major graduates.
Good luck in your future and stay in touch!

2011 Graduates

Randall Anderson  Craig Massey
Vincent Ayube    Joseph Mastrohsante
Micah Boomer     David Meyer
Amelie Busch     Ashley Milford
Clinton Collins  Davis Miller
Brian Crevi      Jessica Moran
Thomas Daddio    William O’Riordan
Kyle Fisher      Matthew Reidy
Stephanie Franz  Raleigh Richards
Andrew Garrison  William Richards
Brett Gerding    Matthew Richardson
Ian Grady        Sarah Schermerhorn
Travis Greene    Emily Schulz
Richard Johns    Kevin Sheridan
Adam Walton      Jeffrey Siatti
Zachary Widdoss  Theodore Slusher
Faud Zaru        Charles Smith
Taylor Zorski    Allison Stolte
Caleb Luther     Kaylyn Swankoski
                Travis Upton

2012 Graduates

Mara Bollenbacher Jeff Kolodkin
Adam Crouch       Simone Lahood
Conor Danielson  Teagan Lewis
Guy Ellenburg    Tyler Lynn
Grace Foster     Timothy McLane
Kyle Gay         Sarah Naiman
Mallory Gershfeld Joe Patterson
Zach Gillis      Zach Power
Ben Kanne        David Pullman
Samantha King    Alex Schreiner
                Jacob Tyner
What makes the Economics department at Elon so special?

When it comes to studying Economics, Elon faculty know that students must do more than memorize theories and concepts. They must also be critical thinkers, keen analysts and astute problem solvers because economists must have the skills to understand a variety of changing conditions — from what drives institutional change to how consumer behavior will change over time.

At Elon, Economics courses are designed to help students develop economic reasoning — a particular way of looking at the world that is valuable in government service, business, law, and many other fields.

With Elon’s distinctive active learning approach, students develop the poise and confidence essential to success in their studies and careers. This approach to learning means students engage not only in their own research, but also work one-on-one with Economics faculty in scholarly endeavors.

To stay current on the Economics department, visit www.elon.edu/economics throughout the year.