

### World-class research with students

Our faculty recruits physics students, including freshmen, into research programs such as nanotechnology, magnetics and high-energy astrophysics. All physics majors conduct research by their junior year.

Recent students have won research awards from the Goldwater Scholarship program, the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, the regional section of the American Association of Physics Teachers and the national Society of Physics Students.

Read More - [www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=959065](http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=959065).

### Leaders in physics education

The Elon University chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS) was selected as an Outstanding SPS Chapter based on the depth and breadth of student activities. Notable SPS events at Elon included the Great Pumpkin Smash, the Physics Bridge Challenge, and participation in the Zone 5 SPS meeting in the spring.

Read More - [www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=956320](http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=956320).

To create the next generation of science educators, Elon University offers several opportunities for our science majors to teach. With a \$1.2-million grant from the National Science Foundation, we award summer internships and \$44,000 scholarships to undergraduate science

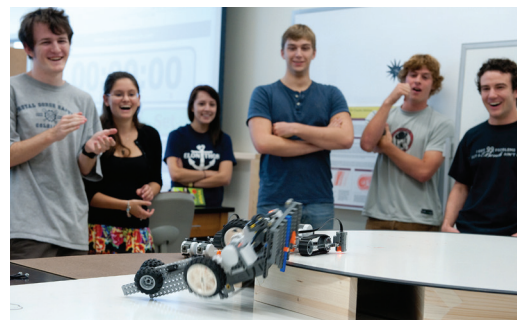
majors that commit to becoming high school teachers.

Read More - [www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=954160](http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=954160).

### Innovative physics curriculum

In 2010, Elon University adopted the new Matter & Interactions freshman physics curriculum, making it the first private college in the state to do so.

This curriculum introduces students to relativity and computing as freshman where most traditional



*A robotics class offers students hands-on experience*

programs do not cover this until the sophomore and junior years.

Students taking introductory astronomy classes learn what it is like to be a scientist through a new role-playing game, "The Pluto Debate." This project, funded through a \$190,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, builds upon the well-established Reacting to the Past pedagogy created at Barnard College

Elon professors and students are assessing the learning that takes place in such games.

Read More - [www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=953958](http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=953958).

For more information, visit the department's website [www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/elon\\_college/physics](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/elon_college/physics).



*Physics students present their research*



*The Great Pumpkin Smash*