

The Communique

A Publication of the Institutional Research Office

“Assessing Elon University through the timely collection, analysis, and dissemination of institutional related information.”

CIRP— What Entering Freshmen Say

Higher Education Research Institute’s (HERI) student survey, Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) is a national longitudinal study of entering college freshmen. It was established in 1966 and is the largest and oldest empirical study of higher education with more than 1,800 institutions and 10 million students participating since its beginning.

Elon has consecutively participated in CIRP since 1984. Each year during freshmen orientation, incoming students complete the CIRP survey containing over 80 questions exploring issues such as demographics, college expectations, and values. HERI updates the survey each year to address the changing needs of institutional participants.

Near the end of the fall semester, Elon receives a detailed profile of the entering class, as well as national normative data for similar institutions. These reports provide important information enabling Elon to assess trends, programs and policies. The IR office provides yearly summaries and a CIRP Fact Book containing trend analyses on selected topics. Spreadsheets are also included enabling viewers to explore all CIRP results. We invite you to visit the CIRP page within the IR website at:

www.elon.edu/irweb/cirp.htm.

Examples of CIRP Results

**CIRP Fact Book
 Elon Trend Analysis**

	1992	2002
Reasons for attending Elon: academic reputation	49%	61%
Participate in volunteer service	28%	49%
High school grades: A+/A-	16%	44%
Parent’s income: \$200k or more	10%	21%

**CIRP 2002
 Peer Analysis**

	Elon	Peer
Will be satisfied with their college choice	66%	60%
High school required community service	39%	27%
College choice based on size of school	65%	56%
Will participate in student clubs/groups	63%	50%