

E-PEOPLE

Jack Smith: The man behind the masks

By Bethany Swanson '09

At the end of half a mile of fabric, 20 miles of thread and 3,600 rhinestones stands the man responsible for the costumes for Elon's hit production of "The Phantom of the Opera."

Jack Smith, assistant professor of performing arts and costume designer in residence, has designed and helped build costumes for every production in the performing arts department since his arrival on campus five years ago. But designing for "Phantom" was especially challenging.

"I didn't have a break from Christmas until the show opened," says Smith, who spent six weeks cutting out patterns. "It's a highly specialized skill, so I would cut things out and pass them on for someone else to build. It was a beehive of people building."

"Phantom" featured 240 costumes, half of which were purchased or repurposed from other productions. It took 3,500 hours of labor to create the remaining 120 costumes from scratch.

"I'm amazingly proud of the students," he says. "A lot of people made that magic happen. It's such a testament to the strength of the department."

Smith is the first person at Elon to hold the job of costume designer as a full-time faculty member. He teaches courses in costume design and construction, as well as introduction to theater and introduction to theater history. In addition, he teaches a global studies course on beauty through fashion. The course looks at different cultures and what they value through how they dress.

"My goal is for us to see that we all buy into fashion silliness," he says. "I also work very hard at getting people to realize that, especially in the performing industry but also in general society, that there are both female and male body image issues. It's so important that we get the word out that this is not how it's supposed to be."

Before coming to Elon, Smith worked for the Orlando Shakespeare Festival, The Mad Cow Theater, The University of Central Florida and Disney Productions. His work has also been exhibited at an international theatrical design competition in Prague.



Jack Smith helps a student work on a costume for "The Phantom of the Opera." Smith spent six weeks cutting out patterns for the show.

Despite his 20 years of experience, Smith did not set out to be a costume designer. His passion was ignited during his sophomore year at Eastern Illinois University, where he was studying journalism.

"I was in this class, and my professor said, 'At some point in your career, you're going to have to be prepared to put a glass up against a door to get the story,'" he says. "And I just thought, 'This is crazy.'"

At the same time, Smith was taking an introductory course in theater arts. His professor, hoping to find a student to help with costumes, asked if anyone could sew. Smith's mother had taught him when he was 5 years old.

When he walked into the costume shop for the first time, he says he knew it was where he belonged.

"I can tell you which lights were burned out, what music was playing and the smell of the room," he says. "I realized this is where I'm supposed to be. I really haven't looked back, and I still can't believe that I get to do this for a living." @

Communities thrive with help from faculty, staff

By Robert Hoppey '09

Faculty and staff are embracing the opportunity to mentor the 326 students enrolled in Elon's learning communities — residential options where students and faculty are united in a common interest or pursuit. The 18 communities' topics range from foreign language to environmental sustainability.

"Advisers are choosing to get involved with learning communities because they see a unique way to interact with and 'teach' students something that is not already occurring in classes," says Jeff Stein, assistant dean of students. "This might mean one-on-one time with faculty, workshops, creative projects, trips or other experiential opportunities."

Learning communities were established on campus in 1994 as a response to national studies that showed students respond to these living situations with increased involvement in campus life and higher rates of academic satisfaction and performance. Elon's learning communities have been ranked among *U.S. News & World Report's* "Programs to Look For."

According to Stein, the communities are now at their strongest point and serve a variety of purposes to students, faculty and staff.

For the faculty and staff members profiled below, their roles have allowed them to help students stay healthy, express their love of the arts, or immerse themselves in their passion for service.

Amanda Tapler, professor of health education, along with her colleague Eric Hall, was asked to advise the Health and Wellness learning community in 2005. Tapler says she has had an enriching experience advising students who are committed to physical, emotional, spiritual, social, environmental and intellectual wellness.

"Students are committed to each other and to the learning community, and due to their ability to connect, transition and adjust to college, most of them perform at optimal levels academically," says Tapler.

Remaining active is a priority for Tapler and members of her learning community. They have attended volleyball games to support team members in the community, gone hiking, traveled to the beach, hosted healthy tailgates before football games and discovered a shared love of bowling.

"It sounds so simple, but being around so many healthy, happy, motivated individuals makes your life happy," says freshman Allison Valyo. "It is truly inspiring to be surrounded by people who not only push themselves physically, but also work hard in school and play hard outside of school."

Tita Ramirez, professor of English, joined Michael Fels, professor of theatre, and Drew Perry, a colleague in the English department, in advising the recently established Arts and Letters community.

"We were looking for students who were not just performing arts, but also consuming art," says Ramirez. "We thought, 'Where



Learning community advisers often coordinate events to bring students together, such as a recent open mic night sponsored by the Arts and Letters community.

are the students who love good music, movies, books and art? We knew that they would want to connect with other people like themselves."

The Arts and Letters advisers have overseen programming ranging from independent film nights, trips to museums, open mic nights and student art gallery showings. The community also worked in conjunction with Elon Volunteers and the English department to sponsor "Will Read for Food," an event where students and faculty read passages of their favorite literary works while collecting proceeds for the Alamance County Food Bank. More than 500 food items were collected.

Arts and Letters students may find they share common ideals with SLC, the service learning community advised by Kathleen



Tapler



Fels



Edwards



Tapler



Hall

New program will shed light on the Middle East

By Megan Kirkpatrick '09

A new Middle Eastern studies program is slowly taking shape on Elon's campus, and the sounds of Arabic could be heard around campus as early as next year.

Brian Digre, professor of history and coordinator of the international studies major, led the push to establish the program. He says it is a natural extension of the university's existing international studies curriculum.

"It reflects student interest and the contemporary global significance of the region, and it is a logical addition to the major's existing regional concentrations of Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America," he says.

The program will include 11 new courses in departments such as art, communications, English, foreign languages, history, philosophy, political science and religious studies. These courses will help form a Middle Eastern studies minor and a regional concentration within the international studies major.

"Expertise in the Middle East and Arabic language abilities can be very marketable for a student looking for jobs, especially with the government," Digre says.

The Middle Eastern studies program is being funded by a \$16,000 grant from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program of the U.S. Department of Education, and a matching gift from the university. The money will help expand library collections, attract guest speakers and develop study abroad programs with universities in the Middle East, Digre says.

This summer, a team of faculty and administrators will fly to the region to investigate programs with American University in Cairo and Haifa University in Israel. The new study abroad programs should be available in 2009 or 2010.

"Naturally, we take security concerns very seriously. The Isabella Cannon Centre for International Studies will carefully consider



Brian Digre helped create the new Middle Eastern studies program, which will include 11 courses as well as study abroad programs in the region.

them before approving any programs," Digre says of the current situation in the Middle East. "At present, I believe that both Cairo and Haifa are safe cities for American students to study in."

Students have already begun taking Middle Eastern-focused classes such as Media in the Middle East, taught by Michael Skube, associate professor of communications. The upper-level general studies course offers insight into the history and culture of the tumultuous region as it relates to current media studies.

"We tend to think of the Middle East as the events we have seen happen on our TV screens. The roots of the conflicts go back hundreds of years. I never realized that until I took the class," says junior Rachel Dailey, who took the class in the fall. "It is important to understand those roots because we are becoming adults at this time in history." @

IN THE SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

Edwards, assistant director of the Kernodle Center for Service Learning. Edwards describes her community as a "holistic learning environment," in which students attend classes together, embrace the best practices of service and learn the value of analyzing and questioning why adverse conditions exist. Recent projects include volunteering with the Burlington Housing Authority, participating in the Walkathon for the Invisible Children campaign and working on a long-term project with a local organization.

The SLC is the one of the oldest learning communities on campus. According to Edwards, the community has evolved with the times and the institution.

"We know that students change, so the SLC changes with them in order to find a model that works," says Edwards.

One student who has seen the program improve over the years is senior Kendra Nickel, who lived in the SLC her freshman year and now is the student director of the community. She credits her experience in the community with uncovering her life's passion.

"When I entered the SLC, service was something I did without thinking much about it," says Nickel. "Now I know it's the way I want to live my life."

Discussions are underway for creating more learning communities, including diversity and African/African-American studies communities. Those involved say they hope the deep-rooted sense of camaraderie continues as the program expands.

"There is a real sense of community here," says Ramirez. "It's true — the name says it all." @



Susan Klopman (bottom left) and students pause at the base of the Himalayas during their Winter Term tour of China.

When past is not prologue: Reflections on Winter Term in China

By Susan Klopman

It has been a 40-year dream of mine to visit China. I studied this mysterious and ancient land in college and wrote my senior thesis about the vast differences in our two cultures. So I was thrilled to join 30 Elon students, Dr. Honglin Xiao and Dr. Heidi Frontani to travel 4,950 miles to delve into history and see for myself some of the ancient and incredible wonders of the world — the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and Summer Palace, and the Terra Cotta Warriors (which had not even been discovered when I wrote my thesis).

But it was not history that captured my attention as we traversed China from north to south. I was completely absorbed by the present, and almost equally preoccupied with thoughts of the future — the future for the 30 students I grew to adore and for the future of the next decade of college students, and so on.

It seems that everything in China is destined to be new. In Shanghai, historically the most Westernized of the great Chinese cities, anything more than 15 years old is consid-

ered outdated and most likely is slated for demolition to make way for more 88-story or 100-story buildings — only imagination and the capacity of a crane will set the limits. In Xian, the ancient capital city, not even the earth is left undisturbed as massive new subway tunnels bore their way under the city center while life thunders undisturbed overhead.

The days of push carts and bicycles are rapidly giving way to honking automobiles, which crisscross lane markers as if they are simply a suggestion as the cars swarm new eight-lane highways. And everywhere pedestrians dart back and forth, brushing fenders with their soft skin, never flinching or acknowledging that metal might win.

English is now the second language of China. Former President Richard Nixon would never have imagined that. One of my favorite memories is little Linda, the vivacious 3-year-old who bounced up to our breakfast table with ponytails sprouting from her head like fountains. “Hello,” she announced, smiling with pride. With a bit more coaching from her mother nearby, she

said, “My name is Linda in English.” For the next two mornings, she popped over to our table, practicing new words. Her grandfather was embarrassed and took her away; her father joined us and asked all about our travels.

University students we met at a foreign language college in Beijing were also quite fluent. Their goal was to be proficient enough to study for a year in a British university. “My teacher doesn’t think my English is good enough,” said one earnest and determined young woman I had the pleasure to meet. “I think Chinese young people are too serious. I don’t think we know how to enjoy life. We are not like young people in America. We don’t know how to have fun. We study all the time.”

My 30 companions do know how to have fun, but they came to China to learn and see it for themselves. I think we all came home with a profound new understanding of “Made in China” and what that means to the future.

Klopman is vice president of admissions and financial planning at Elon.



Bob Anderson, associate professor of political science, spoke Jan. 29 with News 14 Carolina morning anchor and Elon graduate Tracey Early about President George W. Bush's eighth and final State of the Union address. One day later, Anderson spoke live with News 14 as the channel covered former Sen. John

Edwards announcing the end to his presidential campaign. He was also interviewed live on the Fox 8 WGHP morning show about the Feb. 5 primary elections.



Hunter Bacot, associate professor of political science and director of the Elon University Poll, spoke with News 14 Carolina on Jan. 16 about the South Carolina primary for Republican presidential candidates. Bacot appeared on News 14 and Fox

8 WGHP several times during the winter to offer analysis on the presidential primary campaigns, and to analyze the February results of the Elon University Poll.

Barry Beedle, professor of health and human performance, was profiled in the Burlington *Times-News* on Jan. 14 for his research on the link between body size in athletes and the risk of developing sleep apnea. Beedle later presented his research at the annual Southeast Chapter meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in Alabama on Feb. 16.



North Carolina Gov. Mike Easley has appointed **Connie Book, associate dean of the school of communications**, to the board of the Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), a division of the North Carolina Department of Administration. APT

was founded in 1979 to serve as the media production house for state government.

Two poems by **Kevin Boyle, professor of English**, will appear in *Literary Trails of North Carolina: The Piedmont*, published by UNC Press. One poem, a lament about living in Burlington, is called "Our Town"; the other, "The Lullaby of History," is set in Bennett Place, where Gen. Johnston surrendered to Sherman in 1865.



Matthew Buckmaster, assistant professor of music, presented a session on using recording technology in teaching applied music lessons at the Georgia Music Educator's National Conference in Savannah on Jan. 24.

Megan Conklin, assistant professor of computing sciences, has been awarded five terabytes of storage space on the TeraGrid, a selective, federally funded computer server where scientists conduct research that requires vast amounts of electronic file space and computing capability.



Pranab Das, professor of physics, published a column in the Jan. 5 *Winston-Salem Journal* on the subject of legislation mandating a changeover to fluorescent lighting nationwide. He presents a short primer on the science of household lighting and a critique of the quality of light generated by compact fluorescent tubes.



Catherine Dunham, associate professor of law, and **Steve Friedland, professor of law and senior scholar**, presented at the Learning in Law 2008 conference, held Jan. 3-4 at the University of Warwick in Coventry, England.

Dunham and Friedland discussed Elon's engaged approach to legal learning and how the law school is confronting established problems in new ways.

Carolyn A. Ent, director of events for the president's office, presented a program on development events for university fundraising campaigns at the Academic Event Professional Conference held in Atlanta in January. She discussed Cornell University's \$4 billion campaign public launch event, which she managed last year. The program was held as part of the 2008 Special Event conference sponsored by *Special Events Magazine*.



Five first-year faculty members have been selected to receive Hultquist Awards for 2008-09 from the Faculty Research and Development Committee. This year's selections include the following: **Kim Epting, assistant professor of psychology** (not pictured) — "Influences on Written Self-editing"; **Mina Garcia Soormally, assistant professor of Spanish** (from left) — "Integration of iPod technology into the Language Learning Environment"; **Ketevan Kupatadze, lecturer in Spanish** — "Advanced Study for Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language"; **Anne Marx, assistant professor of leisure and sport management** — "An Ethical Dilemma: When Service Philosophy and the Law Collide"; **Rebecca Pope-Ruark, assistant professor of English** — "Knowledge Management Documentation Practices in Marketing Communication Agencies." In addition to the Hultquist awards, two other first-year faculty members received FR&D funding to support professional development and scholarship: **Amy Overman, assistant professor of psychology** — "Neurophysiology of memory in older & younger adults"; and **Janet M. Cope, assistant professor of physical therapy education** — "Personal formaldehyde exposure versus standard air quality test results in the human anatomy laboratory."





A Feb. 8 story in the *Triad Business Journal* about international law and business includes quotes from two law school faculty members. **John Englar, distinguished practitioner in residence,**

says a grasp of international business and culture is crucial for today's law students. **Helen Grant, professor of law,** says students are highly motivated to learn about international law and cultures different from their own.

Thomas Erdmann, professor of music and education, had his article, "Learning To Do It All: An Interview With Eddie Allen," about the N.Y. jazz and Broadway show trumpeter, published in the March 2008 issue of *The International Trumpet Guild Journal*.



An article by **Eric Fink, associate professor of law,** will appear in an upcoming edition of the *Notre Dame Law Review*. Titled "Liars & Terrorists & Judges, Oh My: Moral Panic and the Symbolic Politics of Appellate Review in Asylum Cases," the article is scheduled to appear in Volume 83, Number 5, due for publication in the spring.



Research by **Paul Fromson, professor of psychology,** and Elon alumna Dana Neumann '07 was accepted for presentation at the Eastern Psychological Association conference in Boston March 13-16. The study, "Anticipatory Regret: Temporal Patterns and Psychological Mechanisms," grows out of earlier studies of regret.



Kenn Gaither, assistant professor of communications, will be serving as executive dean during the spring session of Semester at Sea, a 100-day educational and study abroad program for students. The University of Virginia sponsors the floating university that is open to students nationwide. Gaither has participated in the program seven times prior to this spring's semester voyage.



Kathy Gallucci and Jeffrey Coker, assistant professors of biology, participated in the symposium "Using Inquiry Approaches in the College General Biology Laboratory" at the National Association of Biology

Teachers Professional Development Conference in Atlanta from Nov. 28-Dec. 1. Gallucci's presentation was titled "The Evolution of Inquiry Approaches to Classroom and Laboratory Instruction," and Coker's was titled "Student-Designed Experiments in Introductory Biology for Non-majors." Gallucci also presented a poster, "The Effect of the Case Study Method on Student Alternative Conceptions in Biology."



Dave Gammon, assistant professor of biology, presented his research on the evolution of culture in animals to the biology department at UNC-Greensboro on Feb. 20. He played sounds recorded from black-capped chickadees and presented data suggesting how and why this animal "language" changes over time, and he showed parallels with human language.

A presentation co-written by **Mathew Gendle, assistant professor of psychology,** and **Jeffrey Pugh, professor of religious studies,** has been accepted for the Toward a Science of Consciousness conference, to be held in Tucson, Ariz., in April. Gendle and Pugh's presentation will detail a unique, interdisciplinary and team-taught consciousness studies class that they developed for use in the Honors curriculum at Elon.



John Guiniven, associate professor of communications, received the Spinks Award from the Tar Heel chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) on Jan. 10. It is the organization's highest honor.

Ashley Holmes, lecturer in English, presented at the 2008 Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching. Holmes' presentation, titled "Redesigning Service-Learning: Considering Student and Community Partner Voices in Course Design," described a current research project she is conducting with funding from an Elon Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) Grant.



Earl Honeycutt, professor of business administration, was recently notified that his co-authored article "Utilizing Activity Theory to Plan Cross-Cultural Training Programs" was accepted for presentation and publication in the Proceedings of the National Conference in Sales Management (NCSM).



Angela Lewellyn Jones, associate professor of social justice; Jeff Stein, assistant dean of students; and **Pam Kiser, professor of human services,** had an article titled "Transitioning to Collaborative Service-Learning" accepted for publication in *Planning for Higher Education* (July - Sept. '08). The article examines how



Elon University has transformed partnerships between faculty, student affairs and community partners and in doing so has shifted from a student-life centered cooperative model to a collaborative model.



Yoram Lubling, professor of philosophy, recently learned his book, *Twice-Dead: Moshe Y. Lubling, the Ethics of Memory, and the Treblinka Revolt*, is to be translated into Hebrew and published by Yedioth Ahronoth Publishing House in Israel. The latter is the largest publishing house in Israel.



The Burlington *Times-News* published a centerpiece story in its Health section on Jan. 29 profiling the work of **Kathy Matera, associate professor of chemistry**. Matera's research with molecules in walnut extracts shows promise in treating Alzheimer's disease.



Rebecca McQueen, assistant director of residence life for Danieley Center, presented two programs at the North Carolina Association of Residence Halls conference held Feb. 8-10 at Appalachian State University. The two programs, "Hug It Out" and "Gimme More Recognition," received Top 8 Program awards.



Richard Mihans, assistant professor of education, and **Alexa Darby, assistant professor of psychology**, presented at the sixth annual International Conference on Education in Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan. 7. The title of

the presentation was "The Emotional Ups and Downs: First Year Teachers' Emotions."



Tom Nelson, associate professor of communications, presented a paper titled "The Media Mask: Questioning Authenticity" on Jan. 19 at Northeastern University in Boston. The paper, part of the 4th International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society, focused on media and its role in discounting

reality.



David Noer, Frank S. Holt Jr. Professor of Business Leadership, had his monthly column published Feb. 3 in the *Greensboro News & Record*. Noer offered leadership theories and business practices that voters could use to help them make choices in the voting booth for this year's local, state and national elections.



Amy Overman, assistant professor of biological psychology, presented research about age-related brain and memory changes at the North Carolina Cognition Group Conference on Feb. 16. Her presentation, "Support for associative and perceptual processing deficits as explanations for age-related memory impairment," detailed research completed at the University of Pittsburgh & Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition. Overman also attended the inaugural North Carolina College Aging Network (NC-CAN) meeting on Feb. 22.

Rebecca Todd Peters, associate professor of religious studies, was recently awarded a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title distinction from the American Library Association. The award is for *Justice in a Global Economy: Strategies for Home, Community, and World*, a book Peters co-edited.



Jennifer Platania, assistant professor of economics, was one of three researchers whose joint work was featured in *Sports Illustrated* in late January. The magazine reported on the economic factors that influence high school football recruits who must decide which university they wish to attend to continue their athletics careers. The Burlington *Times-News*, the *Greensboro News & Record* and WFMY News 2 in Greensboro also reported on her research.



Chad Raymond, assistant professor of political science, presented his paper "The Effect of a Role-Playing Simulation on Exam Scores and Teaching Evaluations in an International Relations Course" at the 2008 American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference, in San Jose, Calif., in February.

L.D. Russell, lecturer in religious studies, had his book, *Godspeed: Racing Is My Religion*, featured in the Feb. 17 edition of the *Orlando Sentinel* as part of the newspaper's coverage of the Daytona 500. The book was also the focus of a news segment on Fox 8 WGHP the same day. Russell participated in a panel discussion in late February on "Things Southerners Love" at the South Carolina Book Festival in Columbia, S.C.



Michael Skube, associate professor of communications, had a column published Feb. 1 in the *Raleigh News & Observer*. In it, Skube argues that Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy's recent endorsement of Sen. Barack Obama in the upcoming presidential race is not the coronation that he believes it was portrayed to be in the media.

Barth Strempek, Doherty Professor for Entrepreneurial Studies, was profiled in a Feb. 18 story in the *Triad Business Journal*, in part for his work forming *Elon ImproVibes*, a record label run by *Elon* students.



John G. Sullivan, Powell Professor of Philosophy emeritus, has published the article "Work in the Third Age of Life" in the winter 2008 issue of *Itineraries*, the electronic journal of the organization *Second Journey*.



Jerry Tolley, director of annual giving and the Elon Society, had his most recent book on football published last month, with several coaches in the university football program contributing to the effort. *The Complete Book of Speed and Agility Football Drills* includes exercises from some of the top coaches in both college and professional football.



Hal Walker, associate professor in leisure and sport management, has been appointed to the editorial board of the *Sport Management Education Journal*. This journal is published annually by the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) and the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE).

A book written by **Linda Wilmschurst, assistant professor of psychology**, has been translated and released in Romania. *Essentials of Child Psychopathology* was first published by Wiley in 2005. The book was picked up by POLIROM for publication in Romania.



Scott Windham, assistant professor of German, gave a presentation at the North Carolina German Studies seminar in late January. Windham discussed his research on the 1961 Hollywood movie "Judgment at Nuremberg," a fictional account of the fourth Nuremberg trial.



Alexander Yap, associate professor of business administration and computing science, and co-author **Wonhi Synn, professor of finance**, were recently notified that their peer-reviewed book chapter was accepted for publication.

"Evolution of Online Financial Trading Systems: E-Service Innovations in the Brokerage Sector" will be included in the book *Cases on Managing E-Services*. Yap has also been appointed to the editorial review board of the *International Journal of E-Services and Mobile Applications*. The term runs from February 2008 to February 2010.

Tripp York, instructor of religious studies, recently published his first book, *The Purple Crown: The Politics of Martyrdom*. He also co-wrote *Calculated Futures: Theology, Ethics and Economics* with D. Stephen Long and Nancey Ruth Fox.



Martha J. Deasley, endowment/investment accountant

Martha joins Elon after working for the Girl Scouts of Delaware-Raritan Inc., which is headquartered in East Brunswick, N.J. She lives in Graham with her husband, John, and has two grown daughters, Sara, 23, and Laura, 21. Martha enjoys walking and hiking in her spare time.



John D. Englar, distinguished practitioner in residence

John comes to the Elon University School of Law after serving as executive in residence at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, where he taught courses in international strategy, global alliances and the legal environment of business. A resident of Greensboro, John earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Duke. He and his wife, Linda, have three sons, Kevin, 17, Scott, 15, and Brian, 11.



Grant Halverson, university photographer/digital imaging manager

A former photographer for *The Cary News*, Grant was attracted to Elon by its "beautiful campus, great staff and terrific opportunity." He lives in Durham with his wife, Andrea, and two sons, Jared, 8, and Zachary, 5. The family includes two dogs, Kailin, a "purebred pound puppy" and Mocha, a poodle. Grant enjoys sports, reading and playing with his sons in his spare time.

HUMAN RESOURCES CORNER

Tuition remission reminder

Don't forget that a copy of your most recently submitted IRS 1040 form must be attached to the request form for tuition remission each fall semester before approval can be given. Only the section on the 1040 form which lists the student as your dependent is needed.

Any eligible employee, spouse or dependent who wishes to take advantage of the tuition remission benefit must obtain a tuition remission form from the Office of Human Resources prior to registration.

AFLAC insurance notice

AFLAC will accept requests for reimbursement on 2007 expenditures until March 31. Reimbursement forms from AFLAC for the flexible benefits plan are available in the Office of Human Resources, or you can go to the following Web site: <http://www.aflac.com/us/en/docs/benefits/flexclaim.pdf>.

If you have any questions, contact the Office of Human Resources at ext. 5560.

William S. Long honored at Founders Day celebration

By Bethany Swanson '09

Elon's first president was recognized in March as part of the annual Founders Day celebration that commemorates the lives of administrators, faculty and trustees who made significant contributions to the growth of the university.

William S. Long served as president of what was then Elon College during the first five years of its existence, from 1889 to 1894. Long Building on campus was named in his memory. Elon also established the William S. Long Professor of English position in his honor.

A special College Coffee in the Academic Village was held March 11 — 119 years to the day that the North Carolina General Assembly approved the charter for Elon College. College Chapel featured a special program on March 13.

"He envisioned Elon. He birthed it. And he nurtured it," says President Emeritus Earl Danieley. "It was his baby in a way that it wasn't anyone else's baby."

Long was born Oct. 22, 1839, in Alamance County near Graham. He attended public schools growing up and was later educated at a teacher's institute located in the Graham Court House. He graduated from Trinity College in 1872.

Long first worked as a teacher in Halifax County in Virginia. After the Civil War, he moved back to North Carolina where he established the Graham Female Seminary in 1865.

Long believed strongly in the value of education for both men and women. Most other schools at that time were single-sex institutions.

"His life was entirely devoted to education and Christian character," Danieley says. "Elon was open to anyone seeking light and truth."

Long was determined to instill the values of Christian morality and piety in his work with the school. Long stated his aim for the establishment of the college as "a first-class college, equipped and endowed doing work for the Christian Church and for the world."

From the beginning, Long promised that a church would be built and organized on the campus. The Elon College Christian Church was organized on April 19, 1891. Long, his wife and their son were the charter members.

Long died Aug. 24, 1924 after being injured in a car accident a week earlier. Danieley says he thinks Long would be proud to see how Elon has blossomed into a nationally recognized university.

"I'm not sure if the poor guy could stand it. He would be one happy man," Danieley says. "This would be more than the fulfillment of his fondest dreams." @



Elon receives award for being a family-friendly organization

Elon University was among eight area companies and institutions honored by local nonprofits as Alamance County Family Friendly Employers.

The Alamance County Human Resource Association, the Alamance County Chamber of Commerce and the Alamance Partnership for Children created the award program through a joint effort.

To qualify as a Family Friendly Employer, companies were evaluated in several categories, including family and dependent care; work schedule flexibility; family health and wellness; financial and educational assistance; and community involvement.

Some of the programs currently offered by 2008 honorees include inclement weather childcare, flexible work schedules, gym memberships, childcare assistance and scholarships for dependents.

Elon is part of a growing number of companies that are reaping the rewards of family friendly policies. Along with higher productivity and reduced absenteeism, employers with family friendly policies benefit from higher retention rates.



Congratulations to the newest members of the Elon community:

Morgan Lasater, multimedia developer, and her husband, Walt, welcome a baby girl. Audrey Catherine was born Friday, Jan. 25.

Dawn Smith Hensley, lead gardener, and her husband, Andy, are the proud parents of a daughter. Gracie Lee Hensley was born Friday, Feb. 1.

Tony Weaver, assistant professor of leisure and sport management, and his wife, Lauren, welcome a girl. Abigail Elizabeth Weaver was born Friday, Feb. 8.

Meredith Allison, assistant professor of psychology, and her husband, John Price, welcome a baby boy. Henry Fraser was born Tuesday, Feb. 19.

Caroline Ketcham, assistant professor of exercise science, and her husband, Tom Perciaccante, are the proud parents of a son. Liam Thomas Perciaccante was born Friday, Feb. 29.

Leigh-Anne Royster, coordinator of personal health programs and community well-being, and her husband, Shawn, welcome a daughter. Madelyne Grace Royster was born Sunday, March 2.

Happy Birthday!

March 25

Tanya A. Acome
Gabie E. Smith

March 26

Anne E. Bolin
Cedric Bozeman
Dan Headen
Sylvia E. Munoz

March 27

Helen P. Grant
Lecia D. Williamson

March 28

Polly B. Cornelius
Caroline J. Ketcham
Darryl L. McIntyre
Michael G. Shepherd
Darla P. White

March 29

Karlan Barker
Clyde Ellis
Paul M. Fromson
James H. Hawkins
Travis L. Loy
Mary L. Tendler

March 30

Randall S. Galyon
Janet C. Myers
Bill Schwartz

March 31

Libby Otos
Chris Sweat

April 1

Cynthia D. Fair
Mary Jo Festle
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April L. Hill
Warren D. Ruggiero
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Eric J. Townsend
Michelle D. Trim
George W. Troxler

April 3

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Judy B. Bowes
Brant W. Touchette

April 4

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Jabari T. Bodrick
Virginia J. Novine-Whittaker
Rebeca R. Olmedo

April 5

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Jennifer L. Carmen
Michele G. Joyce
Carolyn W. Moore
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April 6

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Shannon A. Tennant

April 7

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April 8

Debbie Semmel

April 9

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Diane K. Saylor
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April 10

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April 12

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April 15

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April 16

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April 17

Trip Durham
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April 18

Ronnie L. Hensley

April 19

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April 23

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April 27

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April 29

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April 30

Pam Brumbaugh
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May 1

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May 2

Vicky Faw
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May 3

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CJ Capen
Linda M. Loy
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May 4

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