Michael Williams: The Man of Moseley

By Ashley Barnas ’10

A prospective student and a parent approach the welcome desk to ask a question. Someone tries to steal a T-shirt from the campus shop. The line at the Octagon Cafe stretches out the door — again. If it happens in Moseley Center, Michael Williams sees it all.

As director of campus center operations and conferences, Williams oversees almost everything that occurs at Elon’s central hub. He serves as van certification trainer, dog catcher and general jack-of-all-trades — and he does it with a smile.

“He’s great at what he does,” says Robin Riggins, who works across the hall from Williams as coordinator of the Welcome Center. “He will bend every way possible to make something work out for you.”

Williams’ daily tasks include scheduling rooms for meetings and events, and approving posters that will appear around campus. He also helps set up registration tables, orders linens and keeps up with the physical aspects of the building to make it safe and clean.

In addition to his Moseley duties, Williams also advises student organizations Alpha Phi Alpha and the Gospel Choir, and serves on the sustainability, diversity and safety committees.

When he gets too busy, Williams often “shares the wealth” with his assistants and 20 student workers, who help with booking summer camps and conferences, programming digital signs, reserving airport shuttles and other tasks.

“One person can’t really do it all,” he says. “There’s lots of support.”

As he completes his work every day, Williams makes at least one trip to each office in Moseley to say hi.

“I try to make it as pleasant as possible for people,” Williams says. “It’s just the right way.”

His efforts are appreciated, Riggins says.

“If you see Michael, nobody goes by without speaking — mostly because he’ll holler at you first,” Riggins says. “He has his own way of making you know you’re his friend.”

Williams tries to stick to a routine, but issues often pop up that demand his attention. Some are serious, while many make him scratch his head in disbelief — such as phone calls from people asking what time it is or requesting a wake-up call.

“You try to stay professional,” he says, “but you want to just say, ‘What in the world?’”

He also fields calls from people asking where Wake Forest and Duke universities are located. “I tell them, ‘You can’t get there from here. This is where you need to be.’”

Williams will mark his 10th year at Elon on Oct. 5. He says the university is a caring place with supportive employees, many of whom reached out to him two years ago, when his mother and brother passed away within a day of each other.

“There was an outpouring of love from the entire campus,” says Williams, who received dozens of sympathy cards from co-workers and students.

That support is just one of the reasons Williams says he loves his job. He also enjoys being able to help so many people.

“Some people don’t get the opportunity to do that,” Williams says. “I’m just happy to have a great job like this at an institution that’s really progressive.”
A media history professor serving as director of an interactive media program? David Copeland laughs at the irony. But he says it makes sense because there are several parallels between today’s media era and the newspaper industry of the 18th century.

During the 1700s, Copeland explains, informed citizens submitted essays to local newspapers. If people didn’t agree with their opinions, they would respond in print.

“It was kind of analogous to blogs today, where people post information and others respond, creating a virtual conversation,” says Copeland, A.J. Fletcher Professor of Communications. “People then debated the ideas in real time, kind of like what happens in the online world today.”

It is that link between the past and the present that makes Elon’s newest graduate program unique. The master of arts in interactive media is the first of its kind in North Carolina and one of few in the nation.

“New technologies are constantly changing the way journalists and other communications professionals connect with their audiences,” says Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications. “This program will meet a real need in the communications industry, giving recent graduates and career professionals the additional skills they need in a changing environment.”

The iMedia program will launch in summer 2009 with a class of approximately 36 students. But the road to establishing Elon’s fifth graduate program was not without its bumps.

The idea of a communications master’s degree was first considered more than eight years ago but was put on hold when accreditation for the School of Communications became the top priority.

“In 2000, when we were looking at all of this, no one really knew how it would work out,” Copeland says. Faculty first considered offering a traditional master’s degree but soon realized there was a need for a graduate program focusing on more cutting-edge media.

Students in the full-time, one-year program will learn to create and deliver text, graphics, audio, video and other content through a variety of media channels, including the Internet and mobile devices. During Winter Term, students will participate in a domestic or international trip to gather content for a special team project designed to serve the public good.

The program will be open to students with bachelor’s degrees in communications as well as other fields. Students who have not taken undergraduate courses in media law and ethics and media writing will enroll in summer preparatory courses.

“Interactive media can be an intersection with other fields that can create an exciting environment,” Parsons says. Students with undergraduate degrees in English, history, music and business administration will be well-equipped for the interactive media program, he says.
with News 14 Carolina on Aug. 5 about the upcoming presidential election.

Meredith Allison, assistant professor of psychology, co-wrote an article, “Alibi believability: The effect of prior convictions and judicial instructions,” accepted to the Journal of Applied Social Psychology.

Janna Quitney Anderson, associate professor of communications, has been named the 2008 winner of the Outstanding Educator Award in the Newspaper Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). The award honors top professors for their work in preparing journalism students, advancing journalism education and promoting career development.

Bob Anderson, associate professor of political science, was cited in a June 29 front page New York Times story on “political freelancers,” people involved in politics without a formal tie to a candidate’s campaign. The article discussed use of the Web by political activists to promote their candidates. He also spoke with News 14 Carolina on Aug. 5 about the upcoming presidential election.

Sophie Adamson, assistant professor of French, interviewed France’s renowned political cartoonist, Jean Plantureux on May 23 in Paris. Adamson also presented at the Southern Conference on Language Teaching in Myrtle Beach, S.C., in April. The presentation was voted the “Best of SCOLT” and will be featured at the 2008 ACTFL Convention (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) in November.

Adamson was also one of nine faculty members who participated in the 2008 Faculty Writing Residency in June. (From top left) Jo Ann Buck, adjunct assistant professor of business administration; Judy Esposito, assistant professor of human services; Cindy Fair, associate professor of human services; Ashley Holmes, assistant professor of education; and Adamson spent the week working on scholarship about their teaching and learning. During the four-day residency, faculty devote daily time to writing, small group feedback and group lunches, with the residency bookended by a group opening and closing.

Brooke Barnette, associate professor of communications and director of elondocs, has produced and released a DVD titled “Documentary Filmmaking: Tips from the Trenches,” which includes interviews with seasoned filmmakers about the technical, legal, ethical and business issues of documentary film.

Wally Bixby, assistant professor of exercise science, co-wrote an article in the American Journal of Chinese Medicine with colleagues at Texas Tech University. The article examines the impact of Tai-Chi on gait kinematics, pain and self-efficacy to deal with pain in elderly patients with knee osteoarthritis. Also, Bixby was recently recognized by the American College of Sports Medicine as achieving fellow status. The American College of Sports Medicine is the leading professional organization in exercise science.

Connie Book, associate dean of the School of Communications, spoke with News 14 Carolina on June 26 about public records in North Carolina and how citizens’ rights to information kept by government agencies is a key ingredient in healthy democracies.

Matthew Buckmaster, assistant professor of music and education, has received endorsing artist status from Conn-Selmer Inc. Buckmaster performs on a Bach Stradivarius 42T, and will primarily endorse Bach trombones for Conn-Selmer. He also published a book this spring with VDM Verlag. Successful Teaching Strategies of American College Trombone Professors explores the commonalities in teaching approaches for undergraduates studying the trombone in U.S. colleges.

Lee Bush, assistant professor of communications, wrote an article on conversational marketing for the online publications of the Public Relations Society of America. The article, “Conversational marketing — Engaging the networked community in a dialogue with your brand,” argues that old models of communications are still pervasive and need to be reconsidered.

Brian Chandler, HVAC mechanic, spent the month of April working for the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources in his home region of Caswell County as part of a Project Pericles service sabbatical.

Glenda Crawford, professor of education (left), has written a new book to help middle and high school teachers. Differentiation for the Adolescent Learner: Accommodating Brain Development, Language, Literacy, and Special Needs was published this spring by Corwin Press. Crawford and April Post, lecturer in Spanish, also presented their joint work, “Transforming Students through Reciprocal Learning Experiences: Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration,” at the London Scholarship of Teaching and Learning 7th International Annual Conference in May.
Ann J. Cahill, associate professor of philosophy (from top left), guest-edited the spring/summer 2008 edition of Bridges: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Theology, Philosophy, History and Science. She and several Elon students, alumni and faculty members in the philosophy department collaborated to produce the special issue focusing on the theme “Philosophy as Transformative Practice.” Cahill, Anthony Weston, professor of philosophy; Martin Fowler, lecturer in philosophy; Stephen Schulman, assistant professor of philosophy; Yoram Lubling, professor of philosophy; Nim Batchelor, associate professor of philosophy; and John G. Sullivan, professor emeritus of philosophy, wrote articles for the publication.

Anthony Crider, associate professor of physics, was invited to speak at the 2008 Forum on Science and Technology Policy sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Washington, D.C., in May.

Alexa Darby, assistant professor of psychology (from top left); Pam Kiser, professor of human services; Mary Knight-McKenna, assistant professor of education; Carolyn Stuart, associate professor of education; and Bud Warner, associate professor of human services, made presentations at the Symposium on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement at Western Carolina University in June. The 2008 Symposium was the 4th annual meeting sponsored by Western Carolina University.

Tina Das, professor of economics, and Casey DiRienzo, associate professor of economics, had their paper “Global Tourism Competitiveness and Freedom of the Press: A Nonlinear Relationship” accepted for publication by the Journal of Travel Research, a peer-reviewed research journal. Another paper, “Assessing Terrorist Risk and FDI Using Relative Information Measures,” was accepted for publication in Applied Economics Letters.

Steve DeLoach, associate professor and chair of the economics department, offered commentary on May 6 to NPR station 88.5 WFDD-FM in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Mayte de Lama, assistant professor of Spanish, presented at the II Congress Escritoras y Compromiso held in Madrid, Spain, in late May. The title of her presentation was “Lección de anatomía: erotización del cuerpo masculino en la cuentística femenina.”

Thomas Erdmann, professor of music and education, had a 6,000-word article, “Crossing Over Naturally With Chris Botti,” published in the June 2008 issue of the International Trumpet Guild Journal. It was Erdmann’s 100th published article. He also had three articles published in the July/August 2008 issue of Saxophone Journal.

Cynthia Fair, associate professor and chair of the human services department, presented research with Elon alumna Britten Ginsburg in May 23 at a conference in Washington, D.C. “HIV-Related Stigma, Discrimination, and Knowledge of Legal Rights Among Infected Adults” was shared at the national Social Work Responds to AIDS conference.

Victoria Fischer Faw, professor of music, and Polly Butler Cornelius, lecturer in music, were invited to perform in Perugia, Italy, this summer. They performed a recital of American music for voice and piano at the Universita per Stranieri.

Dianne Ford, coordinator of serials and government documents, spent a week in Mexico in April tutoring students in English as part of a Project Pericles service sabbatical. Ford joined other community volunteers on the trip, which was sponsored by the Burlington-Alamance Sister Cities Organization.

 Lynne Kurdziel-Formato, assistant professor of dance, was profiled in the July 20 edition of The Buffalo News, her hometown newspaper in Buffalo, N.Y. Formato choreographed the musical production there of Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast.”

Martin C. Fowler, lecturer in philosophy, presented a paper on May 7 titled “And Who Is My Neighbor?” at the Janet Meakin Poor Research Symposium in Chicago. The symposium, “Climate Chaos — Emerging Consequences of Climate Change,” is sponsored by the Center for Humans and Nature and by the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Mathew Gendle, assistant professor of psychology, wrote an opinion article for the July 4 print edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education. The article explores the faculty challenge of doing scholarly research while carrying a full teaching load.
A research article written by Gendle, Andrea Spaeth ’07, Sarah Dollar ’07 and Cindy Novak, wellness coordinator, was published this spring in the journal Nutritional Neuroscience. The article describes work (much of which was completed by Spaeth for her Honors Fellow thesis) demonstrating that significant decrements in cognitive function are associated with elevations in blood cholesterol levels.

Jessica Gisclair, associate professor of communications, was appointed to a two-year term as vice president of ethics for the Public Relations Society of America Tar Heel chapter in Greensboro. She also led a course called “Integrated Communications: A Specific Examination of the U.S. Approach” from June 14-28 at the University of the Netherlands Antilles in Curacao.

Mary Gowan, dean of the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business, has been selected as one of 35 emerging leaders to take part in the Piedmont Triad Leadership Institute. The Piedmont Triad Partnership, a regional economic development organization representing 12 counties in the Piedmont Triad of central North Carolina, created the PTLL to train the next generation of influential leaders from across the region.

Eric Hall, associate professor of exercise and sport science, was a co-author on the manuscript “The Relationship Between Exercise Intensity and Affective Responses Demystified: To Crack the 40-Year-Old Nut, Replace the 40-Year-Old Nutcracker!” published recently in the Annals of Behavioral Medicine.


Anthony Hatcher, associate professor of communications, had a story about worship sessions at the Durham Correctional Center published in the Durham Herald-Sun on June 28. Another of Hatcher’s columns, denouncing the state of North Carolina’s plan to close Dorothea Dix Hospital, which has treated mentally ill patients for more than 100 years, was published Aug. 2 in the Raleigh News & Observer.

Lynn R. Heinrichs, associate professor of computing sciences and business administration, has co-written an article for the inaugural issue of the Journal of Research in Business Information Systems. “Should Home and Micro-based Businesses Take Disaster-Planning Advice from Online Sources?” examines the quality of Web-based content intended to assist small businesses in disaster planning.

Glenn L. Helms, professor of accounting, received a North Carolina Association of CPAs Outstanding Conference and Seminar Discussion Leader Award on April 30 at the group’s annual meeting in Greensboro. Helms also received the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ Outstanding Discussion Leader Award for the third consecutive year.

Lynn Huber, assistant professor of religious studies, presented a paper in July at the International Society of Biblical Literature conference in New Zealand at the University of Auckland. The paper, “Unveiling the Bride: Reading Revelation’s Bridal Imagery with Late-Medieval Visionaries,” is part of an ongoing book project on the ways that medieval visionaries read Revelation’s metaphorical language.

Charles Irons, assistant professor of history, published a new book this spring, The Origins of Proslavery Christianity: White and Black Evangelicals in Colonial and Antebellum Virginia, in which he examined how early American white plantation owners justified slavery when they worshipped every Sunday in the same churches alongside the black men and women whom they claimed to own.

Marianne Janssen, director of clinical education for the DPT program, visited Suriname this spring as part of a Project Pericles service sabbatical. She traveled there to help its largest university develop a stronger physical therapy program.

Charity Johansson, professor of physical therapy and Faculty Administrative Fellow & Special Assistant to the President, presented “An Integrative Model of Transformative Learning” at the 49th Annual Adult Education Research Conference on June 5 in St. Louis, Mo.

George Johnson, interim dean of the School of Law, was profiled in The Carolina Peacemaker, a Greensboro newspaper and member of the BlackPressUSA Network. The Aug. 6 article by reporter Benjamin Fair details Johnson’s distinguished career and his plans for leading the law school.

Lauren Kearns, assistant professor of dance and coordinator of the dance program, was elected to serve a three-year term on the National Board of Directors of the American College Dance Festival Association representing the mid-Atlantic region.
play “Master Class” at the Heritage Theatre Festival in Charlotte, starred July 7-12 in the metro area.

David Noer, Frank S. Holt Jr. Professor of Business Leadership, had a column published July 13 in the Greensboro News & Record. The column, “Change is inexorable: How will we respond?” posed “five truths that must be faced” by politicians running for office this fall.

Kevin Otos, assistant professor of theatre, appeared in the CW drama “One Tree Hill” on May 12. He played a heart surgeon in an episode titled “Hate is Safer than Love.” His production of Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night,” which he directed for the Texas Shakespeare Festival, played to sold-out audiences from July 6 to Aug 3.

Gary Palin, senior lecturer and executive director of the Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, represented Elon in July at the inaugural European workshop of the Social Entrepreneurship and Education Consortium (SEEC) in Sønderborg, Denmark.

Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, was interviewed June 16 by News 14 Carolina about layoffs announced the same day at the Raleigh News & Observer and the Charlotte Observer.

Marty Peters, professor of legal education, this spring offered a one-day training session to a group of legal educators in New York City. The session, “Using Psychological Type Theory for Helping Law Students Adapt to Law Study,” was an intensive program for legal educators from four law schools in the New York metro area.

Rebecca Todd Peters, associate professor of religious studies, served as the McClendon Theologian-in-Residence for a weekend in July at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. Peters presented a series of four lectures over the course of two days and preached on Sunday.

Randy Piland, lecturer in communications, had a photograph run on the front page of a June edition of American Profile, a weekly, four-color magazine that is carried in newspapers across the nation. Piland’s photograph ran with a piece called “My First Car,” in which American Profile asked its readers to send in stories about their first cars.

Jennifer Platania, associate professor of economics, spoke with News 14 Carolina on July 25 about the Federal Reserve system and how its decisions to either raise or lower interest rates can affect the nation’s economic growth and the rate at which prices for goods and services can grow.

Peter Kiwitt, assistant professor of communications, presented the film “Break” at the University Film and Video Association conference in August in Colorado Springs, Colo. The film is a 15-minute dramedy about a teacher who must accept that his marriage has ended. Kiwitt directed the film and a student crew produced it as part of a fall capstone class.

Ron Klepcyk, director of human resources, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Southern Region of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources at a Southern Region conference in Charleston, S.C., in June.

Ketevan Kupatadze, lecturer in Spanish, presented a paper, “Magic of the City: Travel Narratives of the collection ‘Año 0,’” at the American Comparative Literature Conference in April 24 in Long Beach, Calif.

Greg Lilly, associate professor of economics, spoke with News 14 Carolina on April 25 about rising commodity prices for items such as wheat, rice and gold, and how those prices may affect the overall economy.

Catherine McNeela, professor of performing arts and head of music theatre, starred July 7-12 in the play “Master Class” at the Heritage Theatre Festival in Charlottesville, Va.

Rich Mihans, assistant professor of education; Deborah Long, coordinator of civic education, director of the Elon Academy and professor of education; and Peter Felten, director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, have published an article in the July 2008 edition of the International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. The article, “Power and Expertise: Student-Faculty Collaboration in Course Design and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning,” describes the process of using a team of faculty and undergraduate students to redesign a university course and outlines the research the authors conducted on student and faculty learning from the redesign process.

Mihans also had an article published in the June 2008 edition of Phi Delta Kappan. “Teachers Leading Teachers” examines the dilemma facing novice teachers and how veteran teachers can help retain high-quality talent.

Tom Nelson, associate professor of communications, presented a paper June 18 in Montreal on the topic of diversity in a university classroom. The paper, given before the 8th International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations, focused on the diversity within diversity in a class.

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Jeffrey C. Pugh, Maude Sharpe Powell Professor of Religious Studies, gave a presentation to the X International Bonhoeffer Congress meeting in the Czech Republic on July 24. The presentation, “Religionless Christianity: Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Troubled Times,” was based on his forthcoming book.

Jane Romer, associate professor of French, presented at the 81st annual conference of the American Association of Teachers of French, held in July in Liége, Belgium. Romer's presentation was titled “Voltaire Rocks: Enhancing Literature (and Language) Courses through the Use of Multi-Media Technologies.”

Linda Sabo, associate professor of performing arts, presented a paper July 12 for the American Dance Festival’s Screendance 2008 — The State of the Art: Curating the Practice/Curating As Practice. Her paper, “Efva Lilja’s Movement as the Memory of the Body: Curating as Documentation of Artistic Process,” was part of a four-day conference at Duke University that coincided with ADF’s Dance for the Camera event.

Tony Sawyer, lecturer of music and director of bands, participated in the 6th Annual National Collegiate Marching and Athletic Band Symposium from May 29-31 at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Stephen Schulman, assistant professor of philosophy, co-presented a workshop with Spoma Jovanovic, an associate professor of communication studies at UNCG, at the 17th International Workshop-Conference of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers, held at the University of Guelph. Schulman also co-facilitated the seminar in teaching philosophy for graduate students with Donna Engelmann, professor of philosophy and Chair of the Philosophy Department at Alverno College (Milwaukee, Wis.) and David Concepcion, associate professor of philosophy at Ball State University (Muncie, Ind.).

Michael Skube, associate professor of communications, had a column about race relations published July 6 in the Los Angeles Times. The column, “Springfield’s Secret,” details the centennial anniversary of race riots in Springfield, Ill., the hometown of President Abraham Lincoln.

Carol Smith, associate professor of physical education, presented a session at the national AAHPERD convention in Texas in April. In addition to her presentation on introducing county and western dance into the physical education curriculum, she was elected to the Executive Board of the Council of Adventure and Outdoor Education/Recreation of the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation.

Vickie Somers, director of auxiliary services, attended the National Association of College Auxiliary Services (NACAS) — South conference in April. NACAS is the professional association for college auxiliary services professionals. Somers was elected president of the South region, which includes 12 states.

Victor Streib, visiting professor in the School of Law, was a guest July 16 on “The State of Things,” WUNC radio’s statewide program. He discussed women and crime on the program. Streib is the leading national scholar on the death penalty for women.

John G. Sullivan, Powell Professor of Philosophy Emeritus, has published an article titled “Living Mindfully — Through All the Hours of Our Days.” The essay appears in Sullivan’s “Philosopher’s Corner” in Second Journey’s summer 2008 issue of the online journal/newsletter ITINERARIES. Sullivan also made presentations in June at two California workshops titled “Spirit, Service and Community in the Second Half of Life.”

Tom Tiemann, professor of economics; Paul Miller, associate professor of exercise science; and economics student Erika Lamanna co-wrote a paper that was presented at the 2nd International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health in the Netherlands in April. The paper was titled “The Impact of Journey to Work on Body Mass Index in Metropolitan Areas.”

David Vandermaets, assistant professor of biology, published a book review in the July-August edition of American Scientist, the magazine of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society. Vandermaets reviewed a book on the history of the demise and attempts to restore the American chestnut following the introduction of an Asian fungal blight in the early 20th century.

Research by Frances Ward-Johnson and John Guiniven, associate professors of communications, about the ethics of the social media release appeared in the June 20-26 edition of the Triad Business Journal in an article headlined “Elon professors research ethics of social media use.” Ward-Johnson has also been named to the editorial board of the Journal of International Women’s Studies.

Tony Weaver, assistant professor of leisure and sport management, presented a paper titled “The Influence of Historical Factors on Intercollegiate Athletic Department Reclassification” at the North American Society for Sport History in May in Lake Placid, N.Y.
Karen Barefoot, women’s head basketball coach
Karen comes to Elon after working as an assistant coach at Old Dominion University and head coach at Lenoir-Rhyne College and The Apprentice School in Virginia. She played collegiate basketball at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Va., where she became the only player in NCAA history to score more than 2,000 points and accumulate 1,000 assists during her career. She has a twin sister, Sharon, and an older brother, Johnny.

Rosa “Almeta” Degraffenridt, custodian
Almeta was attracted to Elon because of its people, and she calls the town home. She has two children, Lashunna and Devonda, and three grandchildren, Marquis, Jamaari and Akeba. Almeta enjoys singing in her spare time.

Elaine R. Durr, sustainability coordinator
Elaine worked as a sustainability consultant for Energy Ace Inc. in Decatur, Ga., before coming to Elon this spring. An outdoor enthusiast, the Illinois native enjoys hiking and reading. Elaine earned her undergraduate degree in environmental science and biology from Monmouth College in Illinois and a master’s degree in Earth and environmental resources management from the University of South Carolina. She came to Elon because of its commitment to sustainability and its stature as a small, private institution.

Michael Jacobs, director of ticket operations
A man who appreciates all sports, especially golf, Michael found Elon to be an ideal opportunity because of its location, staff and reputation. Originally from Jacksonville, Fla., he has worked for UNC Charlotte and the Carolina Panthers. Michael earned his MBA and a master’s degree in sports administration from Ohio University.

Jennifer Jayson, program assistant in the Love School of Business
A native of Charlotte, Jennifer worked for the Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Department and the Gentle Care Animal Hospital in Raleigh before arriving at Elon. She graduated from N.C. State University in 2006 with a degree in animal science and a minor in agricultural business management. Jennifer, who gets married next month, enjoys swimming, hiking and running with her dog, Abilene.

Scott Kidd, university decorator
Scott has worked in interior design since graduating from the University of South Carolina. The South Carolina native spent 17 years as owner of J. Scott Kidd Interiors but was drawn to Elon because of the opportunities “to share my experiences and expertise with a great team.” His hobbies include spending time outdoors, keeping fit, playing softball and working with competitive high school marching band programs. He lives with his black Labrador, Ashley, and bull mastiff, Alex.

Daryl Lawson, assistant professor of physical therapy education
Attracted by Elon’s campus and the faculty in the department of physical therapy education, Daryl comes to the university from the University of Nevada, Reno. He earned his undergraduate degree from Central Michigan University, a master’s of physical therapy from the University of Southern California and his doctorate from Loma Linda University. Daryl’s clinical work at the University of Nevada included working with athletes and motion analysis. He and his wife, Rose Sladek-Lawson, have two children, Rhett and Marie. The Troy, Mich., native spends his free time fly fishing, camping and coaching sports.

Meredith Legin, admissions counselor
A native of Baltimore, Meredith joined the admissions office after graduating from Elon in May. In her spare time, she enjoys playing tennis and spending time with her dog, Lilly, who is a cross between a golden retriever and a poodle. Her favorite foods are chips and salsa. She recently finished reading “The Time Traveler’s Wife.”

Kathleen McLeod, associate dean of library information services and associate professor of law
Kathleen comes to Elon after nearly a decade as a law librarian for public services at Fordham University’s law school. She has a teaching background in advanced legal research, having also served as an adjunct professor. She practiced law in Connecticut at two different firms in the 1980s, with emphasis on family law. Kathleen graduated from the Washington University School of Law in 1982 and earned her master’s degree in library science from Southern Connecticut State University in 1990. She first studied history and library science as an undergraduate at Syracuse University.

Katherine Neas, assistant to the director of graduate admissions
Katie graduated with a history degree from Hollins University in 2006 and today calls Greensboro home. “Having previously worked in higher ed, this position just seemed to be a really nice fit at a really great university,” says Neas, who worked for housing and residence life at her alma mater before returning to the area. The former competitive swimmer spends her free time with friends, family and her dog, Matilda, a 2-year-old German shepherd/beagle mix.

Ashley Pearson, admissions counselor
Ashley loved Elon so much as an undergraduate that she wanted to stay and promote the university to other prospective students. The 2008 alumna from Rockville, Md., worked as an admissions tour guide while attending classes, and her hobbies include music theater, singing, dancing and piano. Ashley previously worked with the YMCA and the Summer Dinner Theatre at Montgomery College in Maryland.
Kyle Shade, international programs adviser
Kyle joined the Elon staff shortly after graduating Under the Oaks in May. The international studies and political science double major studied abroad in Denmark for a semester and said he chose to work “at the university I love.” Originally from Frederick, Md., Kyle’s hobbies include basketball, soccer, football, traveling and reading. His research interests include politics, the European Union, Islam and terrorism.

Eleanor “Elly” Shearman, assistant athletic trainer
Elly, a native of Bristol, England, worked as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Georgia Southern University prior to starting with Elon. She said the job appealed to her because of the “geographic area, beautiful campus and atmosphere around the campus.” Elly earned her master’s degree in sport psychology at Georgia Southern and enjoys all sports, especially tennis, and anything outdoors.

Tammy Shubert, program assistant in the Center for Leadership
Tammy comes to Elon after working with her husband, Scott, as mortgage planners at New Garden Mortgage. The couple lives in Greensboro with their children, Ashley and Bailey, along with two rescued greyhounds. Tammy enjoys cycling, lawn work and spending time with family. “Working in the Center for Leadership is an amazing opportunity,” she says, “and I am looking forward to making a difference and impact on the Elon community.”

Thomas “Tom” Vecchione, executive director, Career Services
Tom took over Career Services this spring after previous jobs with Ohio Wesleyan University and Ohio State University. He earned his undergraduate degree in psychology from Bowling Green State University, a master’s degree from the University of Northern Colorado and his doctorate from Ohio University. He and his wife, Jessica, have three daughters, Hannah, Sarah and Rachel, and two dogs, Briscot and Henry. Tom likes reading, working out, watching movies and spending time with his family.

Ross Wade, assistant director of Career Services, School of Communications
Ross completed his master’s degree in counseling at UNC Greensboro this spring and comes to Elon with a background in communications. His previous experience includes jobs at the Independent Weekly in Durham and Centerline Productions. With a degree in communications from East Carolina University, Ross, who enjoys looking for art on etsy.com and sitting on his front porch watching thunderstorms roll in, was attracted to Elon by its close-knit community of professionals and strong student-centered philosophy.

Michaela Walker, program assistant for Executive Education
Looking for a position in an academic environment, Michaela joined the staff in the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business after worked for Citi Bank, the South Carolina Education Lottery and Global Transpark Authority. Her husband, Aaron, is Elon’s head strength and conditioning coach. The couple has one son, AJ, and a pet dog, Sara. Michaela, a native of Rockville, Md., and an alum of East Carolina University, enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.

Laura Williams, director of the Curriculum Resources Center, School of Education
Originally from Abilene, Texas, Laura worked as a media specialist for Culbrett Middle School in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools prior to taking her position at Elon. She earned a bachelor’s degree in humanities and a master’s degree in communication from the University of Texas at Austin. She also received a master’s degree in library information science from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. With her husband, Jason, two dogs and a cat at home, Laura enjoys reading, gardening, traveling and playing Sudoku in her free time.

Susan E. Wise, disabilities services coordinator
Originally from Maiden, N.C., Susan worked previously with the Northwestern University Learning Clinic and as a self-employed learning disabilities specialist. She earned an undergraduate degree in biology and a master’s degree in education from UNC Greensboro. She is now working toward a doctorate in communication sciences and disorders at Northwestern.

Alexandra “Allie” Ziegler, event support specialist
A 2008 graduate of Elon, Allie loves to run, read, hike and play ultimate Frisbee when not at work. She is a native of Michigan, and says she joined Elon’s staff because she “loved the idea of working on a gorgeous campus with an established sense of community.”

Tim Paulson, Web/print designer
A native of Lancaster, Pa., Tim worked at MHZ Networks in Washington, D.C., before coming to Elon. He received his bachelor’s degree in international studies from American University, School of International Service. In his free time, Tim enjoys running, grilling and working on freelance graphic design projects. He was attracted to Elon by the friendly community and good benefits.
WHO’S NEW

Andrew J. Haile, assistant professor of law
Andy comes to Elon from the Greensboro offices of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey and Leonard LLP. A native of Raleigh, he received his bachelor’s degree from Davidson College and his law degree from Stanford University. He lives with his wife, Molly, his children Benjamin, 8, Claire, 5, and Jeffrey, 2, and dog, Smiley. In his free time, Andy likes to play with his kids and exercise. He says he was attracted to Elon because it is a great school in a great location, with wonderful people.

Anita Briggs, application developer
Anita worked for the Guilford County Schools prior to joining Elon this summer. The owner of 10 beagles and a horse, Anita earned her degree in computer science from Elon in 1996. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Garrett, and daughter, Kelis, and reading, jewelry making and sewing. The Burlington resident was drawn to her new position by Elon’s campus and because the university is “just a beautiful place to be.”

Thomas J. Molony, assistant professor of law
Tom joins the Elon faculty after practicing law with the Charlotte firm of Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson. His practice focused on corporate and commercial law, public finance and bankruptcy. Tom is a summa cum laude graduate of Washington and Lee University, where he earned both his undergraduate and law degrees. With his wife, Susan, Tom likes cooking and skiing in his free time.

Jenny Ruggieri, assistant director of graduate admissions
Seeing Elon as a “private institution that is on a record pace of growth,” Jenny started work for the university having previous experience at the Broyhill Group, North Carolina School of the Arts and Appalachian State University. She earned her bachelor’s degree in communications from Appalachian State in 1999 and her master’s in higher education administration one year later from the same university. With her dog, Winston, by her side, Jenny likes working out, reading, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Kate McCulley, assistant director of student activities
Kate returns to Elon after receiving a bachelor’s degree in communications from the university in May. The Woodbine, Md., native says she is looking forward to “having the opportunity to give other students the same amazing experience I had as a student here.” When she’s not working, Kate enjoys singing, running and listening to music.

SAFETY TRAINING

On July 17, Campus Safety and Police officers took part in a safety training exercise meant to sharpen law enforcement responses in the event of a campus crisis. Personnel from several local and state agencies were also on hand for the training, which took place around Smith and Carolina residence halls.

HR CORNER

Save on health-care services by using discount program
United Healthcare’s discount program helps you and your family save 10 to 50 percent on many health and wellness purchases not included in your standard health benefit plan. You can use the health discount program for:

- Teeth whitening
- Laser eye surgery
- Acupuncture, chiropractic care and massage therapy
- Family, household, diabetic and medical supplies
- Skilled nursing facilities and assisted living
- Hearing devices

You can also save on these wellness resources:

- Weight management from popular programs
- Nutrition counseling
- Fitness clubs, including select Gold’s Gym, World Gym, Curves and Ladies Workout Express locations
- Fitness equipment and apparel
- Natural products and foods
- Smoking cessation programs

To locate participating health care professionals, programs and online retailers, go to myuhc.com and click on the “health and wellness” tab. First-time users of the Web site should click on the “new members/create account” tab and enter the subscriber ID and group number from your United Healthcare member ID card.
Congratulations to the newest members of the Elon community:

Pamela Winfield, assistant professor of religious studies, and her husband, Jacques, welcome a son. Thomas Winfield Fasan was born Wednesday, June 11.

Ellen Mir, assistant professor of mathematics, and her husband, David, are the proud parents of a baby girl. Stella Kate was born Tuesday, July 8.

Norris Gunby, assistant professor of business administration, and his wife, Jessica, welcome a boy. Norris White Gunby III was born Thursday, July 17.

Kathy Scarborough, campus shop manager, and her husband, Neil, are the parents of a baby boy. Thomas Neil was born Tuesday, July 29.

Brandon Cole, application developer, and his wife, Yavetta, welcome a son. Zachary Alexander Cole was born Friday, July 25.
Jennings Professorship of Law: $500,000
Maurice N. Jennings, Sr. ’57
Maurice N. Jennings, Jr. ’87
Dina B. Jennings

Schaeffer Challenge Fund for Faculty Summer Fellowships: $200,000
Milton Schaeffer, Jr. P’08, P’12
Anne Schaeffer P’08, P’12

Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation Scholarships: $130,000
Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation

Hilaire Pickett ’08 Leadership Grant Endowment: $60,000
Cannon Leadership Legacy Fund: $50,000
Howard Pickett P’08
Judith Pickett P’08

Unrestricted Endowment: $50,000
Parents & Grandparents Fund: $50,000
John Deford P’09, P’11
Patricia Deford P’09, P’11

Andrew G. Bennett ’08 Safe Rides Endowment: $50,000
Andrew G. Bennett ’08

Love School of Business: $25,000
Pope Undergraduate Research Scholarship: $25,000
John William Pope Foundation

Edward and Rita Galante Endowment for Business Internships: $50,000
Donald S. Galante P’08
Amanda D. Galante P’08

William T. Morris Foundation Scholarship: $50,000
William T. Morris Foundation

Nancy E. Rutland and Jason R. Spitzer Endowment: $50,000
Nancy E. Rutland P’09

Riversville Foundation Scholarship: $47,100
The Riversville Foundation

Trey Halker Memorial Scholarship: $46,000
Millard Alexander P’96
Lee Alexander P’96

Phoenix Club – IMPACT Circle: $30,640
Grayson C. Whitt ’79, P’08, P’09
Connie R. Whitt P’08, P’09

Unrestricted Endowment: $25,000
W. Campbell Tims ’00

Elon Academy: $25,000
Koury Business Center: $25,000
Bruce B. Cameron Foundation

James H. Lightbourne, Jr. Scholarship: $25,000
Estate of Carolyn L. Fleming

Russell Family Study Abroad Scholarship: $25,000
Gordon C. Russell P’08, P’12
Sandra K. Russell P’08, P’12

Law School Fund: $25,000
Bobby E. Long
Kathryn S. Long

Elon Fund: $25,000
Louis DeJoy & Aldona Z. Wos Family Foundation

Phoenix Club and Football program: $25,000
Ronald J. Foresta ’68
Carolyn C. Foresta

Law School Scholarship Fund, Phoenix Club, and Parents & Grandparents Fund: $25,000
David C. Porter P’11
Jennifer M. Porter P’11

Frueauf Foundation Service-Learning Grant: $20,000
Charles A. Frueauf Foundation

Elon Academy: $15,000
Horace M. Johnson
Karen W. Johnson

Elon Fund: $15,000
Bradford A. Koury ’82
Lynn H. Koury

IOLTA Grant: $15,000
North Carolina State Bar Interest on Lawyers’ Trust Accounts

Scholarships: $12,000
Golden Leaf Foundation

Parents & Grandparents Fund: $10,000
Douglas Glass P’11
Tracy Glass P’11

Phoenix Club: $10,000
The Hon. R. Samuel Hunt III
Victoria S. Hunt

Elon Fund: $10,000
Bob E. McKinnon ’62
Ray K. McKinnon

Elon Academy: $10,000
SunTrust Bank

Elon Academy: $10,000
The Wachovia Foundation

Triad Foundation Grant: $10,000
Triad Foundation, Inc.

Law School Scholarship Fund, Phoenix Club, and Parents & Grandparents Fund: $10,000
David Turner P’11
Rosemary Turner P’11

Donathan-McAllister Endowed Scholarship in honor of Jim Donathan
Malcolm M. McAllister P’09
Julie McAllister P’09

Gifts In Kind
The Maud F. Gatewood Collection (oriental artwork), valued at $32,375
Estate of Maud F. Gatewood

“1000 Miles” by George Bireline (acrylic painting on canvas), valued at $16,000
Stanley W. Smith

@ELON Staff
Katie Parsley ’03, editor
Eric Townsend, writer
Holley Berry, production assistant
Grant Halverson, photographer
Ashley Barnas ’10, student writer
Dan Anderson, director of university relations

The @Elon newsletter is published by the Office of University Relations for the faculty and staff of Elon University. If you have faculty/staff news to share, e-mail Eric Townsend in the News Bureau (etownsend4@elon.edu) Please send your comments and story ideas to Katie Parsley (kparsley@elon.edu).