

@ELON

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF ELON UNIVERSITY DECEMBER 2002

E-PEOPLE

Leading by example

By Annette Randall '05

David Morton has been involved with the Alamance-Burlington school system off and on since high school. Now the Apple systems engineer will be able to volunteer a little more of his time to the school system thanks to Project Pericles, a program devoted to raising the level of civic engagement and social responsibility at colleges and universities.

Elon was one of 10 institutions chosen to participate in Project Pericles. The service sabbaticals portion of the project encourages full-time faculty and staff members to take a month away from their jobs at the university to volunteer in the community. They can work off campus while receiving their salaries from Elon, and Project Pericles pays for their replacements.

Selected to serve

Twelve university employees completed applications in September. "It wasn't an easy choice to make because they were all good," says Tom Arcaro, Project Pericles director. The four recipients of sabbaticals are Morton; Christopher Eyl, graphic designer; Susan Patton, associate registrar; and Ray Pruitt, fleet mechanic II.

"It's a great platform for Elon to get more involved with the community," Morton says of the service sabbaticals. He will establish a streaming server for the school system's intranet and Internet, providing various features to students, including homework help, lesson plans and student productions. Morton will establish the system at Hawfields Middle School and train someone to continue the project throughout the school system.

Eyl will bicycle across the United States to raise money for the Children's Advocacy Center of CrossRoads Sexual Assault Response and Resource Center, where he has been volunteering for several months. "It's given me a lot of new opportunities and opened a lot of doors that I didn't know were there," he says of Project Pericles.

Eyl's trip across the country will start in California in September 2003, but he has already begun training and working



This year's service sabbatical recipients are (l-r) Ray Pruitt, Susan Patton, Christopher Eyl and David Morton.

with CrossRoads staff members to coordinate his trip. He plans to document his trip on a Web site that will feature a journal of his experiences and photographs.

Patton will spend a month working with Room at the Inn of the Triad, a Christian ministry for single pregnant women who need a safe place to live. She says she hopes to set up internships for college students and create an informative brochure for the organization.

"I've always wanted to volunteer, but since I work full time, it's difficult to do so," says Patton, who has worked with the ministry for three years. "Project Pericles gives us a chance to be more service-oriented and not only work with students, but set an example for them."

Pruitt will spend his month of service at Brown Wesleyan Church in Gibsonville, where he plans to complete general maintenance projects. "There's a whole list of stuff that needs to be done," he says, including painting, refurbishing the floors and landscaping.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to put in some time with the church," says Pruitt, who has been a member of Brown for 17 years.

The group will complete their sabbaticals by Dec. 31, 2003. "I hope that these first pioneer people will serve as role models for next year," Arcaro says. His goals for next year are to receive more applications and offer more sabbatical opportunities.

"Project Pericles gives us a chance to be more service-oriented and not only work with students, but set an example for them."

*Susan Patton
associate registrar*



Kessler matches communications students with internships

By Samiha Khanna '03

Each fall, Elon alumni revisit their old stomping grounds for the Homecoming celebration. Leah Kessler, a 2001 graduate from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., decided to stay for good. She became a staff member when she was recruited last January as the director of internships and special programs for the School of Communications.

Shortly after graduating with a degree in broadcast communications, Kessler started a promising career as an associate producer at Greensboro television station WFMY. She worked a tiring 2 a.m. - 2 p.m. shift and committed her holidays to the station.

“You know you’ve reached a point when your idea of a good time is six hours of uninterrupted sleep,” she says.

But despite the hectic hours, she had not considered a career change until Brad Hamm, associate dean of the School of Communications, suggested she return to Elon.

Kessler says she came back because she loves her alma mater and wanted to give something back. “Elon is this strange little world where you can make anything happen. They’re not wearing mouse ears, but the faculty will bend over backwards to help their students.”

Kessler, 24, filled a new position that Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, says was created to show the

value the school places on internships.

Kessler and Parsons agree that she is able to do her job well because it was little more than one year ago that she was standing in the same shoes as many Elon seniors.

“She connects very well with students,” Parsons says. “I see her in that perfect intersection of student desire to get an internship and understanding the professional world.”

A full-time matchmaker

In years past, a faculty member served as the part-time internship coordinator, in addition to teaching courses. Kessler says she thinks a separate position is vital, simply because she has the availability to get in touch with media contacts.

“People call in all the time,” she says. “Sometimes I feel like a dating service when I’m trying to match the intern with the right supervisor.”

Kessler has had a hand in finding summer internships for more than 60 students so far. She has traveled to Washington, D.C., and New York City to visit some of these interns, and has gotten a lot of positive feedback, she says.

“Elon attracts go-getters,” Kessler says. “They care about doing well and they’re motivated. And when you’re motivated, you’re going to be successful.”

Last summer, Kessler also contacted alumni in the media in hopes of establishing internships with The Washington Post and USA Today, where Elon has never had interns. Her goal is for all communications interns to be at competitive paid internships, or at least receive some compensation to help with expenses.

As a student, Kessler participated in two communications internships, experiences she says were essential to starting a successful career.

“A slip of paper that says ‘B.A.’ is no longer good enough,” Kessler says. “Having a broad education goes further than knowing a little bit of this and that.”



Leah Kessler, director of internships and special programs, has helped more than 60 students find summer internships.

5 tips for keeping New Year's Resolutions

By Janie Griffin, R.N.

1 - Don't try to do everything at once.

The temptation is to try to lose weight, quit smoking, exercise every day and be a wonderful person all at the same time. You will have better luck choosing one or two areas in which to improve. You can always add to your resolutions later in the year.

2 - Word your resolutions carefully.

Instead of "This year I am going to lose weight," how about "This year I am going to explore healthy ways to eat and exercise"? The first resolution demands that you act, whereas the second resolution allows you many options to reach that goal.

3 - Develop a plan.

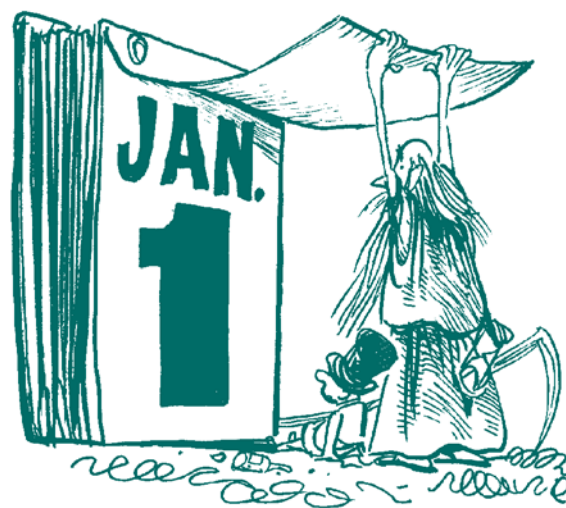
Break resolutions down into smaller sections. For example, if you want to quit smoking, you may want to first explore quit smoking programs. Then you may want to smoke fewer cigarettes per day until you have stopped smoking altogether.

4 - Write down your resolutions and look at them often.

Putting your list on the refrigerator works! Keep a food journal, an exercise journal or a cigarette journal. Review it often to see your progress.

5 - Share your resolutions with someone who understands.

Having a friend's encouragement can help you stay on track and reach that goal.



Provost Gerry Francis shares a smile with soprano Laura Bartholomay and bass Mark Gustafson during Stephen Futrell's Chorale class on Nov. 14. Francis and other Elon administrators participated in "A Day in Our Shoes," organized by SGA President Christian Wiggins and Editor-in-Chief Jennifer Guarino of The Pendulum.

RECENT GIFTS

The Trinity Scholarship: \$25,000

Timothy G. Brier P'03
Patricia A. Brier P'03

The Cady Scholarship: \$25,000

Philip B. Cady Jr. P'04
Candace P. Cady P'04

Elon Fund: \$10,000

Robert A. Clohan III '67, P'98, P'02
Beegi O. Clohan P'98, P'02

A.J. Fletcher Music Scholarship Fund: \$30,000

A.J. Fletcher Foundation

John L. Frye Scholarship: \$23,970

John L. Frye '43

The D. Lewis and Rachel Y. Holt '64 Scholarship: \$15,363

D. Lewis Holt
Rachel Y. Holt '64

Mary Ruth Scholarship Given by the Parents Council: \$10,000

Timothy A. Hultquist P'04
Cynthia M. Hultquist P'04

Elon Fund: \$10,000

Thomas and Irene Kirbo Charitable Trust

Lloyd E. Whitley Endowed Basketball Scholarship Fund: \$25,000

Dorothy Lang

Mary Ruth Scholarship Given by the Parents Council: \$10,000

Stephen H. Leven P'03
Debra L. Leven P'03

Mary Ruth Scholarship Given by the Parents Council: \$10,000

J. Harvey White P'04
Karen H. White P'04

What is your favorite holiday memory?

One of my favorite memories was all five kids and our parents crowding into our well-used car and riding around Burlington looking at Christmas decorations. We always rode around the better part of town to see the other side since we literally lived on the “other side of the tracks.” It seems like the most decorated section of town was the one we lived in even though we thought we had the least. It taught me early in life that being rich was not always best.

Tommy Gumm
Adjunct Assistant Professor for Human Services

My daughter was due on Christmas day in 1971. Our entire family gathered at our house for Christmas dinner in anticipation of the big event. I had pre-labor pains throughout the day, but fortunately she waited until Dec. 26 to be born. Most of the family had gone back home...but at least my daughter didn't have a Christmas birthday.

Helen Walton
Professional Mathematics Tutor

In 1971, I had been overseas since October of 1968, so it was my first Christmas at home in a long time. I had forgotten what Christmas felt like with family and friends. I remember how much fun it was when everyone cared more about what someone else got, and how bringing joy to others is more important than gifts. I think about that last Christmas as a family and my heart lights up, and I remember why we celebrate this time of year — for family, our love for mankind and, number one, for our Lord.

David Thompson
Physical Plant Buyer

My brothers and I have always been close. Now that we are older and living three totally different lives, I relish the time that we spend together. Christmas Eve as adults is my favorite holiday memory. We laugh and cut up like we are pre-teens again every Dec. 24. But the best part is that quick breath between Christmas Eve and

Christmas morning. I smile because we are all together again. I wait in excited anticipation of what Christmas day will bring us. It's cozy.

Trip Durham
Assistant Athletics Director for Marketing

When my parents were still alive, my sister, brother, and I would travel with our families to the small coal-mining town in Pennsylvania where we grew up. Christmas Eve was a quiet time when we all gathered together to visit. Usually we would have a casual evening meal and then bundle up and go walking around town in the snow and look at all the beautiful houses decorated for the holidays. Depending on who went and the age of the children, we would have snowball fights, make snow angels, sing carols or just talk.

Linda M. Niedziela
Assistant Professor of Biology

My favorite memory is watching my children when they were small, poking their little heads around the corner and coming down the stairs to see what Santa had brought them. Now I get to watch my two granddaughters at Christmas do the same thing. It's like my children all over again!

Carol Oakley
Secretary to the Vice President for Student Life



One of my best holiday memories is Christmas 1999. Our family was gathered at our home in Charlotte to spend the last Christmas with our youngest sister, Perrie. The small living room where we gathered was filled with crumpled wrapping paper, the excited squeals of small children opening their presents and a constant roar of noise from everyone talking at once. As I looked across the room to where Perrie was sitting, I was struck by the expression of joy and delight on her face. For me, that was the moment when the true meaning of Christmas became real to me. The joy on her face was not because of all the gifts she had received, which lay on the floor beside her untouched, but because of the gifts she had given all of us. She passed away two weeks later, and I will forever remember that beautiful smile on her face.

Pamela Baker

Secretary for the School of Communications

My favorite holiday memory happened a couple of nights before Christmas. My mom, dad and I would get in the car and drive around our town to look at all the Christmas decorations. We would always go to the country club area because they always had the prettiest lights. We also tried to find the home that had the “tackiest” display. It is a tradition with my family now.

Diane Saylor

Secretary for Human Resources & School of Education



My most memorable Christmas was 12 years ago when I experienced my first Christmas as a mother. Sharing Christmas with children is absolutely one of the most rewarding parts of parenting. Now that my husband and I have three children — Tyler, Trevor and Tara — it just keeps getting better!

Yvette Ross

Danieley Center Area Secretary



When I was 12, I wanted a bicycle more than anything in the world, but money was tight and I didn't really think I would get one for Christmas. There was no bicycle near the tree Christmas morning, but after breakfast my parents wheeled a sparkling new bike into the living room. It was drizzling rain and snow, so I rode it up and down our long porch most of the rest of the day. I don't think anything that's happened to me since has held quite the thrill of that bicycle.

Robert Blake

William S. Long Professor of English

My favorite holiday memory dates back quite awhile. I can recall in the early '70s driving around in a Volkswagen bus in the suburbs of Philadelphia looking at the Christmas lights with my brothers and sisters singing Christmas carols. We were out of tune, I am sure, but we were having fun!

Bea Sanford

Director of Planned Giving

Christmas has always been my favorite time of year. I love the hustle and bustle, the lights and decorations and getting together with family and friends. However, since getting married and becoming “Holley Berry,” the season has provided me and my family lots of laughs and fun memories. My favorite was my first Christmas with my husband. It was Christmas Eve and I was in the shopping mall, standing in line at the bookstore. The poor cashier had been having trouble with her register and difficult customers. Every transaction seemed to take 20 minutes or longer. After waiting in line for an hour, it was finally my turn and I wrote my check. When the cashier saw my name, she just about had a meltdown. She was sure that I was trying to play a joke on her. She called her manager over to verify my three forms of identification. The person behind me thought this all very funny and announced to everyone in line that I was “Holley Berry,” and then they all broke into a spontaneous rendition of “Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly,” to serenade me as I left the store.

Holley Berry

Secretary for University Relations

*Compiled by
Nathaniel Frey '05*



Jeff Clark (left), **Skip Allis**, **Crista Coles** and **Todd Lee**, mathematics, attended the 15th annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics Oct. 31–Nov. 2 in Orlando, Fla. Clark gave a presentation titled “Preparing Mathematical Documents for Print, HTML and PDF;” Coles gave a presentation titled “Numerical Animation Using Mathematica;” and Lee gave a mini-course titled “I Have Used Excel for Grades, What Else Can I Do With It?” along with Paula Grafton Young of Salem College.

Michael Kingston, associate professor of biology, had a scientific paper published in the October 2002 issue of *The Journal of Phycology* titled, “Effect of subsurface nutrients on the vertical migration of *Euglena proxima*.” Kingston’s paper is the first experimental demonstration that the vertical movements of microscopic algae on inter-tidal sand flats and beaches are reinforced by subsurface nutrients.



Maureen Ihrle, associate professor of Spanish, co-edited “The Feminist Encyclopedia of Spanish Literature,” which looks at the literature of Spain from the perspective of women’s studies. Ihrle co-edited the volume with Janet Perez of Texas Tech University. Published by Greenwood Press, the book contains entries by expert contributors.

Donna Van Bodegraven, associate professor of Spanish, gave a presentation titled “Yucatan: Culture, Commerce and Connection — A Successful Interdisciplinary Study Abroad Experiment,” Oct. 11–13 at the annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at Furman University. She was also the invited speaker for the final day of a two-day workshop for approximately 25 Alamance County foreign language teachers, held on campus. She led an interactive presentation titled “Integrating Career Development and Foreign Languages: Teaching and Speaking the Language of Careers in the Foreign Language Classroom.”



Sandy Smith-Nonini, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, was featured in a recent article in the October 2002 issue of *Anthropology News*, the newspaper of the American Anthropologists Association. The article detailed Smith-Nonini’s work with migrant farm workers in North Carolina. She has worked with churches, civic groups and other organizations to educate the public about the living and working conditions these workers face, including poor housing and inadequate water and sewage facilities.

Several members of the political science faculty were involved in analysis and monitoring of the Nov. 5 elections:



Sharon Spray (above left), assistant professor of political science, was a guest on WUNC-FM’s “The State of Things” Nov. 4.

Tim Vercellotti (above center), assistant professor of political science, appeared on WUNC-TV’s “North Carolina Now” and “North Carolina Legislative Review” that evening.

Brian Lewis, an adjunct faculty member in the department, was a guest on WFMY-TV 2 in Greensboro during the station’s morning and evening newscasts Nov. 5.

Chalmers Brumbaugh (above right) professor of political science, served as a local election judge in Alamance County on Election Day. He was also quoted in a Nov. 10 Greensboro News & Record story about the elections’ aftermath.



Betty Morgan, assistant professor of political science, moderated two candidate forums at the Paramount Theatre in Burlington.



Larry Basirico, professor of sociology, was mentioned in an Oct. 20 newspaper article in the Lake Charles, La., *American Press* about family reunions. Basirico sent surveys to 2,000 reunion participants for research sponsored by Reunions magazine and *Elon*. The survey found people who attend family reunions every 10 years are more satisfied with the experience than those who attend annually.



Bob Anderson, associate professor of political science, spent part of his sabbatical working at the Ghana Center for Democratic Development in Accra, Ghana. He wrote the conclusion and executive summary for a CDD report to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on “Monitoring Progress Towards Good Governance: National Country Report for Ghana.” He conducted interviews with members of Parliament and ministry officials, and gave a major lecture and conducted a discussion roundtable for government and civil society leaders on current U.S. foreign policy.



Tom Arcaro, professor of sociology, teamed up with student Chrissy Kilgariff to present a paper titled “Humanistic Sociology and Darwin: An Argument for a Sociobiological Approach.” They presented the paper Oct. 12 at the annual meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology in Madison, Wis. They also presented a CD containing essays written by Arcaro, and the paper written with Kilgariff, titled “A Collection of Essays on Being Human.”





Diane Saylor, human resources and education secretary

A Siler City native, Diane comes to Elon from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She decided to make a change when she learned of Elon's benefits and the proximity to her home.

This isn't the first career change for Diane; she was a disc jockey before receiving her associate's degree from Alamance Community College. The job made good use of her love of contemporary Christian music, especially Steven Curtis Chapman and Point of Grace.

Diane's home is full, with her husband, Conrad, and 3-year-old daughter, Sarah, sharing the space with their dog, Pepper, a German Shepherd-black Labrador mix. When she's not home with her family, Diane enjoys getting together with friends to eat, bowl or watch movies.

James Crawford, moving and set-up worker

James graduated from nearby Southern Alamance High School and lives in Burlington. He worked at Monroe Williams Builders before coming to Elon for the steady work and benefits.

When he's not at home with his dog, Ginger, and his pet fish, James enjoys playing disc golf and fishing. He's also an auto-racing fan, and goes to races in his spare time. He also reads about his hobby in Stock Car Magazine.

James is interested in researching Native American history. He also likes listening to blues music.

Mary Santiago, professional development specialist



Mary was born in North Carolina, grew up in Georgia, went to college in Massachusetts and Louisiana, and worked in Washington State before finding her way back to the Old North State.

"Global focus and strategic planning attracted me to Elon," Mary says. She left her job with Alaska Airlines' Leadership Development Department to come here.

Mary received her bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and her master's from Tulane University. Her research interests include leadership and organizational improvement.

She's not all business, though. "The most unique thing about me is that I'm a poet and love to perform my poetry in coffee shops," she says. She also enjoys pottery, cycling and dancing.

Mary has two children, David, 26, and Katie, 13.

Trent Gilbert, admissions counselor

Trent says that people make the difference at Elon. "This is a place where people really want to get to know you," he says. "You're not just a student or an employee, you're a member of a community."

Trent should know — the Coral Springs, Fla., native graduated from Elon last May with a bachelor's degree in political science and minors in public administration and business administration. As well as attending Elon, Trent has worked for the leadership program and as an orientation staff member.



These days, Trent works with prospective students and their families. "I enjoy sharing experiences with the families I have met," he says.

Alex Lindgren, Web developer

A native of Canton, N.Y., Alex received his bachelor's degree from Wilkes University in Pennsylvania. Before coming to Elon, he worked for Nortel Networks, as well as several Internet companies in Research Triangle Park.

Alex is currently working on his master's degree in information science at the University of North Carolina. He was attracted to Elon by its campus and academic environment, as well as a desire to get away from the instability of the "dot com" world.

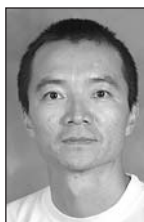
In his free time, Alex enjoys sailing. He recently read Franz Kafka's "Amerika."



Shouze Ma, assistant professor of performing arts

Shouze, a native of Liaoning Province in Northeast China, came to Elon after working for the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

He received his master's degree from the University of Iowa and came to Elon because of its new dance major. "There is a lot of potential for the new dance major here," he says. In his free time, Shouze enjoys table tennis.



Mercedes Ruiz, visiting international faculty

Mercedes is a visiting professor who came to Elon through an exchange program coordinated by the University of Valladolid in Spain, where she received her bachelor's degree. Her research interests include linguistics and translation. In her free time, Mercedes enjoys reading, swimming, cross-stitching and traveling.

She visited the United States once before, about six years ago, and stayed with an American family as a student. She has enjoyed the new experience that teaching at Elon has provided her. "I like the people I work with, I like the campus," she says. "I'm very happy in general."



Alex Yap, assistant professor of business administration

Alex has seen the world from many different perspectives: he has lived in the Philippines and Denmark, as well as the United States. His education includes a doctorate from Copenhagen Business School in Denmark, a master's degree from the University of Exeter in England; a master's degree from Williams College, Massachusetts; and a bachelor's degree from the University of the Philippines.

"I feel fortunate living in different countries and having myself exposed to different cultures," he says. "The opportunity has given me a broader perspective of the world." Alex worked at Virginia Commonwealth University prior to coming to Elon.



Happy Birthday!

January 1

Anthony Hatcher
Chyrise Bradley
Lynn Melchor

January 2

Mary Szollar
Alex Yap

January 3

Louise Latta

January 4

Kelli Burns

January 5

Paul Parsons

January 6

Bob Pavlik
Stephen Braye
Tomoaki Nomi

January 7

Terri Kirchen

January 8

Bette Brownlow
Messiha Saad
Shouze Ma

January 9

Carl Edmonds
Doug McIntyre

January 10

Mary Inabnit
Bob Russ

January 11

Paula Siwek
Dennis Turner

January 12

Terry Williams

January 13

Teresa Graves
Joe Davis
Joel Hollingsworth
Andrew Perry

January 14

Richard Shirley
Michael Frontani

January 15

Mohamad Haj-Mohamadi

January 16

Carol Melton
Carol Magee
Carrie McVea
Scott Hildebrand

January 17

Alan White
Chris Wilson
Barbara Rhoades
Paige Vignali
Stefanie Barbour

January 18

Jessica Gisclair

January 19

Michael Kingston
Delmas Slade
Jonathan Brown

January 20

Glen Downey
Suzanne Sioussat

January 21

Sondra Aheron
Mary Ector
Remi Lanzoni

January 22

Grace Bass
Wendy Waite
Ryan Futrell

January 24

Jerry Summers
Betty Morgan
Anthony Stubblefield
Carrie Alter

January 25

Timon Linn
Anne Wilkinson
Rob Springer
Stephen Folger

January 26

Lorraine Allen

January 27

Beverly Lee

January 28

Denise Morton
Paul Weller
Christine Pivetta

January 29

Dan Wright
Stephanie Hicks
Brian Baute

January 30

Sharon Spray
Alison Barnes
Julie Schuldt

January 31

Sharon LaRocco
James Stovall

February 1

Lawrence Simon
Donna Van Bodegraven

February 2

Bennie Felts

February 3

Helen Ellington
Leon Knight
Brian Nienhaus
Robin Scerbo
Stephen DeSimone

February 4

Barbara Tapscott
Priscilla Lipe
Cherie Bower
Nadia Watts
Kevin Byrd

February 5

Debby Wall

February 6

Frances McKenzie
Earl Honeycutt
Paul Miller
Chris Benton

February 7

Cary Caruso
Laurin Kier
Timothy Fuller

February 8

Herb Schuette

February 9

Henrietta Patterson
Linda Buff
Janet Hardie

February 10

Marsha Boone
Barry Stoneking
Catherine Camp
Melanie Brookbank
Julie Celona

February 11

Casey Dirienzo

February 12

Lisa Alcon
Doug Stemke
Faith Shearer

February 13

Stanley Greeson

February 14

C.C. Cowan
Margaret Rowland
Tiffany Pelletier

February 15

Sue Leonard



Bottles, rattles and cute little socks. Lullabies, laughter and alphabet blocks.

Congratulations to these faculty and staff members on their new additions to the Elon community.

Janet Myers, assistant professor of English, and her husband, Alan Moran, are the proud parents of a baby boy. Aidan Patrick Myers-Moran was born Oct. 18.

RaDonna Smith, secretary in the college of arts and sciences, and her husband, Bill, were blessed with a baby girl. Claire Elizabeth Smith was born Oct. 21.

@Elon Staff

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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 David Hibbard in the News Bureau (dhibbard@elon.edu). Please send your comments and story ideas to Mandy Dixon (mdixon@elon.edu).