



March 2001 @Elon Employee Newsletter

Spring is on the way, bringing warmer weather and plenty of activities to Elon! Visit our Upcoming Events section to see what's happening on campus and find out who's celebrating a birthday in March. We hope you enjoy this month's features!

E-PEOPLE

[David Blackman](#) makes spending time with students a priority.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Print Shop

Hear what [James McCall](#), [Dale Harrison](#) and [Vickie Somers](#) have to say about the new location.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March Madness: Find out about [cultural events](#) at Elon this month. Be sure to check out the list of **March Birthdays!**

WHO'S NEW

Seven [new employees](#) tell us what they do when they're not working.

NEWS & NOTES

What have your fellow faculty and staff members been up to lately? [Get the scoop](#) on questions such as these:

- Who gave the keynote address at the "Embracing the Gospel of Life" conference last month?
- Who wrote "Mind the Gap: The Need for Collaboration Between Partners in Service Learning," which appeared in the winter 2000 edition of The Quarterly?
- Who just had a book of poetry published?

FOR YOUR BENEFIT

Have you ever lost your group health insurance card? [Here's what to do.](#)

PROUD PARENTS

Do you have a new [bundle of joy](#)? Please let us know!

GOT NEWS?

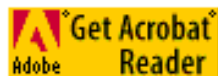
We want to hear from you! Please e-mail us with your story ideas, comments and suggestions. Send your faculty/staff news to [David Hibbard](#), writer. Send your comments and suggestions to [Mandy Dixon](#), editor.

PAST ISSUES

[February 2001](#)

Download a [PDF](#) printable version of the latest @Elon issue.

If your computer is not equipped with Adobe Acrobat, you may download plug-ins by clicking on the logo.



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Elon College, North Carolina

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E-PEOPLE

How well do you know your Elon colleagues? Do you know what their jobs entail? Learn more about their positions -- and their personalities -- by reading the **E-people** feature in each issue of **@Elon**.

David Blackman makes spending time with students a priority.

He gets to know them by name as he walks through the residence halls. He takes student workers to lunch to let them know they're important to Elon. He even has a "You Matter!" stamp, which he uses to recognize and thank others for their work.

In his role as assistant dean of students and director of residence life, Blackman emphasizes the importance of these types of genuine interactions with students. Aside from getting to know students on campus, he brings his family to Elon events. (He and his wife, Jackie, have two sons, three-year-old Jacob and one-year-old Joshua.) The college community culture is great for the kids, Blackman says, and the students get excited to see them. "It helps people see that we are real," he says.



David enjoys working with students such as Jen Colter (left) and Donnell Baldwin (right) to help them test their leadership abilities.

Blackman is no stranger to residence life. He was a resident advisor for three years while attending Elmira College in upstate New York, where he earned his bachelor's degree in elementary education. He says he enjoyed this learning beyond the classroom, which led him to pursue a master's degree in higher education and student affairs at the University of Vermont.

After completing the graduate program, Blackman moved south to UNC Charlotte, where he lived on campus and worked as a residence coordinator for three years. He says this experience helped prepare him for Elon, where he started in June 1996 as director of residence life. He assumed his current role in June 2000, and his three areas of responsibility are Elon Experiences transcripts, service learning and residence life.

Although Blackman has seen many changes since he came to Elon, he enjoys the "let's get it done" attitude of the faculty and staff. He also likes being able to work directly with the faculty. Some colleagues at other institutions do not have that opportunity, he says, so he feels fortunate to have the experience here at Elon.

Blackman also enjoys working with student staff members and giving them the opportunity to test their leadership abilities. "They want to make a difference," he says. "We would not be able to survive without them!"

As residence life looks toward a new leadership model this fall that is designed to share responsibility in the residence halls, Blackman urges faculty and staff to call on residence life as needed. "I believe our mission is to support and enhance the academic experience at Elon," he says. "We strive to create a good environment."

Just for Fun

David says he enjoys reading biographies in his spare time to get a historical perspective. Send him an [e-mail](#) to find out what books he recommends!

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our new **In the Spotlight** feature sheds light on different departments or events on campus. This month, we take a look at the new location of the print shop -- and what it took to get there.



Dale Harrison (left) and James McCall have settled into their new location at Elon West.

Because paper is stored in the back of the building, getting it unpacked and out of the way was a high priority in preparing for business just two days after the October 23 move.

Another advantage to the new space is the location. Being at the end of a hallway in Carlton made it hard to tell customers from those who were just passing through the building. "When people come to the door in the new location, they're here for business," McCall says.

Somers says that another benefit is having more space for customers. "When you go in there now, you have room to fill out forms and ask questions," she says.

The layout of equipment in the new area is designed to streamline work flow. The jobs come in at the front desk and work their way around to the machines in order, until they are shrink wrapped at the end.

"Our work flow is great down here now," McCall says. "The turnaround time is so much better." He estimates that about 80 percent of the jobs that he and **Clerk Dale Harrison** get in the morning go out that afternoon. Now that the print shop is open longer hours (from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday), turnaround is quicker because the machinery is running longer, McCall says. Even so, crunch times such as the beginning of the school year and exams are always challenging.

"As the college grows, we get busier," McCall says, noting that the pickup and delivery route across campus has grown since the move. He expects to add more daily stops to the route as the faculty and staff demand grows, and he would like to encourage more students to use the print shop.

"We now have a color copier, and we want the students to know," McCall says. "We copy, collate, staple, punch, cut, fold and bind books." He adds that they can reproduce from hard copies or disks.

Print Shop Manager James McCall says the move to the new Elon West location across Haggard Avenue was a smooth one.

"It's really amazing that we moved on Monday and we were up and running on Wednesday," he says, "but it was planned that way."

Director of Purchasing Vickie Somers, who coordinated the move to Elon West, says several faculty members stopped her in the hallway to tell her how successful the move was. The tricky part, McCall says, was the unpacking and placement of supplies after the movers had left.

"Having to handle all the paper was the toughest move," McCall says, but he notes that having the paper organized in one area is a big advantage of the new print shop.

Now that the move is behind him, McCall is thinking about ways of improving the print shop, such as getting equipment that trims the front edge of books that come out of the booklet master. He also hopes to get online request form up and running. Somers says that McCall and Harrison have done a good job of adjusting to the new space.

"We're doing fine so far," says Harrison.

McCall agrees. "I think personally, it's worked out for the best."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Want to get a little culture? Check out these great Elon events! For additional information regarding specific programs, call the campus sponsor of the event or the Office of Cultural Programs. Ticket information is listed below.

Thursday, March 1

Alan Charles Kors, "The Betrayal of Liberty and Dignity on American Campuses"

McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 1

Thomas Erdmann, trumpet, and William DeJournett, French horn; faculty recital

Yeager Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 4

North Carolina Symphony

McCrary Theatre, 3:00 p.m.

Admission by ticket only: \$18.00 adults, \$15.00 seniors or free with Elon identification* (RS)

Tuesday, March 6

Todd Horman, tenor, and Aaron Borst, bass; guest recital

Yeager Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7

Ralph Nader, "The American Duopoly"

McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Friday - Saturday, March 9 - 10

It's A Grand Night for Singing IX

Catherine McNeela, director; Sharon LaRocco, piano

Yeager Recital Hall, Friday 7:30 p.m.; Saturday 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Monday, March 12

Elon College Wind Ensemble's 12th Annual Family Concert

McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

March Birthdays

March 3

Joann Cousin

March 4

Gina Desko

Christopher Dockrill

Robin Straka

March 5

Michael Strickland

March 6

Jolene Alley

Robert Blake

Pamela McCauley

Dot Renadette

Michelle Zimmer

March 7

Amanda Kinzer

Jana Lynn Patterson

Kathryn Whitt

March 8

Pat Murphy

March 9

Sue Johnson

March 10

Wilhelmina Boyd

Stephen Futrell

Teofilo Matias

March 11

Alonzo Galloway

L'Tanya Richmond

March 12

Eileen Miller

George Taylor

March 14

Tuesday, March 13

Arsenio Rodriguez, "The Total Ecosystem Approach: Combining Scientific Knowledge with Development Objectives"

McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 14

Kevin Bales, "Disposable People"

McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27

Ricardo Cobo, guitar

Whitley Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

Admission by ticket only: \$10.00 or Elon identification*

Thursday, March 29

Sheila Daur, "State-Sponsored and Private Actor Violence Against Women"

Whitley Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday - Friday, March 29 - 30

Elan presents *A Little Torch Music*

Yeager Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 1

Opening Reception: Senior Art Exhibition I

Isabella Cannon Room, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 1

Paolo Andre Gualdi, piano

Yeager Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 3

Elon Percussion Ensemble Spring Concert

Yeager Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 5

"An Evening with Barbara Mooyaart: The Translator of the Anne Frank Diary"

Elon College Community Church, 7:30 p.m.

Heather Baldwin

Betty Hatch

James Shorten

Morris Starr

March 15

Kathryn Cort

Jo Grimley

Jean Schwind

March 16

Lamar Bland

James D. Jones

Annette Orbert

March 17

Karen Floyd

Edward Sutton

March 18

Claristine Lockett

March 19

Dan Anderson

John King

Anthony Totten

March 20

Jimmy Boitnott

March 21

David Kylander

March 22

Fred Boone

Patricia Raduenz

Linda Weavil

March 23

Nancy Jenkins

Catherine Key

Carol Patterson

Jane Wellford

March 24

Kay Carroll

March 25

Mark Blackmon

Penny Davis

David Loomis

Gabie Smith

March 26

Ticket Information

All tickets for performances in McCrary Theatre will be available three weeks before the event and may be picked up in the Faith Rockefeller Model Center Box Office between 12:30 and 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. People with Elon identification will receive tickets by showing their college identification cards. Seats will be held 15 minutes before performance.

(RS) Indicates reserved seating. Except where so indicated, all tickets are for general seating.

Admission to all programs is free unless otherwise specified.

McCrary Box Office Hours: 12:30 - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

McCrary Box Office Phone: (336) 278-5610

Black Box Production Reservations: (336) 278-5650

If you need special assistance for disabilities, please notify the Box Office or the Black Box Reservations staff when you request your tickets.

Anne Bolin
Cedric Bozeman
Bruce Brown
Dan Headen
Larry Higgins
Sylvia Munoz

March 27

Robert King
John Schmonsees

March 28

Polly Cornelius

March 29

Clyde Ellis
Paul Fromson
Travis Loy
Joel Speckhard
Cynthia Sykes

March 30

Tacy Fleury
Janet Myers

March 31

Staci Powell

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WHO'S NEW

Want to learn more about the new faces you've seen around campus? We asked seven new employees to tell us a little about themselves.

Mandy Dixon, Web writer

Forgive Mandy if she doesn't make the drive to Elon from her home in Greensboro when winter weather strikes. Growing up in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., "I didn't see snow until my freshman year of college," she says.



A graduate of James Madison University, Mandy says her most gratifying moment was working her way through college, earning degrees in communication and psychology. Mandy came to Elon from The Education Center, an educational publisher in Greensboro. "I was looking for a position that would allow me to grow my writing and Web skills, and Elon had the perfect opportunity for me," she says.

If she's not watching political news programs, you'll find her watching football during the fall and cheering her beloved Miami Dolphins to victory. Her two cats, George and Kramer, keep her busy as well.

Nancy Griffin, data entry clerk

Nancy is excited that she is working for Elon. Her most gratifying moment, she says, was "when I found out that I had gotten this job." Nancy says she loved working at Elon previously as a temp.



Nancy enjoys reading about religion and diseases. The last book she read was "Assassins," a book from the popular Left Behind series. In her free time, she also likes to walk and listen to country and oldies music.

Nancy has a grown son, Todd Kimbrey. She and her husband, Donald, live in Burlington.

Kimberly Rippy, secretary - fine arts

Not only is Kimberly a new employee at Elon, but she is also a new mom. Her daughter, Hannah, was born six months ago.

Before coming to Elon, Kimberly worked at Polo Ralph Lauren in Greensboro. She was attracted to Elon because she wanted to spend more time with her daughter. "We have a new family, and I wanted to be closer to home," she says. The Myrtle Beach, S.C., native has a bachelor's degree in business from the University of South Carolina.

When she's not working, Kimberly loves to spend time with Hannah and her husband, Terry. Before Hannah was born, the Rippys enjoyed going on vacations with other couples.

Jennifer Rivers, technical services clerk

Jennifer grew up in Gibsonville and graduated from Western Alamance High School. She worked at Carolina Biological Supply before coming to Elon. She says that coming to Elon was a good career move for her. "It's a good place to work," she says.

When she's not working, Jennifer enjoys spending time with her husband, Kevin, and two-year-old daughter, Macy. Her most gratifying moment was "the day my daughter was born!" Jennifer also likes to go shopping and enjoys any meal with chicken in it.

Jerome Sturm, Web content provider

If Jerome's name sounds familiar, it's probably because you've seen his work in the local newspaper. Jerome came to Elon after 8 1/2 years as a staff photographer at the Burlington Times-News, and he says "Elon's size and the school's high standards" were what attracted him to his new position.



Jerome grew up in Staunton, Va., before graduating from James Madison University with a communication degree. He also holds an associate's degree in applied photographic technology from Randolph Community College. Jerome has no problem staying busy at home. He and his wife, Diane, have five children: Erica, 14; Logan, 11; Alex, 8; Sarah, 5; and Christina, 17 months--and they are expecting a sixth child in August.

Before they had children, Jerome and Diane got to see the United States from one end to the other in a three-month span. "We both quit our jobs and traveled across the country," says Jerome. They also worked as volunteers for two years and lived in Ecuador.

When he does have spare time, Jerome enjoys playing with his children, tackling the next renovation project at his house and woodworking.

Paige Vignali, utilities clerk

When Paige isn't working, she is at a barn in Gibsonville with her 9-year-old daughter, Hannah. "We like to trail ride, and my daughter shows her horse," she says. Mother and daughter work hard to keep their two horses in tip-top shape for competition. When they are not working with their horses, the Vignalis are participating in 4-H Club activities.

Paige worked for Atlantic Sign Media before coming to Elon. The New Providence, N.J., native attended Albemarle Community College. She likes working at Elon and was attracted by the convenient location. "I heard good things about Elon, and my sister went to school here."

Paige also likes to read, especially Danielle Steele novels.

Jerry Williams, Web systems specialist

Jerry says he left his job at Integon to join Elon because of "the positive feedback from current employees about working here." Naturally, he lists technology as an area he loves to study and research, but in his spare time, he also enjoys singing and games. "And I love to fish," Jerry says, adding that his favorite food is "anything seafood."



Jerry and his wife, Margaret, have two sons, Seth, 7, and Mason, 4. The family stays busy keeping up with their two dogs, Ellie and Butter Bean.

Jerry enjoys drawing when he's away from the office. "I spend most of my days working on details and specifics, so in my free time I like to be an artist, so I don't have to worry about those things."

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NEWS & NOTES

Do you have faculty/staff news that you'd like to share? Please e-mail [David Hibbard](mailto:David.Hibbard@elon.edu).

Andy Angyal, professor of English, attended the "Interfaith Global Climate Training Event," sponsored by the North Carolina Council of Churches and Eco-Justice Working Group of the National Council of Churches. The two-day workshop was held at Carroway Conference Center in Asheboro on Feb. 4-5. Angyal also gave the keynote address at the "Embracing the Gospel of Life" conference, sponsored by the Diocese of Raleigh at St. Mary's Church in Garner, N.C., on Feb. 10. In addition, he attended the "Service Learning Institute," sponsored by the NCCV Coalition, at Elon on Feb. 13.

Tom Erdmann, associate professor of music and education, had his article, "Mo' Better Blanchard: Talkin' Shop with Jazz Trumpeter Artist and Film Composer Terence Blanchard," published in the March 2001 issue of the International Trumpet Guild Journal. His second book, "Problems and Solutions in Band Conducting," was published recently as well.



Byung Lee, assistant professor of communications, presented a paper titled "U.S. Dailies' Gathering Information on Online Readers and Their Privacy Policies," at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's Northeast Colloquium in New York on Feb. 10.



Kathy Manning, director of service learning, had her article, "Mind the Gap: The Need for Collaboration Between Partners in Service Learning," published in the winter 2000 edition of the National Society for Experiential Education magazine, The Quarterly.



Jeff Pugh, professor of religion, recently had his second book published. "The Matrix of Faith" examines how Christianity can survive in modern times. The book will be available soon on Amazon.com.

Mary Ruth, director of alumni and parent relations, led a workshop on Feb. 17 for the Mount Olive College Alumni Board. Ruth was invited to discuss development issues, such as traits of a successful alumni board.



Kyle Torke, assistant professor of English, recently had his book of poetry, "Archeology of Bones" published. The book will be available soon at bookstores.



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FOR YOUR BENEFIT

Do you have questions about your benefits? Here are a few frequently asked questions (and answers!) from human resources:

Q. What if I lose my group health insurance card?

A. Call 800-599-9370, give the representative your member number and request that new cards be sent to your home address.

Q. What if I lose my group health insurance card and I have to go to a doctor before a new card is issued?

A. If you are on Elon's health insurance plan, give the doctor/facility the following information:

Carrier: CIGNA Healthcare
Member Number: Your Social Security Number
Elon's Group Number: N449ASO
Verification Number: 800-599-9370



Q. How do I get 100 percent coverage for lab services?

A. Ask your doctor to submit your lab work directly to a LabCorp facility, or you can visit a LabCorp facility for services.

Q. Do I have to be referred by a primary care physician to a specialist?

A. No. You may go to a specialist without seeing a primary care physician with a \$15.00 co-pay if in-network. In order to receive the highest level of coverage, always seek an in-network specialist.

Q. How do I medically insure my newborn upon birth?

A. Call human resources at ext. 5560 as soon as you find out that you are pregnant so that a benefits session can be scheduled and all pregnancy benefits issues may be discussed. At this session, paperwork will be completed and the procedure will be discussed to insure that your newborn is covered upon his/her arrival. Remember that if you are on individual medical coverage and you would like to cover your newborn as of the day of his/her birth, human resources needs this information at least two months prior to the expected date of birth in order to accommodate the administrative process.

Q. What is the deadline for changing one's TIAA-CREF deduction in a given month?

A. Human resources must receive your payroll deduction form no later than the 10th of the month.

Q. How do I change my TIAA-CREF fund allocations?

A. Call TIAA-CREF at 800-842-2776 and specify fund allocation changes.

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PROUD PARENTS

We want to know about new additions to the Elon family!

Congratulations to **John Barnhill** (advancement) and his wife, Amy, on the birth of their baby girl. Grace Elizabeth Barnhill was born on February 19.

Do you have a new bundle of joy? Are you hearing the pitter-patter of little footsteps in your house?

Please share the news with us so that we can run an announcement about your special delivery! Just e-mail [Mandy Dixon](#) with the details, including your name, your department here at Elon, the other parent's name, the birth date and the baby's full name. Is there a story behind the baby's name that you would like to share? If so, please include that in your e-mail as well.



Please note: Human resources needs information about new family members for insurance purposes, so please contact [Stephanie Page](#) with the news if you have not done so already.

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