A look at Elon University’s global education and international student population

GLOBAL EDUCATION DEI • PAGE 2A
The Global Education Center is below the halfway mark in its diversity, equity and inclusion strategic plan

INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS • PAGE 3A
Students serving as ambassadors for the Global Education Center support international community at Elon

LOCAL FRIENDS • PAGE 6A
The Local Friends program connects Elon’s international students with the community
Only seven out of 52 goals have been accomplished in the Elon University Global Education Center’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Plan. Created in 2019, the program and its identity, Laing noted between 2020 and 2025, with goals curated by members across the GEC to serve Elon students and write an email to the editorial standpoint.

In its second year, the strategic plan is only 13.8% of the way in, but the lack of progress isn’t necessarily due to the long list of items, but rather the global pandemic that came into play during its inception, according to associate director for Global Diversity and Inclusion Allegra Laing.

“It was daunting to launch a strategic plan in light of a global pandemic, not knowing what the campus would be like, and to be in light of a global pandemic, not knowing what the campus would be like, and to be

Gozik also said Elon’s work on the strategic plan will take time, as each staff member is responsible for some of the goals.

“One of the things that Elon excels at is planning. We make slow, steady strides, with a clear vision in mind,” Gozik wrote. “The GEC’s DEI Strategic plan is no different. It is designed to be updated with 52 goals and a timeline of five years, yet it is also well thought out and feasible. Each year, we tackle a new set of goals, with each staff member taking responsibility for one of them. It is exciting to see the progress that we have made.”

As the GEC continues to achieve more items on the list, the center also plans to reflect on their work and the changes that the GEC has undergone in the past two years.

“Hopefully, we will be able to revisit our goals and see how far we have come in the past two years,” Gozik said. “We need to be realistic about what we can achieve and set our sights on what we can accomplish in the future.”

The plan was created in 2020, but the GEC is only 13.8% of the way reaching its goals by 2025.

**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION GOALS MET AND STARTED**

**2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

- Develop a framework to audit identity-based resources on the GEC website.
- Create proactive, written protocols for identity-based incidents and awareness training for a step-by-step process.
- Re-examine the process for new program development and identify-based resources into the appointment scheduling process.
- Complete the IDI as a mandatory part of staff training for all new and tenured staff.
- Collect data on the demographic diversity of faculty, staff, and students in the field programs.
- Expose identity-based resources on the GEC website.

**2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

- Investigate if the GEC can utilize data in sports communities.
- On an annual basis, generate a report that outlines the participation of students with health needs in program types and terms.
- On an annual basis, generate a report that outlines the racial/ethnic breakdowns of diversity in program types and terms.
- Complete the 5A for a staff and participate in the group within a five-year period.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

17 goals for the 2021-22 academic year are in progress, with nine carried forward from 2020 and eight new ones started.

- One of the reasons why all the goals appear on the website is to hold us accountable,” Laing said.
- “If people know what we projected to do, it’s harder for us to backtrack on those things.”

Impact the Global Education Center’s future decisions.

Communications Manager of Global Education Shanna Van Beek worked with the team and the other faculty members back in 2019 to build the plan. Since then, she said she has watched Laing lead the work that she describes as “folded exceptional at this level in our field.”

“Not many global education centers or study abroad offices have a 52-point diversity, equity and inclusion strategic plan that’s been fully developed and executed by its staff, from top of the department to entry-level professionals,” Van Beek wrote in an email to Elon News Network. “It’s slow work, and it can be painful work as we look directly at shortcomings in order to assess and improve. But it is important and necessary work, and I’m grateful for Allegra leading us through it.”

One goal that Van Beek created but has not been started by the GEC yet is goal nine: “Create an intentional process for hiring the most qualified students from underserved communities on the GEC website and social media platforms.” Van Beek helped set a number of Elon’s institutional goals that focus on communications, or use communications as a means to achieve a goal, and although those plans possibly be started or met, they are still important items to recognize.

“This goal will require substantial work on the part of everyone at the university,” Gozik wrote. “It will also require the patience and persistence of the students, and the reputation Elon has built on global education, there is a need and opportunity for better amplifying stories of underrepresented students,” Van Beek wrote.
Every day, Walter Ostrowska checks the news for the latest updates from Ukraine. The Ukrainian North Carolina resident has watched his family's country be attacked by Russia for over two months.

But while Ostrowska is concerned about those facing daily attacks, shellings and deaths in Ukraine, he is also concerned about how Americans view the war and other international issues.

“As Americans, we’ve so landlocked to the Americas from the Pacific to Atlantic that we forget about what’s happening in China, what’s happening in India and Pakistan, parts of Africa,” Ostrowska said. “We’re just naive about it … I want to recommend to college students, they need to be versed in all foreign things happening around the world because the world is a lot smaller now.”

Though the war began in February, Ostrowska said people need to recognize how long the conflict between Russia and Ukraine has been going on. Issues such as the Maidan Revolution, a series of deadly protests in Ukraine that led to the removal of the country’s pro-Russian president in 2014, and the annexation of Crimea were only part of the conflict.

“This has been a conflict for a long, long time, hundreds of years, especially if you take the last 100 years from the Communist takeover of Russia and also Ukraine at that time,” Ostrowska said. “I was there when Russia put pressure on the Ukrainian people, they would prosecute them and execute them. There are hundreds of thousands of lives lost already, even before 1992.”

One way Ostrowska tries to localize international issues happening in Ukraine is through the Carolinas, a Ukrainian support network operating since the last time Russia invaded Ukraine in 2014. The organization hosts cultural events and raises awareness about conflicts in Ukraine.

Ukrainians in the Carolinas has always collected donations for the country, but when Russia began its invasion this year, the group started collecting more and shipping them directly overseas to Ukraine and its surrounding European countries for aid.

Economics professor Vitaliy Stroyshchuk, who is from Ukraine, is affiliated with the organization and helps with its collaboration with Burlington Honda’s supply drive to collect more donations such as clothes, strollers, diapers and flashlights.

“There are situations when you have a city completely surrounded, and there is no green money to buy basic medicine to help elderly people,” Stroshush said. “So we would send that money to targeted volunteers and they would just use it to buy day-to-day survival items.”

Stroshush said another benefit of Ukrainians in the Carolinas is the opportunity to relate to other Ukrainians about the war, even when he feels he is unable to help from the U.S.

“It’s always easier to talk to somebody … your grief, your tragedy — somebody else has gone through the same thing,” Stroshush said. “Yet, I always have this feeling like, ‘What can I do?’

In order to understand current international issues, Ostrowska encourages people to find ways to contribute to organizations that help Ukrainians. But most importantly, he encourages education about the war.

“When Will Smith slapped Chris Rock, that became the news of the day. The war in Ukraine took a back page,” Ostrowska said. “I’m afraid social media does that for every person who gets slapped. It’s more important than people dying. We got to research what’s happening around the world and put it on front page news.”

Ambassadors provide support for international students

International students can go to international student ambassadors for help with their transition to Elon.

In order to understand current international issues, Ostrowska encourages people to find ways to contribute to organizations that help Ukrainians. But most importantly, he encourages education about the war.

“When Will Smith slapped Chris Rock, that became the news of the day. The war in Ukraine took a back page,” Ostrowska said. “I’m afraid social media does that for every person who gets slapped. It’s more important than people dying. We got to research what’s happening around the world and put it on front page news.”

Ambassadors provide support for international students

International students can go to international student ambassadors for help with their transition to Elon.

In order to understand current international issues, Ostrowska encourages people to find ways to contribute to organizations that help Ukrainians. But most importantly, he encourages education about the war.

“When Will Smith slapped Chris Rock, that became the news of the day. The war in Ukraine took a back page,” Ostrowska said. “I’m afraid social media does that for every person who gets slapped. It’s more important than people dying. We got to research what’s happening around the world and put it on front page news.”
ELON AROUND THE GLOBE: WHERE IS EVERYONE FROM?

NORTH AMERICA

BELIZE
CANADA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
MEXICO
UNITED STATES

SOUTH AMERICA

AUSTRALIA

OCEANIA

Number bars are representative of the total number of students who originate from a specific territory, according to Elon University's spring 2022 registrar's report.
WHERE IS EVERYONE FROM?

EUROPE

AFRICA

ASIA

ALBANIA
CYPRUS
CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
IRELAND
ITALY
LATVIA
NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
SPAIN
SWEDEN
TURKEY
UNITED KINGDOM

NIGERIA
SOUTH AFRICA

CAMBODIA
CHINA
INDIA
JAPAN
JORDAN
SAUDI ARABIA
SOUTH KOREA
TAIWAN
THAILAND
TURKEY
VIETNAM
A program led by two retired Burlington residents helps international students connect locally

Sophie Rosenthal
Chief Copy Editor | @sophrosenthal

For Donna and Ralph Harwood, the global community is a small world. Though the married couple were both raised in South Carolina and have lived in the town of Elon for over 40 years, they have friends from all over the world — including international students at Elon University.

The Harwoods lead Local Friends, a community-based program for international students at Elon University. Along with the Global Education Center and international student ambassadors at Elon University, they hold monthly events to bring Elon’s international community together.

“It’s been enlightening for us,” Ralph said. “We’ve done some international travel, but you don’t meet people and get to know them personally like that, and hear personal stories and establish lifelong friendships.”

Senior and international student ambassador Howard Chi, originally from Taiwan and raised in Chile, said conversely, the Americans he’s met through the Local Friends program have taught him about American traditions and made Elon feel a little more like home.

During winter break, Chi stayed on campus while most students returned home. Chi said Donna invited him and a few other international students to have a Christmas dinner at her house. He said that dinner is his favorite memory that has come from the program.

“You can get really lonely sometimes,” Chi said. “During the holiday season, you don’t have any friends, you have no car — you have no mobility. So we definitely got a lot of support from them.”

Chi said although people can sometimes lump all international students together, events hosted by Local Friends celebrate each student’s unique experiences. International students at Elon range from Americans who were living abroad to students who had never left their home countries before coming to college.

“They’re not supposed to be grouped into one group and assume they have all the same characteristics,” Chi said. “I think that’s the fun part, that you will always come in with an open mind to hear about what makes it really unique.”

Chi said he has experienced events with Local Friends in two ways: first as an attendee and later as an event planner.

“A lot of times, we’ll have tiny games, sometimes we’ll have bingo, sometimes we’ll pass around papers, and we write something about ourselves, and we’ll exchange them with each other,” Chi said. “Then we’ll find things that we can comment about each other and just have conversations from there.”

Ralph said since the international student ambassadors took over most of the event planning a few years ago, they’ve done a great job of coming up with themes and games to get students to open up at events. However, since the COVID-19 pandemic began, Local Friends has had a lower turnout at its events.

Last academic year, the program had to cancel events or host them virtually. Though in-person meetings returned this year, Local Friends still saw fewer attendees than in previous years. But Donna said they continue to put on events for those who are committed to the program.

“We were a little discouraged because there were so few people, so few students coming in this year,” Donna said. “But they said, ‘Please don’t stop, please never stop.’ So it was good to know that it was really — and we’ve always felt like it was — been appreciated.”

Though the group was initially founded through connections within a church community, Ralph said the program is strictly secular, and they make sure all local volunteers know that.

“We don’t want anyone to come in that has ulterior motives,” Ralph said. “When we recruit someone, normally we send something, and welcome them and say to the volunteers, ‘We do not proselytize.’”

For every student, Ralph said, there are foreign countries are represented in the international student population at Elon University this year, according to the spring 2022 registrars report.

“YOU CAN GET REALLY LONELY SOMETIMES. DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON, YOU DON’T HAVE ANY FRIENDS, YOU HAVE NO CAR — YOU HAVE NO MOBILITY. SO WE DEFINITELY GOT A LOT OF SUPPORT FROM THEM.”

HOWARD CHI  
SENIOR

BY THE NUMBERS

47

According to the Global Education Center’s 2020-21 annual report, there was a total of 405 international students at Elon University last year.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visa Holder</th>
<th>Dual Citizenship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>129</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Card Holder</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas American (U.S. citizen, high school outside U.S.)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total International Students</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HEAR FROM OUR STUDENTS ABROAD

Since the start of the pandemic, study abroad numbers have changed and lowered compared to pre-pandemic years, according to the 2020-21 Global Education Center annual report. Where most colleges and universities halted global programs for the entire year, Elon kept available every program that could be offered safely and ethically. This year, many students have returned to studying abroad. We hear from some students who are away from Elon right now:

Los Angeles becomes most popular study USA program for Elon

Elon in Los Angeles reached a new high for number of students hosted in its program history
Madison Powers
Elon News Network

Eight years after graduating from Elon University, J. McMerty ’00 created a program on the other side of the country from Elon that would serve a number of students, especially those with a passion for arts and communications. The program that McMerty created was Elon in LA — a study USA experience that has become one of the most popular study away programs at Elon University.

According to the Global Education Center’s annual report, the Elon in LA program was the most popular compared to other study away programs in summer 2021 — with 59 of 113 participating students traveling to Los Angeles.

Elon in LA hosts mainly arts and communication majors, focusing on internship and class experiences in the city. Since beginning the program in 2008, McMerty served as the director and said an increase in applications this past year was due to the desire to study away from campus in a nearby environment.

Elon in LA is a semester-long program structured around a week work of two days of classes and three days of internships, with group events on Saturdays such as biking around Santa Monica, attending concerts or seeing plays at Dolby Theater.

“It was safer for students and families to think about an experience that was domestic, because there were more knowns than unknowns,” McMerty said.

McMerty said that hosting a program in LA has been challenging at times, especially without resources available on campus, but it has proved fulfilling.

“The biggest reward of the program has been the opportunity to attend a school whose acclaimed global programs contributed to my understanding of international and global studies while simultaneously experiencing different cultural backgrounds.

My abroad semester in Singapore is definitely a five-star life-enriching experience. It is so safe and tourist friendly here that I could walk outside with my girlfriends at 3 a.m. without any concern. Despite COVID restrictions, I truly had an enjoyable time connecting with many local students and learning more about Singaporean traditions and history through occasions such as Lunar New Year and Ramadan. I hope all Elon students will consider and take up this opportunity of abroad experience not only to explore, but also to recharge after the stressful semesters of classes.

Hannah Schoen
JUNIOR

My abroad semester in Singapore is definitely a five-star life-enriching experience. It is so safe and tourist friendly here that I could walk outside with my girlfriends at 3 a.m. without any concern. Despite COVID restrictions, I truly had an enjoyable time connecting with many local students and learning more about Singaporean traditions and history through occasions such as Lunar New Year and Ramadan. I hope all Elon students will consider and take up this opportunity of abroad experience not only to explore, but also to recharge after the stressful semesters of classes.

“This is kind of the entertainment hub of almost the entire world.

HANNAH SCOHEN
JUNIOR

The cinema and television arts major allows students to pursue either a bachelor's in arts or in fine arts. For the fine arts program, students are required to study in LA or Prague. A cinema and television arts major, junior Hannah Schoen is currently participating in the spring-semester program. Since joining the program, Schoen said she hopes to pursue a career in production development in LA.

“This is kind of the entertainment hub of almost the entire world,” Schoen said. “A lot of people get their movies and entertainment from the U.S. and California, specifically L.A. It just made the most sense to be here.”

Senior Piper Nixon is also part of the spring program in LA this semester and is interning for the Downtown Los Angeles Film Festival — the largest annual film event in L.A.

“I always like to say yes to any opportunity I can do,” Nixon said. “There's always something to do. Even if it's in our living space, there's always something going on.”

COVID-19 restrictions halted many of Elon's study abroad programs in the 2020-21 school year, with only 95 students studying away during the year, as opposed to 1,562 students studying abroad in the 2019-20 school year. The Elon in LA program stopped running until summer 2021.

However, when the program did start up again, Elon in LA hosted the most students in its history — almost exceeding its program limit of 60. This influx of students included many rising seniors that were unable to participate in summer 2020.

Senior Kali Clougherty is a music theatre major who participated in the program in summer 2021. She interned at Bocalist Management, a talent and modeling agency, and took a few classes, one of which was a diversity, equity, and inclusion in Hollywood course taught by freelance TV director and former Elon University faculty member Rachel Raisman.

“The class talked about diversity, equity and inclusion in Hollywood, but also how we can create a pipeline for minority groups to be featured in Hollywood and in the film industry more,” Clougherty said. “I really enjoyed our conversations in that class.”

Junior Becca Potters plans to participate in the 2022 summer program. Potters said she chose the summer session to complete her bachelor's in fine arts because it would allow her more time to focus on an internship: the summer program has four days of internning, and one day of classes, while the semester section has three days of internning and two days of classes.

“I just thought, from an educational standpoint, I'd rather have the emphasis on the internship than to have to take three classes and balance that with an internship,” Potters said.

Potters said she will be an acquisition and development intern for Highland Film Group.

“I genuinely can't wait to see what the summer brings,” Potters said. “It's an amazing program.”
Chinese club celebrates full recognition on campus

The club has grown since it began in 2020, but its biggest milestone yet is being fully recognized on campus.

Nyah Phengutthy
Managing Editor | @nyahphengutthy

Two rejections and two years of waiting is what the Chinese club at Elon University has been through. From the first and second club proposals rejected in 2017 and 2018, to finally getting accepted with a provisional club status in 2020, the club has been through a lot.

But after two years of waiting, the organization finally became fully recognized this spring semester.

A member since the beginning, Chinese lecturer and faculty adviser of the club Binnan Gao said she was happy to see the club reach full recognition, especially since she was there from the very beginning — Gao came to Elon in 2014 but she didn’t work with students to propose the club until 2017 when it was rejected that year and the year after. Gao said the rejections had to do with an unclear club proposal, but when 2020 came along, she helped new students draft a new one.

“I always felt the student’s enthusiasm in Chinese culture,” Gao said. “When I learned about this from the email, we were thrilled. It’s a milestone achievement for us to know we’re extending it and working with other clubs and student organizations.”

The club was on provisional status for two years, meaning that it could function as a student organization and advertise as a group. The club’s move to full recognition deems that the Student Life Committee or SGA approves of the organization’s overall membership.

Since its actual inception in 2020, the Chinese club was created to serve as a resource for students interested in Chinese language and culture. It also provides opportunities to learn more about China’s culture, especially now that it is considered a DEI initiative.

The club’s membership has grown since the return of in-person meetings.

Though Chaput is happy with the club’s membership, she has watched the group turn into a space that not only recognizes Chinese culture, but also allows everyone to be themselves.

“Chinese club is so great because we’re all in the same space for one common reason, which is that at some point or another, our lives have been touched by this place, by these people and by this culture,” Myers said.

Chaput said although the Chinese population on campus is small, this club continues to spread awareness about the culture, especially now that it is considered official at Elon University.

“Seeing the growth that we’ve gone through the past two years is just so special and immensely important,” Chaput said. “Not only because we were able to bring this idea to life, but we’ve also transitioned from being a fun club where you come to these fun events. It’s become much more than that. It’s become a DEI initiative we’ve taken on this campus because the population of Asian students on Elon’s campus is very minuscule.”

2022 April 27, Wednesday
INTERNATIONAL

Traveling and Studying Abroad in China...

Chinese club members practice Chinese calligraphy at an event in a fall 2021 meeting.

Members of the Chinese club craft origami during a fall 2021 meeting.
Students host benefit concert in honor of Ukraine

“Elon Elite” is the name of this year’s concert and talent show that will raise donations for a Ukrainian support organization

Hyah Phengstithb
Managing Editor | phengstithb

Over 50 Elon University students will come together on April 28 to showcase their talents, skills and other gifts for a special talent show — “Elon Elite.” From live singing and band performances to fire throwing, this talent will showcase students’ skills, but it’s also about raising money for those in need.

Co-producer and creative director of Elon Elite’s benefit concert, Charlie Breckenridge, said this year’s concert is about giving to the Ukraine crisis since Russia began its war over the country two months ago.

“We’re supporting Ukraine, we’re supporting people on the other side of the earth that don’t deal with what we have to deal with everyday,” Breckenridge said. “We don’t wake up worried about getting bombed. There’s people that are dealing with these things. It’s very real to them.

Last year, Breckenridge and a group of other students held a benefit concert raising money for the chaplain’s fund, an endowment that serves to assist both Elon students and faculty in an unforeseen financial crisis. In order to put the benefit concert together last year, the production team received $12,078 from Elon University and the Student Government Association and only raised $500.

This year, SGA only gave the group $5,000 for the concert setup, and Breckenridge said he’s hoping that having multiple acts, compared to last year’s singular act, will bring in a bigger audience and larger donation fund for Ukraine.

“It’s going directly to the organization,” Breckenridge said. “We’re going to try to do everything in our power to maximize donations across students, faculty, whoever might be watching online, as much as we are able to do.”

The benefit concert will send donations to Razom for Ukraine, an organization based in New York that was born out of the 2014 Maidan Revolution, a number of deadly protests that led to the removal of Ukraine’s pro-Russian president.

Shortly after, Russian forces invaded Eastern Ukraine and annexed Crimea.

Since it began, Razom for Ukraine has initiated short and long-term projects that help the country, whether it’s creating a network of women at a disadvantage. “We’re going to try to do everything in our power to maximize donations across students, faculty, whoever might be watching online, as much as we are able to do.”

The benefit concert will send donations to Razom for Ukraine, an organization based in New York that was born out of the 2014 Maidan Revolution, a number of deadly protests that led to the removal of Ukraine’s pro-Russian president.

Shortly after, Russian forces invaded Eastern Ukraine and annexed Crimea.

Since it began, Razom for Ukraine has initiated short and long-term projects that help the country, whether it’s creating a network of women at a disadvantage.

The benefit concert will send donations to Razom for Ukraine, an organization based in New York that was born out of the 2014 Maidan Revolution, a number of deadly protests that led to the removal of Ukraine’s pro-Russian president.

Shortly after, Russian forces invaded Eastern Ukraine and annexed Crimea.

Since it began, Razom for Ukraine has initiated short and long-term projects that help the country, whether it’s creating a network of women at a disadvantage.

The benefit concert will send donations to Razom for Ukraine, an organization based in New York that was born out of the 2014 Maidan Revolution, a number of deadly protests that led to the removal of Ukraine’s pro-Russian president.

Shortly after, Russian forces invaded Eastern Ukraine and annexed Crimea.

Since it began, Razom for Ukraine has initiated short and long-term projects that help the country, whether it’s creating a network of women at a disadvantage.
CONCERT | from cover

“We don’t sit on the money, we disperse it right away,” Orlova said. “You get to see this beautiful side of solidarity when people come to us.”

Orlova has been with Razom for Ukraine since 2016, where she has seen a variety of groups across the U.S. reach out to the organization with support. But when she learned that a small, private university in North Carolina was putting up a benefit concert, she said she admired the involvement and concern those college students have about international issues today. “We need every single day to show at the end of every crisis, ‘We are doing something, and we’re going to prevail. Very soon there’s going to be a decisive victory of this war for Ukraine. This is our hope that is propelled by realization that we’re doing something.’”

Yulia O’Connell, another volunteer at Razom for Ukraine, she said she is also thankful to see different groups throughout the U.S. help with aid, especially since it’s bringing people together. This aligns with the organization’s name Razom, which means “together” in Ukrainian. “This is something much bigger than you actually think in the beginning of development,” O’Connell said. “Knowing that the people are fighting, they are on the ground, and we are not in as much danger as they are. But they are doing it every single day, every single hour.”

Working with talent from the dance and music production departments and in collaboration with Elon Student Television and Limelight Records, Breckenridge hopes that those tuning in will not only recognize Elon’s talent, but also the importance of supporting those in need right now. “Hopefully through us, we can give people entertainment,” Breckenridge said. “But we can also incentivize them to give, and that’s the main reason that we’re going to do this.”

IF YOU GO
Elon Elite Benefit Concert
Supporting Ukraine

Where: Streaming on Elon University School of Communications Facebook Page
When: Thursday, April 28, 8 p.m.
Watch online: elonuniversity.edu/events/elon-elite/7481889890022/

Bands raise money for music department

Cummings High School hosts fundraiser to combat lack of district funding
Annemarie Bonner
Elon News Network | @abonnernews

When Greg Milton wakes up in the morning, he goes to Cummings High School in Burlington to educate his students and fill his classroom with the sounds of music. But it hasn’t always been easy and enjoyable.

Instead of being wonderful musicians, I want them to be good people,” Milton said. “I really build the band program after the budget Milton receives for the music department is funded about 120 percent every academic year, which Milton said does not always cover all the things students need. Prior to the pandemic, Milton said they could share instruments and get by with not having enough for each person. When the pandemic hit, that all changed. Milton had to turn students away because they couldn’t provide them with the supplies they needed to succeed.

So when the band found itself in need of new uniforms, which will cost around $5,600, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, which will cost around $5,600.

When Greg Milton wakes up in the morning, he goes to Cummings High School in Burlington to educate his students and fill his classroom with the sounds of music. But it hasn’t always been easy and enjoyable.

Instead of being wonderful musicians, I want them to be good people,” Milton said. “I really build the band program after the budget Milton receives for the music department is funded about 120 percent every academic year, which Milton said does not always cover all the things students need. Prior to the pandemic, Milton said they could share instruments and get by with not having enough for each person. When the pandemic hit, that all changed. Milton had to turn students away because they couldn’t provide them with the supplies they needed to succeed.

So when the band found itself in need of new uniforms, which will cost around $5,600, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, which will cost around $5,600.

When Greg Milton wakes up in the morning, he goes to Cummings High School in Burlington to educate his students and fill his classroom with the sounds of music. But it hasn’t always been easy and enjoyable.

Instead of being wonderful musicians, I want them to be good people,” Milton said. “I really build the band program after the budget Milton receives for the music department is funded about 120 percent every academic year, which Milton said does not always cover all the things students need. Prior to the pandemic, Milton said they could share instruments and get by with not having enough for each person. When the pandemic hit, that all changed. Milton had to turn students away because they couldn’t provide them with the supplies they needed to succeed.

So when the band found itself in need of new uniforms, which will cost around $5,600, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, which will cost around $5,600.

When Greg Milton wakes up in the morning, he goes to Cummings High School in Burlington to educate his students and fill his classroom with the sounds of music. But it hasn’t always been easy and enjoyable.

Instead of being wonderful musicians, I want them to be good people,” Milton said. “I really build the band program after the budget Milton receives for the music department is funded about 120 percent every academic year, which Milton said does not always cover all the things students need. Prior to the pandemic, Milton said they could share instruments and get by with not having enough for each person. When the pandemic hit, that all changed. Milton had to turn students away because they couldn’t provide them with the supplies they needed to succeed.

So when the band found itself in need of new uniforms, which will cost around $5,600, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, which will cost around $5,600.

When Greg Milton wakes up in the morning, he goes to Cummings High School in Burlington to educate his students and fill his classroom with the sounds of music. But it hasn’t always been easy and enjoyable.

Instead of being wonderful musicians, I want them to be good people,” Milton said. “I really build the band program after the budget Milton receives for the music department is funded about 120 percent every academic year, which Milton said does not always cover all the things students need. Prior to the pandemic, Milton said they could share instruments and get by with not having enough for each person. When the pandemic hit, that all changed. Milton had to turn students away because they couldn’t provide them with the supplies they needed to succeed.

So when the band found itself in need of new uniforms, which will cost around $5,600, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, the marching band decided to fundraise. It hosted a Battle of the Bands event in April, raising $60,000, which will cost around $5,600.
Students create tie-dye shirts during the Spirit and Pride event on April 22 at Medallion Plaza.

Belle Liang, a professor of counseling psychology at Boston College, speaks about navigating life decisions inside Whitley Auditorium on April 20 as part of Elon University’s speaker series.

Senior Chung-Han Tsai hits a backhand volley during his doubles match with sophomore Daniel Martin in Elon’s CAA Men’s Tennis Tournament championship match on April 24. Tsai and Martin lost 6-3, and Elon lost 4-2.

Senior attacker Cate Harkes rolls around the crease late in the fourth quarter of Elon’s Senior Day game against Drexel University on April 23. Elon lost 14-13.

Elon senior Lily Harkes presents her project on “Democratic Backsliding in Hungary and the United States: The Role of Political Elite Strategic Narratives” inside upstairs Lakeside on April 26 as part of Elon University’s SURF Day activities.
Home buyers at mercy of market, forced to adjust

The average price of U.S. homes, in the thousands, over the last 10 years taken from December of each year — except 2022 where the data is taken from March — according to Zillow. Post COVID-19 pandemic, increases in price, value and interest rates, as well as a decrease in the number of homes available, have made it difficult for buyers and sellers to navigate the market.

The deadlast mass shooting in U.S. history at Sandy Hook Elementary School was the catalyst for a renewed debate about gun control. New mom Becky Cartsa was devastated by this news and it pushed her to join and become the executive director of North Carolinians Against Gun Violence.

People who are killed are other people's children. They are other people's brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, grandparents and great-grandparents. They are citizens of this country.

Rudy Cartassi co-owns a gun store and shooting range called RAD Industries. Cartsa said if any of his customers used a gun to harm an innocent person, he would be heartbroken.

"None of us are monsters. We have hearts like everyone else. We have hearts too. My heart grieves for them," Cartsa said. "Any loss of life is tragic."

But what Cartsa and Cartassi don't agree on is how to prevent violent gun deaths. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 500,000 more people died in 2022 from firearm-related injuries than motor vehicle crashes.

Cartsa said the answer to this violence is for people to arm themselves with guns.

"If someone sees you have a firearm on you, they are probably less likely to do anything," Cartsa said. "They pause and say, 'Do we really want to have something happen?'"

Cartsa said the answer to violent gun deaths in America is enforcing laws so that guns don't end up in the wrong hands.

"Felons, people who have a dangerous past and people who are a threat to themselves or others — those are clear cases where people just shouldn't have guns," Cartsa said.

She said one way to do this is by issuing extreme risk protection orders. This is where a judge can issue an order to temporarily take away a person's weapons, including guns, if they are reasonably suspected to soon hurt themselves or others. As of 2019, 19 states have these orders. In Indiana, after ERPOs became legal, the state's suicide rates went down 7.9%. North Carolina has no extreme risk protection order law.

According to the CDC, firearms are the leading cause of suicides with twice as many people kill themselves using a firearm than by suffocation, and almost five times as many people kill themselves using poisoning. Cartsa thinks ERPOs would help decrease the number of suicides by firearm.

In North Carolina, data shows gun violence is on the rise. According to the Alamance County Sheriff's office, in 2019 guns were the leading weapon used in robbery, murder, rape and aggravated assault.

President Joe Biden is also weighing in on gun violence in America. In early April, he announced restrictions on ghost guns — untraceable firearms that don't have serial numbers. Ghost guns aren't regulated like traditional firearms because they are sold in parts and not considered guns until they are fully assembled at home.

The president's new rules will require guns to be produced by licensed manufacturers. Plus, customers must pass a background check, the weapons will have serial numbers and stores must keep records of who buys them. The new rules will neither ban ghost guns nor increase the penalties for crimes committed with this weapon.

There is little data on ghost guns specifically because the weapons are relatively new and they are untraceable. The Alamance County Sheriff's Office did not respond to Elon News Network's multiple requests for comment to confirm the number of ghost guns in the county. But there have been ghost guns reported in neighboring Guilford County. The Guilford County Sheriff's Office's 2021 report showed 116 guns.

"If they come for me, who's next?" Cartassi said.

Those new ghost gun rules are set to take effect in mid-August.

Leaders voice concerns over new “ghost gun” laws

Biden announced restrictions on ghost guns, crime in Alamance county rises, two locals split on gun rights

Margaret Faust
Elon News Network

Locals voice concerns over new “ghost gun” laws

Biden announces restrictions on ghost guns, crime in Alamance county rises, two locals split on gun rights

Margaret Faust
Elon News Network

The deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history at Sandy Hook Elementary School was the catalyst for a renewed debate about gun control. New mom Becky Cartsa was devastated by this news and it pushed her to join and become the executive director of North Carolinians Against Gun Violence.

People who are killed are other people's children. They are other people's brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, grandparents and great-grandparents. They are citizens of this country.

Rudy Cartassi co-owns a gun store and shooting range called RAD Industries. Cartsa said if any of his customers used a gun to harm an innocent person, he would be heartbroken.

"None of us are monsters. We have hearts like everyone else. We have hearts too. My heart grieves for them," Cartsa said. "Any loss of life is tragic."

But what Cartsa and Cartassi don't agree on is how to prevent violent gun deaths. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 500,000 more people died in 2022 from firearm-related injuries than motor vehicle crashes.

Cartsa said the answer to this violence is for people to arm themselves with guns.

"If someone sees you have a firearm on you, they are probably less likely to do anything," Cartsa said. "They pause and say, 'Do we really want to have something happen?'"

Cartsa said the answer to violent gun deaths in America is enforcing laws so that guns don't end up in the wrong hands.

"Felons, people who have a dangerous past and people who are a threat to themselves or others — those are clear cases where people just shouldn't have guns," Cartsa said.

She said one way to do this is by issuing extreme risk protection orders. This is where a judge can issue an order to temporarily take away a person's weapons, including guns, if they are reasonably suspected to soon hurt themselves or others. As of 2019, 19 states have these orders. In Indiana, after ERPOs became legal, the state's suicide rates went down 7.9%. North Carolina has no extreme risk protection order law.

According to the CDC, firearms are the leading cause of suicides with twice as many people kill themselves using a firearm than by suffocation, and almost five times as many people kill themselves using poisoning. Cartsa thinks ERPOs would help decrease the number of suicides by firearm.

In North Carolina, data shows gun violence is on the rise. According to the Alamance County Sheriff's office, in 2019 guns were the leading weapon used in robbery, murder, rape and aggravated assault.

President Joe Biden is also weighing in on gun violence in America. In early April, he announced restrictions on ghost guns — untraceable firearms that don't have serial numbers. Ghost guns aren't regulated like traditional firearms because they are sold in parts and not considered guns until they are fully assembled at home.

The president's new rules will require guns to be produced by licensed manufacturers. Plus, customers must pass a background check, the weapons will have serial numbers and stores must keep records of who buys them. The new rules will neither ban ghost guns nor increase the penalties for crimes committed with this weapon.

There is little data on ghost guns specifically because the weapons are relatively new and they are untraceable. The Alamance County Sheriff's Office did not respond to Elon News Network's multiple requests for comment to confirm the number of ghost guns in the county. But there have been ghost guns reported in neighboring Guilford County. The Guilford County Sheriff's Office's 2021 report showed 116 guns.

"If they come for me, who's next?" Cartassi said.

Those new ghost gun rules are set to take effect in mid-August.

Leaders voice concerns over new “ghost gun” laws

Biden announces restrictions on ghost guns, crime in Alamance county rises, two locals split on gun rights

Margaret Faust
Elon News Network

The deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history at Sandy Hook Elementary School was the catalyst for a renewed debate about gun control. New mom Becky Cartsa was devastated by this news and it pushed her to join and become the executive director of North Carolinians Against Gun Violence.

People who are killed are other people's children. They are other people's brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, grandparents and great-grandparents. They are citizens of this country.

Rudy Cartassi co-owns a gun store and shooting range called RAD Industries. Cartsa said if any of his customers used a gun to harm an innocent person, he would be heartbroken.

"None of us are monsters. We have hearts like everyone else. We have hearts too. My heart grieves for them," Cartsa said. "Any loss of life is tragic."

But what Cartsa and Cartassi don't agree on is how to prevent violent gun deaths. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 500,000 more people died in 2022 from firearm-related injuries than motor vehicle crashes.

Cartsa said the answer to this violence is for people to arm themselves with guns.

"If someone sees you have a firearm on you, they are probably less likely to do anything," Cartsa said. "They pause and say, 'Do we really want to have something happen?'"

Cartsa said the answer to violent gun deaths in America is enforcing laws so that guns don't end up in the wrong hands.

"Felons, people who have a dangerous past and people who are a threat to themselves or others — those are clear cases where people just shouldn't have guns," Cartsa said.

She said one way to do this is by issuing extreme risk protection orders. This is where a judge can issue an order to temporarily take away a person's weapons, including guns, if they are reasonably suspected to soon hurt themselves or others. As of 2019, 19 states have these orders. In Indiana, after ERPOs became legal, the state's suicide rates went down 7.9%. North Carolina has no extreme risk protection order law.

According to the CDC, firearms are the leading cause of suicides with twice as many people kill themselves using a firearm than by suffocation, and almost five times as many people kill themselves using poisoning. Cartsa thinks ERPOs would help decrease the number of suicides by firearm.

In North Carolina, data shows gun violence is on the rise. According to the Alamance County Sheriff's office, in 2019 guns were the leading weapon used in robbery, murder, rape and aggravated assault.

President Joe Biden is also weighing in on gun violence in America. In early April, he announced restrictions on ghost guns — untraceable firearms that don't have serial numbers. Ghost guns aren't regulated like traditional firearms because they are sold in parts and not considered guns until they are fully assembled at home.

The president's new rules will require guns to be produced by licensed manufacturers. Plus, customers must pass a background check, the weapons will have serial numbers and stores must keep records of who buys them. The new rules will neither ban ghost guns nor increase the penalties for crimes committed with this weapon.

There is little data on ghost guns specifically because the weapons are relatively new and they are untraceable. The Alamance County Sheriff's Office did not respond to Elon News Network's multiple requests for comment to confirm the number of ghost guns in the county. But there have been ghost guns reported in neighboring Guilford County. The Guilford County Sheriff's Office's 2021 report showed 116 guns.

"If they come for me, who's next?" Cartassi said.

Those new ghost gun rules are set to take effect in mid-August.
On April 7 Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, who was nominated by President Joe Biden, was confirmed by the Senate to serve as a member of the Supreme Court. Jackson will be the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court in the 232 years since its establishment. According to the American Bar Association, critical race theory is a theoretical framework designed to understand how race intersects with different institutions in society. Jessica Carew, assistant professor of political science and policy studies, discusses the intersection between race and the criminal justice system and the relevance of Jackson’s confirmation to this assessment.

This interview has been edited for clarity.

Since the Supreme Court was established in 1789, and out of the 114 Supreme Court justices, 108 have been white men, could you explain how this is relevant to the critical race theory’s examination of race in law?

The thing about this is, there is such a massive imbalance largely because of this tradition of exclusion or inegalitarianism that sits in concert with our ideas around egalitarianism. We have a strong concept of centering equality within our society. Nevertheless, we have many laws and practices that have very purposefully excluded individuals.

One thing I would say is that broadly and historically within our society, we have what I would call widely accepted prototype images and those are specifically tied to the way we see systems and so forth. They are all frequently based upon the stereotypes that we have developed as a society and we assume ideas about who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. All those various positions often connotes a particular image in our mind, and that image is connected very closely to various ideas of worth and belonging.

A lot of that comes from, as I said, those stereotypes that come from these hierarchies and power differentials that already exist very directly within society.

I would take that back to a quote from historian M酒 Ray: “There’s a racial divide emerging that people begin to see as natural, and that part of where the idea of race comes from. It’s just a tendency for people to see existing power relationships as having some sort of natural quality. ”

So with that, because we have seen certain groups and individuals in a position of power, in decision making positions, we then just expect that that is just the natural order of things and that how things ought to be.

So when we combine that with a system that is set up in a way where on its surface it appears as though it is supposed to be egalitarian and fair and encouraging some sort of meritocracy on a whole. Then you are going to expect what you find that naturally comes out of that system is automatically going to be what is right, fair, and good.

That has led us to this point of just broadly accepting that we have this significant difference between the existing demographics on the court, and we just accept that is the case, and understand that, historically speaking, there were a lot of people that were excluded, so of course we are going to have this imbalance.

Without then questioning so much why since we have begun to change some of those opportunities for access, especially around the 1960s.

The thing is that we continue to see such a significant imbalance, especially when it comes to who it is that gets to be on the court? How do we necessarily determine who it is that ought to be on the Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. So we are going to derive that from marginalized groups, and so forth. They are all frequently based upon the stereotypes that we have developed as a society, and we assume ideas about who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. All those various positions often connotes a particular image in our mind, and that image is connected very closely to various ideas of worth and belonging.

“And this is connected very closely to various ideas of who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. As a society, then we get these ideas about who it is that gets to be on the court? How do we necessarily determine who it is that ought to be on the Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. So we are going to derive that from marginalized groups, and so forth. They are all frequently based upon the stereotypes that we have developed as a society, and we assume ideas about who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. All those various positions often connotes a particular image in our mind, and that image is connected very closely to various ideas of worth and belonging.

The question here becomes why is it that even after we have seen an increase in positional and education-based inclusion for African Americans and for women in the mid-20th century, why is it that we have continued to see this lack of representation of people from marginalized groups?

This is important because we have to also recognize that there are plenty of stellar people who have been overlooked for these positions for many decades.

So, what we are not recognizing is that some of those people have been overlooked specifically because they are not white men.

The way that we frame talking about this in society really matters because we are not recognising what we are not talking about.

So, historically, we have not been recognising people, so let us now actually open the pool of applicants to those that are stellar from all backgrounds.

That is really what is a part of what is missing from this conversation.

What is also important to recognize is some of the other issues that have come about because of some of these demonstrations over the past ten to fifteen years which have then had influence on political candidates say they will do or what political actors decide they are going to do when it comes to Supreme Court nominations.”

Understanding relevance of critical race theory

Ketanji Brown Jackson’s confirmation illustrates how CRT plays role in government.

On April 7 Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, who was nominated by President Joe Biden, was confirmed by the Senate to serve as a member of the Supreme Court. Jackson will be the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court in the 232 years since its establishment. According to the American Bar Association, critical race theory is a theoretical framework designed to understand how race intersects with different institutions in society. Jessica Carew, assistant professor of political science and policy studies, discusses the intersection between race and the criminal justice system and the relevance of Jackson’s confirmation to this assessment.

This interview has been edited for clarity.

Since the Supreme Court was established in 1789, and out of the 114 Supreme Court justices, 108 have been white men, could you explain how this is relevant to the critical race theory’s examination of race in law?

The thing about this is, there is such a massive imbalance largely because of this tradition of exclusion or inegalitarianism that sits in concert with our ideas around egalitarianism. We have a strong concept of centering equality within our society. Nevertheless, we have many laws and practices that have very purposefully excluded individuals.

One thing I would say is that broadly and historically within our society, we have what I would call widely accepted prototype images and those are specifically tied to the way we see systems and so forth. They are all frequently based upon the stereotypes that we have developed as a society and we assume ideas about who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. All those various positions often connotes a particular image in our mind, and that image is connected very closely to various ideas of worth and belonging.

A lot of that comes from, as I said, those stereotypes that come from these hierarchies and power differentials that already exist very directly within society.

I would take that back to a quote from historian M酒 Ray: “There’s a racial divide emerging that people begin to see as natural, and that part of where the idea of race comes from. It’s just a tendency for people to see existing power relationships as having some sort of natural quality. ”

So with that, because we have seen certain groups and individuals in a position of power, in decision making positions, we then just expect that that is just the natural order of things and that how things ought to be.

So when we combine that with a system that is set up in a way where on its surface it appears as though it is supposed to be egalitarian and fair and encouraging some sort of meritocracy on a whole. Then you are going to expect what you find that naturally comes out of that system is automatically going to be what is right, fair, and good.

That has led us to this point of just broadly accepting that we have this significant difference between the existing demographics on the court, and we just accept that is the case, and understand that, historically speaking, there were a lot of people that were excluded, so of course we are going to have this imbalance.

Without then questioning so much why since we have begun to change some of those opportunities for access, especially around the 1960s.

The thing is that we continue to see such a significant imbalance, especially when it comes to who it is that gets to be on the court? How do we necessarily determine who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. So we are going to derive that from marginalized groups, and so forth. They are all frequently based upon the stereotypes that we have developed as a society, and we assume ideas about who it is that ought to be a Supreme Court justice or who it is that ought to be a custodian, etc. All those various positions often connotes a particular image in our mind, and that image is connected very closely to various ideas of worth and belonging.

The question here becomes why is it that even after we have seen an increase in positional and education-based inclusion for African Americans and for women in the mid-20th century, why is it that we have continued to see this lack of representation of people from marginalized groups?

This is important because we have to also recognize that there are plenty of stellar people who have been overlooked for these positions for many decades.

So, what we are not recognizing is that some of those people have been overlooked specifically because they are not white men.

The way that we frame talking about this in society really matters because we are not recognising what we are not talking about.

So, historically, we have not been recognising people, so let us now actually open the pool of applicants to those that are stellar from all backgrounds.

That is really what is a part of what is missing from this conversation.

What is also important to recognize is some of the other issues that have come about because of some of these demonstrations over the past ten to fifteen years which have then had influence on political candidates say they will do or what political actors decide they are going to do when it comes to Supreme Court nominations.”

Do you think certain Senators were trying to frame a case for Jackson engaging in judicial activism? For example, she was asked questions insinuating how she might approach a case that would involve race.

“I believe it was Senator Coryn who asked her about Obergefell v. Hodges which is the court case that deals with marriage equality and along with sexuality, but he was really trying to deal with a specific legal issue that has to do with the balance of power between the national government and the state.

So, the way that this ends up having a connection to Loving v. Virginia is that we know that states have set up laws that prohibited marriage across races in the same way they did same sex marriage. The idea that Coryn was trying to get to was that we should be allowing states to make these decisions regarding the type of laws they want to make.

That is a balance of power issue, it is an issue of federalism and the balance of what the general make-up of this power should look like. What we know about that is that there are different people with different experiences and perspectives particularly about what kind of thing constitutes a state’s right to have power over and what that means when it comes to marginalized populations.

One of the things that we have looked toward is to ensure that the federal government has opportunities to step in occasionally if they feel the state is not ensuring equitable treatment for their people across the board. Here, we look toward the equal protection clause in the 14th amendment.

Nevertheless, I think that some people will expect they are going to have some idea of how she ought to operate because of her demographic makeup, as well as because the fact she was nominated by a Democratic president, but that does not mean that every other Supreme Court justice sitting on the court does not have some kind of connection to these issues or some sort of set of ideas they have held over time.

Unfortunately, it is an unfair way of thinking about or perceiving her position on the court when we do not turn around and do that for every other individual that is sitting on the court as well. It presupposes that she is in some way not capable of engaging in judicial deliberation with her own personal views, experiences and ideas. However, I do think that there is certainly a question about her and her experiences possibility may have some influence when it comes to this particular type of issue but not necessarily.”
Investigating the Role
of Nietzsche in Intellectual History
Reconsidering Friedrich Nietzsche’s
Influential Ideas on the Philosophy of
Existence and the Will to Power

Daniel Saltsgaver
Project: The Age of Uncertainty: Recovering Friedrich Nietzsche’s Place Within Modern European Intellectual History
Mentor: Michael Carignan
“It was almost like they had a faith in science like it was a religion and Nietzsche really shatted that, so he has a big important place in intellectual history. But there were other people before him and around the same time that had similar ideas, and they’re never really given the same attention.”

Jordon Wels
Project: Simulating Gaseous Clouds in Galaxies Harboring Active Black Hole
Mentor: Chris Richardson
“To have something like the Lumen Prize, to be a Lumen Scholar, is kind of this proof of my hard work and that people who aren’t astrophysicists but listened to me for twenty minutes and thought my research was important enough to give me the grant is fulfilling.”

Lindy Fentuch
An Eye Tracking Study
Mentor: Amy Overman
“I didn’t know how to channel what I was passionate about into a concrete project and it was my mentor who really helped me narrow that down... She was the one who really helped me form the skeleton of my project and from there I was able to get more specific.”

Vivian Krause
Project: Factoring out Racial Bias: Developing a Dual-Sensor System for Pulse Oximetry
Mentor: Jonathan Su
“There have been a lot of studies done that have focused on that issue and a lot of current medical research that has proven that bias is within the medical system in general. Though acknowledging is a really important first step, like acknowledging that there are these biases and some things may be unreliable, I think it is important that we, as a medical and engineering community, put energy and focus into creative solutions.”

Cole Carney
Project: Assessing the Health Care Utilization of Emerging Adults with Type 1 Diabetes in the College Setting: Perspective of Students, Parents, and Providers
Mentor: Cindy Fair
“By interviewing these populations we’ll better understand the patterns that students are utilizing when attending college and hopefully that will inspire interventions within health care fields and for physicians specifically to address the needs of college students with Type 1 Diabetes.”

Sophie Miller
Project: Telling Stories and Taking Pictures: How Children and Teachers Co-Facilitate Inquiry and Reflection Outdoors
Mentor: Maureen Vandermaas-Peeler
“I hope my research can show what children are capable of learning. One of my research questions looks at how inquiry and reflections are built in early childhood and formulated in early childhood. I think learning about that and what tools we can give them will help us with furthering their education.”

Sarah Mirrow
Project: Closet Closures and High School Dropouts: How Abortion Access Impacts Female Educational Attainment in Texas
Mentor: Steven Bednar
“One of the things about this project is that Texas, the state that I am using for my study, is undergoing active abortion legislative changes right now and adding to this body of work at this moment is particularly important.”

Kaley Katz
Project: Investigating the Role of ASXL1 and ASXL2 Proteins in Leukemia Cell Lines
Mentor: Tonya Train
“I knew I wanted to do something with leukemia. It’s something I have always been really passionate about because my cousin was diagnosed with leukemia when she was eleven. And so ever since then I have been running bone marrow drives.”

Jordyn Wels
Mentor: Eric Hall
“I first had the idea from one of my English professors. We had a project that was very heavily research based and I kind of went all into it. It would meet with her frequently and she was like, ‘Adie calm down. You don’t need to go that hard’ But she recommended it. She said if you really like research you should go to the Lumen Scholars.”

Kaley Katz
Project: Investigating the Role of ASXL1 and ASXL2 Proteins in Leukemia Cell Lines
Mentor: Tonya Train
“I knew I wanted to do something with leukemia. It’s something I have always been really passionate about because my cousin was diagnosed with leukemia when she was eleven. And so ever since then I have been running bone marrow drives.”

Ayesh Awad
Project: Analysis of Mechanical Performance of PLA and PCL Polymer Biodegradable Stents Under Accelerated Conditions
Mentor: Jonathan Su
“It’s slow, and not as fast as people make it sound. My paper is a very important step in solving this problem. That’s what I’m trying to be. This paper won’t save lives right now, I’m a little bit more realistic with that. But I know for a fact that if I do this well and the results come out where I want them to be, it will be a really good first step towards saving lives.”

Althea Camacho-Navarrete
Project: A Mal Temo, Buroc Carat: Colonial Mentality, Political Belief, and Ethnic Identity among Island Puerto Ricans
Mentor: David Buck
“I was really passionate about researching, solving issues and creating plans to help Puerto Ricans always had that passion, but it was when I came to Elon that I realized I could combine those two. That I could help Puerto Ricans while being a psychologist.”

Naz Shokri
Project: Data Justice: MENA Women, Premen, Birth, and Discrimination
Mentor: Yarica Dastaxt
“There was a huge gap of literature for Middle Eastern North African women because of the political surrounding the census and how MENA is technically considered a race. Oftentimes data for MENA gets mixed up in the African American category or ending up in the white category.”

Bruce Vagt
Project: Development of Tools and Methods for Assessing Cancer Using Optical Coherence Tomography
Mentor: Richard Blackmon
“You go to the doctor, run some tests and you give them their results back. One of the goals will be scanning the cell with real time information and ideally interpreting the cell. Being able to have information about your body immediately is much more valuable to your health than waiting two or three weeks.”

A Look at Elon’s 2022 Lumen Scholars

Applicants must go through application process with minimum of 3.5 GPA, winners receive a $20,000 scholarship for research projects.

Brent Chandler | Elon News Network | @bchandlerbrnt2

The Lumen Prize IS given to students trying to attain serious and ambitious goals during their sophomore and junior years according to the Lumen Scholars background page on Elon’s webpage. Winners of the prize receive special mentoring and support for graduate fellowships and international awards, along with a $20,000 prize for research and scholarship assistance. According to the requirements for Lumen Scholar’s on website, students applying to the Lumen Prize must be given to students with a 3.5 GPA or higher, must be clear in pursuing two more years at Elon, and must be mentored by a staff member. Students must write a proposal and go through an interview process as a part of their application. These are this year’s Lumen Scholars:
On April 30, Glencoe Cotton Mill, a closed textile plant only five miles from Elon University, will celebrate its 140-year anniversary with a festival at the Textile Heritage Museum. Alamance County had 30 textile mills running by the end of the 20th century, according to the Textile Heritage Museum. Elon history professor Mary Jo Festle said textile mills played a big part in forming the values of Alamance County that can still be seen today.

"There’s also the social relations in the mills... the family-oriented settings. Whether she’s crooning or delivering a euphonic message, Harding manages to do something different with her voice on every track. "I use my voice like language or clothing," Harding said in an interview with the Guardian. "I use whatever sounds I need to fill the gaps in my musical universe. I make songs that I want to hear, how I get there really does feel like a lazy river. The austere, understated beat of a tambourine underlay "Leathery Whip," the song "Fever," the second of two singles from the album, the band plays a succinct, upbeat progression. Harding commands the verses, beginning each with a singular "Fever!" or "Lover!" This efficient progression never breaks code, pausing only after each brief chorus. "All my favorite places are bars," says Harding, followed by the melancholic refrain of horn player Gavin Fitzjohn."

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. "

"Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"They were not individualistic, they were very communal. " Festle said. "Sometimes outsiders look and say, 'Oh, those are just poor people' and look down on people and not see them the way they see themselves, which is really hard working, really caring for one another, really persistent in hard times, " Festle said. "We do a lot of community engagement at Elon and I think a lot of students who... say they want to learn about culture that is different from their own, that’s valuable for them."

"The celebration will include meeting with textile mill veterans, costumed historians, authors, artisans and quilters. There will also be a food truck from Danny’s Café and live music with local band Nevitt’s Quarter. " The Preservation Burlington Salvage Store will open shop at the festival for visitors to buy vintage fixtures. The Alamance Partnership for Children will provide entertainment for kids. Socksquatch, mascot of the Burlington sock puppets, will also be in attendance. 

Aldous Harding’s new journey in sound

John M. Guss stands in front of one of the displays at the Textile Heritage Museum in Glencoe. Guss, who serves as the director of the Textile Heritage Museum, said the museum aimed to tell the expansive textile story in Glencoe Mill.
Women's Tennis Excited for Home Court Advantage

Eaton will host the CAA Women's Tennis Tournament April 29 to May 1

When sophomore Lizette Reding steps on the court at this weekend's Colonial Athletic Association Women's Tennis Tournament, she expects to feel several emotions upon seeing the home crowd.

"I'll be excited. I'll be afraid a little bit," Reding said. "A little bit of pressure, nerves, but it's nothing that I can't handle."

For the first time since 2019, Elon will host the CAA Women's Tennis Tournament from April 29 to May 1. Eight of the conference's nine women's tennis teams will compete at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center in a single elimination bracket to decide the champion of the conference (James Madison University is banned from all conference events due to its impending move to the Sun Belt Conference). The winner of the tournament will be determined through a single elimination bracket.

The team finished the season strong, winning six of its final eight matches. However, the two losses came against James Madison and William & Mary, both of which are conference opponents.

Tanik said the conference is very balanced this season from top to bottom in terms of teams competing, and that there will be no easy matches for Elon during the weekend.

"Everyone is at or near a good level," Tanik said. "We are thinking about one match at a time and going into Friday and getting through that match the best we can and not thinking about who we'd play next or who is winning where."

Last Sunday, players on the women's team attended the men's tennis championship match at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center. Although Elon's men's team lost 4-2 to the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, Reding said watching them make a run to the championship match inspired players on the women's team to go far in their tournament.

"They played amazing, they had great intensity and the crowd was amazing," Reding said. "I feel very excited to play this weekend and we will be trying to copy them."

This will be Reding's second CAA Tournament, as she went 2-1 in her matches in last year's tournament in Williamsburg, Virginia. For her, there is more pressure in the lead-up to this tournament compared to a regular season match.

"It's good to have nerves because we care about it but as soon as we go onto the court, we're going to leave all those nerves and worries behind us," Reding said.

According to Tanik, Elon will have a light week of practice to preserve energy for the tournament, with players focusing on staying hydrated, getting lots of sleep and stretching throughout the week to be ready for the physical demands of the event.

"The match is won before you even go on the court," Tanik said. "You can control how much water you drink, how much sleep you get and how much stretching you do the week before."

While physical preparation is important, Reding said the team will also spend a lot of time on mental preparation this week to be ready for the loud crowds and pressure situations. The team also plans to enjoy the magnitude of the tournament.

"We want to remind ourselves how special we are and how much we deserve to be here in this moment," Reding said. "Let's make this weekend amazing. Whatever the result is, we are going to be happy at the end because we know that we are going to leave everything on the court and we will have nothing left."