

Spring Meeting of the Board of Trustees

April 4-5, 2025

MEETING SUMMARY

During its meeting April 4-5, 2025, the Elon University Board of Trustees met in-person on campus and via the Zoom videoconference platform, received updates on university business and initiatives, and took actions that included the following:

- **Board Leadership**: Elected Maurice "Burney" N. Jennings Jr. '87 as Chair, Christopher "Chris" P. Martin '78 as Vice Chair, and David "Dave" C. Porter as Past Chair for a term of two years, 2025-2027.
- New Trustee Installation: Administered oath of office to William "Bill" Slattery as Trustee and Elizabeth "Liz" Kwon L'23 as Youth Trustee, along with nine existing trustees beginning new four-year terms.
- **Recognition**: Honored outgoing Trustee Dr. William "Bill" N.P. Herbert '68 for his distinguished service spanning five decades, including roles as board chair and Governance Committee chair. Recognized Trustee Dave Porter for his excellent leadership during the last three years as Board chair. During a Friday evening dinner, celebrated the many contributions of past Trustee Debbie Yow-Bowden '74.
- Academic Programs: Approved new academic programs including a neuroscience major and cybersecurity minor and considered other areas of future growth.
- **Enrollment Updates**: Received report on 18,500 applications for Fall 2025, representing the second-largest applicant pool in university history, with continued national recruiting expansion.
- **Carnegie Reclassification**: Celebrated the university's reclassification as a "research" university by the Carnegie Foundation, elevating Elon's academic standing.
- **Risk Assessment**: Conducted comprehensive discussion identifying institutional risks and opportunities, including political climate challenges, demographic shifts, and brand positioning strategies.
- **Committee Reports**: Received updates from the Academic Affairs, Alumni, Audit, Campus Life, Finance and Administration, Governance and Nominating, and Investment Committees covering academic achievements, fundraising progress, and financial oversight.
- Administrative Actions: Approved previous meeting minutes, the corporate resolution, committee assignments, Faculty Handbook revisions, naming opportunities, and governance updates including a one-year Youth Trustee term extension in alignment with bylaw changes enacted in Fall 2024.
- **Student Outcomes**: Reviewed strong performance metrics including 95% graduate employment/graduate school placement rate and continued recognition for internship programs and career preparation.
- **Student Engagement**: Joined professor Mustafa Akben, special assistant to the president Dan Anderson, and student members of the campus Artificial Intelligence (AI) Club to engage in hands-on learning of new AI applications.