### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

# Guided Networking experience!)

### > Why did you choose Elon?

> What is your fondest memory from your time at Elon?

> What was the most popular song during your senior year?

#### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

## Welcome and Introduction

### Akilah Weaver Hill '00 President, Elon Black Alumni Network



### **Elon Black Alumni Network**

February 17, 2024

**Connie Book** *President* 

### **Our University Mission**

"Elon University embraces its founders' vision of an academic community that **transforms mind, body, and spirit** and **encourages freedom of thought and liberty of conscience**."

### **Commitments:**

- We nurture a **rich intellectual community** characterized by **active student engagement** with a faculty dedicated to **excellent teaching** and scholarly accomplishment.
- 2 We provide a **dynamic and challenging undergraduate curriculum** grounded in the traditional liberal arts and sciences and complemented by distinctive professional and graduate programs.
- 3 We integrate **learning across the disciplines** and put **knowledge into practice**, thus preparing students to be **global citizens and informed leaders** motivated by concern for the common good.



We foster **respect for human differences**, passion for a **life of learning**, personal integrity, and an **ethic of work and service**.

### Elon in Japan

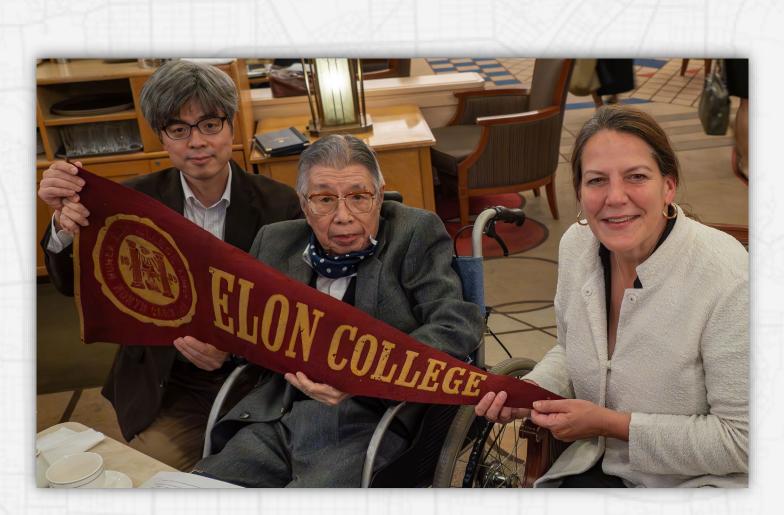
Exploring the past, present, and future



Toshio Sato | Class of 1920

### Elon in Japan

Exploring the past, present, and future



#### Descendants of Toshio Sato '20

### Elon in Japan

Exploring the past, present, and future



Sato-Kato Wedding

### Staff Abroad

London, England





## BOLDLY ELON OUR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2030



THEME

- 1
- THEME **2**
- learning in an era of opportunity THRIVE: An inclusive and healthy community for success

**LEARN: Innovative teaching and** 



**CONNECT: Lifelong partnerships** near and far



**RISE:** Positioning the university for the future



## **Theme 1: LEARN**





### **Elon's Newest Majors**

Classics

Business Analytics | Data Science

Engineering

Financial Technology (FinTech)

Nursing

#### **Theme 1: LEARN**





### Advancing Equity Requirement

"Reflect on systemic inequity while seeking outcomes where all people can thrive."

### **Theme 1: LEARN**





### Black Lumen Project

"Enhance the Black experience in pursuit of equity...move Elon forward in commitment to inclusive excellence."

#### **Black Lumen Project**





#### Ciana Foy '22

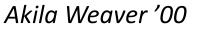
#### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Ciani Foy '22** came to Elon set on working in the fashion industry as a graphic designer. Once here, she decided to go out of her comfort zone and test the waters in the world of communications. That's when she was introduced to and fell in love with user experience and user interface.

This newfound passion combined with her long-term interest in fashion motivated her to apply for a user experience internship position with Gap Inc. Before submitting her application, Foy spent time working with a career adviser at the Student Professional Development Center to touch up her resume and interview skills. All of her initiative and hard work paid off and she got the internship, which eventually led to a full-time position after graduation.

"Elon opened me up to thinking big when it came to the career I wanted. I started searching for internships that matched communication design, and other passions of mine, which included fashion," says Foy. "Ultimately, it was my internship at Gap Inc. that led to the full-time job." Right: Black students are highly invested in every aspect of their Elon education and remain engaged after they graduate. Below: Akilah Weaver 'oo serves as president of the Elon Black Alumni Network.







 Two years after graduation, Black Law students in the Class of 2019\* have an ultimate pass rate of 81%. This rate is lower than the overall rate of 88% for all Elon Law students and other racial groups in that class. This is an opportunity for advancement.

#### FACULTY AND STAFF

 Nine percent of the faculty self-identify as Black the national average at colleges and universities in the U.S. is 6% — and 16% of the staff also identify as Black.

#### ALUMNI

 Elon's 2,000-plus Black alumni are active and engaged, and their giving rate is considerably higher than the overall alumni giving rate. Elon Black Alumni Network (EBAN) has continued to lead the growth of the Black Alumni Scholarship, which was established in 2007. Since then, alumni and other donors have made contributions totaling \$1 million to the fund, supporting 13 Black students at Elon as they pursue their degrees



### Mentoring in Meaningful Relationships

100% of Elon graduates will identify faculty, staff, and peer mentors





### Retention and Student Success

Data informed efforts in Academic and Student Affairs





#### **Theme 1: LEARN**





### Diverse Faculty and Cluster Hiring

*Investing in relationships that advance student success* 

#### **Theme 1: LEARN**





### Inclusive Classroom Pedagogies

Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning Pedagogy Fellow Dr. Vanessa Drew-Branch











### Dr. Anu Räisänen

Director HealthEU Initiatives







### **HealthEU Classes**

Financial Equity and Well-being

Relationships, Health and Well-being

Healing in Nature

Joyful Living: Embracing Gratitude and Joy for Balanced Life

Branching Out: Finding Community Wherever You Are





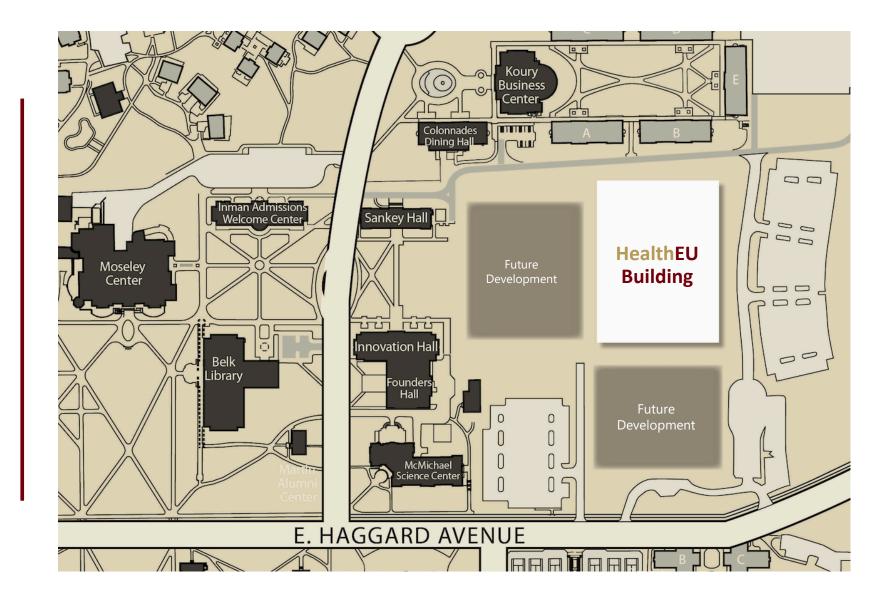
### **HealthEU Building Timeline**

Summer 2023 - Spring 2024	Design Phase
Fall 2023 - Spring 2025	Fundraising Phase
Fall 2024 – Summer 2026	<b>Construction</b> Phase
Fall 2026	Grand Opening



### HealthEU Building

Campus Location

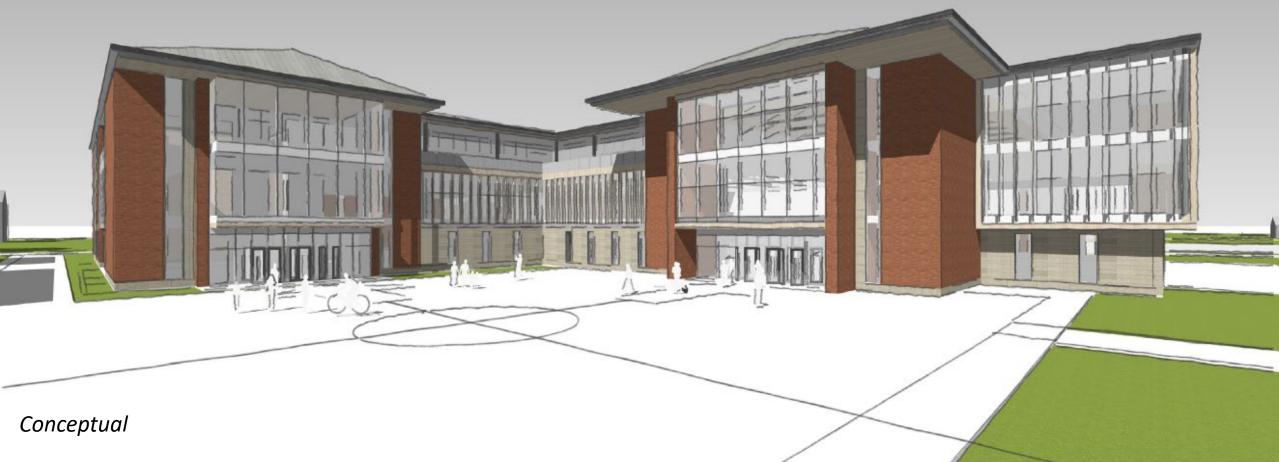






### **HealthEU Building**

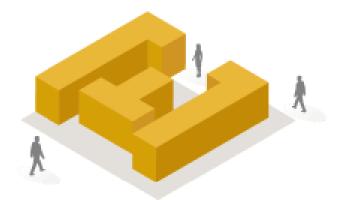
Transforming the Mind, Body, and Spirit





### Historic Investment

*\$16M Committed* 







### **1** Elon Early Career Institute

The objective of the EECI is to lay a strong foundation for Elon's early career professionals by providing resources, support, connection to Elon's goals, professional learning strategies and a supportive cohort of university colleagues.

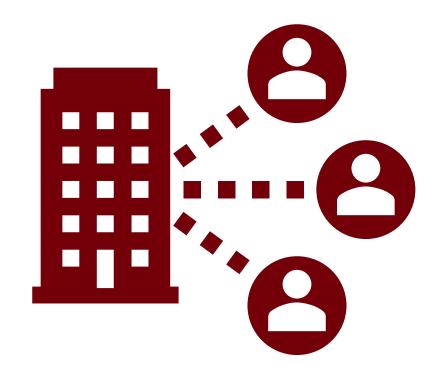
### 2 Mid-Level Professionals Institute

The objective of the MLPI is to provide resources, individual and group professional development focused on topics relevant to participants' current roles as well as the development of strategies for future professional growth and advancement.



### **Employee Resource Groups**

Employee-led groups formed around common interests...to foster a supportive community where employees experience a greater sense of belonging.





### Multifaith Strategic Plan

Global Education Groundwork for Navigating Current Climate





### **Diverse: Issues in Higher Education**

*"Most promising places to work in Student Affairs"* 





## **Theme 3: CONNECT**

### **Theme 3: CONNECT**



### Working Group on 2024 Election

*"Facilitate positive and robust civic engagement in a safe and transparent environment..."* 





## **Theme 4: RISE**





### UN Internet Governance Forum

*Six Guiding Principles for the AI Revolution* 





#### Theme 4: RISE



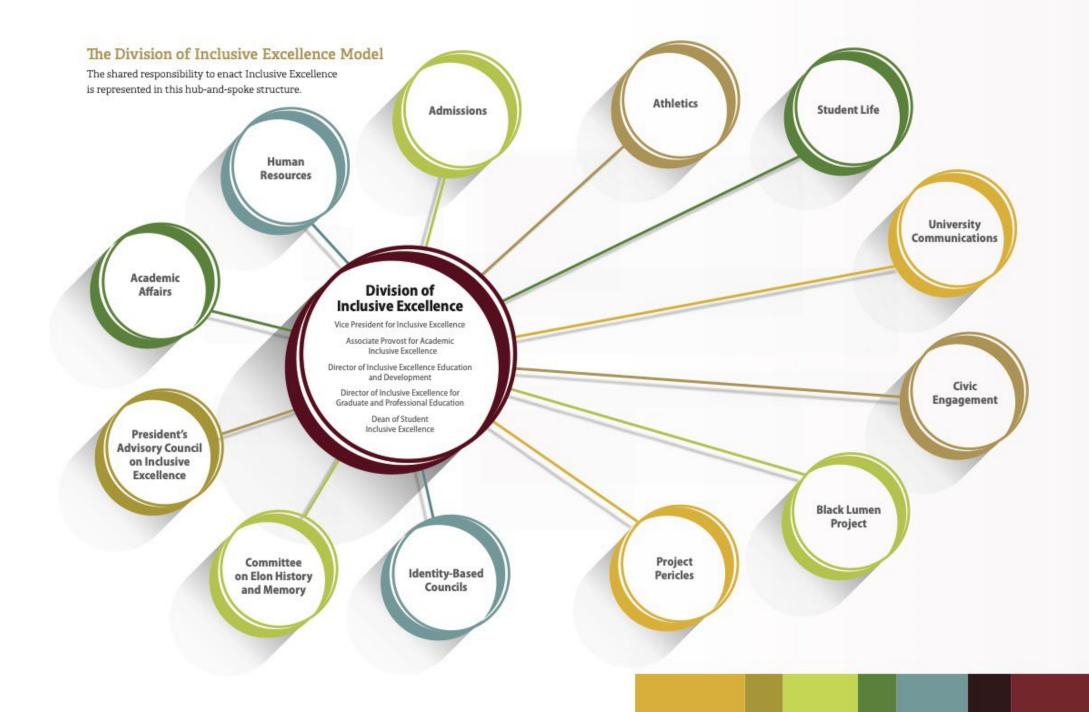
## **Six Principles:**

- 1 People, not technology, must be at the center of our work.
- 2 We should promote digital inclusion within and beyond our institutions.
- 3 Digital and information literacy is an essential part of a core education.
- 4 AI tools should enhance teaching and learning.
- 5 Learning about technologies is an experiential, lifelong process.
- 6 AI research and development must be done responsibly.

# Long Live Elon!

# Division of Inclusive Excellence

## Dr. Randy Williams Vice President for Inclusive Excellence



#### **Black Community Snapshot**

Fall 2023

#### **Enrollment**

Undergraduate: **5%** Graduate/Professional: **9%** 

Student-Athletes: 19%

1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Retention: **89%** 6-year Graduation: **89%** 

#### **Elon Experiences**

Service	<b>78%</b> (74%)
Internships	<b>72%</b> (81%)
Global Engagement	<b>63%</b> (75%)
Leadership	<b>58% (</b> 53%)
Research	<b>24%</b> (23%)

Faculty: **8%** Staff: **20%** Alumni Giving: **28%** 

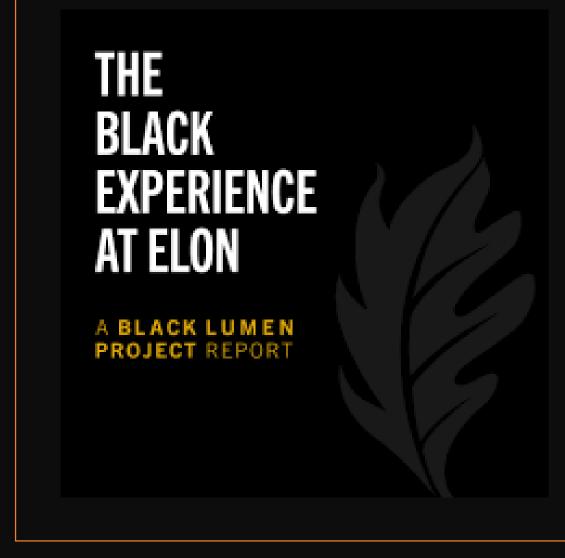


# Black Lumen Project

Dr. Buffie Longmire-Avital Director of the Black Lumen Project

# EBAN Summit 2024

Buffie Longmire-Avital, PhD



## Two Years in Review...

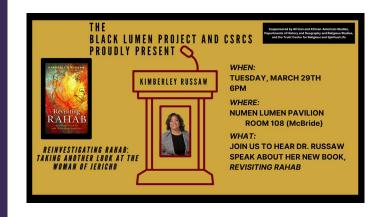




Sponsored by the Love School of Business, College of Arts & Sciences, Block Lurren Project, Elon Teaching Fellows, Legal Professions, Criminal Justice Studies, and the Departments of African & African-American Studies, Economics, Public Health Studies, and Polical Science & Policy Studies





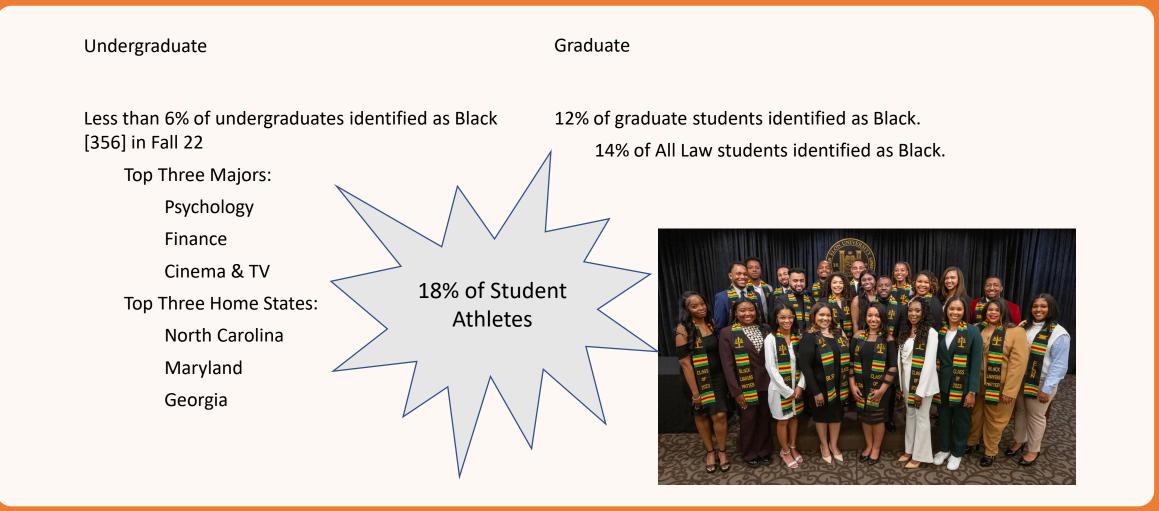




# Defining Black Institution

A reflection of synergies among the many spaces, people, programs and initiatives that aim to advance and weave the Black experience into all aspects of university life.

#### Snapshot of Black Student Community Fall 22



# Retention (Fall 23):

- Retention rate from 1<sup>st</sup> year to 2<sup>nd</sup> year remained at 92% for Black identified students. Higher than overall Elon rate (90%).
- Roughly 8% are not returning. Why?
  - Less than 13 credits
  - An F grade in COR or ENG
  - Academic Probation
  - First term GPA below 2.58
  - Elon was less than 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice

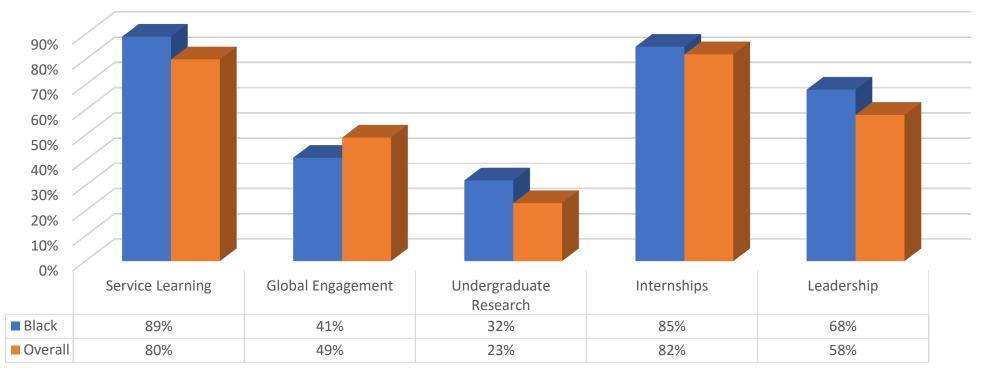
- Factors supporting (predicting) retention:
  - Membership in Fraternity or Sorority
  - High school GPA (college academic readiness)
  - Cohort specifically Odyssey Scholar
  - A- or higher grade in COR or ENG.

**Black Student** 6-Year Undergraduate Graduation Rate as of Spring 22:

77% for Black identified students in comparison to overall rate of 83%

### Overview of Engaged Learning

Percent Rate of Participation



Black Overall

#### A Thriving Black Student Body

- Takeaways from the Diverse Learning Environments Survey:
  - All Elon students strongly endorsed the belief that faculty believed in their potential to succeed academically.
    - Black students were slightly less likely to endorse to the same degree.
  - Black students had the HIGHEST selfrated drive to achieve at Elon.
  - Black students had the HIGHEST selfassessment of social agency (e.g., promotion of social justice)



## A Thriving Black Student Body

- Black students reported the LOWEST sense of belonging.
- Black students reported feeling less safe and perceived less commitment from the institution on issues related to diversity.
  - Note: All students had strong positive perceptions

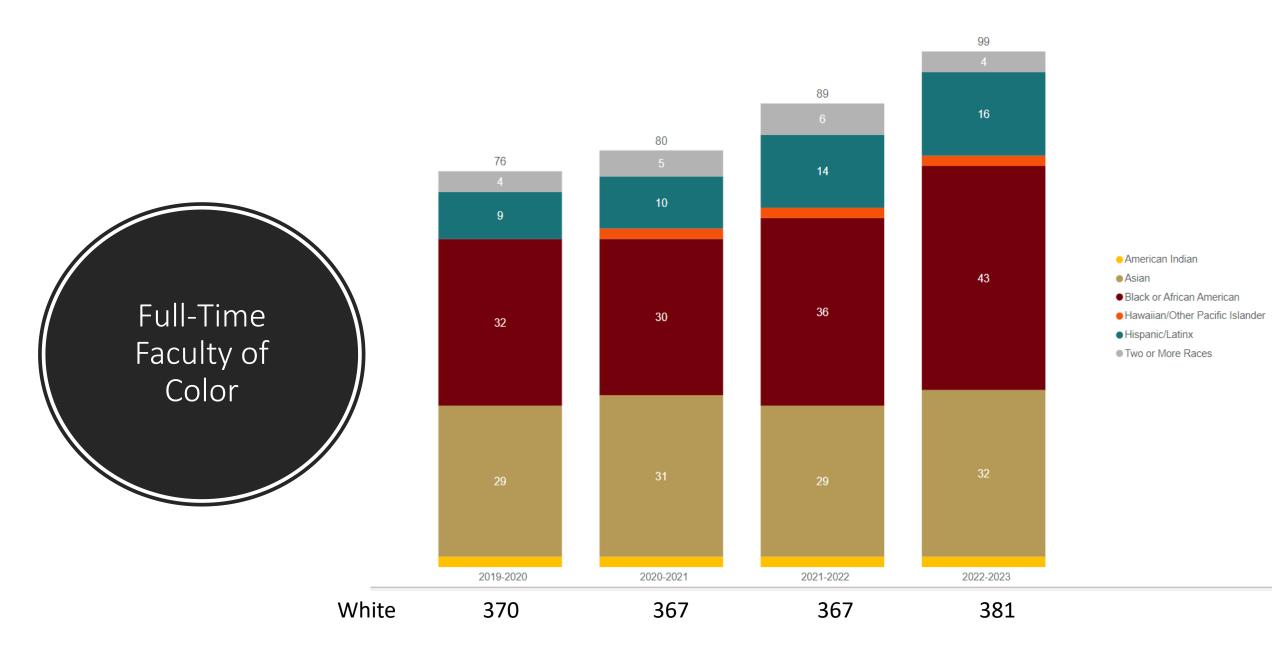


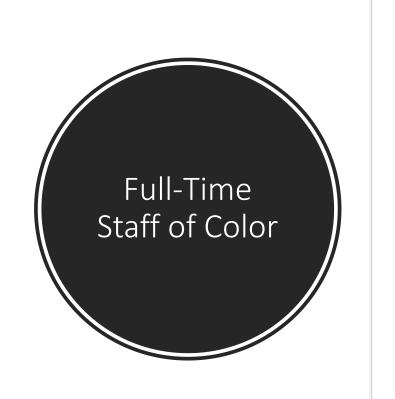
#### Mentoring in Meaningful Relationships ELON UNIVERSITY

#### Retention of Staff and Faculty of Color

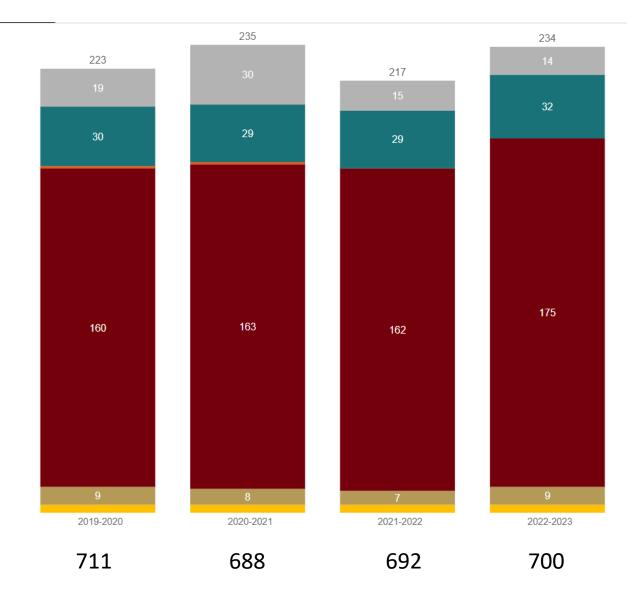
Data provided by Naeemah Clark, PhD – Associate Provost







White



American Indian
Asian
Black or African American
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
Hispanic/Latinx
Two or More Races

# Black E Lumen How Can We Achieve Equitable Black Student, Faculty, and Staff Success?

# Advancing Equity Requirement

Dr. Naeemah Clark Associate Provost for Academic Inclusive Excellence

#### ADVANCING EQUITY REQUIREMENT

Implemented Fall 2023

nclark3@elon.edu



## THRIVE

 To foster deeper learning and better prepare students to lead in communities around the globe, we will increase representation, enhance support networks and advance all community members' intercultural and multifaith learning.

#### ELON'S MISSION

 Prepare students to be global citizens and informed leaders motivated by concern for the common good and to respect human difference.

#### 3 Goals

- Students entering in Fall of 2023 are required to take a 4-credit course designated as Advancing Equity from a list of approved courses to graduate from the university;
- The university's Core Learning Goals includes equity as one of the central elements of an Elon education;
- Academic Council created standing committee to vet courses designated as "AER" and to help populate the Diversity Course Database.

# EBAN

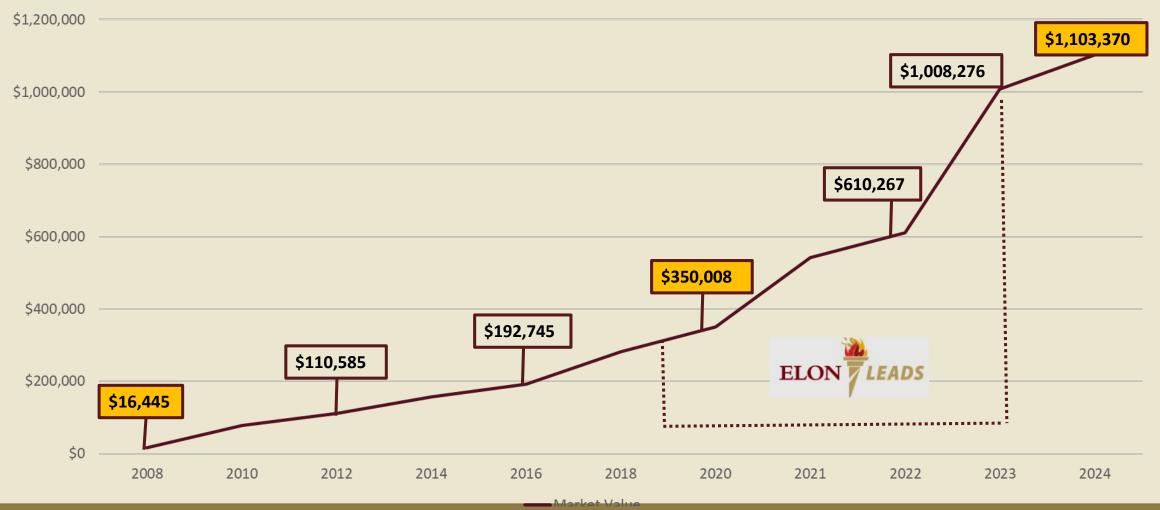
#### **BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK**

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# Black Alumni Scholarship

## James B. Piatt, Jr. Senior VP for Advancement and External Affairs

#### Black Alumni Scholarship Endowment Market Value



# Black Alumni Scholarship

Established in 2007 1,189 alumni donors 1,672 total donors *Current Market Value* = \$1,103,370

# Scholarship Impact

## Ethan Lane-Blake '24 2023 Black Alumni Scholarship Recipient

# Black Student Experience

## Sylvia Muñoz Director of the Center for Race, Ethnicity, Diversity, & Education

## **EBAN SUMMIT**

February 17th, 2024

#### Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education

### Our Mission



The mission of the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education (CREDE) is to foster the empowerment, well-being, and holistic growth of ALANAM (African American/Black, Latinx/Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, Alaskan Native, Multiracial) students. Our commitment extends to offering resources that facilitate cultural awareness and intercultural competence for all students. We achieve this through the exploration and celebration of one's own identities and a deep understanding of the diverse identities of others.

## Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education CREDE

Diversity Education

#### **ALL STUDENTS:** Workshops, DEEP, Diversity Grants, Intersect Conference,

Heritage Months, Summer Series, El Centro Advocacy & Services

#### ALANAM\* STUDENTS:

SMART Program, Identity-specific forums (Black Table Talk), Heritage Months (BHM kick-off, Black Solidarity Conference), Resource Rooms (Black Community Room)

ALANAM\* - African American/Black, Latinx/Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American, Alaskan Native, Multiracial

#### **Black Student Success Signature Programs**

#### Sankofa

A welcome to first-year Blackidentified incoming and transfer students.

#### Phillips-Perry Black Excellence Awards

The Phillips-Perry Black Excellence Awards Banquet started in 1993. At the spring awards ceremony, black students who have shown excellence in academics and the Elon Experience are recognized. This banquet serves an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the black community and as an incentive to all black students to continue to excel academically.

#### Black History Month Kickoff

#### Donning of the Kente



An exclusive celebration for graduating Black/African-American students.

#### **Black Table Talk**

Black Table Talk is a monthly gathering offered to the black student community, these are social spaces and opportunities to build and find community amongst other Black students on campus.

BLACK JOUR

MATTER



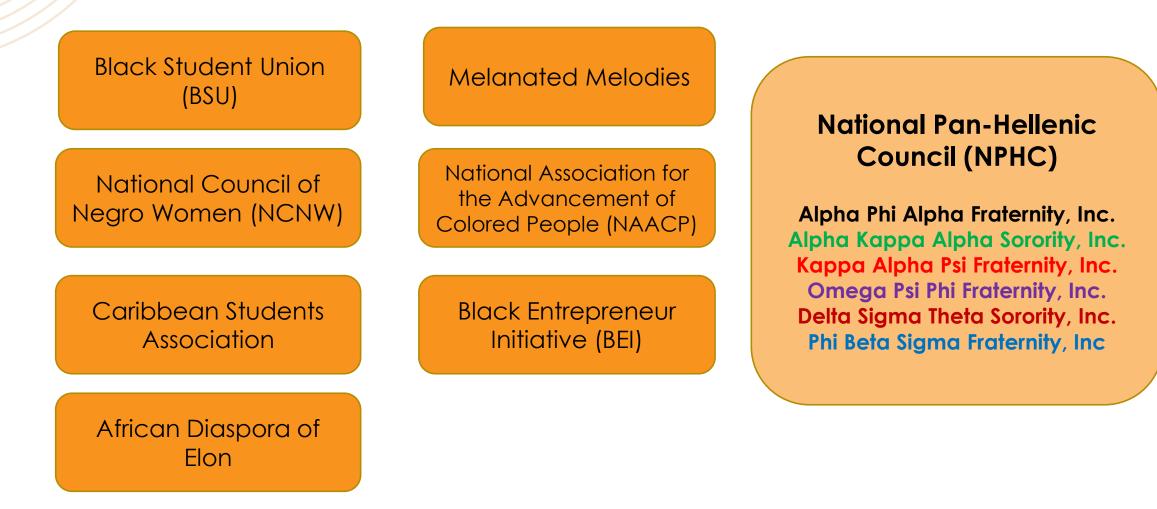
#### HIGHLIGHTS

- More active participation in signature programs like SMART, Black History Month, Black Table Talks
- Increased number of students in CREDE (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- African Diaspora LLC better cohesion among first-year students (first- year courses links)
- Intentional programming highlighting diasporic identities
- Stronger partnership with SPDC (network and career building)
- Student engagement in general (wanting opportunities for more social and community building events/programs)
- Feeling isolated in academic settings / lack of representation
- Mentoring relationships with faculty/staff and alumni

Information gathered from Black Table Talks, Small Group conversations and 1:1 conversations.



## **Black Student Orgs**







#### CONTACT US:





336-278-7243

Follow us on social media!



@elon\_crede

#### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

# Black Student Experience

Aleezah Adams '24 Black Student Union President

# EBAN

#### **BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK**

ANNUAL SUMMIT

#### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

## Undergraduate Admissions

Evan Sprinkle Dean of Undergraduate Admissions

Kimberly Romero Director of Admissions for Diversity and Access

Fred Evans, Jr. Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity and Access



## Undergraduate Admissions Update for EBAN Summit 2024

## **Staffing Updates**

Growth in Regional Team

Growth in the Diversity & Access Team



Kara Atkins

Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity & Access



Fredrick Evans, Jr. '20

Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity & Access



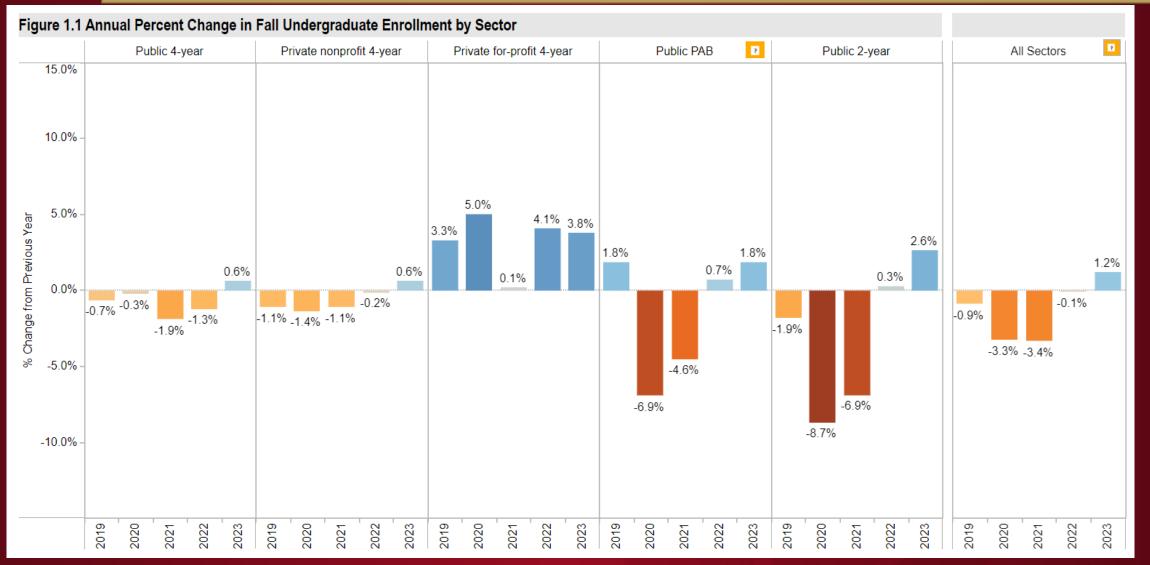
Kimberly Romero Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity & Access

## The Landscape of College Admissions & Black Enrollment

Trends in the US

Clearinghouse insights: Where are students enrolling, if not Elon?





From National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

#### **Trends in Enrollment**

FIGURE CP-21 Distribution of Undergraduate Enrollment by Sector and Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2011 through Fall 2021, Selected Years

ELON

American Indian/ Alaska Native			Asian 🔳 Bla	ack 🔲 Hispanic	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	
		1.0%						
AII	2011	5.8%	15.2%	15.3%		60.2%	60.2%	
	2019	6.9%	13.0%	21.8%	ó	53.1%	53.1%	
	2020	7.3%	12.8%	21.9%	6	52.7%	52.7%	
	2021	7.4%	12.8%	22.29	%	52.1%	52.1%	
		0.7%						
Public Two-Year	2011 (45%)	5.6%	15.6%	19.59	%	55.7%		2.1%
	2019 (42%)	6.1%	13.3%	2	8.5%	46.	9%	3.9%
	2020 (40%)	6.4%	12.7%	28	3.3%	47.3	47.3%	
	2021 (40%)	6.2%	12.9%	28	8.4%	47.0	47.0%	
Public Four-Year	2011 (33%)	7.0%	12.1%	11.9%		65.7%		2.3%
	2019 (38%)	8.3%	11.3%	18.1%		57.0%		4.5%
	2020 (39%)	8.7%	11.5%	18.8%		55.7%		4.6%
щ	2021 (39%)	9.1%	11.5%	19.2%		54.9%		4.7%
Private Nonprofit Four-Year	2011 (14%)	5.7%	13.4%	8.8%		69.0%		2.3%
	2019 (16%)	6.5%	11.9%	13.0%		63.6%		4.2%
	2020 (16%)	6.9%	12.0%	13.7%		62.3%		4.3%
	2021 (16%)	7.2%	11.8%	14.3%		61.4%		4.6%
								2.4%
For-Profit	2011 (8%)	2.8%	28.7%		16.7%	4	47.7%	
	2019 (4%)	4.0%	28.7%			21.0% 40.5%		4.1%
	2020 (5%)	4.1%	28.2		21.0%			4.4%
	2021 (5%)	4.4%	27.2%		21.1%	21.1% 39.9%		4.5%

#### **ELON** National Clearinghouse Data – Fall '23

- 1. University of South Carolina (334)
- 2. North Carolina State University (293)
- 3. UNC-Chapel Hill (290)
- 4. Syracuse University (215)
- 5. Penn State University (213)
- 6. Clemson University (208)
- 7. College of Charleston (205)
- 8. Virginia Tech (175)
- 9. James Madison University (175)
- 10. University of Delaware (170)

## **ELON** National Clearinghouse Data – Fall '23

Top schools where admitted Black students enrolled that did not choose Elon:

- 1. North Carolina A&T State University (44)
- 2. UNC-Charlotte (43)
- 3. UNC-Greensboro (38)
- 4. UNC-Chapel Hill (33)
- 5. North Carolina State (25)
- 6. North Carolina Central University (17)
- 7. Hampton University (13)
- T-8. Howard University (12)
- T-8. East Carolina University (12)
- T-10. Spelman University (10)
- T-10. Wake Forest University (10)



## Impactful Factors in 2023-2024

Supreme Court decision on Race in admissions
Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) changes
Admit Rate

#### SCOTUS Decision: Admissions After Action

#### Context:

To varying degrees, three different areas of our work are impacted. Use of race in admissions is under "strict scrutiny" and has been deemed unconstitutional. Financial Aid and recruitment are under "intermediate scrutiny" which means they're in a bit of a gray area. Conventional wisdom is that the months ahead will include a number of legal challenges for a variety of practices that, while not specifically outlawed, will come under fire.

- Elon Admission is holistic which means we consider a variety of criteria in application review undergraduate admission has never quantified demographic characteristics of applicants
- We are not a school with a single digit admit rate the impact to Elon is considerably less than highly selective schools

#### FAFSA Delays: Context

- Changes to the information collected
- Change in language from EFC to SAI (Estimated Family Contribution to Student Aid Index)
- Delays include the following explanations:
  - Updated FAFSA was released later than the traditional October date from recent years.
  - ✤ Calculation for inflation was incorrect at the Federal level.
  - ✤ Parameters were not updated for mixed-status families.

What does this mean for financial aid this year?

- ✤ The soonest institutions may be able to access any FAFSA information could be mid-March.
- In the meantime, Elon' Office of Financial Aid will rely on the CSS Profile to begin financial aid packaging.



## With these factors in mind...

- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- Middle school programming
- Improvements to communication + application
- Retraining student staff
- Designing region-specific yield efforts

## **Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)**

- College Greenlight Partnership
- Programs
- Memorandums of Understanding
- Designing a directory within our internal CRM
- Creating webpage for CBOs

## **Middle School Programming**

- Reimagining how we can keep Elon in mind for this group
- Creating age-appropriate campus visit experiences
- Partnering with campus connections to support existing programs
- Brainstorming possibilities to expand reach for a local ABSS middle school day

## **Improvements to communication + application**

- Targeted admitted-student outreach
- Earlier awareness of the resources and initiatives at Elon
- Elevating Diversity Ambassadors for student-to-student communication
- Additional questions in the application
- Engagement score



## **Retraining Student Staff**

Giving intentional and thorough tours
 Newly added step to the training process to further elevate the Diversity Ambassador position

## **Designing Region-Specific Yield Efforts**

- Elevated and intentional interaction from Elon Admissions counselor
- Events to attend in their area



## **Admissions Decisions Overview**

Admit, Defer, Decline, Wait List



## **Defer Letter**

Dear Asha,

Thank you for applying to Elon University. Nearly 15,000 students seeking admission to the Class of 2028 applied early this year. After a thorough review, we have decided to defer your application to Regular Deadline. Your file will be re-evaluated, and you will once again receive every consideration for admission at that time.

We know you were hoping for different news but being deferred does not diminish your opportunity to gain admission to Elon. Selective admission means very strong students are deferred each year.

Consider the following:

- 1. Schedule a conversation with your admissions counselor. Part of their role is to advocate for you in this process; ensure they are equipped to do so by knowing why you want to be a Phoenix.
- 2. Submit new information for the admission committee to review. Examples include fall semester grades, new achievements, honors, or awards.
- 3. Send a letter of recommendation to strengthen your application.

Please confirm your continued interest in Elon via your Acorn Account. Your updated admission decision will be released on March 20, 2024.

If you are applying for need-based financial aid and you haven't already submitted the CSS Profile, you should do so while we are re-evaluating your application. Additionally, you should submit the FAFSA as soon as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Romero, Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity and Access, at kromero@elon.edu.

Sincerely,

Evan Sprinkle Dean of Undergraduate Admissions

## Where are we currently?

Admission update at this point in timeDeposit update at this point in time

## Upcoming ways to get involved

The Power of Relationships

Phoenix Fusion Alumni & Campus Partner Reception
 Friday, April 5, 2024
 5-6PM Medallion Plaza

Phoenix Fusion Alumni Panel
 Saturday, April 6, 2024
 9AM McKinnon



## Questions

#### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

## EBAN 2024-25

## EBAN Leadership Team

#### **EBAN** ANNUAL SUMMIT

# Closing Remarks

Alex Bohannon '17 Incoming EBAN President

# EBAN

#### **BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK**

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