

LIFE@ELON

2014 Fall Schedule – Wednesday Classes
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

September 17

Part One: A Changing Business Model in Higher Education

Steven House, Elon University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

The combination of rising higher education costs and the development of emerging teaching and learning technologies is bringing dramatic changes to higher education. This dynamic situation is inspiring Elon to prepare for changes in how families and students will manage the college / university experience. As new options in knowledge sharing evolve, we are entering an exciting and challenging time in higher education — and at Elon.

Dr. Steven House assumed duties as Elon University's Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs in 2009. He has been an integral part of developing the university's national reputation since coming to Elon from Seton Hall University in 2001, when he was named the founding dean of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences.

Steven earned his bachelor of science degree in biology from Calvin College. He completed his doctorate in physiology at the University of Arizona and studied and taught at Columbia University in the department of physiology and cellular biophysics. At Elon, he was awarded the Elon College Faculty Excellence Award in 2009 and he worked closely with faculty to develop Elon's application to shelter a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. The Phi Beta Kappa Society installed its 279th chapter at Elon in April 2010. House has received awards for "Outstanding Teaching," "Outstanding Service," and the "Trustees' Scholarship Award." He has authored numerous articles and presentations on blood flow regulation during health and disease.

House is married to Patricia Burgh House. The other Dr. House, as she is known, has a doctorate in higher education and is a senior vice president with Graham-Pelton Consulting.

Part Two: Building a Theatre and Stories of Elon's Various Performing Venues

Jeff Clark, Executive Director of Cultural and Special Programs at Elon University

A theatre is a complicated building with different systems and structures plus considerations for artists and audiences. Many theatres fall victim to cost-cutting measures that make them less useful for performances and make them more expensive to operate on a long term basis. Jeff Clark has been the Project Manager for the construction of three new theatres in Boston, Kansas City and Blowing Rock as well as the renovation of two others. He talks about the processes and priorities necessary for a successful facility.

Jeff is Executive Director of Cultural and Special Programs at Elon University. He grew up in Henderson, NC, went to college at Western Carolina University and attended graduate school at the University of Tennessee. Jeff is the former Executive Director of the Hayes Performing Arts Center in Blowing Rock. He has worked at Kansas City Repertory Theatre as the Associate Artistic Director, Trinity Repertory Theatre in Providence and Huntington Theatre in Boston as the Production Manager. He has also worked at Hartford Stage Company, Goodman Theatre in Chicago, Dallas Theatre Center, Seattle Repertory Theatre and several other regional theatres in various capacities including as a lighting designer. He also toured North America with John Houseman's The Acting Company for six years. He was also the Production Manager for six Broadway productions including the world premieres of four of August Wilson's plays. Jeff lives in Burlington with his wife, Diane, and their two canine children.

September 24

Lewis & Clark: Corps of Discovery (1803-1806)

Robert Cline, Lewis & Clark enthusiast and LIFE@Elon member

The story of the Lewis and Clark expedition is long, very complicated, and a fantastic part of the history of the United States. Dr. Cline will put the expedition into perspective, providing a better understanding of this remarkable journey and its meaning to us all.

Bob Cline practiced family medicine for 40 years. He is a long-time member of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. and director of its Carolina Chapter. In kayaks and canoes, on horseback and hiking trails, and by camping in a car, Bob has personally traveled 85% of the Lewis & Clark Trail from Washington, D.C., to the Pacific coast.

October 1

Through the Slats at the Back of the Barn: How We Saw and Survived the Holocaust

Rachel Kizhnerman and Shelley Weiner, Holocaust Survivors

In 1939, World War II erupted and transformed the lives of Rachel Kizhnerman, then age five, and her cousin, Shelley Weiner, age four. The girls lived in Rovno, Ukraine (then Poland), sixty miles from the Russian border. When Weiner's father was drafted into the Soviet army and Kizhnerman's father was killed early in the conflict, the two girls and their mothers were left to face a new reality. The four hid for more than two years, first in a farmer's hayloft and later in an underground compartment. The women returned to Rovno recently with photographer and filmmaker Edward Serotta to revisit the farm where they found sanctuary. For Ms. Weiner, the memories flooded back as she peeked through the slats at the back of the barn, just as she had as a child. "I would see the chickens and the kittens out there, and I said to my mother, 'I'll be very good, just let me go out and play a little bit,'" Ms. Weiner recalled. "I never did, not once."

Cousins Rachel Kizhnerman and Shelley Weiner, who now live in Greensboro, are Holocaust survivors. Many in their family were among the nearly 25,000 Jews from the Rovno area who perished during the Nazi occupation.

October 8

Academic Libraries in the 21st Century – what's in? what's out? what's left? and what's next?

Joan Ruelle, Dean and Elon University Librarian

Library research today lives somewhere between the past of paper card catalogs and the imagined future of "everything is on Google." College students and faculty will always need to read scholarly research and literature to be successful. In this session, you will learn how those resources have changed, and how academic libraries are also changing to keep up with evolving information demands.

Joan Ruelle has served as the dean and university librarian at Elon University since June, 2012. Prior to coming to Elon, Ruelle was university librarian at Hollins University in Roanoke, VA which received the ACRL excellence in college libraries award during her leadership.

October 15

Hunger and Hope

Kin Crawford, Executive Director of Allied Churches of Alamance County

Kim will speak about hunger in North Carolina and Alamance County, focusing on how citizens can help alleviate the problem. She will describe the mission and work of Allied Churches and the volunteer opportunities available there and at other local nonprofits. Crawford will also recognize several leaders who have been instrumental in the fight against hunger.

Kim Crawford is the Executive Director of Allied Churches of Alamance County, which provides services to the homeless and needy, including daily lunches in the Good Shepherd Kitchen, an emergency night shelter, financial assistance with utility bills, and access to services ranging from mental health evaluations to resume writing. Crawford earned her bachelor's degree and a master's degree in corporate communications at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri. She has a second master's degree in religion and theology from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

October 22

Writing Down Along the Haw

Anne Cassebaum, Associate English Professor Emerita at Elon University

Anne spent many years hiking and paddling the one hundred ten miles of the Haw River from its origin in two springs northwest of Greensboro, NC all the way to its confluence with the Deep River in Chatham County, NC. She will share stories of her experiences along the way and highlights of the history of the river's evolution from a water and food source for the area's earliest inhabitants, to its role as a power source and sewage line for industry and municipalities in the 19th and 20th centuries, followed by its recovery as federal environmental laws allowed local citizens to defend their natural resource.

Anne retired from Elon's Department of English in 2010 after teaching freshman writing, American literature, and courses in nonviolence and environmental studies. The New York native worked during her 25-year career with the university's Students for Peace and Justice campus group as well as its Liberal Arts Forum, and led students on study travel to the Everglades, Alaska and the Haw River. She now serves on the board of the nonprofit Haw River Assembly, whose mission is "to restore and protect the Haw River and Jordan Lake, and to build a watershed community that shares this vision."

We are planning to offer a hike along the Haw and tour of Glencoe in conjunction with her presentation – stay tuned for more details!

October 29

Slavery and the Significance of African American Spiritual and Religious Leaders

James Ingram, Jr., Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter

During slavery, both enslaved and free African American preachers and pastors were significant to the welfare of their communities. Key spiritual and religious leaders, like Gowan Pamphlet, who founded a Baptist Church in Williamsburg, Virginia, in the eighteenth century, are the key focus of this presentation. It will also bring to the forefront the physical and social environments of this period to show how these leaders created meaningful ministries and agitated for change. The goal is to highlight proactive choices and important decisions that impacted specific individuals and emergent religious groups in colonial America.

James Ingram is a native of Virginia and a United States Naval veteran. He is a graduate of Lexington Baptist College in Kentucky and holds a master of theology degree from the DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. Mr. Ingram is an experienced theologian with many years of teaching theological principles and dealing with philosophical and ethical issues. He published aspects of his career story in an article called *Face to Face* in the February 2006 issue of *Guideposts* magazine and has been featured in many media products.

James is a public history professional and museum educator with over two decades of experience teaching and presenting history to various audiences. He is among the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's nationally and internationally acclaimed living-history interpreters and is known for his portrayals of key eighteenth- and nineteenth-century historical figures. In 1998, he began portraying Gowan Pamphlet, the

first ordained black preacher in America who also founded the first black Baptist church in Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1776. Mr. Ingram's theatrical talents have been featured both in stage and film productions including the 2006 Emmy award winning education film, *No Master Over Me*.

Dr. Ywone Edwards-Ingram is James' wife and she will be joining him. She is an interdisciplinary scholar specializing in African American studies and archaeology. Since 1992, she has worked for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation as an archaeologist and public history professional. While teaching at the College of William and Mary in Virginia between 2000 and 2011, her course offerings covered topics in African American archaeology, plantation cultures, material culture, museums, and slavery.

*Special Presentation in the Numen Lumen Pavilion
Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m.*

"My Name is Gowan Pamphlet and I am the first ordained black preacher in America. I was born in slavery."

November 5

Sacred Dances of Worship - Past and Very Present

Jane Wellford, Professor of Performing Arts at Elon University

Liturgical dance is dance or gesture used with worship for the glory of the divine. A presence in faith communities since the beginning of recorded worship history, sacred dance can add depth and dimension to the spoken or sung text and music. Jane Wellford provides a history of ancient sacred dance from a variety of faith practices, illuminating how sacred dance can reveal/reflect the holy and why the human body might be the most perfect visual aid for worship. The lecture/demonstration will feature contemporary sacred dances performed by students.

After earning a bachelor of arts in theatre from St. Andrew's Presbyterian College and a master of fine arts in dance from UNC-Greensboro, Jane Wellford danced professionally (modern and ballet) for years. The founder of Elon's dance program, Jane is now a professor of performing arts at Elon and director of Moving Liturgy Dance Ensemble, a professional liturgical dance troupe in Burlington.

November 12

Religious Pluralities

Richard McBride, Chaplain Emeritus at Elon University

Many of us now have a neighbor, friend, or business associate who is Buddhist, Muslim, or Hindu. The United States has been called "the most religiously diverse nation on earth." In this class, we will look at how and why this diversity has accelerated over the past fifty years. Although we face religious tensions in the US, so far something in the American character has prevented the "religious wars" of other nations. Join us for a lively presentation and discussion of these issues.

The Rev. Richard McBride, Chaplain Emeritus, spent the last twenty five of his thirty nine years in campus ministry at Elon. He also served at Wake Forest and Gardner-Webb Universities; prior to that he taught high school English. A native of Virginia, he graduated from the University of Virginia and prepared for ministry with degrees from Union Theological Seminary in New York City and Duke Divinity School. He and Wendy live in Hillsborough and have four children and nine grandchildren.

November 19

Storytelling: Sharing Stories, Sharing Lives

Charlotte Hamlin

This program will engage participants in exploring the many ways in which live storytelling connects people through shared imagination, cultural exploration, emotional resonance, and recognition of

important life lessons. Charlotte will perform a range of stories based on her personal experiences and international folk tales and legends. Participants will be invited to develop short fables to share using dramatic techniques that capture the attention of listeners and reinforce the message of the story. Whether an experienced speaker/storyteller, a story listener, or an aspiring story writer and teller, this program will deepen your appreciation of the ancient oral art of storytelling, inspiring you to write stories to share with family and friends and claim your title as "Storyteller."

Formerly an elementary teacher, organizational consultant, and intercultural trainer, Charlotte F. Hamlin, Ph.D., became a professional storyteller after retiring from teaching and administrative leadership at Guilford College. She presents storytelling programs and workshops for audiences of all ages. A former N.C. Storytelling Guild board member, Charlotte is past president of Triad Story Exchange, which brings storytellers and story lovers together each month to develop and share stories and lives.

December 3

Lung Transplants – Research and Personal Stories

Mary Jo Festle, Professor of History at Elon University

Surgeons began attempting lung transplants in the U.S. in 1963 and for almost two decades the procedure failed. Then things changed rapidly. As a historian, Mary Jo Festle studied the medical, political, and ethical aspects of lung transplantation as well as the experiences of the people who had lung transplants. How did those recipients decide whether it was worthwhile to have undergone a transplant? How should we measure "quality of life"? What larger lessons can we learn from this fairly narrow topic of research?

Mary Jo Festle has been happily teaching U.S. history at Elon for 21 years and she also serves as Associate Director for Elon's Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning. Her book about the history of lung transplantation, *Second Wind: Oral Histories of Lung Transplant Survivors*, was published by Palgrave in 2012. She's also the author of a book about the history of women's sports titled *Playing Nice: Politics and Apologies in Women's Sports*.

December 10

Christmas Music in Traditional and Popular Settings

Rod and Marilyn Fox

Several traditional Christmas songs will be presented by Marilyn with reference to their countries of origin, history, social, and religious practices. Rod will share various popular holiday songs with interesting notes of trivia. They will lead the singing of these songs with the LIFE@Elon audience members, so they are looking for hearty group participation to celebrate the season!

A native of southern Indiana, Rod Fox holds a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in botany, both earned at Indiana University. In 1994, he began Questra, Inc., a company specializing in commercial embroidery and advertising specialty products. He plays four-string banjo (used in Dixieland music), guitar, clarinet, and baritone saxophone. He has performed with the Rose City Banjoliars (Portland, Oregon), the Old South Dixieland Band (Greensboro), and the pit orchestras of many local musical theater shows.

After earning a bachelor of music degree and an M.A. in music education from Appalachian State University, Marilyn Fox taught music in the Alamance-Burlington School System for more than thirty four years, primarily at Elon Elementary. She has been pianist for Shallow Ford Christian Church for the past eighteen years and has been music director and/or piano accompanist for numerous area musical theater productions. Both Foxes are charter members of the Alamance Jazz Band, which is still going strong after twenty seven years!

LIFE@Elon BOOK CLUB

New members are welcome to join our book club! The group reads two non-fiction books per semester and offers a choice of two discussion dates for each book. If you are already a member there is no need to sign up again. To sign up, please email Kathryn Bennett at kbennett9@elon.edu.

The schedule for fall, with a bonus book for January term, is below:

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown – October 15, 1:30 p.m., or October 17, 10:30 a.m.

The Control of Nature by John McPhee – December 3, 1:30 p.m., or December 4, 10:30 a.m.

The Most They Ever Had by Rick Bragg – January 7, 1:30 p.m., or January 8, 10:30 a.m.