



**Elon University  
Student Government Association  
Minutes: April 30, 2026**

**START TIME: 7:30 pm**

**Roll Call**

- Executive Council Attendance:
- Cayce Becker
- Tyler Mastrangelo
- Oliver Keicher
- Ellie Agulnek
- Michael Swartz

**Open Forum**

- No one from the community had comments.

**Old Business**

- Approval of April 16 Minutes
- Senator Parmar: Motion to question
- Senator Hart: Second
- Minutes approved

**New Business**

- Budget Request: Catholic Campus Ministry - Beach Retreat (\$6,654.72)
  - The treasurer from CCM presented
  - Senator Baker: The first request was \$10,504.72, and the finance board deemed the food as non-essential, as the CCM would cover it
  - Yields to questions
  - Senator Parmar: Question about gas, if the gas rises, is the
    - Response: The gas prices were consistent with what was used in the past, and if they were to rise, then CCM has the resources to pay that difference

- Senator Winter: Question regarding the kind of vans CCM will be using for the retreat
- Senator Navarrete-Perez: Do you have a rough estimate of attendance
  - Response: An average attendance is 70 people, and it is subject to change
- Senator Guider: Where are the other funding sources if SGA
  - \$25 for students to pay, and CCM has other outside funding that they are able to use
- Senator Haspel: Outside of the Fall org fair, what else are you doing to advertise this event? And how to advertise
  - Certain leaders are directed to go, flyers are sent to students who identify as Catholic, and every leader reposts
- Senator Hart: As you mentioned, it is a longstanding CCM. Has this always been SGA-funded, or has it been funded by SGA before?
  - This has been funded by SGA for a while
- Senator Putman: Where does the student fee go?
  - Goes to shirts

Discussion 8:05 pm

- Senator Ellis: Motion to discuss for 20 minutes
- Senator Putman: Second
- Senator Haspel: I think this is a great event. But they talked a lot about how many available resources they have, a lot of outside funds available.
- Senator Difo Rojas: I went to the retreat at the beginning of the year, and it helps to foster healthy conversation about religion and Elon things. For the outside funding, that funding also goes to the Sunday supper and other catholic CCM events that are open to other events, not just the retreat.
- Ellie (Point of Information): You can not leave the room
- Senator Navarrete-Perez: I am not a part of this org, but with attendance 70 plus and big student impact, it would be a good use of resources to fund the event
- Senator Guider: Transportation costs are too high with all 6 Moseley Vans. I don't want to put money forward for gas because prices have been so volatile recently. However, I do sometimes attend mass
- Senator Urteaga: In my personal belief, funding gas at this amount would be doing them a service, as this was based on gas at the time of the request, so they are underestimating the funds, and they are able to use their funds, so this allocated fund in the budget for gas will serve as a buffer
- Senator Ginnaukakis: How much could CCM fund?

- Cayce Becker (Point of Information): unsure of their budget
- Senator Sears: Yes, they have other funding, but the purpose of the SGA is to help facilitate cultural orgs, and instead of saying no, go find it somewhere else. We need to look at whether this is helpful for the SGA community
- Senator Winter: It is \$90 per student. CCM has come in the past, and usually has one in the summer for new students to participate. Previously, students have enjoyed their experience and have found a home at Elon
- Senator Difo Rojas: A lot of CCM funding comes from community donations, and that number fluctuates because it is donations
- Senator Reeves: I completely agree with what a lot of previous senators said because this is an organization that revolves around faith, and it is important to honor students religions and SGA has funded this in the past and I think that this is a great introduction for a lot of freshman for when this trip is going to be held and are going to be very new and anxious on campus and this is a great opportunity for them to find their community on campus and make friends
- Senator Schurman: Went on the CCM treat and has lots of memories and friends from the weekend
- Senator Sears: Motion to straw poll
- Senator Puttman: Second
- Senator Sears: Motion to dissolve the discussion time
- Senator Parmar: Second
- Budget request approved 28-0.
- Budget Request: Please Clap - Terry Withers (\$8,114)
  - Presented by Andre: Treasure; Jackson: President
    - Much of the request was for what Terry Withers requested in his invoice, and food for the workshop attendees came from the possibility of dining halls not being open
  - Cayce Becker: They came to SGA with \$10,000, then it went down to \$8,000
    - Pizza \$114 from Domino's
  - Senator Haspel: You guys said the weekend of October 16th in the fall, and I believe that is the same weekend as the Fall Break of the
  - Senator Reeves: You guys say you are gonna open it up to the public. Can they participate in the event and the workshops?
    - No, the comedy show is interactive, and the space is not conducive enough for that.

- Senator Guider: You say there are about 13-21 people who show up to the workouts. Are those people rotating constantly? Have you considered this to be a weekly event due to 10-20 people, and to allocate more money for other smaller organizations?
  - Most of the club members attend the workshops, but have a base rate of 10
  - It's not the same workshop each year
- Senator Sears: I like the idea of opening up beyond the community to interact with the university. How do you plan on bringing that to Elon town and the community?
  - Reached out to the Town of Elon in order to put the poster in the weekly Town of Elon newsletter
- Senator Miller: Other improv clubs that join, are they providing anything? Or is this something they are
  - They are just opening this up to them.
- Senator Pittman: Similar to CCM, do you require a fee from members to offset the cost?
  - They have a shirt that costs
  - Cayce Baker (Point of Inquiry): \$25 for the shirt and another \$25 for the CCM as a whole, which allows the club to offset costs for the retreat
- Senator Haspel: I would love to hear about your experience with that. And how has this event impacted your time at Elon?
  - Has become a better improviser and can put on his resume that he has had improv training.
- Senator Hart: Are the skills and lessons things you can learn from Elon BFA instructors that we already have?
  - “Not too sure, and the acting staff is amazing. But you can not get into acting classes as a non-BFA major. BFA has these opportunities.”
- Senator Urtega: How does Terry Withers change what he's doing each year?
  - When they perform on Saturday night to open for him, Terry will take notes and give them to them to improve, and he will work on it with them.
  - “Host a smaller improv scene that will get reviewed
- Senator Scalia: In terms of the comedy show and it being open for general attendance and the Town of Elon, if there are a lot of people, will security need to be an area of funding?
  - It is pretty self-contained.

- Point of Information: For an event to have security, it requires 200 people, and if it did, that cost would be \$400. However, this may not be an issue because attendance may be a maximum of 90 people
- Senator Schurman: Would Terry change the price of his cost as the date will have to change?
  - No
- Senator Miller: Point of Inquiry, can we ask about Terry Withers specific requirements
- Ellie:
- Cayce: Administrative costs of the \$1600 is coming directly from Terry, and nothing that we can change
- Senator Winters: Point of Inquiry - Are we voting on the \$10,000
- Senator Putman: So you don't have any other group or organization that helps fund these events?
  - No
- Senator Scalia: I apologize if you stated this, but you said you hosted Terry Withers before. Can you reiterate how many times SGA has funded it?
  - President: As long as I've been here, it
- Cayce Becker (Point of information) - It was the same each time, and SGA funded it.
- Senator Ellis: Does the crew that comes with Withers have the same credentials as Withers?
  - "They are professional improvisers who have worked with Terry for a while and have improv training. One person runs a professional improv group in Durham. They may not have the same tenure as Terry, but have similar qualifications to him." - Treasurer.
- Ellie: The money that they are requesting is coming from the fiscal year budget, and another part is coming from the reserve fund, so they are getting money from the operating budget, not the reserve fund.
- Ellie: If you have a conflict of interest, we recommend you abstain from voting

Discussion at 8:18

- Senator Navarrete-Perz: Discussion for 20 minutes
- Senator Putman: second
- Senator Navarrete-Perz: The big consideration is that this is an Elon University event and an Elon town event, which will grant more publicity

- Senator Thomas: This is one of their larger events, and this is an important event to help them
- Senator Putman: This is a great event for all actors and helps those who haven't gotten into the rigorous BFA program
- Senator Blum: This is their main event. They have no other source of funding, so if we don't fund it, the event most likely will not happen.
- Senator Pittman: As previous senators said, they can not go anywhere else to receive funding and have been denied by others. It's important for SGA to assist them and support the students. This event helps support students interested in acting and in the Elon Community.
- Senator Gabriele: There are a lot of priorities for please clap students, so that is troubling, and it is a big budget request that goes to one group and a specific group. And while it is important, it is a large budget for a big group.
- Senator Reeves: My sister is in the BFA program, and I know how important these events are to these students. You can put this event on a resume that you worked with Terry, which can help you advance your career. Elon is a place that helps students develop their passions and advance their careers. I think we should fund this because it aligns with the mission of the University.
- Senator Urtega: What is the average cost of all organizations across all 4 quarters?
  - Cayce Becker: Funding varies across organizations
- Senator Cirelli (Point of Inquiry): What is the anticipated number of students
  - Becker: 13-21 for workshops; for the performance, 90 students
- Advisor: No BFA instructors here at ELon do not have improv expertise
- Senator Banker: Something that holds me back is that 13-21 people come to these sessions, and for this event to request so much money, it doesn't seem useful
- Senator Guider: They said 13-20 students attend, assuming there are 20 different students. The numbers he crunched, the students are getting what they pay for with the please clap budget
- Senator Winter: Having this only bi-weekly will strip people of opportunities. And there are still seats that can be filled. They have also done a lot of advertising
- EVP Keicher: SGA receives a portion of SAF every year from the student life office
- Urtega Point of Inquiry: Does SGA receive 49%?
- Cayce Becker: Yes
- Senator Difo Rojas: They mentioned that the other improv group comes in and benefits from these workshops, and other improv students also attend these events

- Senator Hart: motion to straw poll on the entire budget request
- Senator Reeves: Second
- Cayce Becker: Point of Information - Not sure if it is
- Senator Thomas: Dissolve the remaining time
- Guider: Objected
- Senator Scalia: We discuss the fees. And it is optimistic to think that 20 different people are going and there is a lot of time to benefit from them. In regard to the budget, it is a lot of money for not that many attendees
- Senator Miller: It is a small group, and that is a preference for improv members, and if someone outside of the improv goes, is it a welcoming space? There is no guarantee for all students
- Senator Arellano Perez: For you guys to be ok and for this legislation, would look to cut the budget for the pizzaP
- Point of information:
- Point of inquiry Goldstein: Who is this open to?
  - Ellie: Yes, anyone can participate
- VPF Becker - point of information: for it to be funded by SGA, the event must be open and inclusive to all students
- Senator Davis: I hear that not many students will attend, but I would like to support the smaller organizations and give them the opportunities to get more people involved. I understand that the budget is hard to compromise on. Start a new way of viewing events. Could we reduce the budget, but just do it because not a lot of students might show up? What is essential and what is not? We are supposed to support organizations. They are optimistic, so we should be optimistic as well.
- Senator Sears: When students ask what opportunities they have, and even if people don't have a vested interest in improv, there is an entire performance. Not only can you get skills, but he also goes ahead and offers his expertise to the community. It is not exclusive and is open to people to attend. And the purpose of SGA is to promote inclusive events, such as this event.
- Senator Guider: Extend for 10 minutes
- Senator Thomas: object
- Arellano-Perez: extend for 5 minutes
- Senator Thomas: Objection
- Senator Thomas: Question
- Senator Guider: Objection

- To allow extra voices to be heard
- Senator Arellano Perez: Motion to straw poll on the legislation on the budget request
- Senator Capelle: Second
- Straw poll
- Senator Pittman: Question the budget
- Senator Thomas: Second
- Budget request approved 31-1.

#### Recess and Roll Call - Parliamentarian Davis

- S.B. 26-4.2 A Bill To Establish A Student Global Photography Display In The Moseley Center
  - Presented by Noah Biggers
  - Ellie: Reading the legislation bill aloud
  - Yields to questions
  - Senator Uteaga: Love this bill. So I know that you said the 7 images were potentials, are you choosing from these 6?
    - Yes
  - Senator Uteaga: I have a recommendation to not have duplicate countries represented
  - Senator Pittman: I think this is a really good idea. The last legislation said that there were pricing challenges; in this new bill, will pricing challenges remain an issue?
    - Student artwork is expensive, but the availability of artwork is limited at
  - Oliver (Point of Information): There is student work at the Elon Inn that parents can purchase from the student
  - Senator Haspel” 3 questions
    1. How did the previous legislation decide on the artwork
      - a. There was a committee forum, and the committee was set up in the art department. After that individual graduated, it didn't structure itself to be sustainable. Removed
    2. Participation in selecting the photo, and I get it by taking the pressure off of SGA, but is there a point person from SGA that can be on the committee to allow for SGA to be connected
  - Senator Guider: For funding with the bylaws, where is this coming from within the budget?

- Cayce Vecker: Funds are coming from the reserve fund. The receiving funds individuals and legislation.
- Senator Parmar (Point of Inquiry): Can the reserved fund assume unused costs
  - Cayce Becker: The money only leaves the SGA account once it is actually spent
- Senator Parmarr: There were formatting inconsistencies with the way Study USA and Study Abroad were in the legislation
- Senator Ellis: Motion to discuss for 10 minutes
- Senator Difo Rojas: Second
- Senator Hart: I love this bill, it highlights the study abroad programs, and as a tour guide, there is no way to show Study abroad, and having this will be able to show parents and students where students are immersing themselves in
- Senator Navarrete-Perez: There are plenty of plans to increase student engagement within the Mosely student body and keep students engaged in the expansion of that. The bill will increase the number of opportunities.
- Senator Hancock: All tour guides can say is just the statistics, and having this year will be able to actually show that we are #1 in studying abroad for a reason, and it can be captivating for families. Along with what Roman said, it emphasizes a global perspective. And I am hesitant about only having the GEC involved in choosing the pictures.
- Ellie (Point of Information): The GEC is already running this
- Cayce Becker: The GEC posts the contests on Instagram
- Senator Arellano-Perez: We are #1 in the nation in study abroad. The GEC has lots of information about study abroad, and some of the tours aren't going up to the third floor of the SATO Commons
- Senator Sears: There is a lot of student involvement in choosing the pictures, and it is not essential for SGA to give power to the GEC and say we need someone in that. SGA does not need a vested person in this
- Senator Ginnaukaukis: I just came back from studying abroad in December. Study abroad changed my life, and it is important to have this in a central area in Moosley, and this is important to display to parents.
- Senator Guider: Our school takes a lot of pride in study abroad, student experience, and student engagement. And we do not have physical items to show students, but passing this bill will allow for something to show off to families. I think a point man is redundant, and instead of the College of Arts and Sciences, I

think it should be inclusive excellence or outreach, and we do not need to appoint anyone specific for that.

- Senator Scalia: Although it's coming from the reserve fund, this is
- Senator Sears: motion to draw a poll on the entire legislation
- Senator Cerili: second
- Senator Arellano-Perez: Motion to dissolve
- Senator Reeves: second
- Senator Navarrete-Perez: Motion to question
- Senator Kopacz: Second
- Legislation approved 32-0.
- Appointment of Committee Chairs
  - Senator Ellis: I'm Will Ellis, one phoenix I am being appointed, and I played football, so I have a background in athletics
  - Senator Thomas spoke about the chair, so I can be a voice for underrepresented communities on campus, and it is important for stories to be heard
  - Senator Arellano Perez: Student outreach, will this term, and wants to do more to reach out to students
  - Senator Putman: co-chair of One Phoenix, played sports in high school, wants to do his part to help the community
  - Senator Haspel: Elections are important, and I think these are great points of community for our organization and the entire student body. I was introduced to exec, and at that time, I found a community. And I want to foster that community and support anyone.
  - Senator Gonzalez: Academic Relations Chair: I was on ARC, and SGA is all about connections, and it is important to connect higher senior staff to students and give more opportunities to students so they are aware
  - Senator Haspel (Reading message from Senator Benson): It would be my honor to co-chair with Dia Haspel. I want you to know how much I care about this organization and about being part of it. And I am excited to bring new ideas to the election committee. After serving on the one phonetic chair i am excited to have this opportunity to work with Senator leadership
  - Ellie (Point of information): Benson is going to be the election co-chair
  - Senator Sears: What is your vision for that community?
    - Senator Will: Elon school spirit
    - Senator Dimitri: Partner more with athletics
  - Senator Pittman: How do you handle conflict

- Senator Haspel: Asheogh and I have pretty good communication starting off, and part of the reason we took the co-chair route is due to the other commitments outside of SGA. They have decided for Dia to be more involved in the fall and Ashleigh in the Spring as Dia will be teaching. Being aware that we can compromise and have these discussions
- Senator Putman: Will and I are pretty close and are mature guys, and if we have a disagreement, we can handle that accordingly
- Senator Guider: What is your first action of business to build a sense of community so that your committee runs smoothly?
  - Senator Ellis: Make a group chat, regular texting, so people know what is going on; would avoid email
  - Senator Thomas: Making sure everyone is comfortable
  - Senator Arellano Perez: Making sure people know who they're working with and that everyone has different communication styles, so figuring that out is first. A first event would be talks, and coffee would facilitate comfort level with the committee
  - Senator Putman: A mock puzzle to see what people's ideas are
  - Senator Haspel: Having time to hang out and get to know each other; making sure that they are meeting frequently and consistently, and involving her committee members to complete tasks, not just the chairs are doing everything. Communicating, comfort, and establishing tasks
  - Senator Gonzalez: Her committee last term was a bit inconsistent, and she didn't feel too involved. Having dinner and conversations are important to start off. And delegating tasks, especially surrounding the career fair event, is important
  - Senator Scalia: What is your main goal?
    - Senator Gonzalez: Wants to foster more ideas, improve communication, and hold more events, and wants everyone to feel involved. Getting consistent feedback is important
  - Senator Parmar: As a former SLM? How will you conduct yourself in the senate?
    - Senator Gonzalez: Being more open and relational with the people in the Senate
    - Senator Putman: The best way to lead is to lead by example. And the goal of the chair is to get the school more involved, and if I can't do it in here, I can't do it in the community

- Senator Thomas: I will naturally step up to the plate, and there is a communication aspect I can improve on, and in this position, this will help facilitate that
- Senator Davis: Questions for Ill and Dimiti, other than bringing back the Elon Week, what other ideas do you have to
  - Dimitri: Wants to meet regularly because I wasn't on the chair
- Senator Davis: How to bring other unheard voices into SGA?
  - Putman: Letting people know that I am in Sha
  - Thomas: Being able to hear the stories and being able to get those stories out; Asking previous committee chairs what they fell short on and understanding what to shift i
  - Arellano-Erez: A lot of people are scared. And what is important is to show up to SGA events, pop-up events
- Senator Scheuermann: Any ideas to get more visibility about events?
  - Putman: tailgates and food
- Urtegg: Question
- Difo Rojas: Second
- Appointments approved 26-0.

#### Executive President's Report - Michael Swartz

- Complete Senate QR Code
- Questions for Dr. Dooley
  - Senator Parmar: Lack of funding for things that are not fixed
  - Senator Hart: Odyssey scholars

#### Executive Vice President's Report - Oliver Keicher

- Retreat is October 3rd and 4th
  - Senator Haspel: Are we doing anything on Friday?
  - TBD
- Meeting with athletics

#### Vice President of Finance's Report - Cayce Becker

- Thank you for your discussion
- Please go to the SGA-sponsored events

#### Vice President of Communication's Report - Tyler Mastrangelo

- If you're in an organization, tag us so the event can be reached by everyone
- SPDC Event
  - May 13th free headshot by SPDC

Speaker of the Senate's Report - Ellie Agulnek

- Congrats committee chairs
- Response to last week's priorities email
- Pet a Puppy: Elon Community Church Lawn May 3 May 1, 2026 2:00 PM
- Slattery Center Art Project (New Health EU Building)
  - Mosely Oak Room, May 6, 10:30 am-1:30 pm (Portrait and short quote)
- Coolin on the Commons 5-9 pm @Phi Beta Kappa Commons
- Senator Shotout
- Baby Photo: Roman Hart
- Committee Reveal
  - SOC:
    - Ernesto
    - Elyssa
    - Chris
    - Brennan
    - Neil
    - Maddie
    - Mira
    - Roxanny
  - 1P:
    - Dimitri
    - Will
    - Alanna
    - Marshall
    - Samantha
    - Carson
    - Julian
  - ARC:
    - Daniela
    - Andrew Hancock
    - Katherine
    - Terrence
    - Lule
    - Marian
    - Roman
    - Skylar

- SPIE:
  - Bryceton
  - Murphy
  - Jacob
  - Anna
  - Hallel
  - Chiebula
  - Makenzie
- Elections
  - Dia
  - Ashley
  - Lila
  - Tanner
  - Caroline
  - John

#### Advisor's Report - Dean Gregory

- More auditory signals at the crosswalks
- Scooter charging stations
  - Senator Ellis: When will this be done?
  - Dean Gregory: In the summer, there is intentionality with security cameras on those locations
- Exam Prep
- Yield to questions
  - Senator Guider: When will these be installed?
  - Dean Gregory: In the summer

#### SGA Open Forum

- Senator Guider: Thank you, Neil, Ernesto, and Roman, for helping set up the room.  
Thank you to everyone who has responded to the email, and I look forward to working with you so I can connect you with the proper
- Senator Thomas: If there is anything that is necessary for me to be aware of let me know.  
And my group meets with me in the back
- Senator Haspel: Meet with me after the meeting
- Senator Gonzalez: Meet with me
- Senator Arellano Perez: Thank you for appointing me as committee chair, but if there is anything, please let me know
- Senator Urtega: Food truck frenzy on Wednesday

- Senator Navarrete-Perez: Feel well, Friday
- Senator Haspel: Trendiest senator
- Senator Guider: Historic block party 12-2 on May 8th; Freshman parking is having discussions about finance and budgeting, but that won't be; Guiders' Guide to Campus Safety, please let him know
- Senator Sears: Thank you for showing up for SURF
- 

#### Roll Call

- Senator Capelle: Motion to adjourn
- Senator Pittman: second

**END TIME: 10:13**

**Minutes Approved 5/7/26**