



Elon University
Student Government Association
Minutes: May 7, 2026

START TIME: 7:30pm

Executive Attendance:

- Ellie Agulnek
- Cayce Becker
- Oliver Kechier
- Michael Swartz
- Tyler Mastrangelo
-

Roll Call - Parliamentarian Davis

Open Forum

- A gender and politics advocacy group focused on raising awareness about men's mental health by educating the Elon community on the social, emotional, and political challenges men face. The group presented statistics and stigma surrounding mental health for men, while also proposing actionable solutions. These solutions include programs, support systems, and campus initiatives that could be funded through SGA allocations. The group also created and distributed an informational pamphlet designed to educate the Elon community

Presentation

- Admissions Updates, Vice President for Enrollment Greg Zaiser
 - Undergraduate Applications
 - Undergraduate Deposits
 - Elon Alternative Start Program

- The first-year class will be 100 students larger this year
 - Why? Strategic Recruitment Initiatives Work
 - Engagement Score (ie. how long you're spending on the website)
 - Revised Fellows Program
 - Students knew by the middle of February if they made it into the program, and by the beginning of April, students had to say whether they were gonna accept it
 - Parent Engagement
 - Occurs in the summer before the application deadline to encourage and invite parents (200-800 parents asking live questions)
 - Enhanced Academic Virtual Sessions
 - Revised Scholars Program Timeline
 - Accelerated Programs (68% increase in these programs)
 - 3+ Co-op: This new program has brought in new students (at the Charlotte Campus; working 30 hours per week within a professional experience)
 - Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC): 10 students
 - Co-Op: 20 students
 - Yield: % of the students who have been admitted who chose to enroll (Currently 14%)
 - Current Fellow Yield Rate: 46%
 - Current Accelerate Program Yield Rate: 62%
 - Current Scholars Program Yield Rate: 60%
 - Current Odyssey Scholar Program: 80%
- Majors
 - Nursing didn't exist 6 years ago; nursing adds 101 students
 - Business Analytics & AI adds approximately 123 students
 - Graduate Growth: A lot of growth has been made through these programs
 - Elon Law in Greensboro is the biggest graduate program
 - Physician Assistant Studies

- Plan is to increase growth in graduate space in CLT and maintain undergraduate space
- Questions:
 - Senator Urteaga: A lot of the questions that I get are what the exact size is for cohorts of the accelerated programs and fellow programs?
 - They are all different sizes. We want to keep them around 20
 - Senator Urteaga: The engagement score is important, and personally, I had no idea, and I know a lot of students are either first gen or are unaware that this is important. How are you promoting it to let students know that it is important?
 - We talk about it and focus on relationship-building, especially given the role of admissions counselor. The engagement score is dynamic throughout the entire cycle, and your engagement score in September is a lot different from what it is in April.
 - Senator Putman: If you are waitlisted, are you automatically denied from fellow programs? Is there a way to make students eligible for those who get waitlisted, then accepted?
 - Yes; No
 - Senator Putman: How many honors fellows?
 - 40, it was supposed to be 60
 - Senator Thomas: How well do you think Elon is advocating for inclusivity to prospective students?
 - I work with Mike Haskins, and his work is to build the University's brand, and the stronger the brand, the better it is for us. I think Elon is doing more than a lot of schools in an important way to convey that this place values inclusive excellence and looks to diversify the classrooms
 - Senator Thomas: There was something called *Being Black at Elon*, which helped me. With me being the Inclusive Excellence, where can my committee and admissions work together to meet in the middle?

- This year, we had a seminar called *Our Voices*. Kim Romero and Serena Crosby Brown are two people to talk to in order to get the voices heard
- Senator Hart: You gave a top-10 state, population of Elon, and, as someone from Arkansas. What does recruitment look like for places that are not in those top 10 states?
 - We have a representative in a lot of places, with primary, secondary/tertiary territories. Most staff have primary and secondary or secondary and tertiary. We operate in areas outside our primary territories, but our market resources help us determine where to focus our time and avoid wasting resources. They look for students who are: 1) wanting to go to college; 2) Interested in a private university. The farther you go from Elon, the harder it is to find prospective students. We have regional staff members all over the country to know where to spend time to deliver more students over time.
 - a. Interested
- Senator Pittman: What strategies will the admission offices implement to gain students from the competing universities?
 - We know which applications we've crossed the most with and which students we've lost. The top ones that occur are public universities (UofSC, University of Clemson, NC State). We are working to refine our language and educate our faculty on how to convey to students that the experience here at a private university will differ from that at a public institution. Another point of differentiation is that at Elon, you can do things from day one.
- Senator Guider: My younger sister is coming here next year. Was the Presidential Scholarship timeline different this year? The scholarship has increased; will others who received it previously receive an increased scholarship?
 - No; No
- Possible SGA representation in doing a Zoom session over the summer for incoming/prospective students to ask questions (6-10 representatives)

- Approval of April 30 Minutes

New Business

- Appointment of Madeline Dolan as a non-senate member of the Finance Board
 - I've worked in different Leadership positions in the past
- Appointment of Aarya Potti as a Class of 2027 Senator
 - Elon has done a lot for me, and I admire the work of SGA and want to give back to the community that has given back to me
 - Nunno: Motion to discuss for 10 minutes
 - Pittman: Second
 - Nunno: Dolan is someone I have worked with in the past. Her leadership and work ethic are those of someone who always gets things done
 - Senator Winter: Dolan is a very dedicated individual, and I think she'd be great
 - Senator Hart: She is a "chiller" and would be a good appointment
 - Senator Capelle: Motion to dissolve remaining discussion time
 - Senator Arellano-Perez: Second
 - Senator Putman: Motion to question
 - Senator Reeves: Second
 - Appointments pass 33-0
- Budget Request: Greek Dance (\$18,100)
 - Olivia Tamburino (Vice President of External Affairs, PA); Jude Denning (VP of Community Development in IFC)
 - Sound and Lighting: \$14,000
 - Security/Show Pros: \$4000
 - Marketing: \$300
 - Senator Winter: How much is being requested
 - 7700
 - Senator Putman
 - The barricades were not provided last year
 - Yields to questions
 - Senator Putman: If barricades aren't provided, can the event still go on
 - No
 - Point of Information: This is required by the Town of Elon when there is a large number of people going to Schar
 - Senator Thomas: Are you guys getting any other form of funding?
 - No
 - Senator Guider: How many people show up?

- 3,000
- Senator Hart: If there was one thing that SGA did not cover
 - All the things we requested are necessary, but if we had to choose something, then the marketing one
- To clarify, regarding the barricade, are there any other funds you could obtain from someone else?
 - I think there are other costs that they are funding. Panhellenic is covering some of it
- Senator Pittman: Considering IFC can not cover barricades, is there gonna be a collaboration with Panhellenic and IFC to cover the barricades in the future?
 - IFC is implementing fees for recruitment that could be allotted for this
- Senator Urteaga: Last year was an extenuating circumstance where iFC had to pay, previously, prior to the year before last
- Senator Tor: Has Greek dance
 - Cayce Becker: 5 years, and has varied
- Point of Information: Greek dance has existed for over 20 years. It was previously held in Alumni Gym, and the costs were different
- Senator Probst: Does that mean students aren't being charged for this
- Senator Arelanno Perez: Why was Greek Dance moved from Alumni to Schar
 - Ellie Agulnek: There was an increase in student participation
- Senator Guider: For potential things to cut, do you have any other funds that you can possibly fund to ensure that we cover all of our bases?
 - I talked to our advisor last year and pulled from emergency funding, and since they already used it, they do not have it
- Senator Winter: Motion to discuss for 25 minutes
- Senator Vislay: Second
- Discussion
 - Senator Reeves: I recommend that SGA fund this event because half of the student body attends it, and it is one of the most popular events. And since we have funded it over the past 5 years, this would be important to fund
 - Senator Miller: I agree with the previous Senator. This raises a lot of money for philanthropy, and because so many sororities and

fraternities are part of this event. The barricades are an issue and shouldn't be an argument about where they're coming from because they ensure safety. To ensure safety, we should pay

- Senator Davis- Point of Information: With the approval of the budget, it implied that they could cover the barricade.
 - Our representative from IFC was under the impression that they were able to cover it there on. Was unaware of the emergency fund
- Senator Thomas: Because this event is so important, and barricades seem to be a necessary cost for this event to happen. We may not need to contribute much for
- Senator Prost: Social media marketing is free and is a great opportunity for looking for other marketing options. The opportunity to have casual exposure to dance is a great way to see people moving through the arts, which is a great experience.
- Senator Gabriele: Coming in as a freshman and as Greek life is a big thing on this campus. This event constitutes more comfort with Greek life.
- Senator Urteaga: The proposed budget has no argument about the cost. And because SGA has funded it for so long, we should host this event
- Senator Cirelli: If we are going to fund this event, then we need to incorporate the barricade. With half the student body attending, this is a well-attended event, and the money won't go to waste.
- Senator Puttman (Point of Information): Does this pull from Q4 of this year or Q1 of next year?
 - Q1, we would be at 40k after funding that event
- Senator Nunno: As someone who sits on the finance board, I highly encourage that we fund this. As someone who attends Greek Dance, we should fund this event as it's big for Greek life
- Senator Ginnaukaukis - Point of Information: Where are the barricades being placed?
 - Cayce Becker: The Town of Elon is requiring that they pay for this
- Senator Ginnaukauks: My sorority uses this to bond with each other, people to try new things, and for girls

- Senator Guider: I don't believe the IFC and Panhellenic do not have the funds to fund their own marketing, as they are such a big organization
- Winter; Motion to straw poll if the market is at \$100, including barricades
- Second
- Senator Miller: I feel like marketing is a lot better use of money, and no matter how big the organization is compared to other things, we have funded other things for
- Cayvce Becker (Point of Information): We can not dictate
- Senator Vislay: Yes, the barricades and set marketing as \$00
- Senator Urteaga: second
- Amend budget to include barricades; marketing stays at \$100:
Passes 30-3
- Senator Benson: I serve as the vice president for recruitment for my sorority, and just some insight, we set our budget a year in advance, and they truly can not find any other
- Senator Vislay: Dissolve the remaining minutes
- Cirecli: second
- Senator Arellano Perez: Motion to question
- Senator Capelle: Second
- Greek Dance Budget Request passes 31-1.

New Business

- Amendment of the Constitution
 - Senator Ellis: Motion to question
 - Senator Pittman: Objection
 - Senator Pittman: Motion to discuss for 10 minutes
 - Senator Nunno: Second
 - Senator Arellano Perez: These changes provided further clarification
 - Senator Pitman: Motion to dissolve the remaining minutes
 - Senator Guider: Objection
 - Senator Haspel: I think, as the executive team deems that these are not substantial changes and the new jargon regarding the school senators is a key change to the constitution, so this is something that does not have to be done each year. It is important to amend things that stay consistent and make future senate positions easier

- Senator Putman: Motion to dissolve
- Senator Capelle: Second
- Senator Hart: Motion to question
- Senator Cirelli: Second
- Constitution passes 34-0
- Approval of Elections Manual
 - Senator Benson: We didn't make any significant changes
 - Senator Haspel: There were a lot of weirdly worded sentences to provide clarity on the things that were previously in there.
 - Senator Ellis: Motion to question
 - Senator Guider: Objection; motion to discuss
 - Senator Miller: Objection; motion to discuss
 - Senator Pittman: objection; motion to discuss for 5 minutes
 - Senator Goldstein: Second
 - Senator Nunno: All these changes are necessary, and they are substantial enough to continue the process
 - Senator Pittman: As the previous senator stated, the amendments accurately reflect the current SGA election committee. Senator Benson and Haspel did a great job
 - Senator Guider: I want to act so that this election manual coincides with the expansion of the Senate to include the Engineering school.
 - Senator Thomas: Dissolve the remainder of the meeting minutes
 - Hart: Second
 - Senator Urteago: Motion to dissolve
 - Senator Gianukakis: Second
 - Elections Manual passes 34-0

Executive President's Report - Michael Swartz

- Take care of yourself over the summer
- Reach out to Greg Zaiser to facilitate new ideas. Stay curious!
- Questions about dining for Dr. Dooley:
 - Senator Cirelli: What are the terms around swiping a friend in?
- Committee signup

Executive Vice President's Report - Oliver Keicher

- Reach out if you are here over the summer

Vice President of Finance's Report - Cayce Becker

- Congrats on another budget request

- Have a good summer

Vice President of Communication's Report - Tyler Mastrangelo

- Send pictures of what you do over the summer

Speaker of the Senate's Report - Ellie Agulnek

- Send ideas that you may have over the summer
- Senator Shoutout:
 - Brennan
 - Dimitri
 - Will
 - Marshall
- Baby Photo: Ashley Benson

Advisor's Report - Dean Gregory

- Shoutout to Speaker Agulnek!!!!
- Have a great summer

Senate Leadership Reports

- Senator Guider: Shout out to Dimitri Putman; If anyone is in NC, please let me know if you are in town
- Senator Haspel: If you know anyone who is going to be an income first year, let them know about SGA
- Ellie Agulnek (Point of Information): Look out for a Google form about what you will be doing on campus
- Senator Arellano Perez: My phone number is in the roster. Please let me know so I can start planning things
- Senator Putman: Just held our first committee meeting. We are planning homecoming, so just let me know
- Senator Thomas: If you have an SPIE jingle, let me know

SGA Open Forum

- Senator Guider: Historic block party, please attend
- Senator Gonzalez: Melanated Melodies are having their spring concert at 7, and you can buy tickets at the door too
- Senator Kechier: Shoutout to NatureRX, who are having a bouquet-making event
- Senator Ellis: Super Bingo is after this
- Senator Urteaga: Please fill out the dining form
- Senator Vislay: Tell anyone in your life who is in healthcare
- Senator Probst: Ripcord is having their concert this Friday, and Elon's Finest is having their dance concert tomorrow

- Senate Gonzalez: Newlin Elementary is having a wishlist drive to get supplies, so anything you can do to help is appreciated
- Senate Nunno: If anyone you know is in the Atlanta area, please let him know
- Senator Reeves: Newlin is an outstanding institution and has volunteered there over the fall and will continue to run the after-school program next fall.
- Senator Guider: Any safety concerns, please let me know
- Senator Haspel: Provided information about Title 1 schools
- Senator Benson: trendiest senator is senator p
- Urtega adjourn
- Pitman second

Roll Call - Parliamentarian Davis

END TIME: 9:53