



Elon University
Student Government Association
Minutes: October 1, 2026

START TIME:

Executive Attendance:

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

Roll Call - Parliamentarian Davis

Open Forum

Old Business

- Approval of September 24 Minutes

Presentation

- Patrick Noltemeyer, Chief of Staff – University Decision Making (Serves as secretary to the Board of Trustees - responds to the Board of Trustees' comments, concerns, suggestions, and questions)
 - Takeaway: Your voice matters! Tell your constituents that we enjoy and want to hear from the students. And secondly, good ideas come from the group. I am not living your lived experience, so if I am thinking about the future of the university, I need to hear about your experience now as your experience is closer to what the future will look like
 - Decision-making that happens at the leadership level at Elon coincides with the strategic plan: Boldly Elon (Our Strategic Plan)
 - Boldly Elon Strategic Plan
 - Planning: 2018-2019
 - 55k individuals responded to a survey with their input on what should be included on the plan

- December 2019 is when the name 'Boldly Elon' came from, in which Elon is becoming a better version of itself
- Decision Making at Elon
 - There are many stakeholders involved in decision-making at Elon
 - University Decision Making: Higher Education v. Corporate
 - Higher Education is...
 - Shared Governance
 - Multiple Stakeholders
 - Consensus-building culture: 'Big Tent Approach'
 - Long-term mission focus
 - Corporate is...
 - Top-down hierarchy
 - Clear chain of command
 - Speed and efficiency prioritized
 - Quarterly results
 - Unified directions
 - Who Makes Decisions:
 - Board of Trustees
 - President and Senior Leadership
 - Faculty Governance
 - Departmental Leaders
 - SGA
 - You
 - Elon's Decision-Making Culture
 1. Strategic alignment with Boldly Elon
 2. Collaborative approach across divisions
 3. Student-centered mission at the core
 4. Data-informed but values-driven
 - a. Davis: You are not just making decisions based on quantitative data; you are making decisions based on one's values and community, with the knowledge of the data
 5. Innovation balanced with tradition
 - a. Noltemeyer: We don't want tradition to be the box in which we try to fit. We want tradition to be the foundation, the base from which we grow
- Strategic Planning & Goal Setting
 1. Individual Goals
 2. Office Goals
 3. Departmental.Divisional Priorities

4. Institutional Priorities

- Budget Overview: FY2025
 - Tuition Revenue: 71%
 - Auxiliary (Housing, Food, Athletics): 17%
 - Investment: 8%
 - Grants (Federal, State, & Other): 2%
- Questions & Discussions:
 - Winter: Does Elon get money from the revenue from the investment finance class?
 - Noltemeyer: Not sure
 - Winter: What was the thought behind the Inn at Elon contributing to scholarships for students?
 - The Inn at Elon was a vision of the board of trustees. A company told them to invest part of the endowment because they would receive a great return. So a portion of the endowment was invested physically in the Inn and saw a place where students could benefit from this place
 - Moores: Can you talk more about who makes up the board of trustees?
 - The Board can grow to as large as 50 members, and there are currently 47 trustees
 - Ten members from the Queens Board of Trustees were added to Elon's Board following the merger, bringing 10 of their former trustees onto Elon's Board
 - The Board is made up of **alumni, parents, and friends of Elon:**
 - **Alumni- 40%**
 - Includes Youth Trustees, a program that began in 1962.
 - Youth Trustees are typically recent graduates (around 25–26 years old).
 - **Parents- 40%**
 - Usually parents of former students, although some are parents of current students.
 - **Friends- 20%**
 - Includes local and community leaders.
 - Examples include Allen Gant and Bob Chandler.
 - Nunno: I know you said you have a lot of stakeholders. Do you have any systems to deal with the requests and input of the wide yield of stakeholders?
 - Noltemeyer: There is a suggestion box, so in terms of input, that is one way we gather input; it's online and at the Mosely front desk. I serve as the central hub, then I circulate it back out. But the chief of staff at universities are kind of like a master of trades
 - Rubin: Is there a number for the take-in?

- Noltemeyer: Yes, there is, but I am not sure. Because Elon has merged with Queen, Elon is a 2 billion dollar organization.
- Rubin: Money that is not used goes to the endowment?
 - Yes, so we have more interest later and as a rainy-day fund for strategic initiatives
- Tor: Have you guys started planning for the next decade?
 - Yes, we have started planning a process to navigate the next strategic plan. We will spend 2020-2027 building the framework and start launching it in 2028.
 - What does that future look like? I am not sure. The school of engineering and computing was big. And the center for performing arts is still in phase 3, so that will be a big part of the end of this year and the beginning of next year
- Thomas: What is your favorite part of Boldly Elon?
 - Each of you can leave Elon and say who your favorite mentor is. One of the goals of Boldly Elon is that students will be able to draw a 'constellation' (cohort/mentors) of all the mentors that they were able to connect with and be able to call them about anything. Some people are going
- Jackson: How large is the endowment exactly? I know there is no debt from the Elon Inn, but is there any debt at all?
 - Noltemeyer:
 - Endowment Currently: 509 million
 - Debt: \$400 million
- Capelle: You said you serve 50k-55k people, but how do you manage everyone and ensure that you understand their values and goals?
 - There were a lot of surveys given out, and representative sampling was used to ensure that no demographic was left out. However, what we found was that focus groups are helpful because getting people together to share their thoughts can be a lot more effective
- Guider: What ways have we not allowed tradition to box us in?
 - Noltemeyer: I would like to flip the question and ask, are there traditions that are holding us back from being innovative?
 - And we are trying to elevate club sports. But being a D1 NCAA school, we are trying to figure out how to let students engage in athletic performance and step out of the box from what NCAA allows
- Winter: Is there going to be a skate park?
 - Noltemeyer: The town of Elon set out 255k to build a skate park, and the state has complemented them with 300k. They are hoping to break ground

on that very soon. A hindrance to how much we spend on this project is whether or not students will travel to go to the skate park

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Executive President's Report - Michael Swartz

- Annual Security and Safety Report
 - Please continue to let students know that there are safety measures in place to help keep them safe and protected
- Lunch with Dr. Dooley next week
 - Haspel: Why doesn't the Elon Express go to the Psychology building
 - Point of Information: Transportation officers are coming to speak next week
 - Patte: With fall break, I know Elon has shuttles to each airport. The one-way and round trip are the same exact price, and I just wanted to understand why

Executive Vice President's Report - Oliver Keicher

- Homecoming Events:
 - Monday, Oct 5: Homecoming Kickoff Trivia 7-9 pm
 - Tuesday, Oct 6:
 - College Coffee @Medallion Plaza 9:40-10:20 am
 - Conversations & Coffee @ Oak House 1:30-3:30
 - DiscoverEU @AlumniGym 4-6 pm
 - Silent Disco 8- 10 pm
 - Cooper: Is there a theme?
 - Ellis: Elon theme
- Questions:
 - Goldstein: I went to an SGA event and did
 - Scheurman: How long does DJ Diesel perform for?
 - Keicher: About an hour
 - Girsch: Does Rock the Block count as an SGA-funded event?
 - Keicher: No, because it is a SUB-funded event
- Retreat
 - Friday:
 - 3:45 Check-in LaRose Commons
 - Davis: What's the start time for checking in and reserving?
 - 3:40
 - Saturday:
 - 7:30 Breakfast
 - 8:00 Vans rolling out
 - Packing:
 - Blue jeans and a black top for Saturday photo
 - Bed linens & sleeping bag

- Haspel: Is there a specific wash of jeans?
 - Agulnek: Medium wash jeans
 - Questions:
 - Meyer: What's the bathroom and shower situation?
 - Point of Information (Dean Gregory): If you go on the Camp Hanes website, you are able to see pictures
 - Meyer: Please bring a T-shirt that you don't mind getting dirty when painting the E

Vice President of Finance's Report - Cayce Becker

- Organization Expenses Q1
- AF Last Info Session: Thurs, Oct 8 from 2:30-3:30 (Mosely 217)
- QR Calendar of funded events
- Slattery Center Update: Rockwall
- Questions: Urtega: Since we funded this. Will it be possible to have an SGA reserved session?
 - Becker: We have been discussing this, so it is still under discussion
- Reeves: D
 - Soft opening in January
 - Arellano Perez: Will it be in full use?
 - Becker: Probably not because there is a transition process for staff, so not everything will be open
 - April, during the board of trustees meeting, they are planning a ribbon cutting

Vice President of Communication's Report - Tyler Mastrangelo

- If you know a student that has a story about loans or financial aid, there is a student doing a story on it, ctruebner@elon.edu
- Send retreat content
- Repost everything on the SGA Instagram

Speaker of the Senate's Report - Ellie Agulnek

- Homecoming Royalty Voting (Oct 5-9) on Phoenix Connect
- Senate leadership is working HARD
- 2 takeaways & 2 questions
 1. Patte: My academic advisor took me to Clohan today which relate closely to what Dr. Finger talked about
 2. Reeves: RaveGuardian App. The rep
 3. Cooper: On Monday, I took my philosophy teacher out to lunch
 4. Guider: There is an idea of emailing Dean Finger to possibly get common areas in historic neighborhood
 5. Scheuerman: I wrote a question about equitable freshman housing. And thinking about my experience living in Carolina, and feeling like people who had common

areas had a different experience, so I think common areas would be a necessary addition

- Agulnek: Did your professor already know about this?
 - Patte: Yes, my advisor does this with students in the class
 - Cooper: Yes
- Cameras at retreat
- Retreat Goals:
 - Get to know 2-3 different people
- Slattery center:
 - Moores: Is there any way for a class of 2027 and/or Elon alum to access the center?
 - Agulnek
 - Keicher: If a current Elon student wants to sponsor someone, they can sponsor your membership for the day
 - Point of information (Dean Gregory): Faculty and staff can also sponsor someone, so let me know
 - Goldstein: What is happening with the old gym?
 - Agulnekj: I'm not sure
 - Rubin: Will there be food
 - Urtega: Yes, but it will be a while. Its called gonna be called 'Balance Cafe'
 - Sherlock:
 - Agulnek: Dance and Pilates will remain in Koury. The Slattery Center will be the main one
 - Point of Information (Swartz): They are looking to move the center for access and success and move it to the Koury Center, but that is still up for discussion
 - Tor: Are they moving the Koury gym equipment to the Slattery Center, or is there all new equipment?
 - Agulnek: Not all of it is new
 - Agulnek: No plans to disturb parking

Advisor's Report - Dean Gregory

- We are a tuition-driven institution
- Budget statistics that recently have come out:
 - Pros:
 - Applications have increased by 100% compared to last year at both Elon and Queens
 - Showing to be a strong partnership between both institutions
 - Retention rate is 92% (once students have chosen this place, we are supporting students)

- National average is around 70% for 4-year institutions
- **FOCUS GROUP OPPORTUNITY** to hear experiences about students who have transferred from Elon or considered transferring (If interested, reach out to Dean Gregory)
- Con: Undergrad population is down 200 from last year. We have dipped under 6k students
- Policies around scooters, contact Dean Gregory

Senate Leadership Reports

- Ellis:
 - Trivia:
 - First place prize is \$50, and it is done in pairs (\$50 per person)
 - Trivia Categories:
 - Popculture
 - Song quiz
 - Elon University lore
 - General knowledge
 - Y2k/Nostalgia
 - **In need of volunteers**
 - Sign up for Silent Disco volunteer(6:30-11:00 pm)
 - Vote for Homecoming Oct 5-9th
- Arellano Perez:
 - Please sign up for Conversation & Coffee; if you show up and do not volunteer, you will not receive a \$5 giftcard
- Thomas:
 - Jacob and I will meet with Randy Williams regarding inclusive excellence. If you think of anything before 9 pm tomorrow, please let me know!

SGA Open Forum

- Winter: If you are a leader of an org, your org renewal form is due by October 2nd at 5pm
- Cooper: Tonight after the SGA meeting, everyone should go to SUB Bingo
- Arellano Perez: Part of my role is to plan Mardi Gras (Feb 9, 2027), so get hyped! Class of '29 you will be getting text from me. But tomorrow I have my first meeting with Elon dining so if you could give me your thoughts that would be nice
 - Fried peanut butter and elly
 - Fried oreos
 - Fried pickles
 - Alligator ribs
 - Alligator meat
 - Suggestion from Senator Hart

If you have any ideas of how to break up that gray area that would be great.

- Elon Band

- Elon Day like what SUB does

Decorations:

- A float
- Big beads
- Bouncy house in the middle of Young Commons

You have until 8:30 am tomorrow

- Nunno: I have a food opportunity. On Sunday, at Elon Community Church, there is free food at 6 pm, Sunday Supper
 - Sunday Supper is an SGA-funded event
- Williams: I am meeting the School of Engineering and Computing Dean. Do you have any tips or questions to ask?
 - Hart: There is a long list of questions, so I can share those with you
- Urteaga: Please complete the survey about Einstein because it may be at risk
- Guider: I am the president of Club Golf, and today I discovered a club sport pilot program in which Elon will expand 6 clubs. Also, in the next 5-10 years, there is gonna be a 15-16 million dollar expenditure for club sports
- Tor: Will there be a separate section for student orgs during homecoming?
 - Agulnek: Student organiaitons
- Capelle (Point of Inquiry for Senator Urteaga): Is there any way to move Einstein in upstairs McEwen
- Guider: Res life applications are open and run through the end of the month if you are looking to be a RA, apartment manager, or etc.
 - Ellis: If I was so lucky to be an apartment manager, do my friends get free housing too?
 - Guider: No
- Moores: You can go abroad as an apartment manager
- Benson:
 - I am running for HOCO royalty, so I would love your vote
 - Trendiest Senator:
 - Senator Waterman
 - Senator Mike Williams

Roll Call - Parliamentarian Davis

END TIME: