



Spring 2018

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Dwight C. Schar Hall and Steers Pavilion become Elon's newest LEED Silver® Projects

By Kelly Harer

Dwight C. Schar Hall and Steers Pavilion have received LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, bringing Elon to a total of 27 LEED certifications on campus. Elon's Green Building Policy, which states that new construction projects and major renovations over 8,000 square feet will achieve LEED certification, has put Elon at the center of sustainable design and construction. LEED – an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—is the preeminent green building rating system internationally. Schar Hall and Steers Pavilion boast numerous sustainable features, including a site that was designed to provide green space and pedestrian walkways to encourage the use of outdoor space. All of the plumbing fixtures are low-flow and are expected to reduce the buildings' potable water usage by 31%. Landscaping

around the buildings is designed to minimize the need for irrigation. The buildings are about 32% more energy efficient than those that meet the standard building energy code, and the buildings' water, natural gas and energy use can be observed through Building Dashboard, a real-time monitoring system. During construction, 95% of waste was recycled or reused. To support the regional economy, 25% of the building materials are regional, including tables that were crafted using Elon oak trees reclaimed from campus construction sites.

Additional details about the buildings' sustainable features can be found on the [Office of Sustainability's website](#).



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Phoenix Cup Waste Results

Students

1. Azzurra Catucci
2. Carmen Margiotta
3. Julia Needham



| Team | Faculty/Staff | Residence Halls | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Librarians on Greene | 1. Barb Carlton 2. Emily Krechel 3. Janet Myers | 1. Colonnades C 2. Danieleley P 3. Global D | 4. West 5. Mill Point 141 6. Oaks C |

Staff Spotlight

By Sarah Teicher



Robert Buchholz is the Associate Vice President for Facilities Management/Director of Physical Plant at Elon. Prior to his time here, he spent 7 years at Temple University as the Associate Vice President of Facilities Management. In addition to his time working in higher education, Buchholz served 26 years for the US Navy in the Civil Engineer Corps.

Since first starting at Elon, Buchholz has seen an increased student participation in sustainability efforts on campus. One of the greatest being the students' ability to "mind the

bin". Buchholz has noticed that among the Elon community, there is a greater interest and support for sustainability with respect to the world and our region.

Buchholz is proud of the sustainability efforts made during his time on campus. One of the things he is most proud of is the 15-acre solar farm at Loy Farm, which he was instrumental in bringing to campus. The university leases the land to a third-party, who owns, operates and sells the power to Duke Energy. The solar farm is a valuable educational tool for Elon students. Buchholz is also proud of WebControl, an operational dashboard which allows for more control and information about building systems and overall energy consumption. Elon's LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, facilities are also a distinction. The campus has 27

LEED certified projects.

Buchholz believes that Elon has a great chance to create behavior change by educating students, faculty, and staff on how their choices impact the environment. He upholds the value that one should live in harmony with their environment, and that we at Elon should set an example for our peers, colleagues, and visitors. Buchholz says, "my parents always taught me to leave a camp site in better condition than how I found it." This is perfect advice for the Elon community as Robert prepares to retire after 10 years of dedication to this campus.

Student Spotlight

By Kate Pearce



As a Senior environmental and ecological science major from New York, Sven Carlstrom became interested in sustainability due to his "connection to nature and wanting to protect the place that [he] love[d]." A particular place that comes to mind for Sven is Maho Bay on St. John in the Virgin Islands. Over the years, he has seen the beach get smaller and the reefs disappear, which has motivated him to study environmental and ecological science. While at Elon, Sven has participated in different programs

and projects related to environmental science. As a TA for Professor Charest's class Humans and Nature, Sven led a class through the design process of a community based modular housing unit that can be deployed in the latter stages of disaster relief. He commented that it was "great to see the depth of research students put into it and also the lack of limits they put on themselves." Additionally, Sven has been involved in restoration projects in the Triad through his Restoration Ecology project. This has involved stream restoration and data collection with an education and community engagement component. He has also worked with the Uwharrie Charter School through his Environmental Senior Seminar class where his team focused on environmental education and building a connection to the built

environment. Sven also studied abroad in Panama where his program's focus was ecology, resource management, and research on parrot fish and their impact on reef structure.

While at Elon University, he has explored many different facets of sustainability and environmental initiatives. Moving forward, Sven would like to work at an engineering or architecture firm performing impact assessments for future projects and working on restoration projects. Later, he would like to attend graduate school for civil engineering in order to integrate food systems in the building of a city. Sven lives by the motto that, "if what you are doing is not exciting you from the minute you wake up to the minute you fall asleep, then find something that will do that for you." He encourages everyone to do the same.

Faculty Spotlight

By Cara DePan



As a faculty member of Elon's philosophy department, Dr. Anthony Weston teaches, as well as embodies, a certain discipline called environmental ethics. He lives by his teachings in his daily endeavors while recognizing and adapting to the fact that we live in a "larger than human" world. He believes that sustainability is merely the start to strengthening the relationship between humans and nature. Solidifying this sacred relationship entails spending time in the wilderness, uncovering nature's true worth on which you cannot place

monetary value, and allowing those experiences to inspire non-human perspectives. Once other perspectives become evident, humans will feel more ethically responsible for the damage to this biodiverse planet and the subsequent consequences. One personal challenge that Weston shares is that many people do not take environmental ethics seriously, which is a potential reason for existing hazardous environmental threats, such as deforestation, global warming, etc.

It is Weston's belief that Elon University, too, should strive for a more mutualistic relationship with its surroundings by welcoming other organisms such as birds, aquatic biota, or insects. A sustainable idea that he supports is a "living roof" which is formed by eight to ten inches of compacted soil, has the surface terrain of a meadow with various

vegetation, and could be a hub for newly represented trophic levels and nature-inspired spirituality. Living roofs provide quality insulation and an elevated absorbable landscape that help save energy and reduce runoff.

As Weston is scheduled to retire at the end of this academic school year, his teaching days may conclude, but he is not near the end of his experiential learning as a global student. He plans to continue his building and designing of the nearby farm-oriented Hart's Mill Eco-Village where he hopes Elon students will be able to reside, commute, and live sustainably in the future.

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ELON SUSTAINABILITY

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 ECO-REPS
 SUSTAINABILITY METRICS INTERN
 SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS INTERN
 SUSTAINABILITY INTERN

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 academics →
 projects database

ELON SUSTAINABILITY

EARTH WEEK APRIL 2018

| SUNDAY 15 | MONDAY 16 | TUESDAY 17 | WEDNESDAY 18 |
|--|---|--|---|
| Tune into WSOE 89.3 for an Earth Week Interview! 4pm-5pm | Outdoor Yoga Academic Pavillions 7:30pm-9:00pm | College Coffee Phi Beta Kappa Commons 9:40am-10:20am Keynote Speaker: Stan Meiburg McKinnon Hall 7:30pm | Waste Wednesday Lakeside Dining Hall 11am-2pm Sustainable S'mores & Documentary Showing Beck Pool Patio 10pm |
| THURSDAY 19 | FRIDAY 20 | | |
| Farmers Market Elon Community Church 3:30pm-6pm | Party for the Planet Lakeside Plaza 1:30pm-3:30pm | | |



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