

## Freshmen Students: Fall 2001

The 2001 freshmen norms are based on the responses of 281,064 students at 421 baccalaureate colleges. Of Elon's 1,212 Fall 2001 first-time full-time freshmen, 1,048 participated in this survey (an 87% response rate).  
**Some key findings are:**

### Nationally

- Freshmen identifying themselves as politically liberal reached a two-decade high of 29.9% and showed signs of renewed political interest and activism
- Increased interracial interaction and awareness of racial issues
- Freshmen appear to be more intrinsically motivated to attend college, with "learning more about things that interest me" remaining one of the most chosen reasons for attending
- Freshmen continue to invest less time in their studies, but are earning higher grades
- Increasing reports of high school required community service
- Continuing rise in opposition to the death penalty
- Growing support for gay rights

### Elon vs. 4-Year Private Highly Selective Religious Schools (Comparison Group)

- ❑ More Elon students stated chances are *they will be satisfied with their college choice* (60% vs. 56%)
- ❑ Elon has more students who *lived 100 or more miles from college* (84% vs. 63%)
- ❑ Elon students come from a *more affluent background* (\$100,000 or more: 52% vs. 33%)
- ❑ As a *first choice college*, Elon tied at 77%
- ❑ Elon students *attend fewer public high schools* (73% vs. 76%)
- ❑ More Elon students came from *high schools that required community service* (38% vs. 28%)
- ❑ More Elon students *plan to obtain a master's degree* (56% vs. 41%)
- ❑ Elon students stated they are less concerned about *financing college* (No concern financing: 49% vs. 35%)
- ❑ Elon was chosen more often for *rankings in national magazines* (16% vs. 11%)

### A Few of the Schools From Elon's Comparison Group for CIRP 2001

Agnes Scott College

Albion College

Alma College

Augustana College

Austin College

Davidson College

Earlham College

Gustavus Adolphus College

Hamline University

Hendrix College

Lake Forest College

Luther College

Muhlenberg College

Ohio Wesleyan University

Randolph-Macon Woman's College

Rhodes College

Southwestern University

University of Redlands

University of the South

Wittenberg University

Wofford College