



August 10, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Elon University has been selected to be one of only six sites in the country to partner with the Peace Corps to introduce an academic and service program, the Peace Corps Prep Program, to prepare students in all disciplines for careers in international development.

The Peace Corps Prep Program fits exactly with Elon's mission and values to prepare global citizens to work for the common good. The specialized curriculum, developed by Professor Steve Moore in the Department of Environmental Studies, will provide students with life-long skills, behaviors and attributes that will make them very strong candidates for acceptance as volunteers in the Peace Corps. Elon University's faculty, staff, students and administration are committed to this program and its success.

Elon has Service and Civic Engagement as one of its five Elon Experiences, a collection of dynamic programs that engage students in applying academic learning experientially. Elon students are engaged in at least three of the Elon Experiences before graduation, combining study abroad (72% of graduating students), internships (87%), leadership (46%), undergraduate research (21%) and civic engagement (82%). Elon is number one in the country among masters-level institutions for the number of students that study abroad. With over 82% of our students doing volunteer service, the Peace Corps Prep Program is ideally located and suited to Elon and the curriculum that they engage in during their four years at Elon. There are currently 14 Elon University graduates serving as Peace Corps volunteers worldwide and since Peace Corps was established in 1961, nearly 100 Elon alumni have served. We are already seeing a significant increase in students interested in the program since it came to Elon in February of this year.

The creation of this unique partnership between Elon and the Peace Corps exemplifies the commitment the University has made to developing young adults to make a difference in the world by becoming global leaders. In the words of acting Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet, "Elon couldn't be a better fit for the Peace Corps Prep program. We are thrilled to welcome them as a partner as they continue to encourage their students to consider Peace Corps service." We could not be more proud to be offering our students the opportunity to prepare to be successful candidates for the Peace Corps.

If you require any additional information about Elon University, our programs or commitments, please do not hesitate to contact me at amorrisson4@elon.edu.

Sincerely,

Alison Morrison-Shetlar, Dean
Elon College, the college of Arts and Sciences