The Daily Egyptian, December 07, 2012

Daily Egyptian Staff
Grant brings Stone Center improvements

RILEY SWINFORD
Daily Egyptian

SIU President Glenn Poshard’s office will soon be a lot more efficient. A $50,000 Geovaliance grant will help pay for the installation of a geothermal heat pump and cooling system at the Stone Center, which houses Poshard’s office, a conference center and other staff offices. The grant, which was funded by the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation and administered by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, encourages the use of clean and efficient geothermal systems to heat and cool not-for-profit and public facilities that receive electric service from Illinois electric cooperatives.

Before the project, the Stone Center used more than twice the energy per square foot of a typical U.S. office building, said Justin Harrell, an engineer at the physical plant who was the grant’s principal investigator. Now the building uses 75 percent of that amount, which amounts to a 63 percent energy use reduction, Harrell said.

“The grant was essential to the project,” Harrell said. “In fact, it was the availability of the grant that caused us to look for suitable locations for a project. The Stone Center stood out as a great candidate because of the high energy cost, old equipment and access to land for the well field.”

The center had the same heating and cooling distribution system since it was built in the late 1960s, Harrell said. Harrell said thermostats in each room have controlled whether hot or cold air is supplied to them. The hot duct was heated by hot water, which was produced by a natural gas fire boiler in the building. Harrell said the old system was not controlled well and wasted energy.

The project replaced all of this equipment with two large geothermal heat pumps with one dedicated to the cold duct and one dedicated to the hot one. The new pumps are fueled by the earth’s natural energy.

Harrell said the the St. Louis Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers awarded the project first place in 2011 for use of alternative or renewable energy technology.

“It was the combination of the high-efficiency geothermal system and a new digital control system that made this project a success,” Harrell said. “Energy costs have been reduced by 42 percent. The difference is due to the fact that the heating system now uses electricity rather than natural gas, which is less expensive per unit energy.”

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IBHE aims to improve state academic quality

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

SIU is working with a statewide board to improve Illinois higher education.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education has several goals for public institutions to help students receive a college education in an affordable and timely manner. SIU President Glenn Poshard said many of IBHE’s goals are being pursued by the university.

During November’s SIU Board of Trustees meeting, Paul Savela, vice president of academic affairs, said he has seen some programs reduce the required credit hours to graduate. This change falls in line with IBHE’s goal to reduce the amount of credit hours students take at state universities.

Poshard said the university would take steps to follow the board’s public agenda.

“(The board) put together what they considered to be the four greatest problems facing the state of Illinois,” Poshard said. “Their concern was that Illinois ranked far below the most educated U.S. states in educational attainment.”

One problem concerns students who are left behind by the state’s education system, he said. Some students drop out to join the workforce, and other students need additional training to perform work-related duties, Poshard said.

To fit the issue, the IBHE established a goal to increase educational attainment to match the best performing states, he said.

Poshard said one way to achieve the goal is to eliminate achievement gaps between students of different race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status.

“For the kids that are falling behind in any of these areas, they need to be able to catch up,” Poshard said. “That’s been part of the discussion.”

Students from rural areas and inner cities are behind in educational attainment compared to suburban school districts, he said.

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Survey looks at view of state

RILEY SWINFORD
Daily Egyptian

Some Illinois residents think the state is corrupt and are unhappy with the direction it is going in, according to the results of a recent poll.

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute conducted a poll in September that asked 1,261 registered Illinois voters about their opinions on a variety of topics that included the 2012 election and state policies. The results, which were released at a Sept. 27 and 28 Chicago conference on ethics and reform, showed nearly 70 percent of those polled thought Illinois is headed in the wrong direction.

About 60 percent of the registered voters thought Illinois’ state government is more corrupt than those in other states, according to the poll.

“We have been asking about ethics and political reforms in our statewide polls for several years now, and honest government was a primary concern for our institute’s founder, Sen. Paul Simon,” said Charles Leonard, the director of the poll. “Of course, in the wake of Gov. Rod Blagojevich’s conviction and imprisonment, and calls for reform throughout the state, the institute thought it was time to try to focus academic, reform-community and media attention on the topic.”

According to numbers gathered by the institute over the last five years, less than 20 percent of Illinois voters thought Illinois is headed in the right direction.

Leonard said a range of factors, including budget deficits and public pension shortfalls, could be reason behind Illinoisans’ opinions. He also said the state’s perceived culture of corruption could also lead to the voters’ dim views.

The institute also asked voters if they have confidence in the honesty of the U.S. election process. More than half of those surveyed — 56 percent — said they trust the system nationwide. However, only 50 percent trusted the voting process in Illinois elections.

The organization examined this by asking voters about a variety of election-related topics that included financial disclosure, conflict of interest, term limits and the campaign process.

“We chose this topic because ethics and public corruption are long-term problems in Illinois politics,” John Jackson, professor at the institute, said. “We touched on a number of other political and governmental issues in the poll, including several which were leads into the November elections.”

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Style in study

Molly Howard-Crow, a senior from Carbondale studying fashion design, works to attach a waist band to the top of a pencil skirt as part of her final project for class. Howard-Crow said people don’t think of fashion design as a serious major, and they just don’t realize the role that fashion plays in their lives. “Even if we don’t consider ourselves into fashion persé, everyone has their own personal style and would wear one thing but not another,” she said.
The Weather Channel® 5 day weather forecast for Carbondale, IL

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The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 15,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions will run on Wednesdays. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale and Carterville communities. The Daily Egyptian online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

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The Daily Egyptian, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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Correction
In Tuesday’s edition of the Daily Egyptian, the article “Commission Reflects on Party” incorrectly attributed a quote to commissioner Jerrold Hennrich. The quote was spoken by another commissioner. The Daily Egyptian regrets this error.
Ethinics

About 80 percent of the polled voters said it is very important or somewhat important for the tax returns of political officials to be released annually.

"It has become routine for candidates for higher office to release their tax returns," Leonard said. "Many voters expect it. It shows where candidates get their income and whether there might be conflicts between their livelihoods and their official positions in government. And in a political environment full of negative campaigning, when candidates don't release their returns, it gives their opponents an opportunity to say something like, 'What does he have to hide?'"

Most citizens also said they would like to limit how long a lawmaker can be in office. About 78 percent of voters favor the limitation of state representatives to five consecutive two-year terms and state senators to three consecutive four-year terms.

"Term limits have been a popular reform proposal among voters all over the country for a long time," Leonard said. "No matter what you think of term limits as an effective policy, supporting term limits certainly is a way for voters to say 'throw the bums out,' particularly when voters are as frustrated as Illinoisans are with their state government."

The poll also asked voters about the state's "revolving door" policy, which regulates what benefits the spouses and immediate family members of state employees can receive.

Leonard said the state's policy is weaker than the policies of surrounding states.

"People essentially can go right from elected or appointed government positions into the private sector, even into areas where they used to be regulators and even after making favorable decisions for the industries which will employ them after their government service," he said.

Stephen Brandt, a graduate student from Bloomington studying public health, said he thinks the results were too harsh. He said while the state has gone through some rough times recently, he thinks it is improving.

"We have probably hit bottom and are coming up," he said. "I think we are on the way up instead of the way down right now. That being said. I think we are still in a bad place."

Brandt said the state needs to be transparent and cut down on corruption. He said the state also needs to have fewer political leaders who end up in prison.

Jon Larson, a senior studying geography and environmental resources, said he wasn't surprised by the results of the poll. He said he has noticed a lot of people complaining about the state.

Larson said he is also unhappy with the state's direction, and he will head out of state for employment after graduation.

"Illinois needs to revaluate the budget and the way it spends money," he said. "We have a big state with a lot of people. Every state-funded operation is owed money by the state."

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Grant

Nancy McDonald, marketing administrator for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, said the geothermal system is estimated to save the university nearly $14,400 monthly when compared to an alternative fossil fuel heating and cooling system.

McDonald said the system is also providing improved comfort to the building because it is quieter and cooler.

"Dennis O’Brien, of the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, said the university will benefit from lower maintenance costs and reduced energy use, which will lead to less pollution."

"The ICECF appreciates the leadership of the AIEC and Southern Illinois University Carbondale on this effort," he said. "Organizations like Southern Illinois University can offer their peers, and the wider commercial sector, proof of the energy and maintenance savings during a building’s lifecycle. These benefits far outweigh the initial capital investment for installing a geothermal system."

The grant was important for the university because of its current economic situation, said Bryce Cramer, services manager of Egyptian Electric Cooperative in Murphysboro.

"With the fiscal constraints the state of Illinois is experiencing, additional funding for capital projects is important and many times is the difference between not doing the project and being able to move forward," he said. "This project will be an example to the private sector that geothermal heating and cooling is an affordable, economical, efficient and comfortable choice when considering retrofit and upgrades of existing systems."

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IBHE

The second problem is cuts to secondary education, Poshard said. In 2002, SIU received state appropriations worth $248 million. This year, the university will receive $205 million, he said.

"The state has not only cut back on the amount of money they give us to operate our universities, but they’ve also cut back on student grants and loans," Poshard said. "They have delayed payments up to six months."

Another IBHE goal ensures college affordability for students, he said.

"SIU Carbondale has kept tuition and fees lower than any of the major public (and private) research universities in the state," Poshard said. "We have sought to attain that goal by keeping our education at SIU Carbondale affordable."

The state’s need for more degree holders is yet another problem IBHE plans to handle.

"Our goal is to make sure we are meeting the economic demands by expanding the number of people who receive degrees," Poshard said.

The university is concentrating on online and off-campus education, he said, to reach people in some of these areas where they can’t travel to the university itself.

The state’s economy is yet another problem IBHE is dealing with.

"What the state IBHE has told us is we need to better integrate our education research and innovation in the universities to the areas surrounding them," Poshard said. "We have taken a leadership role at SIU in doing this in many ways."

He said much of the university’s research is geared toward agriculture and business.

"That’s what we’re tried to do — reach out to the surrounding area and help them in whatever way possible," Poshard said. "The chancellor is doing a very good job in all four of these areas."

Allan Karnes, associate dean of the College of Business and IBHE member, said IBHE does not tell SIU what to do, but the board’s primary responsibility is to approve college programs. If SIU wanted to offer a business journalism degree, for example, IBHE would look at offered courses and see if it meets minimum standards.

"We spend a good part of our time looking at these degree proposals," he said.

Karnes said the IBHE works with four different types of colleges — community colleges, public universities, not-for-profit private universities and for-profit private universities.

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A new director on campus said she wants to energize her department.

The Exploratory Student Advisement University College Center is a new program as of Dec. 3 that combines the former Center for Academic Success and the Pre-Major Advisement Center and aims to help students with undecided majors. Veronica Williams was named the director of the program and said she is excited to see the new department grow and develop during the next few months.

The Buffalo, N.Y., native, was a first-generation college student and mother when she attended D’Youville College in Buffalo. “I was and still am highly motivated,” Williams said. “Being a young mother never stopped me from being in school and working three jobs all at the same time.”

Williams said she worked 10 years in retail management before going back to school to complete her master’s degree in personnel administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She most recently served as the director of the Twenty-First Century Scholars Program at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind.

“I am so excited to rock this department and get to know all of the students and staff better so that we can work as a unit to help the students succeed,” Williams said.

She said the department’s goals are to collaborate with staff and operate as one unit that provides quality services to students in the program so they can get the education they need.

She said she hopes her relatable background and energetic personality will help students feel comfortable when they talk to her. “I have an open-door policy,” she said. “I want students to come and talk to me whenever they want to, even if it’s just to say hi.”

Adrienne Galley, developmental skills training specialist at the Exploratory Student Advisement University College Center, said she thinks change is good, and she is excited to see what plans develop with the program. “I think having a director from outside of SIU is great because she can bring new ideas to the university, and she might be overwhelmed with all she has to do this first week. Good things are still happening,” Galley said.

Galley, who was an advisor in SIU’s former Center for Academic Success program, said she thinks students have greater needs when they come to college. “A lot of our students have financial issues, are first-generation students and sometimes come into college with a mindset that they won’t succeed because that’s what has been instilled into them all their lives,” she said.

Galley said she hopes that the combination of the two departments will strengthen the support provided to students. Jessica Jones, a senior from Rockford studying history, said she went through the CAS program when she was a freshman, and she thinks she is excited to see what plans develop with the program. “I didn’t always love the program when I went through it, but looking back, I think it was extremely necessary,” Jones said. “I still talk to my mentor, and as a freshman, she really helped me figure out how to balance school and a social life back then.”

Jessica Jones, senior from Rockford studying history

“— Jessica Jones, senior from Rockford studying history

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Bethany Galloway, of Christopher, attaches fondant feathers to an owl cake-topper Nov. 28 at Larry’s House of Cakes in Carbondale. The bakery makes everything from cookies and brownies to custom cakes with fondant decorations, manager Kim Emery said. She said the bakers mainly design custom cakes and fondant decorations on Fridays and Saturdays for customers who submit special orders. “The joy it brings to people is one of the best parts of the job,” Emery said. “Just knowing we can help add a little something extra to their party or event is a great feeling.”
ACROSS
1. At the _ of a hat; instantly 5
2. Grassy piece of land 10
3. Ridicules 14
4. "Oliver!" villain 15
5. Newman _ 16
6. Scolla 17
7. Little woman 18
8. Actress Della 19
9. Wily to listen and consider 20
10. _ at, mocked 22
11. Jimmy and Rosalynn 24
12. Hint; prompt 25
13. 1 of the 12 tribes of Israel 26
14. "Get out!" 29
15. Actress McClanahan 30
16. B. DeMille 33
17. Dowl's comment 35
18. Sky by pan 36
19. Truly 37
20. Part of a play 38
21. Banquet provider 40
22. Noise 41
23. Boardinghouse patron 41
24. Jack-in-the_ 44
25. Lena or lulu 44
26. Challenged 47
27. Hospital units 49
28. Take it easy 50
29. Hope or Barker 51
30. Dave, as a _ 52
31. Average man 54
32. Skimpy skirt 58
33. Anore 59
34. Waft 61
35. False deity 62
36. _ into; examine in detail 63
37. Refuse to accept reality 65
38. Drive 66
39. Pub game projectile 67

DOWN
1. Use a shovel 1
2. Precipitation 2
3. Meaning 3
4. Skirr 4
5. Wet time 5
6. Unwanted plant 6
7. Dinah 7
8. Slave; redeem 8
9. Great fear 9
10. One _ each other 10
11. John Paul II 14
12. _ so; very 13
13. Without 15
14. Babardi product 21
15. Fast car driver 23
16. Music player in a soda shop 25
17. Glass fragment 26
18. Warm drink 27
19. Turning piece in an engine 28
20. Go bad 29
21. Apple drink 30
22. Epic of the Trojan War 32
23. Rodgrave et al. 33

Solved by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek
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www.sudoku.org.uk
Putting her best foot forward

Sophomore thrower Deanna Price practices spotput Thursday in the Recreation Center. The SIU track and field team is preparing for Saturday’s meet, which will take place at 10 a.m. in the Recreation Center. “I am really excited about it,” she said. “I know that we have over three girls throwing over 62 feet already, and I’m just lucky enough to be one of them.”

Boatright a true All-American

It doesn’t take an award to prove Ken Boatright is All-American. The senior defensive end was selected to the American Football Coaches’ Football Championship Series All-American Team on Tuesday, but his efforts on the football field have been All-American throughout his entire two-year SIU career.

Boatright knows the meaning of hard work. One of 12 children to William and Mitzi Boatright, Ken has always known competition, considering he shared a bedroom with up to five brothers at one time. When he transferred to SIU and walked onto the football team in 2011, coach Dale Lennon told him he would play defensive end for the Salukis. His previous football experience on the college level had come as a 205-pound safety at Midland University, an NAIA school.

As a walk-on, there were few expectations for Boatright to start during the 2011 season, but he did just that, becoming the team’s defensive Most Valuable Player with 6.5 sacks and 13.5 tackles for loss, both tops on the team.

Today, Boatright weighs in at a solid 255 pounds, almost 50 pounds more than his weight as a freshman safety four years ago. He is coming off a senior season where he recorded 5.5 sacks, 13.5 tackles for loss and a touchdown scored off of his own blocked punt. The statistics alone are enough to give him All-American team honors, but there is more to Boatright than the numbers.

Boatright is a leader. It takes a very special player to complete the transformation of walk-on to team captain in less than a year, and Boatright did it. He was named a captain this season, even though several deserving fifth-year seniors were not. He didn’t disappear in the role, keeping a cool head when the Saluki ship swayed. He always garnered a positive attitude, and he encouraged and truly trusted his teammates.

Boatright is humble. There were times when the SIU defense carried the team. Few can disagree that the defense alone kept the team in the majority of its games this season when the offense repetitively stalled, sometimes playing entire quarters without recording a first down. Boatright was the catalyst. Yet, he would always answer with “we” instead of “I” when asked about his performance.

“We are a good defense. I have confidence that anyone can step in and make a play,” he would say.

Or, “We know what we have to do, and we need to get the job done.”

Interviews with Boatright were always a delight. It is hard for me to remember a statement he made that wasn’t accompanied with a chuckle or joke. He is an athlete who understands that football is just a game, and a team game at that.

With Boatright’s All-American honor comes the national recognition that he so strongly deserves. He has a bright future, as many NFL scouts are likely licking their chops at a guy that has the coverage skills and field vision of a safety and the grit and determination that allowed him to record 12 sacks in two years as a defensive end in a 3-4 system.

Boatright may have just been given the award, but he has always been an All-American Saluki.

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