The Daily Egyptian, June 20, 2013

Daily Egyptian Staff
Professors wary of new IT fee

TREY BRAUNECRER
Daily Egyptian

A new fee implemented by the information technology department may help faculty stay connected, but some are not excited about the added cost.

The IT department decided to begin charging departments at the university a technology fee. The fee charges each department a certain amount based on the number of full-time staff working for the department and is intended to help standardize communication across campus.

University spokesman Rod Sievers said by centralizing communication mediums such as e-mail, voicemail and phone lines, the IT department hopes to better connect faculty.

He said the funding from each department would also vary depending on its size.

"None of the money will come out of the professor's pocket, but the funding will be provided by each department's budget for the services provided by the IT department," Sievers said.

Although the fee seems beneficial to the university, Gregory Budzban, chair of the department of mathematics, said some professors are worried the costs may deplete department budgets and impact education at the university.

Budzban said he first heard about the fee more than a month ago at a department chair meeting, but was not aware of the cost it would add to his department's $50,000 yearly budget.

"When we first heard about it, it was said to be $100 per month for full-time staff," he said. "In our department, there are 35 full-time employees. That would come out to $3,500 a month, and roughly $42,000 a year for the math department."

Budzban said the $50,000 budget is used to pay student workers at the math department, purchase classroom commodities such as paper and pens and also provides funds for guest speakers. He said if the department paid the IT fee, it would have to cut student programs such as the Early Intervention Program as well as student workers because the budget would not be able to afford them.

"If we have to pay what the bill should be, two of my student workers would have to lose their positions," he said. "I simply can not run a department as big as mathematics on the budget, and without student workers, we would have to get rid of the E.I.P."

Carey Krajewski, chair of the zoology department, said the IT department's fee for next year would almost double the cost of his department's previous communications budget.

"I don't have my budget figures with me, but the IT fee for the zoology department is projected to be about $22,000. This is $10,000 more than our previous telecom budget," he said.

Krajewski said the quality and services provided by the university would also be affected by the fee.

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University loses $400K worth of computers

MATT DARAY
Daily Egyptian

A state audit has found the university to be missing a large number of computers.

The Illinois Auditor General's office found that 192 computers from the Carbondale campus and 65 computers from the Edwardsville campus with a total value of $416,183 were either missing or stolen during SIU's 2012 fiscal year audit. While the university has recovered some of the missing computers, the result of the audit has caused the university to re-evaluate their computer policy. University spokesman Rod Sievers said the result of the audit has influenced the university to change the policy it uses to keep track of computers.

"They recommended a number of avenues the university could implement to keep better track of our computer inventory," he said. "Of course, we agreed with that and will, in fact, institute those recommendations."

Some of these recommendations include reviewing current practices of monitoring computers, establishing procedures to notify security personnel at a faster rate and ensuring confidential information is secure, according to the audit report.

Jim Dahlquist, an administrative manager for the Illinois Auditor General, said the recommendations provided to the university are optional and are there to help improve the university from a passive standpoint.

"We like the audit to speak for itself," he said. "We are, by law, required to be neutral on any type of legislation and things of that nature."

Dahlquist said his office is required by the state to audit state agencies, such as public universities, once every two years.

Sievers said most of the computers lost were older models and the value of the computers listed was likely the original value. He said the university has recovered around 40 devices since the audit and it is possible that more will turn up over time.

The audit also brought up concerns as far as online safety.

According to the audit, protection of crucial information was a problem for the university.

The Illinois Auditor General's office said during testing, auditors found the university had not protected its computers with encryption software, which increases the risk of confidential information becoming exposed.

The university experienced a breach of security information on March 30 when the personal information of students in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, including their grade point averages, was accidentally emailed to more than 150 other students. It is unknown whether this incident is related to the Illinois Auditor General's findings.

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About Us

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The Weather Channel® 5-day weather forecast for Carbondale

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Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican-led House on Tuesday passed a far-reaching anti-abortion bill that conservatives saw as a milestone in their 40-year campaign against legalized abortion and Democrats characterized as yet another example of a GOP war on women.

The legislation, sparked by the murder conviction of a Philadelphia late-term abortion provider, would restrict almost all abortions to the first 20 weeks of pregnancy, defining laws in most states that allow abortions up to when the fetus becomes viable, usually considered to be around 24 weeks.

It mirrors 20-week abortion ban laws passed by some states, and lays far more groundwork for the ongoing legal battle that abortion foes hope will eventually result in forcing the Supreme Court to reconsider the 1973 Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, that made abortion legal.

It passed 228-196, with six Democrats voting for it and six Republicans voting against it.

In the short term, the bill will go nowhere. The Democratic-controlled Senate will ignore it and the White House says the president will veto it if it ever reached his desk. The White House said the measure was “an assault on a woman’s right to choose” and a direct challenge to Roe v. Wade.

But it was a banner day for social conservatives who have generally seen their priorities overshadowed by economic and budgetary issues since Republicans recaptured the House in 2010.

Penny Nance, president of Concerned Women for America, called it “the most important pro-life bill to be considered by the U.S. Congress in the last 10 years.”

JIM ABRAMS Associated Press

OfficeMax, Office Depot pit iii. v. Fla. for HQ

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — OfficeMax Inc. and Office Depot Inc. want Illinois and Florida to compete to be the home of their combined headquarters if their proposed merger is approved, offering the best package of tax breaks that they can.

Naperville-based OfficeMax made its pitch to Illinois lawmakers Tuesday when executives testified before a state Senate Executive Committee hearing in Springfield.

The hearing was on the state’s pension crisis, but before addressing the issue, OfficeMax CEO Ravi Saligram told the committee that the companies have agreed to a deal that would give the new merged company extensive tax breaks in exchange for maintaining at least 2,000 non-executive jobs in the state and making $150 million in capital investments. OfficeMax now has about 2,000 employees between its headquarters, a nearby distribution center and a call center in Peru.

Saligram said the two companies are just beginning the process of choosing a single headquarters. The merger, which was announced in February, is expected to be complete by the end of the year, he said.

The deal still needs approval from federal regulators and shareholders.

“What we are trying to do right now is first decide all the criteria, and then try to get economic incentives on both sides so we can come to an informed decision,” Saligram said, adding that Illinois has been a good home for OfficeMax.

In a statement emailed to The Associated Press, a spokeswoman for Boca Raton, Fla.-based Office Depot said Florida has not yet made an offer.

“The companies have agreed to discuss incentives with state and local officials at the right time in the integration process,” Stephanie Sampere said. “The Illinois state Legislature appears to be trying to gain an advantage by being the first to the table.”

Office Depot, which has headquarters in West Palm Beach, Fla., said it is not commenting on the Illinois offer.

“IT services are necessary to the day-to-day operations of the organization,” said Both Krajewski and Budzban, who balked, saying the exception would require a woman to prove that she had reported the rape and the pregnancy could put the mother’s life in danger.

“Women for America, called it “the most significant milestone in their 40-year campaign against legalized abortion and Democrats characterized it as yet another example of a GOP war on women.”
Father sentenced for binding kids outside Wal-Mart

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — A suburban Chicago man was sentenced Wednesday to 30 months in prison for binding and blindfolding two of his children a year ago in a Wal-Mart parking lot in eastern Kansas.

Adolfo Gomez, 53, also was ordered to serve 24 months of post-release supervision after his prison term ends, said Cheryl Wright Kunard, a spokeswoman for the Douglas County district attorney’s office.

Gomez and his wife, Deborah Gomez, were arrested June 13, 2012, in Lawrence after a woman saw a child bound and blindfolded near the family’s vehicle. Police reported finding two of their children, ages 5 and 7, bound by their hands and feet in the store parking lot, while three other children, ages 12, 13 and 15, were inside the SUV unrestrained.

Adolfo Gomez pleaded no contest in December to felony child abuse and child endangerment. Deborah Gomez was sentenced earlier to one year of probation after pleading no contest to child endangerment.

Gomez told police they were in the parking lot because their vehicle had broken down on Interstate 70 near Lawrence on their way to Arizona.

Louisville Slugger exhibit features Lego stadiums

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A baseball-themed exhibit built entirely from Legos is attracting adults and children to the Louisville Slugger Factory and Museum.

The exhibit occupies a large space inside the museum and is filled with baseball-themed art, including a 58,000-piece model of Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs.

There are also portraits of famous major league players built out of Legos, and a model of Milwaukee’s Miller Park with a retractable roof.

Curator Nathan Stalvey says the “Big Leagues, Little Blocks” exhibit was created just for the Slugger Museum. Cameron Crosse, an 11-year-old from Pembroke Pines, Fla., was visiting the museum last week and was impressed by the sculptures. Crosse says he would love to have a job building Lego creations when he grows up.

The exhibit runs through Labor Day.
The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics named Bruce McCutcheon from Lafayette University's athletic director Mato Moccia of four Under Armour athletic directors of the year.

Moccia was chosen by the NACDA in the Football Championship Subdivision along with Bill Chaves from Eastern Washington, Bruce McCutcheon from Lafayette College and Mark Wilson from Tennessee Tech University. The committee that selected the winners based its decision on their outstanding athletic and administrative performance.

"It's nice recognition for the institution," Moccia said.

Moccia graduated from New Mexico State University in 1989 and has played professional baseball for two years. He started his career at the University of New Mexico as the director of sales, then moved to Southwest Texas University as associate athletic director for external operations. Before coming to SIU, Moccia was the senior associate athletic director at the University of Missouri Columbia for seven years.

"I think it's a nice recognition for the institution," Moccia said.

Moccia named athletic director at SIU in 2006, he helped finish the plans for Saluki Field and develop the plans for the shell Martin Field facility, which will occur in the next few months.

Head softball coach Kerri Blaylock, one of the most successful head coaches at SIU with an overall record of 513-252, has seen three different athletic directors in her 14 years as head coach.

"Moccia gives us the opportunity to win because of facilities and because of the Under Armour contract," Blaylock said.

Head basketball coach Barry Hinson said he has worked with four athletic directors throughout his career and in less than two years at SIU thinks highly of Moccia.

"I'd have to say (Moccia) is one of, if not the best, I've had the opportunity to work for," Hinson said.

After traveling to Orlando to receive his award last week, Moccia said he is looking forward to the Sept. 21 football season opener at Busch Stadium in St. Louis where SIU will play the Southeast Missouri State University Redhawks.

"There are very few special opportunities at the (Football Championship Subdivision) level," Moccia said of SIU a "mini bowl opportunity."
Sudoku

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MIXED UP BY:

1. CRODH 2. SOTDO 3. RIFMAF 4. WOTDAR

Answer:

Wednesday’s Answers: VISOR CIVIL DRAGON RELENT

The gold mine turned out to be a bust, but thankfully, there was a — SILVER LINING

SILVER LINING

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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Wednesday’s Answers:

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NOW ARRANGE THE CIRCLED LETTERS TO FORM THE SURPRISE ANSWER, AS SUGGESTED BY THE ABOVE CARTOON.
Saluki basketball players celebrate on the bench during a 57-54 win Nov. 28 against Fresno State at SIU Arena. The men's basketball team, along with all SIU athletic teams, passed the NCAA Academic Progress Rate testing, which allows them to participate in post-season play. Teams are required to maintain a score of 900 out of 1,000 in order to be eligible for the postseason. The men's basketball team scored 904, the lowest of all the Saluki athletic teams, and will follow the NCAA Academic Performance Program Improvement Plan since their score was under 930 again this year.

TYLER DIXON
Daily Egyptian

Saluki fans can breathe a sigh of relief for the upcoming sports seasons. Every team passed the NCAA Academic Progress Rate testing, which allows teams to participate in post-season play. The NCAA requires teams to maintain a score of at least 900 out of 1,000 on the test, which is determined by the amount of athletes receiving scholarship or aid and if those students remain academically eligible. The men's basketball team finished with a 904 multiyear rate, which is an average of scores from the 2008-2012 academic years, according to the NCAA Division I APR Institutional Report. The team scored 908 last season and was required to follow the NCAA Academic Performance Program Improvement Plan since the score was under 930. This season, the team will have to follow the institution's plan once again.

Head coach Barry Hinson said the team was already instituted when he arrived last spring. Last season, the team's grade point average for the academic year was 2.812, which was fifth highest in team history. Hinson said the restrictions his team could have faced if it failed to pass the tests could have been detrimental to the team and the upcoming season.

"To say that I've been stressed would be a minimum statement," Hinson said.

Head athletic director Mario Moccia said he is relieved that no teams will face post-season bans.

"I'm very happy that all the programs made the benchmark," he said. "But you just don't want to meet the benchmark, you want to tremendously exceed the benchmark." The women's softball team had the highest APR in the school, scoring a 996. Head softball coach Kerri Blaylock said her teams could vary between a 3.4 to a 3.6 grade point average. "We really stress academics as well as athletics," Blaylock said. During softball players' freshmen year, they are required by Blaylock to attend a study table, an organized study session.

While Blaylock's players are not required to attend study tables after their first year, she said her players are so competitive they voluntarily use the services.

Although every team passed the APR tests, Moccia said academics always come first. "Academics are a constant top-of-mind thing up until we truly get out of the weeds," Moccia said.

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