The Daily Egyptian, December 13, 2012

Daily Egyptian Staff

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Cheng fields strategic plan questions

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

Chancellor Rita Cheng answered university trustees’ questions during the public portion of Wednesday’s Board of Trustees executive session and presented a strategic plan update.

Cheng’s strategic plan updates the university’s former Southern at 150 plan, which the university created to strengthen the university in 2003. Cheng said Southern at 150’s goals included the employment of 100 highly qualified professors and a 25,000 student enrollment rate.

“When our accreditors came to do their 10-year review, they were very critical of the fact that we had not adjusted our strategic plan,” she said.

Higher Learning Commission accreditors requested the campus submit a progress report by August 2011 to address university financial planning as well as comprehensive departmental planning. The accreditors said the university lacks, according to a PowerPoint Cheng presented to the BOT. Cheng said strategic plan updates for the BOT will be prepared when the accreditation team visits next spring.

Several focus groups designed a new university mission statement to target issues such as student success, campus community, diversity and inclusiveness, Cheng said.

Please see BOT | 3

Armed robbery at Neely

Daily Egyptian

Two suspects are being sought in a case of armed robbery at Neely Hall on Wednesday afternoon.

At about 4:30 p.m., two men with handguns wearing ski masks pushed a male and female victim into the female’s 17th-floor room, according to an SIU Department of Public Safety email sent around 8 p.m. Wednesday. The two men proceeded to take cash and a cell phone before they fled to the stairwell.

One suspect is described as a black male of about 5 foot 9 inch height with a medium build who was wearing a blue and black jacket. The other was reported to be a black male of about 5 foot 5 inch height and thin build who was wearing a red jacket.

Rod Stevens, university spokesman, said some students reported the building had been in lockdown. He said the location was never locked down, but students were asked to ensure their doors were locked.

Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to contact DPS.

Please see COUNCIL | 3

Fundraiser keeps the fire burning

AUSTIN FLYNN
Daily Egyptian

After an hour-long debate on the issue of panhandlers, council members passed a revised ordinance that was created to push panhandlers away from businesses on the strip.

The new ordinance makes it illegal for panhandlers to be active on any publicly owned property.

According to the meeting’s agenda, the ordinance was created after a business expressed concern about the issue, especially if word gets out.

Both citizens and council members said they believed the issue existed even before the item was presented at Tuesday’s council meeting but had different ideas on how to deal with it.

Please see COUNCIL | 3

Administrators update faculty on budget cuts, applicant numbers

ALEXA ROGALS | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Ken Anderson, professor of geology, asks Chancellor Rita Cheng on Tuesday about the differences in degrees and credit hour requirements for the next school year at the Faculty Senate meeting in the Student Center’s Missouri room. A proposal was discussed to make credit hour requirements uniform for all majors.

“We understand that there is a definite difference in the time it will take for part-time students to graduate versus full-time students, so we take that into consideration,” Cheng said.

Please see SENATE | 3

Educational transformation

The university’s fiscal situation, racial discrimination concerns and news of positive enrollment signs were the focus of the semester’s last Faculty Senate meeting.

Chancellor Rita Cheng and Provost John Nicklow made announcements at Tuesday’s meeting about the fiscal year 2015 budget, pensions, and an influx in applicants.

Cheng also addressed senators’ concerns over a recent incident of racial intolerance on campus.

Cheng said the fiscal year 2015 college budget reductions have been finalized.

“There are really no additional budget reductions necessary for this year,” she said.

Cheng also discussed pensions and how the university is trying to support them.

“We continue to advocate on behalf of our employees,” she said. “Obviously, it’s a cloud that hangs over all of our heads.”

Cheng said the university is willing to pay its share for pension to secure SIU’s employees.

“We need to remain competitive on the marketplace, but we also need to recognize that (many) people have (many) years in the system — so we want to sustain that,” she said. “And if that means we have to pick up part of the cost, we will do it.”

Cheng said while the university will pay for pension costs, SIU cannot create its own fiscal cliff by covering all the costs immediately and will take a balanced approach toward pensions.

Racial concern

Cheng also addressed a recent campus issue of racial prejudice at Tuesday’s meeting.

Graffiti was recently found on a university greenhouse that included racially insensitive language regarding blacks. She said her office has not received any phone calls about the graffiti, but the campus should be sensitive toward racial differences.

Holly Harburt, associate professor in history, said she had concerns about the issue, especially because a student sent a letter to a local newspaper stating that Carbondale race relations are not at an ideal state.

She said the statement is worrying, especially if word gets out.

Please see COUNCIL | 3

DON’T GIVE UP! IT’S NOT OVER YET!

DAILY EGYPTIAN
THURSDAY
DECEMBER 13, 2012
VOLUME 98, ISSUE 78
The Weather Channel® 5-day weather forecast for Carbondale

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<th>Temperature</th>
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The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Its 59 full-time employees include a 16-member staff and 209 student workers. The Daily Egyptian is a community newspaper that provides information for the students and the Carbondale/Carterville communities. The Daily Egyptian is published five days a week on Mondays through Fridays, in addition to two editions during the summer months.

Mission Statement

The Daily Egyptian 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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A policy that mandates classes take finals during a set time has not been followed by everyone. The university’s finals policy states that “no final examination be given prior to the scheduled examination period, and that students be given their examinations at the designated times.” Chancellor Rita Cheng said this is because the university is required to have such a policy in order to gain accreditation, but some university instructors said the choice of when to give a final should be at the professor’s discretion.

“The policy is one that every institution that I have been associated with has in order to ensure that a full semester of learning is taking place and that students are not unduly stressed by finals in some courses scheduled during times when other classes are still in session,” she said.

Rod Sievers, university spokesman, said the policy has been in place for many years and was also created to benefit students. “Holding exams at the scheduled times gives students ample time to prepare and seeks to avoid conflicts such other scheduled classes,” he said. “Final projects that are assigned to be completed outside the classroom are, of course, not subjected to this policy.”

Professor John Nicklow said in a Daily Egyptian article in January that he wanted to emphasize the policy to help lower students’ stress levels. He also said the universities cumulative final day set such period as finals week correlates better to student learning.

Instructors vary course materials and teaching styles, some instructors said they think the timing and the format of a final exam should be left up to the professor.

“Students should each choose their own thoughts as the end of the semester approaches,” said one student. The university’s future.

“The best format for finals largely depends on the course,” said Matt Reetz, a senior from Benton Grove studying cinema. “This semester is my first time taking a decision on the part of the instructor and not a half-thought-out administration determination designed to fit into everyone’s schedule. Nicklow’s memo states that exams during the last week of classes are likely to interfere with students’ other obligations.”

Reetz said he did have an exam the week before finals, he said his professor gave final due dates during final week but had no finals exams.

“Having a standard way of exams was one of the reasons I was able to pace myself with regards to each class of the course,” he said.

Brentna Shre Coyle, a senior from Tinley Park studying radio and television, said one of her marketing classes did a final project a week before the last week of class. “Its still ridiculous was used as the final grade, so students are not required to attend the scheduled final exam period.”

“Making the course a sales, a test would not have shown your knowledge and skill in selling something, so a final project was appropriate for a final,” she said.

The council also made the definition of panhandling clear and explained what behavior the ordinance bans.

Councilman Don Monty said a person can stand on the sidewalk with a sign asking for money as long as he or she remains inaggressive and does not continuously ask for money. A group or person of people can also play instruments on the sidewalk when performing. Mayor Joel Fitzler said creative ways to acquire money would not be prohibited. “While we do not allow panhandling, we do not allow the individual did not make others feel uncomfortable.”

“We don’t want to discourage certain creativeness such as street musicians,” he said. “People can play music and leave their guitar case open or violin case open — no bagpipes please.”
Stunners
1. Flight
2. Argo
3. Silver Linings Playbook
4. Skyfall
5. Looper
6. Frankenweenie
7. The Cabin in the Woods
8. Ted
9. The Dark Knight Rises
10. Robot and Frank

Stinkers
1. Red Dawn
2. The Collection
3. That’s My Boy
4. The Watch
5. The Cold Light of Day

Graphic By: Sabrina Imunde | Daily Egyptian
Hollywood’s 2012 stinkers and stunners

Film critics often compile “Best of/Worst of” lists at year’s end, and “sellouts” join the tradition this year. Our lists cover action, comedy, drama and even horror films. Our hope is the reader will discover a new favorite within the list. Unfortunately, we’re lowly college film critics and have not seen “Zero Dark Thirty.” "Les Misérables," or "Django Unchained" yet, so placement may shift, but the lists already show Hollywood’s strongest points in a very successful year.

Kenstein Burgstadter: 2012 was a film treasure trove, and this is clear when one looks at Oscar talk. Last year, the Academy narrowed the field to five nominees for Best Picture (including "The Artist" when there were six nominees). This year, the Academy narrowed the field to seven nominees. It was the best thing to happen to Hollywood since "Fiddler on the Roof." For someone such as myself, with only a few Oscar picks, I have yet to see enough films to make one and the producers treated the aliens like an afterthought. "Loki" had an especially forgettable alien army, but the producers treated the aliens like an afterthought. "The Dark Knight Rises" was the best film of the year. The performances, cinematography and soundtrack were all great aspects of the film. The movie might not have been as good as "The Dark Knight Rises," but it deserves the praise critics have given it. It’s my favorite movie this year, and it deserves the Oscar recognition it deserves, but I urge people to see the film. The film is topped off with an interesting Bruce Willis performance that showed Hollywood’s strongest points in a very successful year.

"Argo" follows an FBI agent who helps four U.S. Embassy employees escape Iran during the Iranian hostage crisis. The film is both tense and well paced, which is a difficult feat when one considers how many characters and locations the movie jumps between. Ben Affleck delivers both impressive acting and excellent directing. I would say he deserves a reward.

"Moonrise Kingdom" is a di...
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**City & Towne**
THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS
1 Capital of Vietnam
2 At a distance
3 Old glory
4 Take __: undo
5 Venetian beach resort
6 Greek liqueur
7 Brink: threshold
8 Boys
9 Silly film
10 Snail on a plate
11 Clothing
12 Synchronized swimming
13 a soul: nobody
14 Marry an ARC member
15 Pressure cooker brand
16 Purchaser
17 Drolter’s note
18 Apog
19 Swirls
20 Accepted standard
21 Invalidates
22 Façont problem
23 bit: signified
24 Bonet and Kudrow
25 Fried water
26 47’s sister’s daughter
27 together: united
28 Actress __ Kerr
29 Short letter
30 Chooses
31 Athletic
32 __ over: think about
33 The “Iliad” or the “Odyssey”
34 Archer’s projectile
35 Taking it easy
36 __ up, form a queue
37 Kid around with
38 Observes
39 Burn
40 Left border trimming tool
41 __ at: attack
42 King Kong’s kin

DOWN
3 Drug agent
4 Heart and liver
5 Repeat
6 Substance of 2 or more metals
7 Italian auto
8 Doesn’t __: up, makes no sense
9 Prayer beads
10 Gave parental care to
11 __ rational
12 Sky blue
13 75% __: Kyle
14 Response to a silly joke
15 __ off, irritated
16 Namasakes of actor/folk: anger here
17 Bowling targets
18 Cheer
19 Lisa replacer
20 Misrepresent
21 Rayne
22 Extremly dry
23 Asian staple
24 Went quickly
25 201 Rights
26 AQUOPE
27 CIKYP
28 STOUMT
29 MODEM CANAL VULGAR UPBEAT
30 Check clears. Dreams start to make
31 You’re entering a social whirlwind;
32 You inspire others. Update skills
33 Priorities. It’s easier to make money.
34 Aquarius — Today is an 8—
35 Libra — Today is an 8—
36 Cancer — Today is a 7—
37 Scorpio — Today is a 9—
38 Libra — Today is an 8—
39 Virgo — Today is a 9—
40 Libra — Today is an 8—
41 Taurus — Today is a 6—
42 Gemini — Today is an 8—
43 Sagittarius — Today is a 9—
44 Capricorn — Today is a 7—
45 Pisces — Today is an 8—
46 Horoscopes: Today is an 8—
47 This Year... Kick your fat cells in the Happy New Year!
48 Great Shapes Toned - Women
49 Blend Tea & Crepe
50 Served up by: Fat Patties
51 Lunch Special: Burger, Side & Soft Drink
52 11am-2am
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Equipment managers play major role in Saluki athletics

Handling dirty laundry and practice equipment might not appeal to some, but the athletic department’s equipment managers consider it another day on the job.

Head equipment manager Adam Borts, who oversees all of the equipment staff’s functions while focusing primarily on the football team, said he loves his job because it allows him to interact with college athletes on a daily basis.

“My favorite thing is that I don’t have to grow up,” he said. “I hang out with the college football players all day long, listen to their stories, shoot the (stuff) with them. I’ve always been a big fan of college sports and I get to be around it every day.”

An equipment manager’s primary duty is to clean all of the teams’ dirty laundry — and there is plenty to go around. Borts said there is sometimes 500 pounds to wash in a single day.

“We always have a student down here pumping it through,” he said. “We have two 60-pound washers and three 75-pound dryers, so we can get going. That’s about 13 household washers going at once, so we can plow through laundry pretty quick.”

Borts and assistant equipment manager Lacey King receive help from 17 student workers, who also have plenty of other duties with the job.

“All of my students are responsible for a coach during practice days,” Borts said. “Someone will be responsible for Randy Hedberg, the quarterbacks coach. They will be snapping balls, making sure the field is set up, placing the ball where it needs to go so we are ready to run drills during practice.”

For the rest of the story please visit www.dailyegyptian.com.

BEN CONRADY
Daily Egyptian

Lacey King, assistant equipment manager for the athletics department and senior from Murphysboro studying communication design, works Wednesday in the Troutt-Wittmann Center. King said she is going back to school to get her master’s in sports management in the spring semester. “I like this job because it keeps you in the middle of sports,” King said. “You’re helping athletes and helping people do what they love to do.”

NICOLE HESTER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Academic services help athletes succeed

BEN CONRADY
Daily Egyptian

Balancing school and athletics can be a rigorous task for the university’s student athletes, but Academic Support Services aims to help athletes achieve success both on and off the court.

Full-time staff members Kristina Therriault and Liz Smith oversee the academic services of all SIU student athletes, and they ensure each student has every opportunity to reach their academic goals with graduate assistants’ help.

Athletes attend weekly meetings with academic services to plan their schedules. They also have access to student tutors and the study tables at the Troutt-Wittmann Center.

“It’s a check-up, really, just to see where they are at and what they’ve got going on,” graduate assistant Connor James said. “We do some goal-assessment stuff, where we write out some weekly goals and see if they can accomplish them. We communicate that to the coaches if we are having issues or if they are struggling.”

Freshmen and transfer students are required to attend the study tables for six hours a week, but the athletes are not forced to attend if they hold a 3.0 GPA after two semesters. Even so, the majority of athletes use the facilities on a regular basis, and more than half use a student tutor’s help, Smith said.

“It’s really meant to be your one-stop shop for everything,” she said. “We have strengths-training across the hall. All the coaches are here so it must have made sense to have the academics in the same spot, too. It’s an easy place for students to come study and not have to go all the way to the library.”

The emphasis on academics holds true to a standard that has been in place for years, Smith said.

“Generally, the athletes have always had a higher GPA than the regular student body,” she said. “We’ve always had a standard to hold up. Christina has been here for 18 years so she has kind of built this program from the ground up. Academics should be a focus.”

For the rest of the story please visit www.dailyegyptian.com.

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