

SG proposes optional computer trade-in

By Jessica Reigel
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Student Government is currently pursuing a plan that would allow seniors, possibly starting with the class of 2000, to trade in their laptops upon graduation for the same newer model that the year's incoming freshman would receive.

The graduating seniors would subsequently receive a reduced price on this newer model.

Although this plan is far from definite and the details of a proposal are still being modified and worked out, members of SG plan to pursue the idea actively within the next few weeks.

The idea of a ThinkPad exchange for seniors came to light early on in the semester, and SG is working on contacting the appropriate faculty and staff members to help implement the plan.

Options currently being considered for seniors include offering the opportunity to trade in their old laptop for a new one at a substantially reduced price.

Junior Taylor Campbell, the SG treasurer, thinks that the university's good relationship with IBM might be able potentially to hold down the cost of the new computer not covered by the trade-in value of the old laptops.

Seniors would benefit by trading in their old ThinkPads for a newer model, since

"The computers would normally be stripped bare."

Matt Webb
Freshman

several current problems would be addressed and possibly resolved.

There is a potential licensing problem since the software on all of the ThinkPads is the property of the university, and this software will be removed from the computers before seniors leave.

"The computers would normally be stripped bare," said Matt Webb, a freshman

member of the Academic Committee to pursue the trade-in plan.

If seniors choose to trade in their computers, the new computers would be equipped with new software that seniors will be able to use and keep, since it would not be exclusive property of the school.

Another benefit to the exchange is that public schools in the area are interested in obtaining used computers.

The trade-in would possibly allow more machines to be made available for the use of public schools.

Essentially, this idea is very similar to the trade-in that juniors just recently experienced; after having their laptops for two years, the outgoing seniors would be able

to obtain a newer updated model.

Seniors, possibly beginning with the class of 2000, will not be required to trade in their computers, and this plan would be an option for those wanting to trade in their old ThinkPads and acquire a newer model for a lowered cost.

Details are currently sparse, and this idea is relatively new and undeveloped, but active steps are being taken to come up with a comprehensive plan that will offer seniors the benefit of a newer computer at a reduced price.

"We are still in the beginning stages of this plan, but Student Government plans to aggressively pursue it within the next couple of weeks," Webb said.

Professors track progress of plan

By Jay Cridlin
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The university chapter of the American Association of University Professors met March 15 to discuss progress made thus far by the university in the Plan for the Class of 2000.

Implemented during the 1996-97 academic year, this plan has sought to increase faculty salaries, which have fared poorly in comparison to those at comparable schools. Among other initiatives provided by the plan are the distribution of ThinkPads, study abroad scholarships and the addition of 40 new faculty members.

The primary issues discussed during the meeting were the increases in both faculty positions and student enrollment over the period since the implementation of the Plan for the Class of 2000.

At the center of this discussion was a questionnaire that had been sent to all department chairmen asking the number of new faculty positions that had been added since 1996-97 and how many existing positions had been converted from non-tenure-track to tenure-track. The questionnaire showed that a total of 28.5 new positions had been created — the English department having the most with three — in addition to six positions that had been converted to tenure-track.

However, these results were contrasted with statistics offered by the dean's office, which made a goal to create 35 operational positions and five endowed positions. The office's figures to date include 30.5 new faculty positions and four faculty positions in the Calloway School of Business and Accountancy.

The discrepancies between the figures provided by the various department chairmen and the dean's office could be the result of a number of

factors. One theory put forth was that the university could be counting faculty members on temporary leaves of absence, rather than just those that are working on campus.

Another theory was that the university's figures for students and faculty members studying overseas were inaccurate: The university could be counting those faculty members, but not the larger number of students. Rather, they could be counting only students paying tuition on campus.

One important question regarding these faculty employment figures was whether the university was getting the full benefit from the increases in faculty or whether those increases were being offset by the increases in annual fall enrollment, which went up by an average of 0.9 percent each year from 1987 to 1997.

One of the primary reasons that such statistics are important is that if more students are brought in, along with more professors, the student-faculty ratio usually increases or stays the same, rather than decreases. This statistic is often a very influential one in regard to a high school senior's decision to come to any given school.

The AAUP concluded that in order to continue progress toward an increase in the number and salary of faculty members, they would need access to the faculty employment figures.

In particular, the members agreed to seek out a study by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, a breakdown of the statistics of positions and full-time equivalents in each department.

Several members in attendance offered to serve on a committee that would attempt to continue researching figures, with the goal of speeding along the Plan for the Class of 2000 by finding and releasing accurate numbers of faculty hirings.



Kirsten Nantz/Old Gold and Black

Cruising

A student Rollerblades on the sidewalk outside of Tribble Hall on a sunny afternoon. Many students use Rollerblades or skates for recreation, exercise or as a convenient means to commute around campus.

BRIEFLY

Campus organizations may have their announcements listed by sending e-mail to news@ogb.wfu.edu, faxing to Ext. 4561 or writing to P.O. Box 7569. The deadline for inclusion in each week's paper is 5 p.m. Monday.

Presidential Scholars showcase their talents

The Presidential Scholars will present their annual Excellence In Action talent showcase at 7 p.m. March 21 in Brendle Recital Hall.

The event is free and open to the campus community.

Refreshments will follow the performance.

For more information, call Emily Brewer in the scholarships office at Ext. 3614.

Wilkie to lecture on Ituri Rainforest habitants

David Wilkie, the president of the Associates in Forest Research and Development of Waltham, Massachusetts, will lecture on the Mbuti pygmies of the Ituri rainforest.

The slide lecture will be at 3 p.m. March 21 in the Diggs Gallery of Winston-Salem State University.

Wilkie's lecture, "Forest Foragers? Life and Change in the Mbuti of the Ituri Forest, Zaire" will address Mbuti resiliency to the changing social, political and environmental conditions in which they find themselves.

Anthropology to host meeting on field study

There will be a meeting for students interested in participating in the anthropology department's archaeology field school in the Bahamas at 4:30 p.m. March 22 in the Museum of Anthropology classroom.

Slides and videos of the excavation will be presented. An information packet will be distributed.

Scholarship money is available to help defray expenses.

This year the field school will last from May 22 through June 20. Students will work at the Pigeon Creek Site, a large multicomponent site at the head of Pigeon Creek on the southeastern shore of San Salvador Island, Bahamas.

For more information, call Mary Jane Berman, an associate professor of anthropology and the director and curator of the museum, at Ext. 5282.

This is one of two archaeology field schools offered by the department

of anthropology. A field school in Austria, led by Ned Woodall, a professor of anthropology, will be held July 12 through August 20. Call Woodall for details.

Science professor to lead London group

An informational session will be held at 5 p.m. March 22 in Winston B. Ron Dimock, a professor of biology, will describe and illustrate the Worrell House program for fall 2000.

Courses in biology and environmental studies will be offered through the program, together with art history and theater.

Application forms will be available at the meeting.

Sorority to host Mr. Wake Forest contest

Kappa Delta sorority will host its third annual Mr. Wake Forest Contest at 8 p.m. March 24 in Brendle Recital Hall in the Scales Fine Arts Center.

Students can nominate someone they know for the contest, which will benefit the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse

and the Brenner Children's Hospital. Students can support the cause by picking up a ribbon in the Post Office of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library and wear it all week.

Professor to lecture on women in Russia

Professor Helena Goscilo of the University of Pittsburgh, an internationally recognized expert on Russian literature and culture, will give a public lecture on the status of Russian women in politics, literature and the arts at 8 p.m. March 23 in Scales 102.

The lecture is part of the Wake Forest Institute of Literature series, sponsored this year by the department of German and Russian.

A wine and cheese reception co-sponsored by Women's Studies and the department of German and Russian will follow.

The talk is free and open to the public.

YWCA to hold free Aikido demonstration

See a free demonstration of the graceful Japanese martial art of Aikido from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

March 20.

The demonstration will be held at the YWCA on 1201 Glade St.

Applications available for president's aides

Applications are now being accepted for next year's president's aides.

Students wishing to apply may pick up an application form at the Benson Center Information Desk or in the president's office, Reynolda 211. Deadline for applying is March 24.

For more information, call Carolyn Dow, an assistant to the president, at Ext. 5212.

Rotarians offering cultural scholarships

Applications for the 2000-2001 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship and the Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship are being accepted through April 5.

Students may choose to apply for scholarships that offer a one-year academic study abroad or a cultural immersion for three months in another country.

The academic year scholarship may be used for almost any field of study; however, it cannot be used for unsupervised research, medical internships or residencies, or for full-time employment.

The cultural scholarship, which

commences during the summer of 2000, is most appropriate for studying a foreign language in which the applicant may already be proficient.

The purpose of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries.

All applicants must have completed at least two years of university course work.

Students are ineligible if they, their parents or grandparents are Rotarians.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Susan Faust, an assistant to the senior vice president, at Ext. 5891.

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