

OPINION

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EDITORIAL

A step ahead

Computers to help architecture students

Architecture students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are fortunate.

The students, who more than likely will be required to purchase computers by next fall, will be taking a technological step ahead of their peers at other Midwest universities.

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents empowered the UNL College of Architecture on Friday to decide when and how to implement the purchase of computers. It is up to the college to decide who should be required to buy computers — only new students or students currently in the college.

While the estimated price tag of \$3,000 may seem like a burden, it actually will push UNL students to the forefront of competing architecture programs.

"It is progressive. It is ahead of the times," said Brian Dusek, architecture senator for the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska. "It seems radical ... but it would be better to do it now and be on the cutting edge than wait and fall behind."

Ray Weisenburger, associate dean of Kansas State University's College of Architecture, said computers were critical. Because of that, KSU will consider computer purchase requirements in the next two years.

Architecture firms, like any other businesses, look favorably at students who have experience and working knowledge of the field. Personal computers will provide that.

It is unfortunate that at a state-funded university, such equipment cannot be provided for all students, but these are tight budget years, folks. This is a problem plaguing all institutions, not just UNL.

According to Dusek, a senior architecture major, right now no more than 25 computers are available for about 500 students. When students don't have adequate access to computers, they begin to have difficulty in their classes. Students then could have a difficult time finding jobs.

Architecture students aren't alone in purchasing their own equipment. Many student professionals must take out loans or make payments on equipment for their careers.

Many photographers, for example, have up to \$10,000 invested in their own equipment, which is crucial to their careers.

One drawback of the proposal is the possibility of purchasing equipment that is quickly outdated. Brito Mutunayagam, associate dean of the architecture college, said, "Something you buy today, six months from now, it's outdated — especially at the level they're expecting students to buy."

Architecture faculty and administrators should do extensive research on what equipment will be required so students can be assured the equipment will adapt to technological advancements.

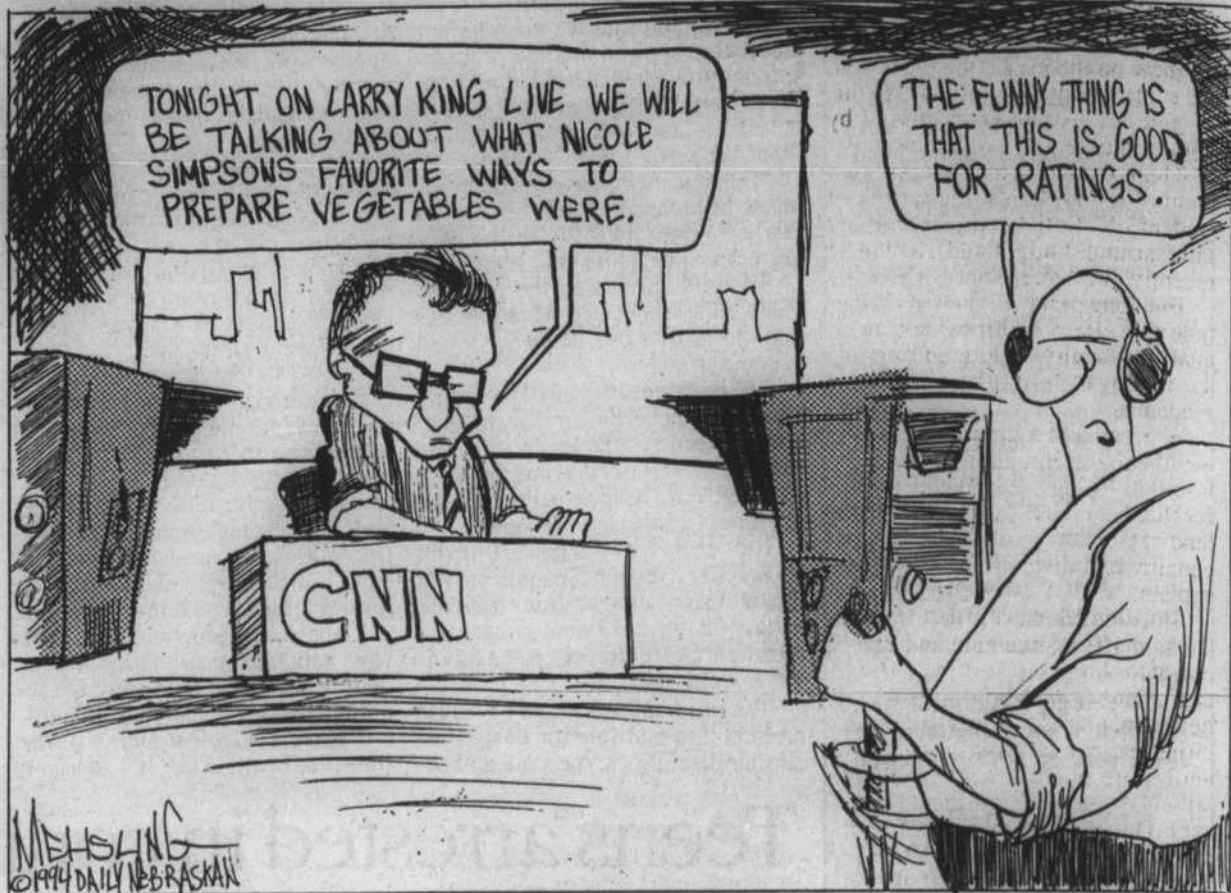
All in all, it appears that architecture students as well as the college will benefit from the technology requirement.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1994 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

LETTER POLICY

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others. Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted. Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Multiculturalism

Thank you, Jamie Karl. You reminded me why I am the way I am ... to separate myself from people like you. When someone said "read this" and gave me your Friday column, there was a swastika penna on your forehead. So, of course I read it.

You comment on the "good majority," those who will retain America's traditional values. Do you mean white Europeans who came to the Americas, stole from, lied to and killed the people who were living here? Then kidnapped millions of Africans and shipped them to the New World to do the labor of the prospering white colonies? These are wonderful traditional values, Jamie.

You want the country to be exactly the way you think — none of this "multiculturalism." I believe that was Adolf Hitler's policy also. Face it Jamie, not everybody is a "naive small-town boy" from Dorchester. If the world were meant to be that way, your Christian God would have created it that way, don't you think?

As for us so-called "liberated, independent thinkers," we were fortunate not to necessarily believe everything our parents told us, without investigating it first. We study history so that we may learn from it, so the same atrocities will not be committed again. Perhaps you should do the same.

I don't appreciate the "long-haired sloth" comment either. If I was lucky enough to have my own column in the DN, I would not refer to you as a short-haired preppy jock. People are different, and that would be a generalization. Besides, you might even like your haircut.

Jeff Vincent
junior
broadcasting

Kendra Marshall

Kendra Marshall has a lot of explaining to do — not only to her parents and friends but to everyone. For at least a week, the people involved in the investigation of her disappearance were probably thinking back to the death of Candice Harms.

Her parents and friends who stated that Kendra wasn't the type of individual to just leave without telling anyone must have had an enormous shock. Apparently she misled the people who care most

about her.

Don't get me wrong; I am glad that she is OK and that the university campus doesn't have to deal with this type of emotional impact of another student abduction. To me, this type of behavior doesn't convey responsibility of a college graduate about to enter law school.

A simple phone call to parents or a friend could have eliminated the time and effort expended by local and state law enforcement officers. Again, don't misunderstand my position. I merely want her to understand and possibly re-evaluate any problems or feelings that may have caused this event.

Doug Alexander
junior
criminal justice

recognize the idiocy of Washington's war on what grows wild in the roadside ditches of this state. We have to get big government off the backs of our family farmers. Hemp has been cultivated for its superior fiber and seed oil for eight thousand years. If only Bill Clinton would let Nebraska farmers grow hemp legally as they once did, then they'd be putting the petrochemical, synthetic fiber, fertilizer, pesticide, cotton and wood pulp industries out of business, instead of the other way around.

Join us this Thursday as we march from Broyhill Fountain to the Capitol. Together we will put an end to this evil drug war that is destroying our nation.

Brian Mary
senior
art



Bret Gottshall/DN

Legalize drugs

Thank you, Jamie Karl (DN, Sept. 30, 1994) for your recognition of UNL N.O.R.M.L./H.E.M.P. Until four years ago, there was no visible opposition in Nebraska to all the drug war nonsense. Prohibition and gangsters just keep getting worse.

We took the time to organize, in spite of heavy work and school schedules, without any outside help. It wasn't done to build resumes or out of a desperate need for attention, but because of all the kind and gentle people we know of out there who are desperate to be left alone. I suspect the homosexual students you mention may have had the same motivation.

You, like many rural citizens,

Brother Jim

Last week our campus was visited by another "Fire and Brimstone" preacher, Brother Jim. Brother Jim sometimes sounded like he was on the right track; he claimed that Christ was God and that Jesus was the only way to heaven, but somewhere he missed the point. He was busy shouting and yelling at all the "sinners" to get the message across. Jesus did the opposite.

Whenever Jesus saw "sinners," he had compassion on them. He went to their houses, talked to them and asked them to repent and join him. The only people Jesus yelled at or called names were the religious pharisees who blocked the real way to the Father.

The truth of the Gospel Jesus proclaimed is not that we are all sinners and going to hell. The good news is that Jesus was born on earth, lived, died and rose from the dead. He entered into human history in order to pay the penalty our sin required and to restore a right relationship with God.

Did Jesus actually rise from the dead? Does Christianity have any relevance for modern life? He could have answered these questions for us instead of yelling at people going past. Brother Jim reminds me of the resounding gong of I Corinthians 13, because I didn't sense any love in his words. I just hope that he isn't a white-washed tomb as well.

Brad Holmes
senior
secondary education