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Letters must be signed, include student's major or class standing, and be fewer than 300 words. The Horizon reserves the right to edit for brevity, grammar, and style, and may limit frequent letter writers.

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To inform, enlighten and entertain the IUS community.



AP grade policy may change

Students may pass up IUS

By ZACH HESTER
Staff Writer
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'What you have to understand is a small percentage of high school students take these courses and of those students, a small percentage make a 3 or 4 or 5, so it's not like we're opening up the floodgates.'

Gil Atnip
vice chancellor
Academic Affairs

The faculty senate will soon consider changing the way IU Southeast accepts Advanced Placement credit for incoming students.

At the next meeting of the Academic Policies Committee of the Faculty Senate on Dec. 3, Doug Denton, Student Development Center coordinator, will propose that IU Southeast accept and award credit for scores of 3 or above on all AP exams. IU Southeast currently follows the model of IU Bloomington and only accepts 3's on six of the 25 AP tests the university gives credit for, and 4s or 5s on all the rest except art history, which requires a 5.

"This will benefit the students," Denton said.

If the APC votes to proceed with the proposal, Denton will present it to the full senate at its next meeting on Jan. 17.

Under the proposal, the university will give credit for AP scores of 3 or above, but it will be up to the schools on campus to decide what kind

of credit they wish to award.

AP tests are given to high school students, usually seniors, after they take a year-long AP course at their high schools.

The tests are created by Educational Testing Services and administered by College Board, the organizations that create and administer the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

Students are given a score from 1 to 5 based on their performance on the exam. College Board recommends that universities give credit for scores of 3 or above.

"A 3 is comparable to most college students' experiences in a survey class," Raymond Hyser, chief reader for AP U.S. History, said. "It's a pretty rigorous test."

He said the test is designed to consistently meet that expectation.

"The people who make the test are a mixture of high school teachers and college faculty who teach the courses," he said. "There are people at Educational Testing who safeguard the integrity of the test so that year to year it has the same amount of rigor and challenge and meets the goals."

Gil Atnip, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said one concern about not accepting 3s is that IU Southeast may be losing good students to area schools that do accept them, like the University of Louisville.

"Most of the universities in our immediate region give credit for 3s, 4s and 5s. What we're really looking at is getting in line with those universities," he said. "Why would we want to discourage good students from com-

ing here?"

The idea has met some resistance.

James Woeppel, interim dean of the School of Natural Sciences, said he is concerned that students who score a 3 may not be ready to skip a course in science.

"The introductory courses in the sciences are not survey courses. They provide information that's needed in subsequent courses. I think it's a little different from the other schools," he said. "I don't dispute that they're good students. The question is whether they're ready to skip that class. If there's material in that course they need, it would be a disservice to them."

John Lepri, chief reader for AP Biology, agreed that not all students who score a 3 are ready to skip an intro-

ductory course.

"Just because the student has this accolade of scoring a 3 doesn't mean that's the best thing for the student. That's where good advising comes in," he said.

Woeppel said the School of Natural Sciences will compromise and agree to award credit for 3s, but the credit awarded will be undistributed. He said the credit will count toward a student's total hours, but this will mainly be beneficial for non-natural science majors because majors usually have more than 120 hours when they finish all their required courses.

Denton said another argument against the change is the university would be lowering its standards, but that this is not the case.

"I've tracked students, and the students that come in with 3s get As or very high Bs in the equivalency courses," he said. "It's not lowering standards, it's just recognizing their abilities."

Atnip said if passed, the policy would affect very few students.

"What you have to understand is a small percentage of high school students take these courses and of those students, a small percentage make a 3 or 4 or 5, so it's not like we're opening up the floodgates," he said.

Denton said IU Southeast typically receives about 100 AP scores from about 80 students each year.

Emergency

Virginia tech sparks upgrade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

having this capability," Mand said. "It's just another piece of the puzzle of how we communicate with people wherever they are."

Mary Lyons, journalism junior, said she is happy IU Southeast is using this system to notify students.

"I think for snow delays it's a great idea. I've shown up before when classes have been cancelled," Lyons said. "Text messaging is a quick way to contact students."

The system uses the personal information listed in OneStart. Anyone wishing to receive text messages needs to make sure a cell phone number is on file. To update information, login into OneStart and click the personal info tab.

Mand said students should update their information as soon as possible to ensure they receive notifications.

Smoking

Policy under fire

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the cigarette," Morton said. Kotulak mentioned an e-mail he received from a student that mentioned the anti-tobacco policies of the Nazis in Germany from 1933 to 1945.

"People like that start by controlling individuals on the periphery of the circle," Kotulak said.

"Unfortunately, in more times than not, the circle eventually tightens to include the rest of us."

Food court still not done

By ALYSSA BROWN
Staff Writer
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The new IUS Food Court is not yet complete due to difficulties with equipment and delivery.

Ernie Gionis, director of dining and conference services, said he hopes to have all new equipment ready and in place for the beginning of the spring semester on Jan. 7, 2008.

"I want to make sure it's

done right when we open up," he said.

Gionis said it seems like one problem after another. Coca-Cola has returned twice to campus to fix the soda fountain machine and the electrical work has been pushed back due to delays with equipment Gionis said.

"It's that domino effect," Gionis said.

Gionis said he hopes students will continue to be patient as problems are being worked out and each

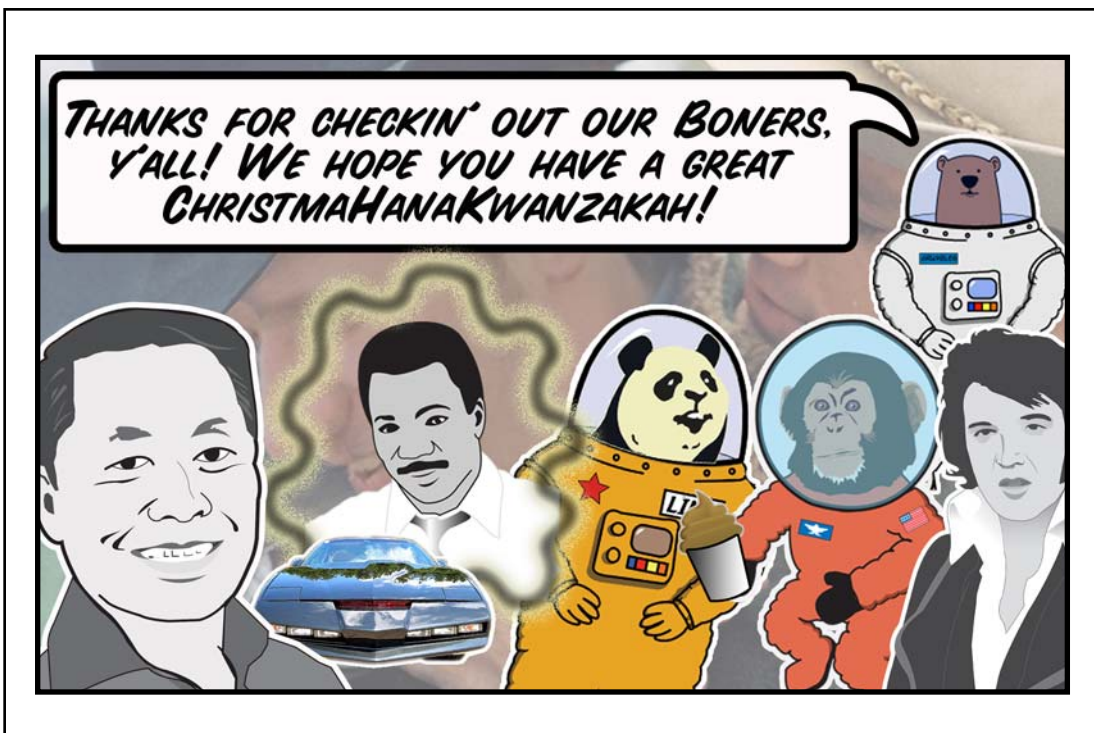
week students should be able to see progress.

Gionis said he encourages students to continue dining at the IUS Food Court.

"There is really no reason to go off campus and lose that parking place," Gionis said.

Morgan Callam, nursing freshman, has visited the IUS Food Court and said she is pleased with the progress.

"It's a lot better than it was before at the beginning of the semester," Callam said.



Correction

In last week's story, "Model United Nations," Bob Dusch's name was spelled incorrectly. The Horizon regrets the error.

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