

Daze of Campus Life

Rachel Chaffin

Cartoonist



Editorial Policy

Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included and received by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before that Friday's publication date. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no longer than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit for grammatical correctness and brevity.

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By e-mail: guilfordian@guilford.edu, subject "Letters"

Common computer courtesy

Sarah Hicks

Staff Writer

The Guilford computer labs should be a place where students can go to type a paper, respond to e-mails, do research, and other things that are required of college students. Especially for students who don't have a computer in their dorm room, computer lab access is important.

However, on any given day, a significant number of students can be seen at the computers instant-messaging friends who are sitting right next to them.

Oftentimes, this is all they are doing, and they do it as other students wait for a computer to become available so they can type a paper or do research to meet a deadline.

This type of scenario is senseless and shouldn't continue. When I was in the computer lab and this was happening, the more I thought about it, the more amazingly ridiculous the situation seemed. In order for them to do this, these people have to first communicate face to face, and then decide to go into a building and sit beside each other and talk through a machine.

First-year Katie Yow said, "I think people

should be sensitive to each other and try to be aware if the computer lab is very busy."

Junior Thomas Burge has a similar view, saying "I don't think people should do that. It's a waste of time and it takes up other people's time."

One unknown student defended the instant-messaging situation by saying "There aren't any rules posted. If I want to talk to my friends, what does it matter if they're across the room or across the campus? People just need to learn to share the time on the computers. It's a give and take-type thing."

With problems in the computer labs such as these, people need to be understanding and considerate of other people and aware of what should take priority. If people want to go into the lab and talk to each other through Instant Messenger while sitting a few feet away, then it would be very considerate of them to do so only when the lab is empty.

Otherwise, these students should think about the demands of other students and how their success in school depends on having access to a computer when they need one.

And maybe it's time to rediscover the dying art of vocalization as a method of communication with people who are only a few feet away.☺

Letter to the Editor

When I heard that a Guilfordian staff writer was working on an article about the changes we have made at IT&S over the summer, I was expecting a well-written, informative piece that explained in simple terms the work we have done to improve I.T. services on campus. I was shocked and extremely disappointed when I read the Sept. 3 article titled,

IT&S: back on-line. This article abounds in gross factual errors, and relays virtually no useful or pertinent information about the changes made to the college's data network and information technology services.

Overall, this article demonstrates why technical articles should not be written by people with little technical aptitude. The Guilfordian should find a good technical writer who

understands the technologies he or she writes about, and give them a column. The other articles were good. I especially liked Caitlin Adams and Kali Griggs' article about the departure of Campus Life staff.

Please keep up the good work.

Bill Schaller
Class of '06

The Guilfordian

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