

America's global priorities are out of order

By Henri Erti
Staff Writer

Increased production, better quality, product specialization and high profits are only a few of the pros of modern times: globalization.

This word and the indicator of the new world order goes beyond the economic impacts; it reaches to the lives of individuals thousands of miles from wherever you happen to be reading this article.

Unfortunately, the negative sides of globalization are often heard and seen from the activist movements through various propaganda efforts, whereas the positive effects come from the political and financial institutions. But the real question is: Can we as a Western capitalistic

society afford globalization?

The baby-boomer generation proclaims that the "American Dream" is still strongly involved in the economy, which used to be the driver of the global finances. But the living standards of this "American Dream" have morphed itself to a dream for the developing nations, not for the "First World."

Parag Khanna, the author of the best seller book "Second World," stated that America is ceasing to be a middle-class nation. This is a result of decreasing level of education, conservative approach in foreign diplomacy and the consequence of heavily maintaining military as the primary source of national wealth. The United States has failed on each and every count to resolve the major threats it

has encountered. This shows the world that the military power is ceasing to become a solution from the "Dark Ages."

The question for the leaders and political figures of the U.S. used to be "what's in it for us?" But today, the question on the minds of diplomats is "why aren't we invited?" Military allies are dropping out from the joint operations led by the U.S. This has shown that the power balance is changing not only in the military world but also in the economic world. The costs and end results of the global actions the U.S. has taken are increasing the federal deficit as the U.S. continues its devastating wars in the Middle East.

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Shorter lab hours a hindrance on students

By Karam Boeshaar
Staff Writer

The BC Art Department issued new lab hours for the computer lab located in the Sims Art building on Oct. 11. Previously, the lab used to be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, where students were allowed to continue working in the lab after hours if needed. Students also had to opportunity to work in lab during the weekend if they called security to unlock to lab, but it was generally locked during the weekend.

Now, the hours have been changed to 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays. Students are no longer allowed stay in the lab after hours, no matter the circumstance, even if they still need to get work done. Students are also not granted access to the lab during the weekend at all.

Associate Professor of Art History and

Archaeology, Anne Chapin, explains the reasons behind this change, "The Art Department makes every effort to provide our students with an attractive building and well-equipped, safe, and clean art studios. Safety rules and studio hours are posted for the benefit of everyone who uses these facilities. Unfortunately, the rules for the computer lab regarding food and drink were violated repeatedly, so access had to be restricted to hours when this studio could be supervised more closely by faculty. Since this change, no rule violations have been detected or observed," said Chapin.

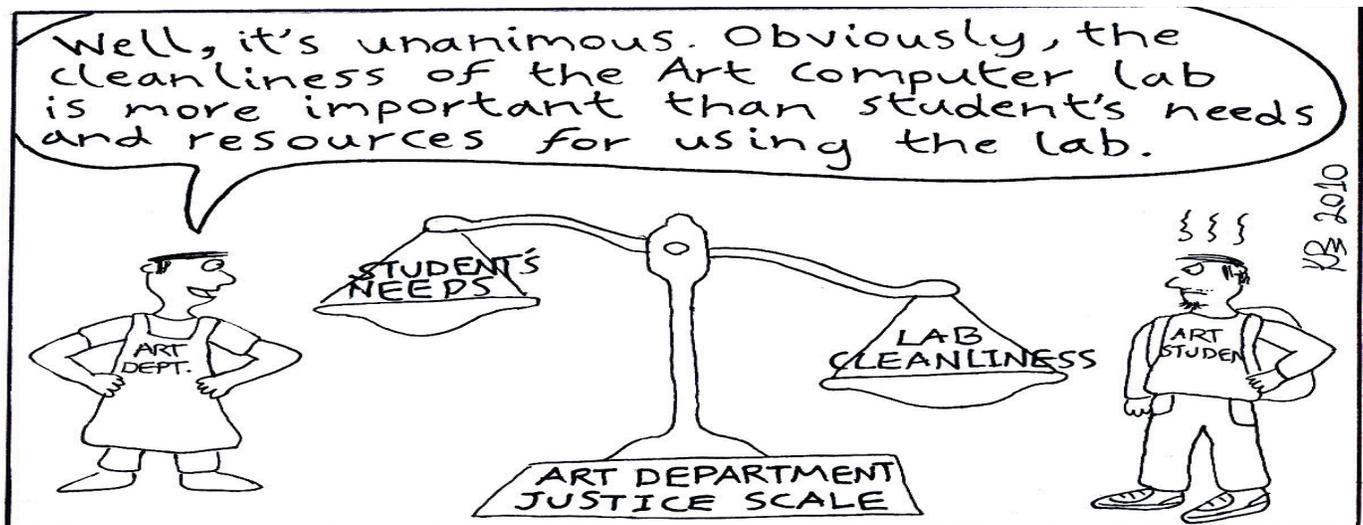
The Art Department has become more concerned about the violation of the food and drink policy since the lab was renovated three weeks ago where new furniture and carpeting had been added.

This new change has not been well received by art students who depend on the lab for their

art classes. Marissa Martin, an art student, expressed her displeasure with the situation.

"It is really frustrating that they close the lab at 3 p.m. I have a very long break in between classes a few days a week and this is usually my chance to work on digital projects and other assignments on the computer. Being kicked out at this early time has made it more difficult to get homework and projects done. I realize there are other computers on campus but they aren't equipped with the programs used in the art department. I also feel that it is unfair that the carelessness of one student has penalized the rest of us. I feel like we should have gotten a warning of some sort before taking away the privilege of all art students."

It seems the art department will not reconsider their decision about enforcing the new lab hours despite the negative reactions from art students and will stay that way for now.



Cartoon by Karam Boeshaar