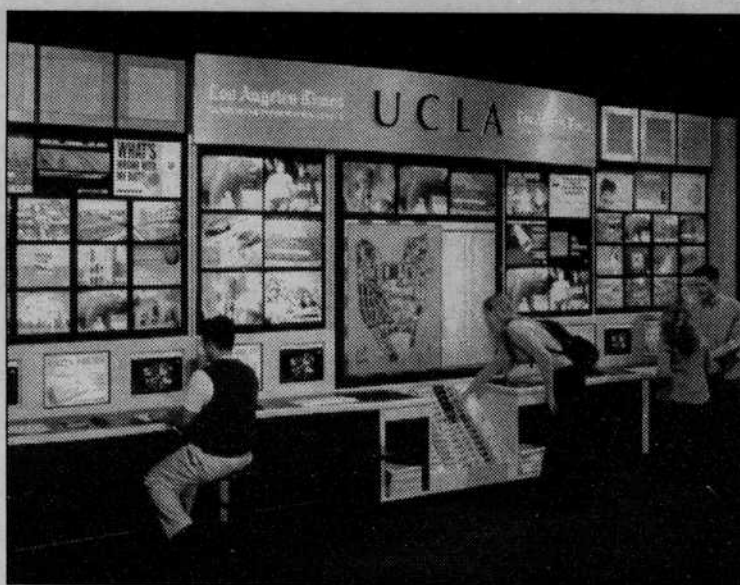


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Campus Link

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Timpany said Campus Link has placed these terminals in colleges and universities such as UCLA, UC-Santa Barbara, Southern California, five California state schools, Arizona State, Michigan State and various other locations on the West Coast.

ASUO Vice President and EMU Board member Mitra Anoushiravani had some disagreements with installing the Campus Link services. The main controversy of implementing the program, expressed by Anoushiravani, was the advertising Campus Link would promote in exchange for its service.

"I don't like the idea of prostituting our campus," she said. "While it is a great service, with our sensitivity to commercials, right now it is not in the best interest of the students. I still have a lot of questions. My mind isn't made up."

Although Student Senator and EMU Board member C.J. Gabbe said Campus Link could boost students' access to technology, he also sees a potential problem in "commercializing the EMU." To remedy the situation, Gabbe, along with other members of the EMU Board, will be working to contact other schools, such as UCLA, to find out what students think of the resource center.

"I have seen it at UCLA in the student union building and it wasn't particularly busy," Gabbe said.

Jerry Mann, director of the Ackerman Student Union and Student Support Services at UCLA, said that so far his school has been happy with the student-based decision to install the Internet services provided by Campus Link.

"We have a six-unit board and Campus Link worked closely with us to define the board to our specifications," Mann said. "The six stations are busy all the time."

UCLA originally initiated a five-year contract with Campus Link but has recently extended

the contract another two years. Campus Link proposed either a seven- or 10-year contract with the University of Oregon.

"We have derived income from Campus Link, roughly five grand a year," Mann said. "We benefit from access to the Internet we receive that we do not have to maintain."

EMU Business Manager Susan Racette, who was at the presentation, said that placing donated computers in the EMU without advertising could be an alternative.

"There are other alternatives that may be more beneficial than Campus Link, but it would be a way for an organization like the EMU to bring information into the building," she said.

Racette said Campus Link would not cost the University anything and the four to eight computers in the booth would link students to the Internet without the inconvenience of going into the computer lab.

Jim Bohle, assistant director of Administrative Service at the University Computing Center, said the difference between Campus Link and other kinds of portals, such as Yahoo or Excite, is that those portals allow users access anywhere and anytime.

"They are not built on physical advertising," he said. "The product, as I understand it, would give access to shopping, but only to vendors they have consigned with."

There would be approximately 150 vendors from which the University could choose.

Bohle said the Campus Link station would not directly provide students to services such as Duck Web and will not offer smart messaging, which allows transactions, such as dropping a class and automatically notifying another student who might want to fill the opening.

The decision on whether to implement the Campus Link kiosk is far from being finalized. Board members said they will continue to research the pros and cons of the issue, then address it at their April 12 meeting.

Allen Hall

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Jennifer King, assistant to the dean for external relations, said the building improvements add class and style that exemplifies what the journalism program is all about. Recognized as one of the top programs in the nation, the school now looks great as well, King said.

"We'd like to think the building is catching up with the quality of faculty and students," Dean Tim Gleason said.

Construction work around Allen, Lawrence and Pacific halls in the last few years has created a student-oriented plaza in the area. More renovations to the space are currently in the planning stage, said Robert Melnick, dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

"It's a dramatic improvement," Melnick said. "It's a really nice space that will be a great benefit for the school of journalism and for us all."

A courtyard was also constructed outside of the building and improvements were made to the ramps for students in wheelchairs.

All of the renovation work to Allen Hall directly benefits students, Gleason said. The building's look should allow students to realize their potential, "otherwise it's just a pile of brick," he said.

More improvement work is scheduled for the old Office of the Dean, which will host administrative offices on the second floor. A presentation room with advanced audio and visual capabilities will be built on the second floor for formal gatherings, Gleason said. The Hall of Achievement in the newly constructed area on the first floor is also scheduled to be completed soon.

King said the renovation is funded by private contributors, with most of the money coming from alumni and friends. Fundraising efforts, matched by the state of Oregon, also accounted for much of the improvement budget.

Previous phases of construction included the creation of the Duniway Center, the Chambers Media Center and a student lounge.

"The new lobby reflects the quality of the school," said Kellee Weinholt, assistant journalism professor. "As they continue in the phases of renovation, the building will do nothing but improve."

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