

news

Senior gift revives eagle statue

**GRACIE WILSON**  
Assistant Editor

The senior class of 2019 at Ashland University paid tribute to their time on campus by gifting an eagle statue to the university.

The new statue is in place in front of the campus library and is the image of a metal eagle taking flight. Funds were raised by the previous senior class in order to have this statue become a part of the campus scenery.

“It’s something we have done with a lot of the other senior classes, to have something that adds to the landscaping of campus,” Rick Ewing, Vice President of Operations and Planning at Ashland University said.

The statue was placed out front of the library because it was a prominent space and one that needed updating, Ewing said.

The eagle statue is surrounded by a garden that has been replanted with flowers and newly mulched, with the statue as the centerpiece of it all.

President Finks, a former president of AU is the one who initially brought the statue to campus, and it was originally placed on the street corner by the Ashland University sign.

The statue later went into storage but has now been brought back as part of the senior gift, Ewing said. “It seemed to fit. It was a nice feature piece within the garden. We were anxious to get it back out for people to enjoy.”

While the garden and statue have been put in place before the start of classes, the result of the 2019 senior class fundraising has allowed for even more to be added.

“They raised just a little over 2,000 dollars towards it,” Ewing said. “To date we have spent about 1,500. We have a plaque on order that we will add, and we like to keep a little reserve so if any of the plants need replaced, we are able to keep it looking good.”

The 2,000 dollars raised by the senior class was mostly from the Day of Giving during the Spring semester Ewing said.

The space that the garden is occupying is mostly shaded, so the plants need to be able to survive there.

“Everything we put there is pretty hearty and appropriate for the space and the shade,” Ewing said. “So, we think it will stay beautiful

for quite some time.”

The space outside of the library did house a garden prior to the senior class gift. It was formerly a rose garden and there is a plan in the works to preserve that as well.

“The original rose garden was there, and we are actually trying to think now about how to continue that recognition because it was a named rose garden,” Ewing said.

Other contributions to campus from previous senior classes can still be seen all over AU today.

The flagpole on the quad and the small water feature between Meyers and Clayton Halls are also senior class gifts, Ewing said.

The new garden and eagle statue now joins the lineup of senior class gifts that have left a mark on the appearance of the AU campus and will be completed with a plaque set to arrive by homecoming.

“We really enjoy working with those classes to find ways to beautify campus and leave a mark,” Ewing said. “This was another example of that success.”



The eagle statue takes flight over the 2019 senior class garden.

GRACIE WILSON

Changes on campus includes wi-fi

**CHRISTINE JENKINSON**  
News Editor

Wi-Fi plays a huge role for most, if not all, students on campus. Our world seems to stop for those couple of minutes to an hour or two and, according to Kim Lammers, our voices were heard in the Student Satisfaction Survey.

Over the summer, IT, Residence Life, Facilities, Marketing and two outside vendors updated the Wi-Fi. Lammers, Director of Residence Life, said that not only have they added Wi-Fi hotspots and wifi cabling in the dorms, there is an employee who is in charge of the Wi-Fi in the residence halls.

“We are very happy to offer this upgraded service to our students,” Lammers said. “Students have asked for it and we are ecstatic to be able to give this to them.”

The Student Satisfaction Survey told Lammers that students are streaming their shows, so cable will only be offered in the lobbies of dorm buildings. Ethernet will be offered for students who need it, but based on consultation and AU IT study of Ethernet usage, the school will focus more on Wi-Fi than Ethernet.

“The cost to upgrade Ethernet connections would have been cost prohibitive and, according to IT sources, obsolete in the near fu-

ture,” Dr. Rob Pool, Vice President for Student Affairs, said.

Cable ports will remain in the senior apartments.

Outside of Wi-Fi, Ethernet and cable, there have been many improvements in dorms.

Students may plug surge protectors into as many outlets as there are in a room. Refrigerators may be plugged into a surge protector.

Only three strands of Christmas lights may be plugged into each other. They may not be used as an extension cord or hung from the ceiling.

The Student Satisfaction Survey showed that students would like better communication regarding work orders and there is an online work order form at housing.ashland.edu. Students will receive a confirmation email when the work order is submitted, an email when the work order is completed and facilities workers will also put cards in rooms when they have entered to fix items.

Last year, a 24 hours visitation policy was piloted in the first year dorms during the spring semester. Now, in order to have guests overnight, students must complete a roommate agreement at housing.ashland.edu and have the approval of their roommate.

For additional campus security, cameras were installed throughout campus on the exterior doors.

Room freezes will still last for two weeks at the beginning and end of each semester, but there will be a \$25 room change fee for students who wish to change rooms after the two week room freeze.

“Our hope in instituting this fee is that students will work with their roommates by creating roommate agreements and setting boundaries before choosing to move rooms,” Lammers said.

Student Conduct boards will have an increase in student rep-

resentatives on Student Conduct boards from one student to three students. Student representatives will be from Student Senate.

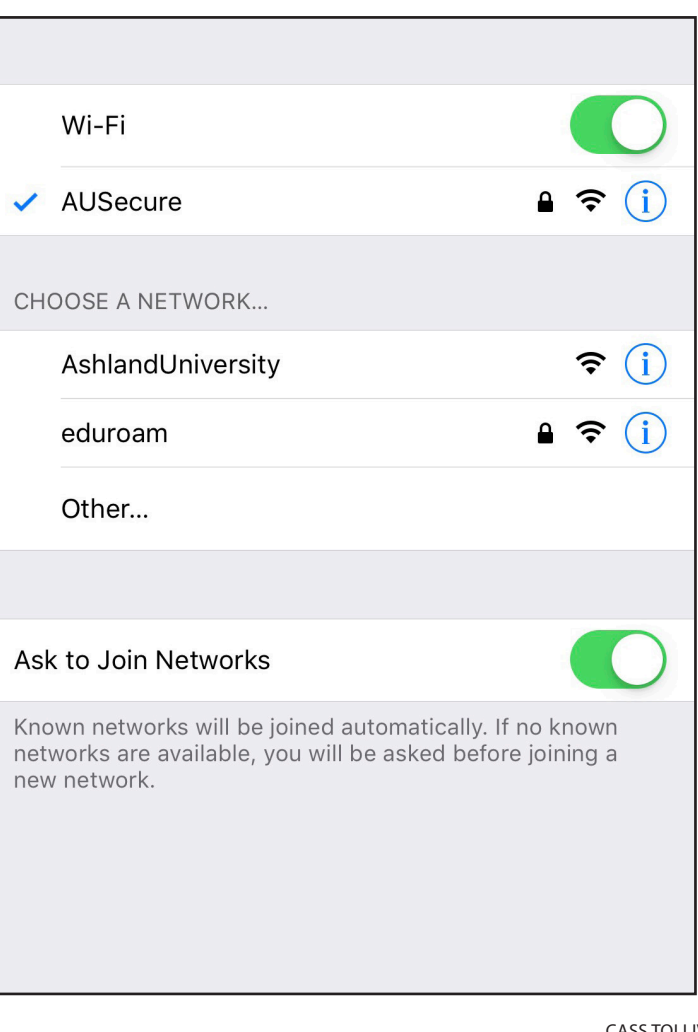
The last improvement is an incentive to go out and have fun at campus events. Pool said that Nicole Dyer and her staff in Student Life installed a new “Engaged” software system. Once the system is fully installed, students will be able to scan their student IDs as they attend select campus events and build points toward incentives and prizes.

Students will get co-curricular transcripts records of their student organization memberships and volunteer service. This will help AU plan and track informa-

tion around student organizations, activities and community service.

“(The Student Satisfaction Survey) is an opportunity for students to give us feedback on areas of improvements,” Lammers said. “It is important that we hear students requests and feedback, and try to enact changes where and when we are able to. The change in Student Conduct boards came from a Student Senate resolution.”

Students can check out the changes and rules in the Student Handbook.



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## STUDY ABROAD FAIR

Wednesday, September 4th  
11:00-1:30pm, Convo Entrance

Study Abroad Office - Bixler 211 - studyabroad@ashland.edu