

Facilities Management Department Notice Recent Heat Wave

To the Campus Community:

The entire region is experiencing an unprecedented heat wave accompanied by very high humidity. Besides creating weather conditions that are unpleasant and uncomfortable, such excessive heat also stresses the University's infrastructure system, specifically the electrical grid and air conditioning systems, sometimes to the point that they no longer function.

To prevent our electrical system from having a brown out or black out, our electrical service provider implemented a Demand Response event on Tuesday, August 28. Despite this attempt, the excessive heat and humidity still resulted in partial or complete equipment failures in Lyle Hall, Stayer Hall and Caputo Hall.

The heat wave has also impacted the cooling system serving both the Grille and the Cove. These dining areas are temporarily closed until September 4 due to heat stress.

What Is Being Done:

The weather forecast reflects that the heat wave should break Thursday night into Friday, which should provide some relief for building occupants.

In the meantime, Facilities Management Department personnel, with the help of trained HVAC specialists, are working diligently to restore power and cooling systems in all buildings affected. Repair parts are being shipped overnight and cooling solutions are being investigated to provide immediate relief.

The University is also trying to obtain replacement cooling equipment and installation personnel as quickly as possible so that the Grille and the Cove can reopen Tuesday, Sept. 4. However, the outage affecting Millersville is only one of many within the region, which means the timing for restoration of services may be outside the University's control.

Facilities Management is committed to fixing these issues as soon as possible and providing the conditions and comfort everyone needs for learning, studying, teaching and living.