UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XIII-M6

Student Use of Electronic Devices

1. Motions presenter: Mimi Becker

2. Date of Faculty Senate discussion: 1/26/09

3. Rationale:

The use of electronic devices during class for non-class activities is disruptive to students and faculty and reduces the quality of the learning experience.

4. Motion:

Regarding the policy on cell phone/PDA/pager/digital music player/laptop/other electronic device use during class, students may not use cell phones, PDAs, pager, digital music players (like IPODS), laptops and other electronic devices during class unless designated by the course instructor. If use of any of these items is permitted by the course instructor, these items are not allowed to be used for non-class activities. If students violate this policy, they will have a choice either to temporarily relinquish the device to the professor for the remainder of the class or to leave the classroom. If you, the student, have a learning disability that requires the use of one of these items, you must provide evidence from the Office of Disability Services (ACCESS), to inform the course instructor of this situation so that he or she can accommodate your use. Also, if you need to leave a cell phone on for an emergency situation, you should inform the course instructor at the beginning of the class session as well as keep the phone on in a silent mode, so as not to disrupt the course.

5. Senate action: approved with thirty-four ayes, one nay, and two abstentions

6. Senate chair’s signature: 

Forwarded to: President Mark Huddleston, on Feb. 17, 2009

Forwarded to: Provost Bruce Mallory, on Feb. 17, 2009

Nicholas Wolf, Speaker of Student Senate, on Feb. 17, 2009