CELLULAR SYSTEMS

Connecticut College's beautiful campus is very attractive to wireless carriers. Cell phone providers want to locate their antennae here because our relatively high location provides good coverage to the New London, Groton and Waterford area.

Sprint was the first cell phone company to install equipment on the Shain Library roof in 2006. MetroPCS (now T-Mobile) joined Sprint on the rooftop in 2009. The two carriers do not add much strategic value because their subscriber bases are small; however, annual rental income totals roughly $72,000. In addition, students and staff were still using land lines when the antennae were installed, and smart phones with fast data capability were not yet in general use.

More recently, many individuals have given up land lines and switched to cell phones for voice communication as well as high-speed data transmission. Cell phone communication is strategically important for voice communication and mobile computing. IS is working to provide better cellular coverage to improve voice communication for students and employees, and to provide emergency communication during telephone outages.

Verizon and AT&T are now negotiating with the College to locate cell sites on campus. Improved Verizon and AT&T cell coverage will reduce students' dissatisfaction with cell phone coverage on campus and provide better telephone technology for the entire community. It will also provide more rental income for the operating budget.

THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
CELLULAR SYSTEMS:

- As a part of the cellular site, Verizon offers to provide power from an emergency generator to support Shain Library's data center and emergency lighting during power outages, at no cost to the college.
- Verizon, AT&T, Sprint and T-Mobile are the four largest wireless providers in the country.
- College faculty and staff receive a discount for personally owned AT&T, Verizon and Sprint cell phone service.

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