

Campus Security System Selected

Charleston Southern University has recently added TechRadium's Immediate Response Information System (IRIS) to the other security measures already in place on campus. This notification system will contact students and employees using both e-mail and one other method, ensuring two avenues for information broadcast. IRIS will be fully operational by fall semester 2007.

The features of IRIS include:

- Five levels of notification, from general to emergency
- Verification the message reached the intended recipient
- The ability to create and notify specific groups
- No hardware or software to load
- Reliability

The University already has thorough safety procedures in practice, including a Crisis Response Team and a comprehensive plan in place to respond to a variety of emergencies. The North Charleston Police Department patrols the campus a minimum of three times a day, and in the event of a crisis, they serve as emergency backup.

In addition to security measures, safety procedures, and regularly scheduled annual improvements already in place, the University implemented the following within the past year:

- Security officers attended training to become more familiar with terrorism and gang characteristics.
- Security officers attended training enabling them to build better rapport with students.
- Residence Life staff received training on how to identify students who may be experiencing personal crisis.
- Additional campus surveillance cameras were added and existing cameras were updated, as per annual practice.
- Restricted access to interior residential facilities has been implemented using a scan card entry system.

The safety of students and campus personnel has always been of utmost importance at Charleston Southern University. The University will continue to review campus safety measures to ensure optimum security.

(Information sources include Chief Information Officer Rusty Bruns and Director of Campus Safety and Residence Life Don Little.)