Important Safety Notice

To: All faculty, staff, and students
From: U of S Occupational Health Committee
Date: March 9, 2017
Re: Power-Bar Failure on Campus

The power-bar in the photo above recently failed on campus, and was detected by noise and a burning smell. It occurred during campus hours, and was immediately attended to, but could have easily started a fire after-hours.

Follow up investigation by FMD Electrical found this unit to be ~16 years old (from August 2001).

It is recommended that all power-bars on campus:

1) Be **certified** (have a cUL or CSA label)

2) Be plugged **directly into wall**

3) Be **temporarily mounted and visible**
   - Mount easily disassembled (without special tools) if quick removal is required

4) Be **restricted to low-powered loads**
   - computers, audio/video devices, basic lighting

5) Be **checked on a regular basis**
   - See that indicating lights are functioning as per manufacturer instructions protecting the equipment connected

6) Be **replaced every five years** or as per manufacturer’s instructions

The user/installer should read and understand the manufacturer’s instructions, and adhere to recommendations for their unit.

Safety Resources