

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Friday, April 11, 2003

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SINCE 1899

wildcat.arizona.edu

7 programs spared elimination

More than 40 percent of programs slated for termination saved

By Keren G. Raz
PROJECTS EDITOR

Seven programs originally targeted for elimination under Focused Excellence received

yesterday the good news they had been hoping for from President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis.

Those programs, which include the School of Information Resources and Library Sciences, landscape architecture, planning and the Flandrau Science Center, learned they will not be cut.

The humanities program, which is separate from the

College of Humanities, as well as the medical technology program, are among the 12 departments that still face elimination.

The update comes almost four months after the first proposals for elimination were released in mid-January.

In their rationale for keeping the programs, Likins and Davis rarely mentioned financial reasons, but more often referred to

the academic value of the programs, many of which fill community needs.

That was the argument made by supporters of several of the saved departments, including SIRLS, landscape architecture and planning.

SIRLS, the only school of its kind in the Rocky Mountain region, serves an especially important role at UA, said

Edward Donnerstein, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

When state librarian Gladys Ann Wells heard the good news, her first response was, "Yahoo!"

"It's such an important program because we have so few library schools west of the Mississippi, she said.

See FOCUSED/3

Flandrau to receive state funds

By Bob Purvis
SENIOR WRITER

The Flandrau Science Center moved one step closer yesterday toward a future home downtown and one giant leap away from the financial chopping block.

Flandrau was one of seven programs that managed to avoid elimination under Focused Excellence, as announced yesterday by President Pete Likins.

The program was originally targeted in Financial Planning Bulletin No. 24, a report earlier in the year outlining the university's recommendations for 16 programs scheduled for restructuring or elimination.

Following the recommendations, Flandrau underwent two major structural changes.

First, while the center will continue to receive state funding, and remain "intimately linked with Rio Nuevo," it will take a financial hit, as the university's total contributions drop from \$718,000 to \$543,000.

City officials said they were pleasantly surprised to hear that the university would continue to fund Flandrau, even if not as much as before, during its quest for a home downtown.

"I am absolutely delighted to hear that," said Assistant City Manager Karen Thoreson upon learning that Flandrau will maintain state funding. "It solidifies (UA's) hopes to participate in a downtown science center."

The City of Tucson has hoped to incorporate Flandrau in the Rio Nuevo downtown revitalization project since voters passed proposition 400 in 1999, approving the project.

The second change will relocate the center's central reporting location from the College of Science to the Office of the Vice

See FLANDRAU/23

SCULPTURE SCRUBBING



DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Facilities management paint shop employee Fernando Sanchez prepares a sculpture to be painted by sanding off existing paint at UA's main east entrance.

Shower peeker awaits prison

Hearing will determine length of prison sentence

By Arek Sarkissian II
STAFF WRITER

A Tucson man convicted of sexually assaulting a UA student last year while she was showering could face up to 21 years in prison, after he was found guilty last month.

Esteban Rodriguez, 25, was found guilty of sexual assault last month. He is still awaiting sentencing in Pima County Jail. He has a mitigation hearing scheduled Monday morning at 10 a.m. in front of Judge Howard Hantman in Pima County Superior Court.

The hearing could be a chance for Rodriguez to ask for a lesser sentence from the judge based on any disabilities he might have had at the time of the crime.

"It could be to prove that he didn't know what he was doing or that he had a bad childhood so the judge might consider a lesser sentencing," said Deputy County Attorney Brad Roach.

Rodriguez, who was convicted March 3, declined an interview yesterday afternoon.

His attorney, John O'Brien, a public defender, could not be reached for comment.

University of Arizona Police Department officers arrested Rodriguez April 20, at a southwest side location, for entering women's showers in four residence halls, not allowing them to leave, sexually assaulting one of them and then nearly running a police officer over.

Roach's legal assistant, Dima Houppis, said the sexual assault occurred when Rodriguez lunged at and touched one of the women while she showered.

Along with the sexual assault,

See SHOWER/9

Symphony cancels Holocaust memorial

By Tacie Holyoak
STAFF WRITER

While many students struggle to define what is appropriate to do and say during war, Lisa Hunter, a graduate assistant who conducts UA's wind symphony, has already made that decision.

In an attempt to stay out of the way of controversy and possible protests, the wind symphony backed out of a tentatively

planned performance for Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 29.

Hunter, who filled director Jay Rees' position when he left on sabbatical, has worked all semester with wind symphony students on "Holocaust Suite," a composition by Morton Gould. They were planning to perform the memorial until recent conflicts caused debate over whether the performance would be

appropriate.

"People are very emotional right now," Hunter said. "(It might be) taken the wrong way."

"It was a general decision not to pursue it," she said.

But Michelle Blumenberg, director of the Hillel Foundation, believes the performance is necessary.

"It's a memorial," she said. "It's important to remember what happens in times of war ... An

important message of 'never again.' Whether the war in Iraq is going on, it's still important."

People can protest anything, said Robert Hayden, a music senior and wind symphony member.

"Holocaust Suite" was written before the conflict with Iraq began. The performance was meant to take the audience through the events of the

See MUSIC/12