**Licins details plans for UA’s ‘elite’ future**

**BY JENNY ROSE**

Staff Writer

President Peter Licins outlined his plans yesterday for restructuring admissions, raising tuition and cutting programs in order to move the UA toward the private sector.

The plans have been met with both excitement and some opposition from members of the university community who are wary of the possibility that UA students will find a drastically different institution when they begin school next fall.

**Restricting admissions**

Licins said he wants to create new admissions standards that will allow the UA to raise academic requirements for admissions and make the university a more elite institution in the eyes of the UA community yesterday.

“Licins has not specified what changes he wants to make to UA’s admissions process, but the idea of raising the bar for potential students is being received warmly by some in the university community.”

“It’s a wonderful idea,” said Miklos Szilagyi, a professor of engineering and a member of the Faculty Senate.

The current admissions requirements are “substandard,” he said, which limits the quality of teaching that professors can do.

“We have to teach middle school material,” Szilagyi said.

The shift in the admissions process will improve UA students’ education, said ASUA President Doug Hartz.

“Licins will put us in the position to be more competitive nationally, and the values of the education and the degrees would increase,” he said.

If the admissions process were refined, students would see smaller class sizes, a better focus on their area of study and more educational benefits, Hartz said.

While he is in favor of raising admission standards, Szilagyi said he is concerned with the loss of state funding that would result if enrollment at the UA were limited.

Because the amount of state money the university gets each semester is dependent upon the number of students enrolled, downsizing admissions would cause a substantial dip in entitled students, and as a result, state funding.

“The university must be prepared to deal with this problem, or else it will find itself in even more financial difficulty than it is in now,” Szilagyi said.

**Raising tuition and financial aid**

Although UA’s tuition is low compared to other public universities, Licins said access to financial aid is terrible.

To solve this dilemma, Licins said he wants to raise tuition and financial aid.

Tuition limits are limited by ABOR policy, which does not allow in-state tuition to surpass the 33rd percentile in the nation.

Out-of-state tuition cannot be raised more than 60 different shows broadcasted between 9 a.m. and 2 a.m. Since it is an entirely student-run organization, the variety of student tastes is represented with shows dedicated to everything from hardcore punk to sports talk to Indian pop. They also do play-by-play for UA softball.

“You’ll find a show for whatever you like. And if there isn’t one, join and make one. We are a unique medium in that we can play and say whatever we want. Most commercial radio stations are not even local-owned and the DJs don’t really have any choice in what gets played,” Van Buren said.

KAMP Student Radio and the Arizona Daily Wildcat are both divisions of Arizona Student Media.

Van Buren thinks people tend to forget that college radio was the starting point for most famous bands and that the future of music can already be heard at KAMP.

“Nirvana would not have happened if it wasn’t for college radio,” Van Buren said. “Punk would not have survived the ’80s if it wasn’t for college radio, and rap was initially only played on college radio.”

Licins believes the music heard on college radio formed the future of music.

**Applied sciences evening**

Gordon Buren shows off his first university in Spanish Languages lab.

The UA has installed devices around campus to keep the boarders off the property.

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Passports now available on campus

**BY JESSE GREENSPAN**

Staff Writer

Students and staff in need of passports can get them at a new office on campus instead of heading downtown.

The office — within the Office of International Faculty and Scholars — opened Aug. 19 to serve UA students and faculty going abroad.

“The people served so far are all glad to come here as opposed to traveling to the (downtown) courthouse,” said Janice Searight, the passport acceptance agent hired to head the whole operation.

Director of OIFS Carol Carpenter estimated they are currently serving three to four people a day, but expects business to pick up.

Previously, the closest place a student or professor could find a passport was at the Arizona Superior Court in Pima County, 195 W. Congress St.

“The courthouse does excellent work, but there has been a need for this service for quite a while,” Carpenter said.

There has been a steady stream of customers. It’s not been overwhelming, but that’s just with the Web site (for advertising).”

No funds for the program are taken out of the UA budget, Carpenter said.

For Carpenter and Searight, the office is the response to a demand for passports that went unmet last year.

Carpenter put up an online questionnaire last year that asked people what they thought of a passport office on campus, and received 200 positive comments within the span of a week.

Those who want a passport must go to the Passport Application Acceptance Service, located on the first floor of the International Center, 935 N. Tyndall Ave.

Because most people renew their passports directly through the U.S. Department of State, the service is primarily for U.S. citizens who have never owned a passport.

Passport applicants must round two 2-inch-by-2-inch passport photos, a certified birth certificate and a picture ID before applying for a passport.

For people over the age of 16, a passport costs $85 and takes about six weeks. The office accepts payment by check.

One advantage to using the office’s passport service is that requests will be sent out the same day they come in, said Searight. This is not guaranteed at the courthouse.

And there’s no line.

“Every individual case is different and every person is different,” Searight said. “I want to give everyone who comes in my own personal care.”

For family studies and human development sophomore Jerry Mathias, it was personal touch that made his experience enjoyable.

“Janice was great,” Mathias said. “She was doing and was very personable. Aside from side conversations, it would have taken no more than 10 minutes.”

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