

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

wildcat.arizona.edu

Vol. 96 Issue 32

University of Arizona, Tucson

FOCUSING
on
EXCELLENCE



DEREKH FROUDE/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Studio arts senior Ernesto Trujillo practices his painting technique for a class yesterday afternoon in the Arts building. Maurice Sevigny, dean of the College of Fine Arts, said the university has always focused on excellence.

Painting a new future

The state's short on money, the regents are ready for a change, the university presidents are accepting the challenge, but some programs' futures are uncertain

BY KEREN G. RAZ AND JENNY ROSE
Staff Writers

They've been frank: There will be cuts. Since the first mention of "Focused Excellence," the UA's plan to redefine its academic focus and become less dependent on state funding, administrators have warned that a new university identity will mean that not everyone and everything will be able to book passage on the journey to a new university.

Nevertheless, the plan, which is still only in its infantile stages, has been widely accepted by academic leaders on campus who are confident their programs will make the

grade and fit into the new scheme.

Under the "Changing Directions" initiative proposed by the Arizona Board of Regents, the UA would become a research powerhouse, make the admissions process more rigorous and raise tuition, while ASU would educate the majority of Arizona students and NAU would focus primarily on undergraduate education.

Focused Excellence is President Peter Likins' plan to realize Changing Directions at the UA.

Focused Excellence comes a year after a blow to the university's budget that saw the elimination of the

Arizona International College and a stripping of money from colleges across campus.

This year, the cuts won't be any easier — in fact, they could be as large as 10 percent, although all numbers are just projections at this point.

But as regents and university presidents ponder a major overhaul of Arizona's three universities, deans and department heads are hoping Focused Excellence will rescue them from budget woes.

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UA to receive \$22.2M for optical system

Contract for telescope testing device should bring jobs to Tucson

BY KAILA WYMAN
Staff Writer

The UA is receiving \$22.2 million to create an optical system to test telescopes for Lockheed Martin, President Peter Likins, Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup and other officials announced yesterday afternoon at the Steward Observatory Mirror Laboratory.

The technology, which is expected to be completed in 2006, will allow Lockheed

Martin to test telescopes in a vacuum chamber to see how they'd work in space.

The UA will work with Kaman Aerospace to create the optical device — called a collimator — for shipment to defense and military contractor Lockheed Martin's facility in California.

The UA will make the 6.5-meter mirror to be used inside the collimator.

The contract is expected to bring in about a dozen jobs, split between the UA and Kaman, with salaries ranging from \$40,000 to \$80,000.

"My hope is that this project

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Not all allowed to donate blood

Red Cross won't take blood from men who have had sex with other men since 1977

BY NATE BUCHIK
Staff Writer

While the Red Cross calls for students to donate blood over the next 10 days in a competition with ASU, sexually active gay men at UA will not be allowed to donate.

In the midst of Coming Out Week at the UA, students will be asked a series of questions before donating blood at the annual UA vs. ASU blood drive.

Included in the questionnaire:

"Are you a male that has had sex with another man

even once since 1977?"

If potential donors answer yes, their blood will not be accepted and they will be permanently banned from future Red Cross blood donation.

Jonna Lopez, director of student group Pride Alliance, thinks this rule needs to be changed.

"I think it's discriminatory. Basically, it's based upon inaccurate medical statistics and fear," Lopez said.

Lopez estimated that there are 2,000 gay students, staff and faculty members at UA.

Among other currently banned donors are those who have solicited sex, taken money for sex or used illegal intravenous drugs.

"We have no choice but to follow FDA guidelines, so we

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Telescopes join world network

BY RACHEL WILLIAMSON
Staff Writer

Astronomers will be able to see into space more clearly than ever before because of work by UA researchers.

Two UA telescopes, the only two of their kind in the United States, are now networked with two European telescopes to detect images in 3,000 times more detail than what the Hubble Space Telescope can detect.

To detect an object, all

four telescopes are pointed toward the same astronomical object in the sky.

Unlike traditional telescopes, these don't rely on an optical image, but detect radio wave lengths to form images.

The information recorded from each radio telescope is linked together to reconstruct an image, said Lucy Ziurys, director of the Arizona Radio Observatory.

"(The telescopes) are like very fancy radios applied to

outer space," Ziurys said.

The network of telescopes can detect objects outside our galaxy, she said.

Within a 200 million billion-mile region — the distance from earth to the center of the galaxy — the telescope network can detect an image that is 50 million miles wide, Ziurys said.

"And that's better than anyone has done," Ziurys said.

The telescopes are also being used to detect radia-

tion coming from other galaxies.

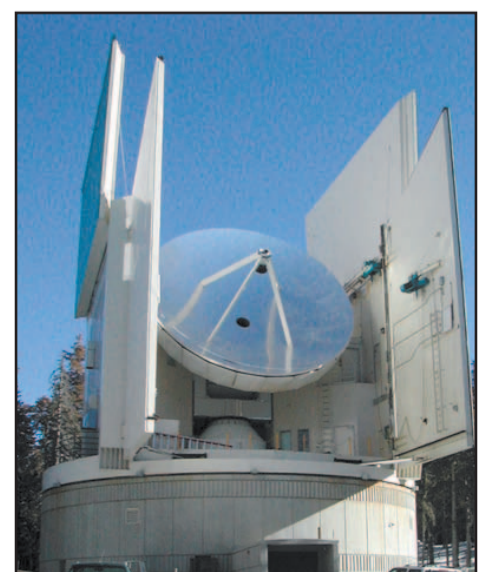
When more stars in a galaxy emit more radiation, that could indicate a black hole, Ziurys said.

A black hole is material so dense that sucks in everything around it, including light, she said.

Black holes emit radiation, Ziurys said.

This type of radio telescope is not easy to operate

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The 10 meter Sub-Millimeter Telescope is located on Mt. Graham is one of only two of its kind in the United States, using radio waves to detect and form images.

Photo courtesy Kitt Peak Observatory