

Diversity plan meets scrutiny

BY KEREN G. RAZ
Staff Writer

It was standing room only as faculty, staff, students and alumni spilled out of BioSciences West, Room 208, and into the hallway to voice concerns and comments about the administration's diversity plans not being articulated clearly enough.

President Pete Likins released yesterday a memo dubbed the Diversity Action Plan, which listed short and long-term steps that administrators hope will recruit and retain diverse faculty, staff and students, ensure academic fairness, and incorporate diversity into campus activities.

The crowd asked administrators for specifics about the plan, but administrators didn't give details about how the UA would be made more diverse, or what "diversity" means.

In order to accommodate the large numbers of attendees, Likins and Davis gave their chairs to faculty members and took a seat on the floor while a 20-minute promotional video presentation on diversity played.

"It's good to see so many people in this room and so many people trying to get into this room. It shows we need to have an ongoing discussion," Likins said.

The problem with the diversity discussion is that it separates people from diversity, said Glenda Roark, disability specialist, after quoting a passage from the action plan that uses the phrase "different from us."

"When I'm in this country, the approach of diversity is that you are diverse from me. That's the mistake from the get-go," she said. Many around the room cheered in agreement.

But the idea is that everyone is different from each other and everyone must be sensitive to people as individuals, Likins responded.

Roark was not the only employee with concerns about the specifics of the action plan. Although the room was hot and overcrowded, most people stayed for an hour and a half in order to express their concerns.

Director of Campus Recreation Juliette Moore wanted to hear administrators narrow their definition of "diversity."

"Everyone has a different definition of 'diversity,'" she said.

However, administrators said that they could not pin down a concrete definition.

See **DIVERSITY**, Page 9



Democratic gubernatorial candidate Janet Napolitano smiles as she listens to a reporter's question regarding an Associated Press report declaring her the winner in a close election against Republican Matt Salmon last night, in Phoenix. The AP estimated that about 200,000 ballots remained to be counted.

Napolitano on cusp of gov victory

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democrat Janet Napolitano defeated Republican Matt Salmon on Wednesday, ending 12 years of GOP control of the Arizona governor's office.

Napolitano, the state attorney general, will succeed term-limited Republican Gov. Jane Hull in January in the midst of a state budget crisis.

"I'm not yet declaring victory, but based on what's out there, we feel very confident that the numbers will hold," Napolitano said. "At this rate, Matt Salmon can't catch up."

Both Napolitano and Salmon, a former congressman, had expressed optimism yesterday, but she remained ahead as counting of early ballots and ballots requiring verification continued.

Napolitano had 484,275 votes, or 46.8 percent, and Salmon, a former congressman, had 461,075, or 44.5 percent, according to results released late yesterday. The updated numbers included more than 24,000 early ballots that had been counted during the day.

The Associated Press estimated that about 200,000 ballots remained to be counted. Counties must verify and count ballots that arrived by mail Tuesday but weren't included in the election night count as well as early ballots that were left at polling places.

They are required to complete the count

See **GOVERNOR**, Page 8

Approval from ASU essential in passing Focused Excellence plan

BY SARAH NIXON
Staff Writer

The Arizona Board of Regents will likely pass a plan to make the UA a more research-intensive institution with stiffer enrollment requirements if Arizona State University goes along with plans to expand and absorb growing enrollment, President Pete Likins told the student government last night.

The UA and ASU have pro-

posed plans that will compliment each other, Likins said. There was some talk about ASU not becoming the campus with massive enrollment at a board of regents meeting held about a week ago.

Both universities have acknowledged their different roles in higher education and are moving toward an exciting future, Likins told senators, emphasizing that the university presidents must present the regents with an agenda they all

agree upon.

"I think the board of regents will approve Focused Excellence if ASU stays on course," Likins said.

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona welcomed Likins to discuss Focused Excellence with senators during a meeting last night.

Downsizing, merging and cutting some programs will be part of the UA's plans to focus funds and attention on other departments, Likins said. Likins will

have a better idea of which programs will be modified, cut or merged in January, when the board of regents meets.

Administrators also plan to shape admissions requirements to slow the growth of the student body in a campus of limited size, Likins said.

"It will become more difficult to get into UA in the next few years. This is necessary because

See **ASUA**, Page 8

Now, that looks tasty



KEVIN KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Administrative vice president Jared Mansell dunks his cheeseburger in a large Pepsi yesterday on the UA Mall as part of the ASUA version of the MTV show "I Bet You Will."

Catholic researcher says some stem cell research acceptable

BY RYAN JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Although the Catholic church has been opposed to many forms of stem cell research, there are ways to advance the goals of science while respecting the beliefs of Catholics, a UA researcher said in a speech yesterday.

Two dozen people gathered yesterday to see a young Catholic scientist weigh the advantages and disadvantages of stem cell research and cloning.

Although the Catholic church is adamantly opposed to any type of research that destroys life, some types of stem cell research

are acceptable and viable within the boundaries of Catholic doctrine, said UA research associate Kameha Kidd, of the Arizona Research Labs.

The presentation, held at the Catholic Newman Center and attended by about 25 people, went into detail about the different techniques used, their religious implications and the challenge the Catholic church faces in balancing concerns.

"The Catholic church embraces using science and technology to prolong and protect our life," Kidd said.

Where the Catholic church argues against research, she

said, is when research destroys human life.

The Catholic church says that when a sperm and egg come together, a person has been formed — a topic of interest to many in the crowd.

"The real question is, 'When does life begin?' Biological life begins at conception, but it isn't a viable life until it implants itself in the uterine wall, and thirds never implant," said Thomas Lindell, an molecular and cellular biology associate professor who teaches a bioethics course.

Kidd spent part of the one-

See **STEM CELL**, Page 8