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University of Arizona, Tucson

Grad students may quit over tuition hike

Administrators say increase is essential to the university's future

BY KEREN G. RAZ
Staff Writer

Graduate students — many dressed in red to bring attention to their demands for better working conditions — warned administrators at yesterday's Campus

Town Hall on tuition that many of them may leave UA if the Arizona Board of Regents raises tuition.

President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis said that without a tuition increase, administrators would have to shut down one-third of the university.

The students said a tuition increase would take away money they need to pay bills.

The graduate student comments shifted the debate on tuition away from what has been

a focus on resident undergraduate students.

Only a handful of undergraduate students sat in the crowd of 100 people in the Modern Languages auditorium yesterday.

Pete Morris, president of the graduate student professional council, said he is concerned the UA may lose many of its graduate students if the Regents raise tuition.

"Graduates are talking about leaving or taking a break," he

said after the town hall. "I'm concerned about a mass exodus."

Likins has said he will propose a tuition increase to Regents this spring that would take effect in fall 2003. Likins has said he wants to increase tuition by \$1,100 in the next three to five years.

The Regents are scheduled to set tuition for fall 2003 at an April meeting.

David Menchaca, a third-year English doctoral student, warned

the administration that teaching assistants will leave if there is a significant tuition increase.

"I'm all for protecting needy undergraduates ... but for (graduate teaching assistants) that teach 80 percent of the classes who can't afford to come here anymore, where are you going to get graduate teaching assistants?" he asked.

To compensate for the

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'Tis the season to be serving



Volleyball players celebrate a score that led to their 3-0 first-round NCAA tournament win over the University of Texas Arlington last night in McKale Center. UA takes on Texas tomorrow night at 7 p.m. See **Page 9** for full coverage of the Wildcats' victory.

JON HELGASON/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Eastside tech park to expand with hotel, golf course, offices

BY LAURA MALAMUD
Staff Writer

The UA plans to quadruple the size of its Science and Technology Park southeast of Tucson, making room for more laboratory and manufacturing buildings and providing jobs for 6,200 more people within eight years.

The research and development park now employs more than 6,200 workers and is home to 30 high-tech companies on South Rita Road near I-10.

A new 72,000 square foot office building is under construction and is projected to be ready for occupancy

early next year, said Molly Gilbert, interim director of marketing for the technology park.

Plans to build a \$15 million to \$20 million hotel with private funds and, possibly, an 18- or 27-hole golf course on the park's 1,345 acres were also released Wednesday.

The hotel will provide restaurants and meeting rooms for those visiting the park.

"We would like to provide something that is closer (than the Tucson International Airport) and is of an executive class," Gilbert said.

She estimates about 70 of the people

who visit the park each day could use a hotel room.

A developer should be selected by May and construction on the hotel is scheduled to start in January 2004 and take two to three years, said Bruce Wright, the park's chief operating officer.

The technology park, was purchased from IBM by the Arizona Board of Regents in August 1994. The park opened in December 1994.

About one quarter of the land in the park — or 345 acres — has been devel-

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Bike riders dodge some road rules

BY NATE BUCHIK
Staff Writer

Bicyclists cringe when they see signs along the Olive underpass south of East Helen Street by McClelland Hall warning them to dismount and walk their bikes.

Taking the route means making a sudden stop at East Helen Street and a long walk under East Speedway Boulevard — unless they break the rules and ride through, weaving in and out of the human traffic, hoping to avoid an accident and risking a fine.

"(I don't walk my bike) because it's a pain in the ass to walk through here. So if it's not too crowded, I'll ride," said economics senior Bear Scharbarth after riding to class through the underpass.

But riding in this pedestrian-only area is only one of the many rules broken by bicyclists daily around the UA.

"(The biggest problem) is probably running stop-signs," said Charles Franz, Program Coordinator for Parking and Transportation Services. "The next thing on campus is going against one-way traffic. On North Campus Drive, between Park and the Student Union, students will always ride their bike the wrong way."

Certain areas are patrolled more frequently than others.

The area between the Administration and Modern Languages buildings, the Joseph Wood Krutch Garden by the Student Union Memorial Center and East Fourth Street by Yavapai Residence Hall are problem areas being watched by Parking and Transportation Services and the University of Arizona Police Department, Franz said.

When there are officers patrolling, students said they are more likely to respect the rules.

"I usually walk it but I have rode it several times. I'll ride it through in the afternoon. Those little guys in the carts, they'll yell at you, so that's a deterrent, but the signs aren't much of a deterrent," said Derek Merchant, a graduate student in public administration.

It is difficult to control all the problem areas 24-hours a day, Franz said.

"At any one time there could be close to 10,000 bikes on campus. We get a lot of recreational bicyclists riding through and then people going to class."

But considering the number of bikes on campus and the number of rules broken, there are few accidents reported to UAPD.

This year, there has been one bike accident involving a pedestrian, one bike accident involving another bike, 12 accidents involving cars and one accident involving a collision with a permanent object (a gate), reported to UAPD, Cmdr. Kevin Haywood stated in an e-mail.

Yet many accidents may have gone unreported because there were no serious injuries.

"I would think the more minor ones go unreported

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