



Thursday, January 16, 2003

wildcat.arizona.edu

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SINCE 1899

Universities dodge state budget cuts

Napolitano says she may support a tuition hike

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

All three state universities will be safe from further budget cuts, according to a budget proposal announced by Gov. Janet Napolitano yesterday.

The announcement comes only a day after President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis announced possible plans to cut 16 departments on campus.

"We would like to think that there's a broad understanding that the university has been cut so deeply, that deeper cuts are so harmful to the students that we are serving," Davis said.

She said she recognized the crisis already affecting all three universities and said she does not support the cuts.

"I said from the outset that I was not in favor of across-the-board cuts, particularly at the university level. We've had enough of those already," Napolitano told the Arizona Daily Sun. "The options presented to me were eliminating this program at this university or this program or that program. I came up with a budget that doesn't eliminate any of them."

Despite the plan to protect universities from more cuts, Napolitano, who as governor

sits on the Arizona Board of Regents, said she supports the concept behind proposed tuition increases that may take effect next fall.

Formal proposals have not been unveiled for consideration by the regents, but an increase of \$1,000 for the 2003-2004 school year has been discussed.

The proposed budgets would allow the universities to keep the additional tuition revenue to build on the state funding.

Additionally, 10 — 15 percent of the increase would be set aside for students who otherwise could not afford it.

"We're grateful, and we want to toss around details tomorrow. We want to work toward that objective of no new cuts," said Gregory Fahey, associate vice president of government relations.

Arizona's tuition costs are among the lowest in the country, and Napolitano said that directly affects the type of education its universities are able to provide.

"So the regents' thought was to move Arizona universities to the top of the bottom third of the states, which this \$1,000 will basically do and keep us at that level as we go forward," she said.

Many of UA's top administrators are optimistic about the governor's budget proposal and the impact it will have on the university.



KEVIN KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Iranian and former UA instructor Jamal Tabatabai has recently been told that he no longer is a citizen of the U.S. Although he has lived here in the U.S. since age 12, INS officials recently revoked Tabatabai's citizenship because of his divorce.

Former UA instructor may face deportation

Six-day detainment puts teacher's life on hold until deportation hearing

By Jose Ceja
SENIOR WRITER

On Dec. 13, students in Jamal Tabatabai's Persian class arrived on time to take their final, but their instructor never brought it — he never even came.

Earlier that morning, Tabatabai, a former UA

instructor, went to the Immigration and Naturalization Services office to register as a part of a new national security program established after Sept. 11.

Tabatabai, who has lived in the United States for 18 years, said he pleaded with INS officials to let him return to work but instead was led to a detention center where he was questioned. It wasn't until then that he was informed his status was changed to that of a visitor because of his divorce from an American.

He was then taken to a 30-by-30 foot room with

See TABATABAI/8



DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Students attend a Communications 101 class in a crowded lecture hall in Harvill yesterday.

Departments deal with crowding

By Bob Purvis
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With an enrollment increase of more than 1,000 students this semester, departments are struggling to accommodate students amid course cuts.

Many departments have been forced to increase class sizes and web-based classes to deal with this semester's influx. Yet some students are still left without full schedules.

"I know a lot of people who are stuck with like seven units," said undecided freshman Amy Zetah.

Even students nearing graduation are finding themselves without many of the

classes necessary for their degree.

"You look on the Internet, and there is one upper-level class. It's ridiculous," said fine arts junior Sjelley Reiser.

Major budget cuts have forced some departments to cut sections and increase seat capacity in courses, leading many professors to take on more classes on a volunteer basis, said Maurice J. Sevigny, dean of the College of Fine Arts.

The fine arts faculty, which is faced with a 50-1 student-to-faculty member ratio, is struggling to meet this semester's demand.

"More and more effort is being focused towards majors," Sevigny said, "We will have less ability to be available to nonmajors outside of gen-ed classes."

Other departments are doing all they can to avoid overloading courses. The journalism department, which has seen a 25 percent enrollment increase this semester, has looked to other areas to allow them to continue to offer smaller class sizes. The department recently froze faculty travel and has cut operating budgets, even opting to hold off on the purchase of a new copy machine.

"A lot of things have been eliminated," said Paul R. Johnson, undergraduate advisor in the department of journalism, adding that increasing class sizes in upcoming semesters is dependent on future budget cuts.

See CROWDING/9