Students criticize Pivo’s dismissal

By Tacie Holyoak
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Two weeks ago, Gary Pivo, dean of the Graduate College, said he was certain that graduate students had the administration’s full support.

Now he’s not so sure.

On Wednesday, administrators announced a plan to cut his job as dean of the graduate college, a job that pays him more than $120,000 per year. This announcement came one week after Pivo found out top administrators wanted to eliminate the School of the graduate college, a job that pays him more than $120,000 per year.

Pivo has tenure, so he knows he’ll have a job somewhere in the university even if both proposals survive an extensive review and are confirmed by the Arizona Board of Regents.

“I’ll be a professor of something, somewhere,” he said. Under the proposal, Pivo’s deanship would be merged with the job of Thomas Hixon, the associate vice president of Research and Graduate Studies.

But now there is concern that once the job responsibilities are merged, the attention given to graduate students will be spread too thin.

Pivo said that merging his job into another would limit progress.

“If you want to accomplish a goal, you put somebody in charge of it. If you want one-third of the goal accomplished, you give three jobs,” Pivo said.

When Provost George Davis announced the proposal to merge Pivo’s position, he said that other administrators might find they have to pick up some of Pivo’s duties.

“I predict there will be some spillover into my responsibility such that I as provost may need to review each year what our plan is,” Pivo said.

Gary Pivo
Dean of the Graduate College

As Likins had hoped.

Board of Regents.

From being victimized by a cash-starved legislature.

him with a proposal they said would protect students from being victimized by a cash-starved legislature.

percent tuition hike, UA student lobbyists countered him with a proposal. See last page for debate on tuition.

likely approval by a 6-5 vote.

For a board on which such divisive votes are rare, the close margin was a warning that a decades-old tuition hike.

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That tone is one that is more welcoming of a $1,000 in-state undergraduate tuition hike coupled with a substantial increase in need-based financial aid.

As she left the regents’ meeting Friday, Democratic Gov. Janet Napolitano said she would support a $1,000 increase.

“Our universities will not thrive unless a reasonable tuition is charged,” she said.

Napolitano will have a vote when the regents set tuition at their meeting March 6 and 7. If she supports a large tuition hike, it would be in stark contrast to her predecessors, Republican Jane Dee Hull. Hull supported a 1992 in-state tuition hike coupled with a 123 percent hike.

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