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ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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Faculty respond to policy

College of Nursing professors believe guidelines are just a start

By Arek Sarkissian II
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday's introduction of two new policies on threatening and disruptive behavior in the classroom received mixed responses from faculty members.

They agreed that, although the policies are necessary, the university still needs a more interactive approach to fixing the problem.

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► The UA's new behavior policies are available online at <http://hr2.hr.arizona.edu/dos/>

Both policies were designed to give faculty a step-by-step method of handling students who pose a threat to their safety or are disrupting instruction, as opposed to the old method, which was scattered among 26 different parts of the Student Code of Conduct.

Although the policies were created in response to the

shootings at the College of Nursing, some professors believe that faculty need to be more professionally prepared for disturbing or violent situations for the policies to be efficient.

Judith Berg, faculty chair of the nursing college, said that training sessions for stress and how to effectively handle unruly people would be more beneficial than just written guidelines.

"People know the help is out there, but it's

See SAFTEY/3

INKING IT UP



Freshman studio art major Ashley Engels puts in overtime on an ink print for her Beginning Print Making class yesterday in the Fine Arts building. Engels is going through test prints before making the final piece of art.

MELISSA O'NEAL/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Regents talk cuts to crowd

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

Program cuts have hit home for Marc Paley twice in two years. When he finished his general education courses at Pima Community College, he transferred to the UA hoping to enroll at the Arizona International College.

But before he could, regents closed it.

In November 2001, regents decided to eliminate the college to fight state budget cuts, so Paley, a sophomore, decided to pursue an interdisciplinary studies major.

One of his areas of focus, the humanities program, is now slated for possible elimination under Focused Excellence.

Speaking last night to two regents and a crowd of 35 people, Paley asked Board of Regents' President Jack Jewett and Student Regent Matthew Meaker to rethink a statewide initiative that calls for the universities to become more independent from the state Legislature.

"It's the interest of the state to provide for all people, science-minded people, arts-minded people and business-minded people," Paley said.

Paley and many others in the audience last night pled with Jewett and Meaker to protect

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KEVIN KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Veronica Martinez, a political science junior, studies in the Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs Center yesterday.

Centers address minority retention

By Cara O'Connor
STAFF WRITER

When Krystalyn Kinsel's scholarship money did not arrive on time, the Native American Student Affairs center gave the political science freshman and member of the Navajo tribe an emergency loan to purchase her books.

Many students need loans like this to make it through the school year, said Monica Nuvamsa, senior coordinator of Native American Student Affairs.

Like other multicultural student affairs centers, Native American Student Affairs strives to guide and assist its students, ultimately seeing them through to graduation, Nuvamsa said.

The freshman dropout rate is 23 percent, meaning that half of the students who leave the university do so before the beginning of their second year, according to an Undergraduate Education and Student Research report.

The greater part of minority students never do see graduation, most dropping out their freshman year, according to the 2002 - 2003 UA Fact Book, but minority student affairs centers are working to change that.

The student affairs centers work closely with the Maximum Educational Results In Two Semesters (MERITS) program, which is designed to acclimate freshman to UA, directors said.

The First Year Academic Support Track (FAST) program in Asian-American Student Affairs works with

73 students, collecting progress reports, helping students communicate with instructors, and providing tutoring and mentoring programs.

"If we can get our students through their first year, the chances of graduating increase significantly," said Alex Wright, Director of African-American Student Affairs.

The student affairs staff commonly provides referrals for students, helping them navigate through the university system, directors said.

"The student is pretty much on her own to ask the right questions, seek resources and find her way to the programs and services set up to help her," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs.

"(African-American Student

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