Res Life: Housing shortage no longer

By Jesse Lewis

Every freshman entering the UA next year can expect a spot in a residence hall for the first time in more than 10 years.

Because two new residence halls will open and old halls will be renovated, 804 new spaces will be available in the fall.

Residence Life officials said all incoming freshman applicants and non-freshmen wishing to remain on campus will receive spots on campus even if they are just now turning in applications.

Jim Van Arsdel, director of Residence Life, said space is available and applications will be accepted indefinitely.

“We will accept applications until we’re full. But at this time, that is clearly not imminent,” he said.

Housing shortages and surpluses have fluctuated for the last 10 years, and until this year, Residence Life has had to turn away students because of a lack of space.

“I think it’s great for them to guarantee it; it is a huge improvement of the dubious nature of housing assignments in the past,” said Ryan Christoph Ramusky, an entrepreneurship sophomore.

Residents of three halls—Turtle, Coyote and Fox—received emails from Residence Life officials last week indicating the dorms would be renovated.

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Community college nursing programs will get UA funding

By Jesse Lewis

Six community college nursing programs have received funding from a UA program to help combat Arizona’s nursing shortage.

The Arizona Area Health Education Center, founded by the UA Health Sciences Center, and Campaign for Caring teamed up to provide funding for community college nursing programs.

AzAHEC is a community-based nonprofit organization that is administered through the UA Health Sciences Center. AzAHEC focuses on improving the access to health care for rural and underserved communities through recruitment and distribution of health care providers.

The effort is in response to a shortage of nurses in the workforce.

“More people enter nursing and decide the work environment is such that they don’t want to be a nurse,” said Dana Terry, associate director of resource management with AzAHEC.

Awards of $25,000 to $50,000 were given to the schools.

Planning school’s possible move would bring wider range of faculty

Likins says proposal to move school seen as ‘promising’

By Jeff Sklar

With a newfound optimism surrounding the School of Planning’s future, officials within the school and the department into which it may move say students would reap benefits from interdisciplinary courses and a broader faculty base.

New planning graduate students could even enroll as early as this fall if President Peter Likins follows a recommendation to spare the School of Planning by combining it with the geography and regional development department, said Barbara Becker, the school’s director.

Likins, who has been out of town this week, wrote in an e-mail Wednesday that he hadn’t seen the proposal to move the planning school. He wouldn’t say whether he would support it, but characterized it as “promising.”

The school’s future remains uncertain, but now that the Faculty Senate voted 18-0 in a nonbinding vote on Monday to gauge the likelihood of the school being saved, he simply said he wasn’t very good at making predictions.

And now, officials in the School of Planning and the geography and regional development department are speaking excitedly about the potential for collaboration among the intellectual disciplines and even the creation of an undergraduate planning program.

Preserving (planning) actually helps us maintain our programs,” said John Paul Jones, head of the geography and regional development department.

Graduate students in the department could benefit from the theoretical and practical courses offered in the planning curriculum, he said.

Planning offers courses in areas such as urban design, environmental policy and transportation. Some of its courses are already cross listed with the geography department, and faculty from both disciplines have emphasized the potential for even closer collaboration.

At least one planning faculty member is leaving the UA, but Jones said he thought closer collaboration between the two departments could help offset that loss because students would be able to take courses from faculty in both departments.

“I think students will … see that they have some

Regents to decide on more class fees

Students may see higher fees for MCB, finance classes if approved

By Mitra Taj

New fees and fee increases could force some UA students to pay more for their education next year.

The Arizona Board of Regents will vote Thursday on whether to charge a new fee for an undergraduate finance course and raise tuition for a molecular and cellular biology course.

Students who are taking Recombinant DNA Methods and Applications, or MCB 473/573, will have to pay $150 next semester as opposed to the $50 now required if the fee passes next week.

Regents are also voting on a $90 fee for students taking Analyzing Financial Info, or FIN 401. The money would help pay the loan for Bloomberg Financial Services for financial data.

Both of the proposed class fees were reviewed and approved by the department heads and deans, and the University Fees Committee.

Students taking online graduate engineering courses, students pursuing a master’s degree from the School of Architecture and students pursuing a master’s certificate in geology will feel the impact of the fees come fall.

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