

UA wants \$15M for faculty

By Andrea Kelly
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After losing top-flight faculty members last year to other universities, administrators have decided it is time to ask the Legislature to invest \$15 million to help keep key faculty members from migrating to other schools for better salaries.

The UA needs \$54 million to bring the average salary to the 50th percentile nationally, but the \$15 million request is what

administrators think would be feasible to ask from the state, which faces another deficit this year, said Greg Fahey, UA lobbyist.

President Peter Likins said he hopes to send a clear message through the Arizona Board of Regents to legislators on Friday about the need to increase salaries.

"We have a problem in trying to hang on to the very people who make the university succeed," Likins said.

In 2002, the UA lost 49 faculty

members.

On Friday, Likins will present his budget request to the regents, who will then vote whether to approve it and send it to the Legislature.

Chris Herstam, president of the regents, said he would support the university's budget requests at Friday's ABOR meeting because he sees it as an important cause.

"I think they've used all the means they can up to this point, and now they need help," Herstam said.

It is important to top administrators and the UA community that the money comes through, because it is an opportunity to keep the faculty who have been making positive contributions for years at the university, Fahey said.

"The president and provost are trying to make a statement to keep the best faculty around," Fahey said.

He was careful to add, though, that if the UA receives

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ASUA: Likins can raise tuition

ASUA will support tuition proposal, asks for gradual increase

By Dana Crudo
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Seven months before tuition will be set, UA student lobbyists are just about ready to release their tuition proposal to support any hike recommended by President Peter Likins.

J.P. Benedict, student lobbyist and president of the Associated Students of the University of Arizona, said he will support Likins' tuition proposal this year, but will ask that administrators spread the hike out over two to three years so that students do not have to pay for it all at once.

Likins plans on asking the Arizona Board of Regents for a tuition increase that will propel UA to the top of the bottom one-third percentile, meaning that UA's tuition will rank around 35th in the country.

Likins said he wants to see UA at the top of the bottom one-third percentile whether the UA needs a \$500 increase or \$1000 to reach that point.

The exact number will be determined once the UA's tuition is compared to all of the other major universities in the nation, Likins said.

"I hope that ASUA won't challenge the policy, but rather challenge the rate at which the UA moves toward the policy," Likins said. "I understand that the student body president is in a different position than the UA president."

Challenging how fast the UA reaches the top of the bottom one-third percentile is exactly what J.P. Benedict anticipates doing.

"We understand the goals of the board of regents," Benedict said, "Our goal is to lessen the burden on the students."

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VITAL NEED



JACOB KONST/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Richard DeLeon, associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has blood drawn by Renee Martinez yesterday at UMC. DeLeon participated in the blood drive, which will continue through today.

Remembering part of UA 'family'

Union worker Betty Baker dies at 72

By Greg Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Betty Baker, a long-time employee of the Student Union Memorial Center who was close to a countless number of students and fellow staff members, died over the weekend at the age of 72.

Baker served food and lifted the spirits at the student union for more

than 20 years, starting at the Terrace Dining Room in 1980 and then moving over to the Fiddlee Fig 10 years later.

"The university can be an intimidating place and can seem large and impersonal. Then there's Betty. She made the university feel like a family," said President Peter Likins.

Baker died after suffering from a chronic respiratory illness for many years.

Likins said he met Baker not long after he

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Border art speaks to hundreds

By Alexis Blue
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

About 400 people gathered on the UA Mall yesterday for the official unveiling of the "Border Dynamics" sculpture on display in front of the Student Union Memorial Center.

The sculpture, created by artists Alberto Morackis and Guadalupe Serrano, is intended to promote awareness and discussion of issues along the United States' border with Mexico.

The music of a mariachi band filled the air and the U.S., Mexico, Arizona and UA flags flew side by side

in the breeze at the unveiling.

The project was commissioned by Beyond Borders Binational Art Foundation and was originally anchored to the border fence in Nogales, Sonora.

President Peter Likins said he is happy to have "Border Dynamics" begin its national tour on the UA campus.

"The sculpture itself is not only a beautiful and powerful work of art, but it speaks in symbolic terms about the border," he said.

Likins said he was also pleased by the diversity of



JUSTIN BARKER/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Artists Guadalupe Serrano, left, and Alberto Morackis stand with UA President Peter Likins at yesterday's art opening on the Mall in front of the Student Union Memorial Center.

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