



# ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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University of Arizona, Tucson

## Planning school may get the axe

Proposed elimination one of 16 Focused Excellence cuts

By Shelley Shelton  
SENIOR WRITER

The School of Planning's fate remains up in the air nearly eight months after administrators announced their proposal to eliminate it under Focused Excellence.

The elimination of the School of Planning was one of 16 proposed cuts announced by administrators last January. Then in April, administrators said that they had decided to spare the School of Planning, moving it out of the College of Architecture and into the College of Public Health.

But when it became apparent that the move to the College of Public Health would be too expensive, administrators once again proposed to put the school on the chopping block, said Provost George Davis.

"That issue is still on the table, so to speak, and I can't tell you what the outcome will be. We're giving the faculty and others the opportunity to develop their strategies and present their arguments," said President Peter Likins.

But the administration at the College of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture, which houses the School of Planning, expressed doubts.

"We are now acting on the last specific information that we have, and that is that the program will be closing in two years. And we are not happy about that," said Corky Poster, acting dean of architecture.

As recently as 1997, CAPLA was simply the College of Architecture. Planning and landscape architecture were added in order to form a rich, diverse college of three sister professions, Poster said.

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## ResLife revamps alcohol rules

By Cara O'Connor  
SENIOR WRITER

Students in the residence halls will have to ditch their beer bottle décor.

This year, Residence Life has added "trophy bottles" — open, empty alcohol containers — to the list of punishable offenses, along with having alcohol or illegal drugs in one's system.

These new additions to policy will result in a write-up for residents, but

unless there are repeat violations they will not warrant an eviction.

Residence Life is also returning to a one offense and you're out policy regarding assault, fire safety violations and possession of illegal drugs, which was reinstated last year.

"We have many students who really don't want to live in the presence of illegal drugs," said Jim Van Arsdel, director of Residence Life. "This policy does not guarantee that there will not be any drugs in the residence halls, but hopefully there are fewer."

For about six years, Residence Life tried alternatives to removing students who possessed small amounts of illegal drugs, Van Arsdel said.

The idea was to educate students instead of punish them, he said. However, the more lenient policy was not effective.

"Students interpreted it as 'Well, I really can smoke dope in my room,'" he said. "Now it is back to one inci-

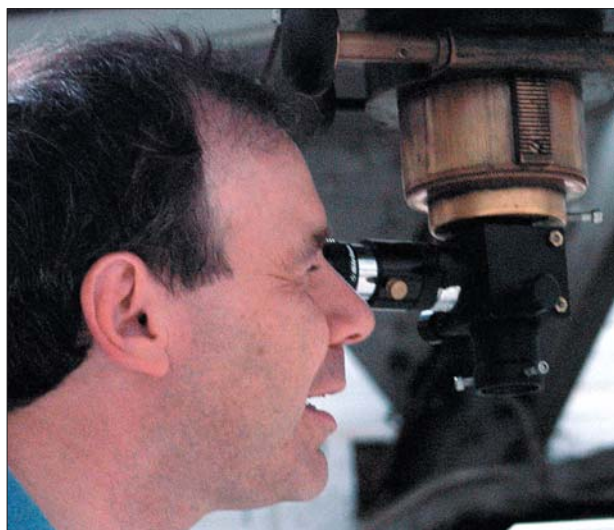
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## DESERT DOWNPOUR



CHRIS CODUTO/ Arizona Daily Wildcat

A late summer monsoon brought rains to the University of Arizona yesterday afternoon, stranding a car near the Gould-Simpson building. The storm dumped 1.07 inches of rain in less than an hour on campus, flooding streets and sending students running for cover.



DANIELLE MALOTT/ Arizona Daily Wildcat

Astronomy Department Head Tom Fleming demonstrates how to use the 21-inch diameter telescope in the Steward Observatory.

## Observatory open late for Mars viewing

By Ashley Nowe  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Put your nightcap on — the UA's Steward Observatory will be open late to view Mars as it reaches its closest position to Earth in over 60,000 years.

With the fiery red planet hovering just 34.65 million miles away beginning tonight, the view will be spectacular, said Tom Fleming, head of the astronomy department.

To the naked eye the planet might look like a spec in the sky, but with the aid of merely a household telescope, its southern ice cap should be easily detectable, he added.

Approximately every two years Earth laps Mars, but with Earth at its furthest point from the Sun in its elliptical orbit and Mars at its closest point, the two planets will be unusually close to one another.

Though it came close in 1988, this phenomenon has not occurred since 57,617 B.C., when Neanderthals still roamed the earth.

It will not occur again until August 28, 2287, according to Sky and Telescope Magazine.

To take full advantage of this once in a lifetime display, the Steward Observatory's 21-inch telescope will be open from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday for all to

view the planet at no cost.

The telescope, which is the largest on campus, will provide an image of Mars that is magnified 1,000 times.

"The view should be great," Fleming said. "We are going to use different lenses, which will allow us to see Mars at its full potential."

"A green lens will reflect the southern ice cap and it should look amazing," he added.

Mars will be nearest to Earth Thursday at 2:51 a.m., but the sight will be just as spectacular for weeks to come, Fleming said.

For enthusiasts with an early

See MARS/19