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The University of Arizona, Tucson

More students depend on loans

By Elizabeth Thompson
STAFF WRITER

In a year when interest rates are low and tuition rates are high, more students are taking out loans than usual.

John Nametz, director of student financial aid, said the amount of students relying on student loans has increased by 11.6 percent since last year.

Nametz said that in the past few years, unlike the national trend, the UA has not seen an increase in the number of college students relying on financial aid.

But this year that has changed.

"This is the biggest single year increase in the 15 years I've been here," said Nametz, who said that this year's tuition raise at the UA is one of several

possible factors behind the increase.

Nametz said a weakened U.S. economy as well as low interest rates could be the reasons why more students rely on loans this year; but until research is conducted on this year's statistics, it will be hard to determine the reasons behind the increase.

"At this point, I honestly don't know why we're seeing

an increase in students doing consolidations and loan taking," Nametz said.

Whether or not the increase can be attributed to unsubsidized or subsidized loans is also difficult to determine at this point, he said.

Unsubsidized loans require students to pay off loans while they are in school. With

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Proposal offers UA no new funding

By Bob Purvis
LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT

PHOENIX — Republican lawmakers responded to Democratic Gov. Janet Napolitano's budget proposal yesterday with a plan that would give no new money to Arizona's state universities.

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee's budget was a far cry from the university-friendly budget proposal Napolitano released last week. That proposal called for an \$8 million funding boost at the UA to keep valuable professors and help with enrollment growth, and \$46 million in overall increased funding for the state's universities.

The predominantly Republican budget committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Legislature regarding all facets of the state budget, and the outline it released today is widely considered a GOP response to the governor's budget.

Although the JLBC budget outline does not include any additional university funding or the \$21.9 million Napolitano pledged to set aside for university employee payraises, committee members said that it is too soon to say whether universities will receive any additional funding as the budget makes its way through the Legislature.

"This is just a blueprint," said Senate President Ken Bennett, R- Prescott. "We are not zeroing anything out. We are just starting at ground zero."

President Peter Likins was at the state capital Monday, meeting with Bennett and discussing the UA's request for additional funding.

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PRESIDENTIAL PLAUDITS



DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Political science senior Tyler Mott cheers with a group of UA College Republicans at Zachary's Pizza last night as George Bush delivers his State of the Union address. About 25 College Republicans crowded into a small room with pizza, soda and beer to show their support for the president as he gave his annual address. See page 6 for the complete story on Bush's address.

New year brings clean slate for fraternity, club

By Elizabeth Thompson
STAFF WRITER

A UA fraternity and a UA club put on probation last year by the Dean of Students Office for hazing and alcohol violations will be able to start this semester with a clean slate.

Delta Tau Delta ended its probation term Jan. 3 after the fraternity forced pledges to eat ravioli covered in pancake syrup.

Chain Gang Junior Honorary was placed on probation last year for hazing after new members were sent on a scavenger hunt as part of the orientation process.

Jason Hersker, president of Delta Tau Delta, said the

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ASUA hopes research will help candidates keep campaign promises

By Dana Crudo
STAFF WRITER

Senators and ASUA executive officers struggle year after year to stick to their campaign promises.

Now an ASUA senator and the elections commissioner say they hope to reverse that trend. But with primaries only one month away, ASUA officials have yet to form any specific plans on how they will ensure candidates are more educated than they have been in the past.

Sara Birnbaum, an ASUA senator, said she, elections commissioner Dan Suh and other officials have made it their goal to educate candidates on

how to develop feasible campaign promises so ASUA can become a more credible organization.

In order to accomplish this, Suh encouraged potential candidates during the candidate meeting last semester to visit with ASUA officials and research the positions they are running for.

He said he has tried to drive the point home that students need to know the feasibility of their platforms.

"It's a little bit more well-known, and they will probably be asking more questions about platforms this year," Suh said.

Although he has been encouraging candidates to do more research, he

said he will not make anything mandatory.

"It is hard to force things on people," Suh said.

Birnbaum said she wants to host a workshop on how to develop campaign proposals.

No specific plans for a workshop have been developed yet. Birnbaum said she first wants to see the candidate list so she can recruit senators to host the workshop who are not running for another position.

Even if there is a workshop, Birnbaum said candidate attendance will not be required because candidates should care enough about

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Hidden treasures in UA Museum of Art

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A jump above the rest
Gymcats' Monica Bisordi

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Which Democrat is the right choice for students?

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