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Engineering and law camps open to potential students

By Danielle Rideau
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Each summer the UA opens its doors to the Tucson community and provides various summer camps for grade-schoolers that expose them to college life and various academic fields.

The Arizona Youth University offers summer camps for students in grades two through 12 through different academic departments at the UA, said Helen Macdonald, Arizona Youth University program coordinator.

These camps allow kids to see what it’s like to be in the different departments or fields and utilize the great resources U of A has to offer,” Macdonald said.

Many camps, like the Engineering Robotics Camp, allow students to learn about different academic departments, according to a press release.

“Many young kids say they want to be a lawyer or an engineer, but they don’t know what actually goes on in those fields,” Macdonald said. “In the camp they get a hands-on experience.”

When campers attend AYU’s Law Camp, Macdonald said they get an exclusive look into the world of law and what it takes to become an attorney.

“The students learn about the law, deal with social issues and have a hands-on mock trial at the end of the session,” Macdonald said.

Each camp is hosted by the department and taught by someone involved in the specific field, according to Macdonald.

“Many of the teachers are professors, and grad and undergraduate students also teach the kids,” Macdonald said.

Other camps include fencing, video production and editing, English and writing, and a Model United Nations club, which allows campers to learn about different countries and their interactions with the United Nations, according to a press release.

The camps vary in price depending on the category and level of instruction and cost of materials, the release stated.

Bicyclists, pedestrians must follow law as well

By Lauren Lund
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Students on foot and riding bicycles must be as cautious of the men in blue as motorists these days.

Police have been giving tickets to pedestrians and bicyclists who violate traffic laws for a number of years, but because of recent grant money received by the Tucson Police Department, the agency is cracking down on violators, said Sgt. Carlos Valdez, TPD spokesman.

TPD received a $15,000 grant from the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety to “create a harmonious environment where pedestrians, bicyclists and cars can operate safely,” Valdez said.

Valdez said the money is being used to implement three phases to ensure safety. The plan is to engineer safer areas where pedestrians can cross the street by installing pedestrian crosswalk lights, educating people by explaining the laws to them and enforcement of the law through citations, Valdez said.

“(Police are) not just out ticketing bicyclists and pedestrians; they’re ticketing cars, too,” Valdez said.

Though the University of Arizona Police Department was not given a grant, they have been and are still giving citations to bicyclists and pedestrians who violate traffic laws, said Sgt. Eugene Mejia, UAPD spokesman.

Both agencies’ spokesmen said bicyclists must be aware they must abide by the same rules of the road motorists follow or they will be cited.

Bicyclists must stop at stop signs and wait at red lights until they turn green, Valdez said.

“It is possible to give a citation for speeding (to a bicyclist),” Valdez said.

Students riding at night must be aware that they are to have a headlamp and a rear tail lamp just like cars do, Mejia said.

Tickets for pedestrian and cyclist violations can reach $100, both spokesmen said.

Pedestrians and bicyclist safety is a big issue on campus because there are such a large number of both, not because there is a common occurrence of fatalities on campus, Mejia said.

Students petition for reintroduction of rape bill

By Zach Colick
Arizona Daily Wildcat

More than 500 students and passersby signed petitions and donned purple ribbons in support of the Panhellenic Spousal Rape Bill at the Young Democrats tabling booth on the UA Mall Tuesday and yesterday.

If passed, SB140 would make the penalty for some one convicted of raping their spouse the same as raping any other adult.

An estimated one out of every seven married women has been forced to have sex with her husband, and the rape is often times more violent and repetitive than other rape despite being reported less, according to George Mason University’s Sexual Assault Services.

The bill was killed in committee March 10 by four Arizona Republican legislators, although it had already cleared the state Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, 29 in favor, one opposed.

The state legislator who cast the deciding vote to kill in committee was Rep. Laura Knaperek, R-Tempe, who represents Arizona State University and most of the surrounding areas.

“It’s sad she’s being part of the radical right wing of her party,” said Alicia Ctyrulska, UAYD president.

As the bill stands now, a man convicted of raping his wife for the first time would be charged with a misdemeanor and punished to the same extent as someone who litters or steals cable.

If he is convicted of raping his wife a second time, the most severe penalty possible is 18 months in prison, instead of 10 years, if the bill passes.

But Knaperek said the bill was sped through the legislation process, and it was written hastily with unclear language. She said she hopes the bill will align spousal rape with the rape of any woman.

Knaperek said she plans on voting in favor of SB140 once the kinks have been sorted through and said she was