UA trying to ease class shortage

By Djamilia Noelle Grossman
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

In order to register for fall classes, many students went through annoying procedures, or were denied classes because of availability, but a new board has formed to tackle the class shortage issue that many students feel is a lack of money.

Budget cuts and a growing demand for certain majors have left colleges unable to provide enough classes, said Jerrold Hogle, vice provost for instruction, but he said the university is working to get a handle on the problem.

“We are trying mightily to fund some extra money in the college,” Hogle said. “I care immensely about the students getting courses. They have every right to expect that we offer the sections we say we do.”

To fight the problem, Hogle said he created and will be chairman of a task force on upper-division guidelines, which will begin meeting this month.

The board will determine criteria for temporarily suspending minors and apply those criteria in the future, Hogle said, and will also research where high-volume areas are and how to deal with them.

The need for the board came up because some colleges canceled their minors, even though they needed permission to do so, Hogle said.

“I have declared in a message to campus, that ‘You can’t do that,’” Hogle said. “And we’re going to broadcast to the students which minors are restricted.”

From 2001 to 2002, the UA lost $46 million in budget cuts from the state Legislature, Hogle said, which affects the university in places where money is not nailed down by contracts, such as teaching assistants or adjuncts.

Hogle said it is unclear how the colleges and the university will fill those holes because there is no “pool of money.”

Feminists donate $9,000 to OASIS

By Ariel Serafin
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

After successful sales from the February production of “The Vagina Monologues” and related memorabilia, the UA Network of Feminist Student Activists presented a $9,000 check last week to the OASIS Program for sexual assault and relationship violence, which assists Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence victims.

The activists also donated $1,000 to the Iraqi Women’s Organization and 1,149 tampons to the Brewster Center Domestic Violence Services, according to a press release by the NFSA.

The proceeds that made the donation possible were provided by two sold-out showings of “The Vagina Monologues,” the “Vagina Warrior” T-shirts, chocolate vagina candies and the pink “V” lapel pins, said Kelly Kraus, the club president and chair of the production committee for “The Vagina Monologues.”

“We wanted to encourage people coming to the show to take further action in supporting women experiencing violence,” she said.

“The Vagina Monologues” and related fundraisers were part of the V-Day campaign, a global movement aimed at fighting violence against females. Choosing the UA’s OASIS Program as the recipient of the large donation seemed natural and appropriate, said Kraus, a political science and women’s studies senior.

“We chose the OASIS Program because it provides an invaluable service to the students, faculty and staff of the UA community who are impacted by sexual assault and relationship violence,” Kraus said.

The Iraqi Women’s Organization also

Opera Web browser free to UA

By Djamilia Noelle Grossman
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students and members of the university can get the newest version of the Norwegian Opera Web browser for free today.

Because of its small size and security components, Opera is the safest and fastest browser available on the market, said Bert Harson, public relations specialist at Opera software.

The new 8.0 version of Opera is a combination of everything the Norwegian company learned in the 10 years since it was founded, Harson said.

The program is 893K, but everyone affiliated with the university can get it for free.

“We want people to know that there are different browsers.” Harson said. “Opera is very different from Internet Explorer and it works very well for students.”

Features include the ability to verify a Web site’s owner and therefore avoid entering personal information into fake Web sites, Harson said.

Mouse gestures such as maximizing or duplicating an open window without using the keyboard make the browser faster to work with, Harson said, and it is easy to customize for certain needs.

Opera emphasizes organizational components and makes it easy for students to keep track of information from the Web. A fan community of 200,000 people who want to be involved with the company created numerous new shells for the browser, Harson said.

“People are really passionate about Opera,” Harson said. “It’s cool to be down with ‘Microsoft is bad’.”

Opera Software stated in a press release they would give out free registered browsers to universities, Hansen said, and considers it an “educational gift.”

Michael Hint, software-licensing administrator at the Center for Computing and Information Technology, said he contacted Opera Software in response to their press release about three months ago.

Hint said he signed up for the program because there should be a choice for people to