Liability drives CatsRiddle review

Dean of students, lawyers evaluate program today
By Anthony D. Atila
Arizona Daily Wildcat

The dean of students and UA attorneys will meet today to evaluate whether CatsRiddle, a club working to prevent unsafe and drunken driving on weekends, can become a program.

After members of CatsRiddle had a successful meeting in April with Dean of Students Melissa Vito, club leaders expected the plans to become a program of the Associated Students of the University of Arizona by the fall, said Erin Herriott, ASUA executive vice president. However, plans were halted after the meeting because UA attorneys, who voiced concerns about liability because the program would deal with intoxicated students, wanted additional information, Vito said.

Jim Drnek, ASUA adviser, said the process is “taking longer than we hoped because the summer came along,” and many people were out of town.

Drnek said he talked during the summer to leaders of similar programs at universities comparable to the UA and will present the information he found to Vito and the attorneys today.

“We’re evaluating whether it’s something the institution can get involved with or liability concerns raised by the UA attorneys,” Drnek said.

Vito said the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the information and not to determine the ultimate fate of CatsRiddle.

THE MONEY TREE

Groups debate post-9/11 terror war
By Seth Mauzy
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Representatives from two campus political clubs met yesterday to tackle and debate issues related to Sept. 11, 2001, and the war on terror.

About 100 students gathered at Heritage Hall on the Alumni Plaza to watch students from the debate club argue whether the Bush administration’s responses to the 2001 terrorist attacks, including the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, were justified and effective.

Defending Bush’s actions were political science sophomore Mike DeBoer

Sun rising on campus solar energy plan

Visitors Center targeted as first installment site
By Zach Colliek
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Associated Students of the University of Arizona leaders have the seeds in place to install solar energy panels on a campus building by the end of the school year, but the likelihood of the project depends on teamwork between students, administration and possibly alumni.

One of ASUA President Cade Bernsen’s goals for the year was to help install solar panels on at least one academic building around campus to help cut energy costs and be a friend to Mother Earth.

So far, the plan is to install solar panels on the UA Visitors Center by May 2006. Bernsen said the plan, which may cost upwards of $150,000, looks promising.

Though initial costs may seem hefty, Bernsen said, the Visitors Center is a great starting point for the solar energy project because of the building’s smaller size and its nearby location.

“With 300 plus days of sunshine in Arizona, and we need to look at more responsible ways to look at these energies because of our prime location,” said Bernsen, a political science senior.

“If we can plant the seeds for today, then we can save down the future. But before the project can become a reality, student leaders must await Facilities Management’s cost and feasibility analysis study of the Visitor’s Center to make sure it’s a viable option for such a project," said Albert Tarcola, director of Facilities Management.

Once Facilities Management finishes the study, Tarcola said it plans to match funding raised up to $75,000 by ASUA and the Energy Conservation and LifeStyles Initiative’s Matching Partners and their Environment, a nonprofit student group that first worked toward the goal of introducing solar energy projects to campus last year.

If students are willing to come up with money to support this, then the school should do the same or at least meet them halfway. — Albert Tarcola, Facilities Management director

If students are willing to come up with money to support this, then the school should do the same or at least meet them halfway. — Nick Smith

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