



ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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The University of Arizona, Tucson

Professors honored for technology innovations

By Joe Ferguson
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The UA and Arizona Center for Innovation honored two faculty members yesterday who have used their professional expertise to transform their ideas into viable commercial products.

The faculty members were honored for their successful commercial ventures at the inaugural luncheon of the Technology Innovation Awards.

The awards are sponsored by the Office of Vice President for Research, Graduate Studies and Economic Development, UA Office of Technology Transfer and the Arizona Center for Innovation. The center is located in the UA Science and Technology Park, near Vail, Ariz.

Molly Gilbert, director of tenant and public relations for the UA Science and Technology Park, said these agencies work closely with faculty to move intellectual property from the classroom into the private sector.

Gilbert said the awards were given to honor successful faculty members as well as to encourage future entrepreneurs.

In addition to an award statue, each recipient received a \$10,000 check.

The director of the UA's Artificial Intelligence Lab, Hsinchun Chen, was honored for an analytical software program he developed called COPLINK.

COPLINK takes data from various law enforcement databases, based on existing criminal records, and allows law enforcement to coordinate their information using the software.

"It is like Google for cops," said Chen in a recent interview. "But it is much better."

The COPLINK software was used in 2002 to track the Washington, D.C.-area snipers.

In 2000, Chen formed Knowledge Computing Corporation to license the software commercially.

Chen said previous efforts by his colleagues opened the door for his

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Students demand return of Dec. graduation ceremony



Student body President Alistair Chapman fields questions as to why commencement in December was cancelled during yesterday's University Town Hall meeting in the Kiva Auditorium of the Student Union Memorial Center.

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

More than 150 students, parents, faculty and alumni attended a commencement forum yesterday, demanding that administration bring back the university-wide commencement ceremony in December.

Organized by ASUA, the two-hour forum gave audience members a chance to ask questions, express frustrations, identify existing problems with graduation and suggest solutions.

Alistair Chapman, student body

president, said the goal of the forum was to initiate communication between students and administration.

"I feel cautiously optimistic that the exchange of ideas today will (have) positive results," Chapman said.

Edith Auslander, vice president and senior associate to the president, said she is unsure if the administration can bring back the university-wide commencement, but added that President Peter Likins has the authority to make the final decision.

Auslander attended the forum to pass along information to Likins, who is out of town on business until Friday.

Auslander said the president's cabinet began discussing the changes after the spring graduation in an effort to create a better ceremony. Later, the topic was presented to college deans and the Commencement Policy Committee.

"President Likins reluctantly agreed to this after hearing the positive response from the deans," said Auslander. "The main goal is to have an individualized, meaningful ceremony for students."

But Chapman said if the changes were made to benefit the students, the student

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Jewish students go to class despite holiday

By Kylee Dawson
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Today marks the Jewish New Year for many UA students, faculty and staff, but some Jewish students will not be attending Rosh Hashana services this morning due to class commitments.

"This is the first time that I haven't gone to services," said Samantha Kantor, a junior majoring in English.

Kantor is missing Rosh Hashana services this morning because she said she does not want to miss her

science professor's review for an exam Tuesday.

Rosh Hashana officially began last night at sundown and the Hillel Foundation held services for several UA students. Hillel will also hold services this morning, but students like Kantor might not attend if they feel obliged to be in class.

The UA policy for Accommodation of Religious Observance and Practice, approved by Arizona Board of Regents, prohibits discrimination against

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New major may include SIRLs, not media arts

By Georgeanne Barrett
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Last year's tentative plans to merge the departments of journalism and communication with another department have been altered to include the School of Information Resources and Library Science, instead of media arts.

Once merged, the three would create a new college, but lack of funds due to budget cuts has postponed plans for the merger.

Ed Donnerstein, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Science, said this was an idea last year, and no

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KEVIN B. KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Judaic studies senior Sarah Strand lights candles signifying the beginning of Rosh Hashana last night in the North Ballroom in the Student Union Memorial Center.