ASUA officials reinstated

By Zach Colick
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Five student officials were reinstated to their positions by acting Student Body President Edith Fleming yesterday, just two days after being fired by Cade Berman, the student body president who is on leave.

The reinstatements are in accordance with the university policy, which allows fired officials to remain in their positions while the Dean of Student Affairs Office conducts an official investigation, said Fernando Arceo, one of the Arizona Students' Association directors who was fired Tuesday.

Asst. and fellow ASA director Andrew Bonzel and Christopher Dang resigned their jobs, along with cabinet coordinator Brenna Barch and assistant elections commissioner Rebecca Rold.

Fleming did not return messages left on her office phone and cell phone yesterday.

Melissa Viso, the dean of students, said in an e-mail yesterday she is "unable to comment on any individual case."

Berman said he fired the appointed officials because his personal attorney said to fire them in light of evidence that he claimed proves the officials had spread lies concerning the sexual harassment complaints made against Berman in November.

Berman has denied the charges.

Berman, on Thursday, said he will take leave for five days while the Dean of Student Affairs Office investigates complaints made by both Berman and the officials he fired.

Berman said yesterday that he would be willing to remain on campus longer if it would help the Dean of Student Affairs Office conduct investigation.

Arceo said there is a clause that prohibits individuals on campus whose employment unilaterally terminates their employment and who refuse to acknowledge it.

For a complete story, see ASUA, page 10.

MONKEYING AROUND FOR ART

Candidates' identities to remain secret

By Nicole Santa Cruz
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Arizona Board of Regents will release on Tuesday the names of final candidates for the UA presidency. The board will not release any other information until then, an official said.

Ted Olsen, chair and spokesman of the search committee, said although no information will be released about the candidates, UA students will have the opportunity to ask the candidates questions when they come to campus next week.

Aside from attending closed executive session interviews next Wednesday and Thursday, each candidate will also have a specified time framed for answering questions from the UA community, Olsen said.

"It is very open; that is the way it is," Olsen said. "We expect it will be open, although he will not give an approximate schedule of the meetings.

"I think it's still going to be open," Olsen said. "I think it will be done as open as we can."

"But that at the present moment, everybody seems to be consensus to come.

The candidates will be asked to send out the search committee interviews and presents them to the board of regents, at which point the committee will discuss, Olsen said.

"Benjamin Griffin, a student regent and committee member, said the committee is currently discussing the candidates and their qualifications and is planning to bring those to the regents to discuss.

"I would strongly encourage the student body to get involved and get to know the candidates and their qualifications and to come to me at ASUA or directly to me," said Griffin, who represents all Arizona students on the board of regents. "It is my responsibility to make sure students know about the opportunity."

Even though students will be given short notices about when and where to meet with candidates, Griffin said that she hopes for a more involved process.

"It has to be a short notice, it's kind of the nature of the beast," Griffin said, adding that the candidates are eager to meet students and to know who will get the position.

Bill may increase costs for students

By Luke Oly
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students and parents receiving letters about a federal loan program will be prompted to worry about repayment for college, which may mean the letters should be treated more seriously.

The U.S. Congress voted last week on the budget reconciliation bill, which will increase interest rates for Parent Loans for Undergraduates. Students in an effort to decrease federal spending.

The bill will raise the federal government $12.7 billion over five years by increasing interest rates on federal financial aid for students and their parents. It would also eliminate Parent Loans for Undergraduates.

The bill would increase interest rates for loans from 6.8% to 9.5% for undergraduates, and 7.9% to 11% for graduate students.

The bill would also eliminate the student's and their parents' ability to make interest payments on the loans, and increase their interest rates.

"The bill will raise the federal government $12.7 billion over five years by increasing interest rates on federal financial aid for students and their parents," said Lizette Velasco, assistant director of the Arizona Students' Association.

"The bill will also eliminate the student's and their parents' ability to make interest payments on the loans, and increase their interest rates."