Fewer grad students coming to U.S., UA

By Lisa Rich
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The number of foreign graduate students attending the UA has been decreasing, following a national trend that could break America’s reputation as the world’s leader in higher education.

A 2004 survey conducted by the Council of Graduate Schools shows the number of foreign graduate students attending American institutions has decreased by 3.6 percent in the last year.

Maria Velez, associate dean of the graduate college, said although she does not have exact figures for this year, the UA’s numbers are following a similar trend, falling to 18 percent during the last three years.

“This affects us seriously,” Velez said. “We could lose a source of outstanding graduate students, the best their countries have to offer.

Velez said tightened security in the United States and increased educational competition worldwide could be significant factors deterring international students from studying here.

Richard Kroe, vice president of research and operations, said if the numbers continue to drop, departments that heavily rely on foreign graduate research students, such as engineering, business and science, could suffer. “It could really affect us,” said Paul Bok, associate dean of the College of Science. “The number of students nation-wide is (the College of Science) is not enough to pick up the slack of international students no longer studying in the U.S.”

According to the 2001-2002 UA factbook, Medical school students may split with GPSC, join ASUA

By Natasha Bhavan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students from the College of Medicine threatened to split from the Graduate and Professional Student Council during a forum yesterday, citing a lack of medical student representatives in the GPSC.

Doug Hartz, former ASUA president and member of the Medical Student Government, said the priorities of GPSC are not in tune with students in the College of Medicine and said a proposed separation from GPSC would better serve the needs of medical students.

“I don’t believe they advocate issues that are relevant to us.” Hartz said during an open forum with representatives from GPSC and the College of Medicine last night.

GPSC is the representative body for graduate, law and medical students. The organization offers travel grants and club funding, holds events such as the Scholar Showcase, and lobbies on campus for graduate student housing, campus health care and childcare.

Hartz claimed medical students do not get proper representation in the council and said the College of Medicine representative has never been elected but has been nominated for the position uncontested or been appointed by GPSC.

“We have not had an elected representative since the inception of the organization,” Hartz said. However, Jim Rudebaugh, GPSC College of Science representative and former president of the council, said if a candidate runs for a representative position uncontested, as was the case with the College of Medicine last year, the election is still legitimate.

Rudebaugh also said sufficient notice was given to medical students about the vacant position, including notifying the Medical Student Government president and sending out a 3D Memo.

“We want everyone who is interested to apply to GPSC,” Rudebaugh said.

At the forum, representatives from GPSC and the College of Medicine debated whether or not the college departing from GPSC would be a beneficial change.

Chandran Kunduravaram, president of Medical

High price of ink irks students

Students absorb printing costs as UA budgets shrink

By Zach Collee
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

UA budget cuts have reduced department funds for distribution of class materials, and students say it’s affecting their pocketbooks.

Some students say printing syllabi, class notes and homework assignments is the Internet is wasting their ink supply and said their academic departments should pay the cost of the paper being distributed for their classes.

William Dickey, political science department head, said budget cuts have affected the way professors distribute materials in political science classes.

Dickey said the political science department tries to accommodate students’ needs by distributing as many materials as it can in classes, but many times professors choose to post materials on the Web because they think it is more convenient for students.

“We try and support our students the best we can,” he said.

But some students believe the support isn’t there and say printing class materials on their own isn’t convenient or cost effective.

Matt Leskien, an anthropology junior, said he thinks the administration or academic departments can find ways to make the $4,000 tuition increase pay for printing of class materials.

“We pay tuition. Buy textbooks and sit through class taking notes. Why can’t a professor just take a small amount of responsibility to have materials arranged for their students?” Leskien said. “All these materials cost money to print out and money is tight enough as it is for a student.”

Rachel Lough, a journalism junior, agreed and said it would save her a lot of time and said she would be more organized if her professors distributed class materials during lecture rather than posting it online.

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