Trio of UA student groups awarded for political activism

By Anthony D. Ávila

Following the Associated Students of the University of Arizona’s effort to invoke civic engagement during the presidential election, the group received a new award created specifically for their work.

ASUA, the UA Young Democrats and the UA College Republicans were all presented with the award at halftime at Thursday’s men’s basketball game.

F. Ann Rodriguez, Pima County recorder, presented the first Young American Award, because their efforts this year were unparalleled in Arizona history, Rodriguez said in a press release.

“We should all be proud of these young people for their efforts in presenting their viewpoints to Arizona citizens. They demonstrated passion in their political beliefs,” Rodriguez said.

ASUA was given the top honor, and the College Republicans and Young Democrats each received an honorable mention.

Rodriguez said she created the award to commend political activism and leadership applied by student groups on campus.

Rodriguez said the groups earned the recognition through months of dedicated work, including planning details and bringing political discussion to campus.

The student government worked with Rodriguez, who oversees all Pima County voting sites, before the fall semester to get an early voting site on campus for the Nov. 2 elections, said Alistair Chapman, ASUA president.

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Chapman said he strongly encourages students to take the survey, as it will have a significant impact on the tuition proposal student leaders draft, which will be released to the public Feb. 14, the same day administrators release their tuition proposal.

UA President Peter Likins said that although the survey will not influence the dollar amount of the administrative tuition proposal, it will be significant in gauging whether students are interested in paying additional mandatory fees.

“The survey will be very helpful in assessing the desirability of an information technology fee,” Likins said. “It won’t have much impact on the tuition question, but there is a separate question as to how interested students are in paying an additional fee that’s revenue would be restricted (to) information technology.”

The survey includes a question regarding where students would like to see tuition revenue spent, such as class availability, library service enhancements, child-care, campus safety, financial aid or graduate assistant tuition remission, while another question asks how tuition survey to take input on tuition

By Natasha Bhuyan

Students concerned about prospective tuition changes have the chance to tell top administrators how they would like to see tuition revenue spent, through a tuition survey available on Student Link this week.

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona President Alistair Chapman, who initiated the survey along with student leaders, said the survey results will be presented to administrators Thursday, four days before they must release their tuition and mandatory fees proposal to the public.

“This is an opportunity for us to get quantifiable results on how students would like to see their tuition dollars spent,” Chapman said. “Administrators are very interested in seeing these results.”

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