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Tunnel of Oppression teaches UA understanding

By Monica Warren
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Tunnel of Oppression returns to the gloomy basement of the Kaibab-Huachuca Residence Hall this year following the completion of construction on Park Student Union that forced the event to relocate last year.

Now in its seventh year at the UA, the tunnel is a multimedia experience designed to challenge participants to think about different forms of oppression.

The tunnel uses videos and interactive skits to stimulate discussion about racism, homophobia, domestic violence and other social issues.

The tunnel will open Tuesday night and run through Feb. 17 from 6 to 9 each night.

Last year's construction on PSU, which is adjacent to Kaibab-Huachuca, 922 E. Fourth St., forced the event's organizers to find an alternate location.

It was held in the Student Union Memorial Center's Grand Ballroom last year, which provided more space, but what many people felt was a different experience, said Brian Shimamoto, the project adviser.

He said surveys distributed at the end of last year's tunnel indicate many people preferred the experience in Kaibab because it is smaller and feels more like a tunnel.

"You feel more connected to the people," said Alison Reese, one of the tunnel's student directors. "It's closer and a more intimate setting."

The goal of the tunnel is to sharpen awareness of acts of oppression in order to recognize those who suffer, by encouraging visitors to reflect upon the moral questions raised by situations dealing with hatred and ignorance, according to a press release.

"We can always be more aware and educate ourselves about our world," said Elizabeth Fedoruk, an economics senior and publicity chairwoman for the tunnel. "Sometimes we need to see it from someone else's point of view to understand."

Last year, more than 900 people went through the tunnel, said Brian Shimamoto, assistant director of multicultural education and advocacy for Residence Life.

In 2003, about 1,200 people passed through, Shimamoto said.

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U.S. nursing in crisis



Nursing junior Rebecca Bolitho performs a nasogastric tube insertion on a mannequin yesterday afternoon in the Patient Care Learning Center inside the nursing college. Despite a nationwide nursing shortage, many students are not being accepted to UA's nursing school.

By Cassie Blombaum
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The United States is in the middle of a national crisis as the nursing shortage is expected to increase as the need for health care grows and the workforce ages.

However, being admitted into the UA nursing program is not easy, possibly discouraging Arizona students from stepping up to fill the vacancy.

According to the 2004

American College of Healthcare Executives report, 72 percent of hospitals are experiencing a nursing shortage.

With such discouraging statistics, the United States has been forced to recruit nurses from overseas, primarily in the Philippines, while many American students dream of becoming a nurse.

However, entering the College of Nursing at the UA can be difficult, said Vickie Radoye, assistant

dean of student affairs at the College of Nursing, because the program is very selective.

"A minimum of a 2.75 GPA is needed, but 3.5 is the average," Radoye said.

Nevertheless, the challenges are well worth it.

"(The nursing program) gives students classroom experiences as well as clinical experiences," Radoye said.

Students must go to school full time, both in the undergraduate and doctor-

ate programs, and bachelor of science and nursing graduates generally begin their careers as a staff or floor nurse in Tucson, Phoenix or out of state, said Radoye.

Radoye is aware of the crisis occurring in the United States, and said there is an "acute" problem in Arizona, but also emphasized that there are many contributing factors.

"(The problem is)

See NURSES/8

After delays, ambassadors might finally get paid

By Djamila Noelle Grossman
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

A campus service group has yet to see a dime after being promised payment in August, but directors said students should receive a paycheck as soon as next week.

The Campus Tour Ambassadors, which is comprised of students who are responsible for giving university tours to potential students, were promised a salary but have not received any paychecks.

Paul Kohn, director of administration, said the ambassadors can expect to receive money by next week.

"I'm the director, and it's my responsibility to get this resolved," Kohn said. "I have everybody I can

think of working on it. We take it somewhere higher if it doesn't get resolved in the next couple of days."

He said he went to the UA President's Office and Senior Accountant's Office, who said the problem should be solved by next week.

"I'm counting on it," Kohn said.

Kohn, who took over the position in November, said he was unaware until recently that ambassadors were scheduled to change from volunteers to paid employees because he was not present when the decision was made.

Keith Humphrey, senior assistant director of admissions, and Jennifer Leung, program development specialist, have been in office for a longer time than Kohn and work closely with the ambassadors. However, they have not been given permission to release infor-

mation about the situation, Humphrey said.

In a story published in the *Arizona Daily Wildcat* on Sept. 22, Humphrey said:

"Admissions is a very competitive environment. We want the information given out on the tour to be information that the University of Arizona can be held accountable for. The best way to do that is to have paid employees for the tour rather than volunteers."

The payments could have been delayed because of changes in the admissions staff, including the accountant leaving the office, Kohn said.

"I suspect that this has something to do with it but really can't say. I have asked the accountants to investigate,

See AMBASSADORS/10



Arizona ambassador and physiology and rehabilitation senior Rocky Tang gives a tour of the UA Monday morning to a group of UA prospects. Although the ambassadors were told in August that they would be paid for their services, they have not received any paychecks.