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ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu Friday, February 11, 2005 The University of Arizona, Tucson

Town Hall to address med school expansion

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students curious about the expansion of the UA's medical school to Phoenix will have the opportunity to pose their questions to administrators today during a Campus Town Hall meeting.

UA President Pete Likins, Provost George Davis and Ken Ryan, dean of academic affairs for the College of Medicine, will provide an update regarding the UA College of Medicine's expansion to Phoenix and will also take questions from students at the meeting today, said Anne Driscoll, assistant director of university relations for University Advancement.

In August, Likins signed a memorandum of understanding, along with Arizona State University President Michael Crow and Arizona Board of Regents President Gary Stuart, which outlined the collaborative efforts to expand the UA's College of Medicine to Phoenix in the face of Arizona's physician shortage and growing biomedical research fields.

However, since then, students have raised many questions regarding the expansion, which have yet to be answered.

Dania Molla, vice president of the pre-medical honorary Alpha Epsilon Delta, said she would like the administrators to address exactly how the new Phoenix campus will differ from the Tucson campus. Prospective medical students also want to know if the Phoenix will be a clinical or

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DRUM ROLL, PLEASE

CLAIRE C. LAURENCE/Arizona Daily Wildcat

SongHai drummers Beyah Rasool and "Rosie" Ski Smith perform during the "Sounding of the Drum" ceremony yesterday behind the Student Union Memorial Center. The ceremony included several speakers who voiced their thoughts on life and society in celebration of Black History Month. See Page 3.

ASUA urges state for more aid

**Bill would require 2:1
state financial aid ratio**

By Andrea Kelly
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

PHOENIX — The Arizona Students Association reminded legislators yesterday of a financial aid agreement made more than 15 years ago and asked the state to update the agreement to help more students pay for college.

A bill passed by the Senate Higher Education Committee yesterday would require the state to give more to the Arizona Financial Aid Trust than ever before. The fund is a combination of student and state contributions and supplements federal aid for university students in the state.

A portion of each student's tuition goes into the fund and when the fund was created in the 1980s, the state agreed to contribute the same amount as the students each year.

But Alistair Chapman, Associated Students of the University of Arizona president, said the state has not matched student funds in recent years.

Sponsored by Sen. Harry Mitchell, D-Tempe and Rep. Laura Knaperek, R-Tempe, the bill would require the state to contribute twice as much as students, with a 2-to-1 matching of funds.

It would also allow more students access to

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Likins not leaving alone: 3 in cabinet to also retire in 2006

Search for new UA president to kick off in May

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

When President Peter Likins retires in 2006, he's not going alone, as three members of his cabinet will also be handing over the reins. However, student leaders have high expectations for the next wave of administration.

Although they have not officially announced their retirement, Sandra Taylor, senior vice president for campus life, and Joel Valdez, senior vice president for business affairs, will be retiring in 2006, said Likins. Richard Powell, vice president for research, graduate studies and economic development, will retire this summer.

"There will be a major change in leadership at that time," Likins said.

Likins, who will be 70 years old when he retires in 2006, said he announced his retirement in 2003 so the campus would have time to prepare for the transition, but students say they are still concerned about the change.

The students' biggest fear is a new team of administrators who are not as committed

to student concerns as the current cabinet, said Student Regent Ben Graff.

Graff said in 2000, when he met with student government officials from universities across the Pacific 10 Conference, other students were shocked to learn the Associated Students of the University of Arizona leaders have one-on-one meetings with Likins on a monthly basis.

"Ninety percent of the universities were amazed by something that seems so part of the communication here at the UA," Graff said.

Doug Hartz, ASUA president in 2002-03 and a second-year medical student at the UA, said despite student-administration conflicts, Likins' cabinet respects student opinions, which he hopes will continue with the next wave of leadership.

"Whenever I've seen them with NAU and ASU (administrators), I was always proud of the fact that our administration seemed to be the best: the most professional, articulate, exemplary leadership," Hartz said. "And while we didn't always agree, a testament to their character was they were always willing to sit down, talk things over and listen to another perspective."

Taylor, a 14-year veteran of her position,



President Peter Likins addressed the ASUA Senate meeting Wednesday, discussing topics of tuition increases, focused excellence and diversity. Likins and 3 additional cabinet members plan to retire July 1, 2006.

JACOB KONST/Arizona Daily Wildcat

said Likins' cabinet is proficient because they look at the university as a whole rather than promote individual agendas, and she hopes the trend will remain as the new administrators take over.

However, finding a replacement for the president will be a rigorous process, which could take more than six months, said Likins, who was interviewed for 15 hours before he was appointed UA president in 1997.

In May, the Arizona Board of Regents will create a presidential search committee, chaired by a regent and made up of students, faculty, Tucson community members and UA representatives, Likins said.

The committee will define their expectations for president, identify finalists, interview candidates and recommend a new president

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