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Campaign reaches \$1 billion goal

Likins announces Campaign Arizona achieves target 21 months early

By Andrea Kelly
STAFF WRITER

Campaign Arizona has reached its \$1 billion goal 21 months early, President Peter Likins announced in his State of the University address yesterday.

Though the university has reached its goal, the fundraising campaign will continue until its original end date.

Campaign Arizona is an eight-year fundraising effort that began when Likins became president in 1997. The challenge was for the UA to raise \$1 billion by 2005.

Likins said that some of the money yet to be raised could possibly be used to increase faculty salaries.

"Our work is far from over," Likins said. "We look rich, but our salaries are lagging badly."

Salaries at the UA have fallen below other universities. The UA needs more than \$50 million to bring the average salary to the 50th percentile nationally.

At the Arizona Board of Regents meeting in September, Likins

submitted a request to the Legislature for \$15 million for faculty salaries.

"I'm sure faculty in some areas are more under-compensated than faculty in other areas," Likins said. "We've not been entirely even-handed and uniform in the way we respond to the salary disparity."

He noted that the university has cut costs in many areas, chosen not to fill some positions after people retire, and made people work harder for less recognition, all of which are problems that need to be solved.

Of the \$1 billion raised, two-thirds of it is in the form of money or gifts that the university has already received. Likins referred to this as "now money."

Some of this money was received in the form of tangible gifts for specific uses, and 72 percent of it was cash. Almost all of it is committed to specific areas selected by the donors, Likins said, but some of these funds will go into an endowment.

Only 1 percent of the money already received does not have to



HEATHER FAULAND/Arizona Daily Wildcat

President Peter Likins announces that Campaign Arizona, the UA's \$1 billion fundraiser, has reached its goal 21 months early. In his State of the University address yesterday, Likins emphasized the university's goal of increasing faculty salaries, which lag far behind the national average.

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Controversial Alumni Plaza breaks ground with cactus garden intact

By Alexandria Blue
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nearly two years after controversy erupted surrounding the proposed removal of the cactus garden, ground will be broken today on the Alumni Plaza, which now includes the garden as its centerpiece.

More than 200 students, faculty and alumni are expected to gather today to commemorate the beginning of the \$4.85 million plaza project.

UA President Peter Likins and ASUA President J.P. Benedict are expected to speak. UA men's basketball coach Lute Olson will also be in attendance.

The ceremony will begin at 4:30 p.m. outside the Administration building. At

the beginning of the program, the USS Arizona bell will ring seven times in honor of UA alumnus Bill Bowers, who died last week. Bowers salvaged the bell from the battleship, which sank during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The new plaza will be home to a host of native Sonoran Desert plants, an elliptical grassy hill, four new fountains, 50 alumni benches and a bronze Wildcat family statue.

Amphitheater-style steps will be built in front of the Administration building to complement the existing entrance.

The amphitheater will give students a place to lounge in between classes as well as another venue for music performances and other formal events, said Mike McDonald, chief financial officer for the Alumni Association.

The UA fight song, names of alumni who donated money to the plaza project and other UA facts will be engraved into bricks along the new "Wildcat Walk" and into the amphitheater stairs.

Construction on the plaza will occur in six phases, designed to minimize disruption to students and staff, McDonald said.

The first phase of plaza construction, which will have the most direct impact on students, will begin Dec. 15 and continue through February of next year.

During this time, access to the area in front of the Administration building, as well as the building itself, will be unavailable. Bicycle paths and pedestrian walkways surrounding the construction areas will also be diverted intermittently during construction.

Some UA students who walk and ride their bicycles to class in the potential construction area are concerned about being diverted from their normal route.

Cynthia Pearson, a freshman majoring in pre-physiological sciences, rides her bike to a class in the Modern Languages building.

Pearson said that the construction will force her to use another bike route and could potentially make her late to classes.

"My class is always in 10 minutes after (my class in the Modern Languages building), so I always have to be on the run," Pearson said.

"It's not going to be good," she said.

Steven Aleck, a music freshman who has a class near the future plaza, said that he will find a new way to get to class once construction begins. "It'll be a hassle on the days that I wake up 10 minutes before class," he said. "But typically, it shouldn't be a problem."

The plaza, which will be situated in front of the Administration building between the Student Union Memorial

Ceremony celebrates new medical facilities

By Ashley Nowe
STAFF WRITER

The groundbreaking for three medical research facilities will mark the start of the UA's quest to become a leader in research.

The Institute for Biomedical Science and Biotechnology building and the Medical Research building will soon be constructed on a 530,000 square foot lot.

A neighboring building, Roy P. Drachman Hall, will also break ground today on its 103,000 square foot space.

A street-fair style ceremony in honor of the groundbreakings will include refreshments, a performance by the UA Steel Band and a speech from President Peter Likins, as well as possible appearances from the mayor and legislators.

There will be stands at each site that include a detailed overview of each building's layout as well as its function.

The IBSB building, located on the corner of East Helen Street and North Warren Avenue, is expected to bring together 30 faculty scientists and 300 researchers, including neuroscientists, respiratory scientists, medicinal chemists

New Buildings At a Glance

► Institute for Biomedical Science and Biotechnology \$65.7 million

► Medical Research Building \$54.3 million

► Roy P. Drachman Hall \$30 million



Courtesy of the Alumni Association

This is an artist's rendering of the Alumni Plaza to be constructed near the Administration building. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Alumni Plaza is today at 4:30 p.m. on the Mall.

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