

NEWS

You Need To Know™



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Last "News" print edition

Due to university budget cuts and an added emphasis on sustainability, this November/December 2008 edition of News You Need To Know will be the last printed. The publication will be offered exclusively online.

To sign up to receive the electronic version of News You Need To Know, please send an e-mail request to news@asu.edu.

ASU grows to 67,000 plus

Enrollment at ASU this fall has reached a record 67,082 students, more than 4 percent higher than last year's 64,394. The enrollment number has grown by nearly 12,000 students since 2002, when ASU adopted the mission of becoming a high-quality, high-access university.

All four campuses experienced an increase in students and scholars. ASU enrolled 168 freshman National Merit Scholars this year and welcomed 11 Flinn Scholars. President and Provost Scholars, students who perform at the very top of their Arizona high school graduation class, increased by 13 percent.

More than one-third of the 2008 freshmen are ethnic minority students, doubling over the past 10 years.

ASU, Grist offer environmental news

In the first collaboration of its kind, ASU and Grist.org, the country's leading source of online environmental news and information, have agreed to send the entire ASU student body and many faculty and staff a biweekly e-mail newsletter with news, commentary and advice about sustainability issues.

The electronic newsletter includes timely reporting on national sustainability news, as well as localized coverage of issues affecting the university, the greater Phoenix community, the state of Arizona and the Southwest.

"Sustainability is a concept with as much transformative potential as justice, liberty and equality, and ASU intends to foster it in our academic institutions and broadly across business, industry and government," says ASU President Michael Crow. "By teaming up with the environmental news experts at Grist, ASU will provide a steady flow of ideas and information that bring sustainability

issues into practical focus for all members of our campus community."

EUREKA! NIH fuels ASU innovation

Fueled by a new initiative at the National Institutes of Health called the EUREKA program, two ASU teams have received million-dollar grants to pursue the next frontiers in biomedical research. EUREKA, an acronym for Exceptional, Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration, is intended to boost exceptionally innovative research.

Biodesign Institute researcher John Chaput and Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering associate professor Rudy Diaz each have received \$1.2 million research grants from NIH to lead their respective projects on hidden DNA proteins and neural nanomachines.

The EUREKA program represents the NIH's increased emphasis on supporting unconventional, paradigm-shifting research.

College of Law makes 'Top 10'

ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law has been cited by a national business publication as one of the top schools in the country for Hispanic students.

The college is ranked second on *Hispanic Business* magazine's "2008 Top 10 Law Schools for Hispanic Students." The magazine, which also rates business, engineering and medical schools, based its selections on reputation, enrollment, faculty, student services and retention rates.

"The growing Hispanic population in the United States is arguably the demographic story of the 21st century," says Paul Schiff Berman, dean of the college. "Accordingly, as we create a new 'gold standard' for 21st century public legal education, we at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law will continue to be at the forefront of efforts to train Hispanic lawyers of tomorrow while addressing, through teaching and scholarship, the complex issues of law and policy implicated by these broad societal changes."

ASU ranks in research expenditures

With total research expenditures of \$224 million in fiscal year 2007, ASU ranked 19th among universities without a medical school, according to the annual "NSF Survey of

Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges."

This marks the first time that ASU has been ranked in the top 20 and represents a remarkable growth in its research enterprise.

"These numbers show the dramatic growth we have made in the past several years in ASU's research enterprise," says R.F. "Rick" Shaugraw Jr., ASU's vice president for research and economic affairs.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (\$614 million) topped the list of universities without M.D. degree-granting medical schools. MIT was followed by the University of California-Berkeley (\$552 million) and Texas A&M University (\$544 million).

For the complete list, visit the Web site: www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf08320/?govDel=USNSF_178.

Report highlights human services

"Greater Phoenix Forward," a new report by ASU's College of Public Programs and the Morrison Institute for Public Policy, addresses Maricopa County's remarkable population growth trajectory and its demands for human services. The report offers community and policy leaders and human services practitioners the latest data and new perspectives for understanding the Valley's human services infrastructure, as well as a "big picture" of future needs.

"The number of Greater Phoenix residents who will need various human services is very likely to grow faster than the work force and fiscal resources – and maybe the political will – needed to serve them," says Debra Friedman, university vice president and dean of the College of Public Programs.

Relying on the expertise from throughout ASU's College of Public Programs, "Greater Phoenix Forward" analyzes 12 critically important topics, including children and families, poverty, substance abuse, and Latinos. The report points out that human services form a major economic sector in terms of the clients they serve and the jobs they provide. Indeed, the human-service sector comprises the third-largest "industry" in Arizona.

To view the report, visit the Web site <http://copp.asu.edu/greaterphoenixforward>.