Maroon, gold and green: ASU enhances eco-efforts

When ASU opened the School of Sustainability in 2007, it became the first university in the nation to offer graduate and undergraduate degrees in sustainability. ASU has continued to ‘green’ the university, as it has made a host of contributions in sustainability education, renewable energy research, urban ecology and policy-making.

In the 2008-2009 academic year, Arizona State University awarded its first sustainability degree; was nationally recognized as a leading ‘green’ university; launched new solar research programs to further the school’s commitment to finding clean energy solutions; and flexed some serious School of Sustainability muscle in the form of expanded class offerings and partnerships to offer students a sustainability concentration to pair with a wide range of degrees.

To read ASU’s top sustainability stories of 2009, go to pages H6-H7.

5 more years: Army invests in ASU research

Army commits to sponsor additional five years of research at Flex Display Center

ASU announced Jan. 29 that the Army has committed to sponsor additional five years of research and development at ASU’s Flexible Display Center.

The five-year renewal is for $50 million and follows initial funding of the center in 2004. Taken together, the two five-year commitments represent a total investment of nearly $100 million in this unique component of the Army Research Laboratory’s research portfolio.

The Flexible Display Center is a collaboration among government, industry and academia designed to advance the development of full-color flexible display technology. The Army’s continued commitment follows a rigorous evaluation of Flexible Display Center activities and progress during its first five years of operation, with a thorough assessment of the center’s plans. The review included an evaluation by leading technology experts assembled at the invitation of the Army.

ASU’s Flexible Display Center has developed a new process for manufacturing high-performance flexible displays on transparent plastic.

The displays, which are quite rugged, readily withstand severe vibration and impact tests performed at industry partner General Dynamics’ labs.

(For video highlights of these tests, visit the Web site http://flexdisplay.asu.edu/Flex-display-test_revB.wmv.)

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Poste to lead transformational initiative

ASU President Michael Crow announced a major new initiative that will revolutionize academic research through the innovative convergence of science, engineering, social sciences and computing. The effort will build on intellectual principles of success pioneered by ASU’s Biodesign Institute.

The director of the Biodesign Institute, George Poste, has been appointed to lead the new effort. In just five years since its founding, the Biodesign Institute, under Poste’s leadership, has generated $199 million in research funding, disclosed 212 inventions and filed 46 patents. In this new role, Poste will serve as a meta-planning catalyst, working with deans and other leaders across the university to identify attractive opportunities where the fusion of diverse capabilities can produce a transformative impact on society.

The new effort is called the Complex Adaptive Systems Initiative, with Poste serving as chief scientist. Pioneering scientist and entrepreneur Alan C. Nelson, PhD, former Poste as director of the Biodesign Institute in March of 2009.

ASU highlights

Programs get $3.7M from U.S. Department of Education

The West campus college has received a $3.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) to provide school leadership training to nine high-poverty school districts across the state through the college’s existing video conferencing network.

The award comes on the heels of a $3.19-million DOE grant for the college’s Project ASPIRE, and has its roots in a $10 million DOE award for the creation of the Professional Development Schools (PDS) program that has been recognized nationally for its high level of success in the areas of teacher retention and student achievement in under-served school districts. The grant, “Urban and Rural Bridge for Action Network – Excellence and Collaboration in Educational Leadership (URBAN-EXCELL),” will create a high-quality leadership program built on the needs of the partner districts and the recommendations of current exemplary principal certification programs.

The nine school districts in the URBAN-EXCELL partnership include three in Phoenix: Conerigo, Obispo and Roosevelt. The districts are located in rural communities – Chinle Unified, Coolidge Unified, Douglas Unified, Gadsden Unified (San Luis), Indian Oasis-Baboquivari School District (Sells) and Kingman Unified. Included in these districts are 51,200 students, 1,150 teachers, and 76 schools. Of the 45 percent were in some level of corrective action in 2007.

Eureka! NIH funds 2 projects

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

Biodesign Institute researcher John Chapa and its Project ASPIRE, and has its roots in a $10 million DOE award for the creation of the Professional Development Schools (PDS) program that has been recognized nationally for its high level of success in the areas of teacher retention and student achievement in under-served school districts. The grant, “Urban and Rural Bridge for Action Network – Excellence and Collaboration in Educational Leadership (URBAN-EXCELL),” will create a high-quality leadership program built on the needs of the partner districts and the recommendations of current exemplary principal certification programs.

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ASU opens public elementary school

East Mesa’s new Center of Educational Innovation’s Polytechnic Elementary School, which is managed by ASU’s affiliate University Public Schools Inc., opened its doors in time for students from about 220 students ranging from kindergarten age through sixth grade.

More than 150 families and their children have been involved in the process of creating University Public Life’s School’s first school. "ASU’s effort to partner with the pre-K-12 community to advance educational success in the state takes a significant step forward with the first center opening," says Eugene Garcia, an ASU professor of education and vice president of Education Partnerships. "Using and sharing the multiple and substantial intellectual resources of ASU to address real Arizona educational challenges emboldens the central mission of University Public Schools." University Public Schools will continue to form partnerships with ASU faculty to develop curriculum development and research opportunities, and to seek partnerships with school districts across the metropolitan Phoenix area.

Researchers earn U.S. defense award

ASU is one of seven U.S. universities selected from 211 applicants to receive a Minerva award for a research project titled “Finding Allies for the War of Words: Mapping the Diffusion and Influence of Counter-Radical Muslim Discourse.” The project is spearheaded by Mark Woodward, an associate professor in ASU’s School of Historical, Political and Religious Studies. It is funded by the Minerva Research Initiative, a program that focuses on areas of strategic importance to U.S. national security policy.

In addition to ASU, the other research universities to receive a Minerva award include Princeton University, San Francisco State University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Monterey Institute of International Studies, University of California-San Diego and the University of Texas-Austin.

The Minerva Research Initiative is a new Department of Defense program. By supporting university-based basic research, the initiative is aimed at improving the Department of Defense’s intellectual capital in the social sciences and humanities.

Corporate brands are increasingly turning to public relations rather than a rare estimate. Whether the crowd is gathering for an anti-war protest, a sports team’s victory parade, a golf tournament, the pope’s outdoor Mass or the swearing-in of the most powerful man on Earth, organizational reputations and personal egos are ballooned or deflated by public perception of whether the throng was surprisingly large or disappointingly small," Doig says. ASNCJC, Jan. 15.

ASU linguistics professor Jim Gee says all aspects of popular culture are reshaping language so that new words are coined every day and being abolished in a manner as sophisticated as that of academia. "There’s a kind of respect that we were not given in the language and the ways of thinking that are embedded in these popular culture practices," Gee says. National Post, Dec. 30.

Several online news experts say Google News has changed little, especially when compared with services such as Google Maps and Gmail, which added new features at a rapid pace. "We actually were surprised at how little it has evolved, at least on the surface," says Doug Gillmor, director of ASU’s Knight Center for Digital Media Entrepreneurship. "I’m guessing that Google is hoping to do with it." New York Times, June 24.

A new paper co-written by ASU biologist Kip Hodges suggests that variations in monsoon climate over longer time scales also influenced the evolution of the Himalayan mountain chain. "The implication is that either the development of the plateau was not as significant as we believe or that an abrupt uplift of the plateau at 8 million to 10 million years caused a change to the Himalayan mountain chain that was not recorded in East Asia," he says. National Science Foundation News, Nov. 9.

As gas prices continue to rise, many retailers are wooing customers with prepaid gas cards and mileage discounts. Financial entrepreneurs also are dreaming up complex schemes to help consumers limit their "pump shock."
Three professors from ASU’s College of Teacher Education and Leadership (CTEL) — Teresa Foulger, Mia Kim Williams and Keith Wetzell — work in small groups for the 2008 Research Paper Award from the International Society for Technology in Education’s Special Interest Group for Teacher Educators for their innovative teaching methods in producing K-12 teachers who embrace the use of new technologies in their classrooms.

Foulger, Williams and Wetzell authored the awards-winning paper, “Innovative Technologies, Small Groups, and a Wiki: A 21st Century Preservation Experience Founded on Collaboration.” The publication is based on their experiences teaching CTEL’s educational technology course to education majors who bring a wide range of technology skills to the class.

One of the professors’ key strategies is to have students work in pairs on developing a technological tool and its potential classroom uses. They then conduct an “Innovations Mini-Teach” in which they showcase the tool to their peers in a simulated K-12 lesson.

Besides conducting an Innovations Mini-Teach, students post their findings about technologies on a wiki, a web site that enables multiple users to create content. The collaborative effort extends over time, as new students refine and add to the wiki each semester, while current and future K-12 teachers can make use of the wiki’s resources.

ASU professors, left to right, Teresa Foulger, Keith Wetzell and Mia Kim Williams embrace new technologies.

Universities partner up to help teachers learn new technologies

Educators from six underserved schools will take part in “Tech-Tec,” a program that will show how technologies such as podcasting, text messaging and video conferencing can be used to bridge the high-impact tools to enhance the learning experience.

This is the result of a unique partnership among Arizona State University, the University of Arizona and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, and the Arizona Telemedicine Program at the College of Medicine.

Faculty from the three program sponsors will train teachers in schools throughout the state on their diverse student interests in the impact and a history of successful collaboration. Course content will be recorded for use by other educators throughout the state.

ASU senior earns prestigious Marshall Scholarship

The work so fascinated him that he worked in the lab at ASU every day after school for two years. He also signed up for summer classes. When the Center for Arizona Policy, a think tank, in a year fell of 2006, he had completed enough college credit to be a junior.

Gamalski started taking college courses at 15 and began working in ASU laboratories as a high school junior, in the high school research program of ASU’s Southwest Center for Education and the Natural Environment.

Andrew Gamalski of Chandler won a 2009 Marshall Scholarship, among the most prestigious awards for graduate study in the world. Gamalski used the award to study in England for four years.

Gamalski started taking college courses at 15 and began working in ASU laboratories as a high school junior, in the high school research program of ASU’s Southwest Center for Education and the Natural Environment.

More ASU freshmen are pursuing majors that best fit their interests and abilities, established an online tracking system that enables multiple users to create content. The collaborative effort extends over time, as new students refine and add to the wiki each semester, while current and future K-12 teachers can make use of the wiki’s resources.

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Faculty join ranks of university's elite professors

President’s Professors

Three outstanding professors were named President's Professors, in recognition of the level of excellence they bring to the university.

The awardees:

• José E. Nágera, a psychology professor in the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, and the director of ASU community outreach.
• Margaret C. Nelson, associate dean of Barrett, the Honors College, a professor in the School of Human Education and Social Change, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and an affiliated faculty in the Global Institute of Sustainability.
• Max Underwood, a professor in the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture in the College of Design.

Regents’ Professors

Five exceptional ASU professors at the top of their careers have been named as ASU Regents' Professors for 2009 by President Michael Crow and Elizabeth D. Capaldi, executive vice president and provost.

The rank of Regents Professor is the highest faculty honor bestowed by the university.

These honorees are:

• Jane Bullock, professor of bioarchaeology in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
• James G. Crow, professor of biology in the School of Life Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
• Bruce Rittmann, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Biodesign Institute, Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering.
• Michael Sachs, professor of law and psychology, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.
• Dieter Schneider, professor of electrical engineering, Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering.

Cronkite School takes journalism lessons on the road to students

The Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication is hiring the road to bring journalism to high school students across the state.

The school recently equipped a highway-size van that could double as a journalism classroom, including a television camera, microphones, audio recorders and backdrops, and is seeking to high school in an attempt to get students interested in journalism. The program is funded by the ASU Foundation Women & Philanthropy and the Scripts Howard Foundation.

Anita Luera, director of high school programs for the Cronkite School, brings journalism education to high school students across Arizona.

Former CNN anchor back on airwaves – and in class, too

Aaron Brown may be back on television, but his heart is still in the classroom.

The former CNN anchor returned to the airwaves as host of “Wide Angle,” a weekly PBS series of documentaries.

Brown made his mark in broadcast history when he tirelessly covered the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11, 2001.

Now he’s responsible for a series of documentaries that examine global issues such as the war in Darfur and Japan’s emerging military.

In the classroom, Brown examines pivotal moments in television news history, from the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963 to “how television news was born,” he says – to coverage of the Vietnam war.

ASU unveils master’s degree in social justice and human rights

People who aspire to apply social justice and human rights approaches to such issues as health, education, labor, international development and human welfare will gain a strong theoretical background and hands-on management skills through Arizona State University’s new program in social justice and human rights.

The program welcomes its first group of students to the West campus in August, when the fall semester begins. Inquiries from potential students have come from Arizona and across the United States as well as countries including Ethiopia, Pakistan, Nepal, the Dominican Republic and Yemen.

Students can choose from two tracks.

• International and non-governmental organizations: Graduates from this track also are prepared for positions in the NGO sector.
• Practical training in nonprofit management: Graduates are prepared for leadership positions in the rapidly growing NGO sector.

The program, housed in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, draws on scholars across numerous disciplines and innovative learners-centered curriculum that emphasizes team-taught, problem-based and community-embedded seminars, as well as student internships and the infusion of virtual lectures via videoconferencing from experts around the world.

ASU Highlights

May 8, 2009

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Research team helps re-engineer U.S. power grid for clean energy

ASU researchers will help create a framework for re-engineering the nation’s power grid to make it adaptable to renewable energy technologies such as solar and wind power.

A team of faculty members in ASU’s Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering and the School of Sustainability are working to transform the United States’ centralized power grid into a “smart grid” that will be able to store and distribute energy produced from wind farms, solar photovoltaic panels, fuel cells and other alternative energy sources.

The team will work with NSF’s new Engineering Research Center for Future Renewable Electric Energy Delivery and Management (FREEDM) Systems, led by North Carolina State University.

The NSF grant of $8.5 million and an additional $10 million in support from various institutions and industry members will fund establishment of an effort that will involve several universities, in addition to national laboratories and the American electric utilities in 28 states and nine countries.

New hires bring expertise to solar lab, help power AZ solar energy

ASU is strengthening its commitment to boost Arizona’s economic development prospects in the renewable energy industry by establishing the Solar Power Laboratory to advance solar energy research, education and technology.

Prominent scientists and engineers are being hired to lead the endeavor to improve the efficiency of solar electric power systems while making them more economically feasible.

The laboratory will be a collaboration partnering the university’s Global Institute of Sustainability and Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering.

Christiana Honsberg, Stuart Bowden and Mario Maracas have been hired for the venture. Honsberg will be chief scientist, Bowden will be industrial liaison, and Maracas will be chief operating officer.

The lab’s goal in large part will be to support a significant facet of the economic development objectives of Arizona and the Southwest.

Bowden has been working at the University of Delaware’s Institute of Energy Conversion. He is credited with helping make major strides in improving the efficiency of silicon and crystalline silicon solar cells and the cell manufacturing process.

Maracas is returning to ASU after leaving 14 years ago to work with Motorola Inc., the company that founded the corporate Molecular Technology Lab and Motorola Life Sciences, and held director positions in Motorola’s advanced technologies and nanotechnology laboratories.

He is now developing solar power technologies that can be commercialized in the near future.

According to an ASU study by professor Stephen Nowlis and associate professor Naomi Mandel, power plants cause emotional uncertainty and discomfort. That’s the case no matter if a person wins or loses. “I think you would think you’d enjoy events like that more if you bet on them, but we found you enjoy them less,” Mandel says.

In addition to rising oil prices, which have led to higher utility and food costs, people are more aware of man’s impact on the environment. “With the effects on the pocketbook and a wider acceptance of our impact on the environment, it’s like a perfect storm,” says Charles Redman, professor and director of the Global Institute of Sustainability.

People seem more willing to make changes. “This is not a blip. There will be greater staying power. But just how much are you willing to change? That’s an unanswered question.”

The public has seemed more interested in President Barack Obama’s life than they have with just presidents, says ASU history professor Brenda Simpson.

“Not just because of the modern media or anything like that,” she says. “No one has had this sort of microscopic attention paid to such minutiae.”

But Simpson adds that it will be interesting to see how long the Sheen lasts, citing other popular presidents that have taken a tumble as the “Sheen” subsides. “What happens when the fall in love with these people,” Simpson says.

“We pretend we know them. And they disappoint us.”

Eastern Media

Research led by Kanan Kabal, an assistant professor of biomedical informatics, is one example of technology that significantly improves their performance in medical operations with simple warm-up exercises. The research is in information visualization, computer architecture and cognitive skills, and to heighten their alertness.

“Dancers, musicians, sculptors and painters have, for centuries, used short-term practice or warm-up as a method for getting ready for the task at hand.”
ASU solar installation sets tone for nation

ASU has awarded energy contracts to Honeywell Building Systems and Intelec Data to design and build solar panels and rooftop structures on its Tempe campus. With this investment, ASU has reaffirmed its commitment to renewable energy through what will become the largest deployment of solar power infrastructure by any university. The installation began in August and was completed in December. The panels will meet up to 7 percent of the energy needs for ASU’s Tempe campus. Two megawatts of electricity can run about 4,600 computers. There is no upfront cost for this installation, which will generate about $429,000 worth of energy and reduce ASU’s carbon emissions by 2,825 tons per year as compared to traditional energy generation in the state of Arizona.

The carbon reduction is equivalent to removing the annual emissions of 523 automobiles. A study by ASU faculty and students in 2004 identified at least $30,000 square feet of roof space suitable for solar-based electricity generation on the Tempe campus alone. Because of the unprecedented expansion of new construction during the past few years, the roof space available for solar panels is now significantly larger.

ASU’s solar energy plan now calls for the installation of up to 7 megawatts on the Tempe campus, with additional installations on ASU’s other campuses over the next several years.

InnovationSpace program to explore biomimicry in consumer product design

Consumer products often are manufactured in quantities numbering in the millions. From their manufacturing to their disposal, products can have enormous downsides for the air we breathe, the water we drink and the soils we cultivate. Biomimicry is a promising area of study that can help designers and engineers to create innovative solutions that will minimize the environmental impact of new products.

ASU professor of Frosted Glass, Robert H. Spindler, and TUV Rheinland Group have joined forces with ASU to create TUV Rheinland PTL, a state-of-the-art facility for testing and certification of solar energy equipment in the world.

This unique collaboration, which is a private-venture will be based in Tempe. It combines the powerful reputation, technological sophistication, management expertise and international reach of TUV Rheinland Group – the global leader in independent testing and assessment services – with ASU’s more than 50 years of research on solar energy and extensive solar testing know-how.

ASU’s Photovoltaic Testing Laboratory (PTL), established in 1992, has long been the only lab in the United States accredited for photovoltaic (PV) design qualification and type approval.

New program offers ‘green’ business degree

More and more people and businesses want to find ways to conserve energy and help make our natural resources last longer. As the new school year begins, a ground breaking new degree program at ASU’s W. P. Carey School of Business will make it easier for business students to help their future companies use sustainability practices.

The new bachelor’s degree program at the school offers incoming freshmen the chance to combine a traditional, high-caliber business degree with specializations in sustainability, tourism management, communication or urban policy. ASU’s Popular School of Sustainability – the only school of its kind – will provide many of the classes required for the new sustainability specialization.

Other ASU schools, including the Hough Downs School of Undergraduate Communication, will offer faculty experts for the other specializations.


South/Southeastern Media

Mars rovers Spirit and Opportunity, who have now endured four years past their expected 90-day lifetimes, are credited with helping researchers see Mars in a whole new light. “The first thing that was really surprising was the complex biodiversity,” says Phil Christensen, ASU Regents’ Professor in the School of Earth & Space Exploration. Although the project now costs about a $1.5 million a month, Christensen sees no downside because the rovers have outlived their life expectancy. “It’s basically great,” Christensen says. “We’re making new discoveries every day.”

Florida Today, April 23.

Midwestern Media

ASU highlights

"Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature." The InnovationSpace biomimicry initiative is supported by grants from the National Colleages Inven- tors and Innovators Alliance and ASU’s Pathways to Entrepreneurship pro-

Program helps professionals better manage water resources

Public managers who deal with water resources are becoming increasingly important as they make decisions that could affect communities for decades.

A new certified public manager course in ASU’s Bob Ramsey Executive Education Program is teaching professionals and water experts how to better apply their administrative knowledge and skills for more positive impacts on the people they serve.

Green recognition

RIP Architects and DPR Construction Inc.’s project for ASU’s Polytechnic Aca-

The study says, New York Times, Feb. 16.

To the average viewer, the frenzied media coverage of financial highs and lows can erode even the most motivated investor. Says Robert J. Conway, president of Conway Communications Inc., a New York-based media relations firm. “People who would not have considered it, when they get laid off at 45, 50, 55 and are back on the job market, might consider it as they try to enhance their human capital,” she says. New York Times, Dec. 18.

In THE NEWS

Against a tide of people eschewing cosmetic medicine in the new economy, ASU sociology professor Deborah Sullivan predicts a countercurrent of consumers having procedures for fiscal reasons. “People who would not have considered it, when they get laid off at 45, 50, 55 and are back on the job market, might consider it as they try to enhance their human capital,” she says. New York Times, Dec. 18.

Midwestern Media

ASU journalist professor Xu Wu, who served as an adviser for the Chinese government on public relations for the Olympic Games, has forecast several scenarios that could have a lasting effect on foreign relations. “If this becomes a Chinese nightmare,” Wu says, “it will spread overseas to the world and become an international nightmare, because China will feel humiliated – and this will add to that suffering.” Chicago Tribune, Aug. 9.
Continues to expand.

China's Sichuan University helps design future of higher education

ASU-Sichuan University partnership

Cruz and Cochise counties to the center of projected growth is expected to be in the and fastest-growing states, and much of its

morrison Institute takes closer look at the sun Corridor, state's 'megapolitan' future

Two out of three Americans are expected to live in just 20 'megapolitan' areas in about 50 years, and one of these megapolitans -- the Sun Corridor -- is in Arizona. Arizona already is one of the most urban and fastest-growing states, and much of its projected growth is expected to be in the Sun Corridor, which stretches from Santa Cruz and Cochise counties to the center of Yavapai County.

ASU-Sichuan University partnership helps design future of higher education

ASU's partnership with China's Sichuan University continues to expand.

The most recent manifestation was a visit Aug. 4-6 by Jian Shi, Sichuan University's vice president for global engagement, and Shijiong Yan, the director of Sichuan's Office of International Affairs.

Bad weather grounded Shi in Chicago. Yan made it to Arizona for a series of meetings at ASU, which Shi joined by teleconference.

The relationship between the two universities grew out of a series of visits in 2005 and 2006. ASU President Michael Crow twice joined by teleconference.

The men's team, making its first appearance since 2003, made it to the NCAA tournament's second round.

ASU performs host to Teach For America Institute

More than 600 recent college graduates from across the United States, including about 40 from ASU, will be in residence on ASU's Tempe campus June 15-July 17, participating in Teach For America's first Phoenix summer institute.

The institute is conducted by ASU's Teach For America corps members will teach summer school at the Roosevelt and Agua Fria school districts in preparation for accepting positions as teachers next year in one of 29 urban and rural regions across the United States.

About 200 corps members will remain in the Valley and teach in Phoenix-area schools next year. Many of these teachers will begin a master's program in education at the West campus in the fall.

Technology transfer group assists entrepreneurs

A technology transfer group that helped Arizona Technology Enterprises bring ASU's scientific discoveries to market has turned its attention to assisting Arizona's innovators and entrepreneurs.

The Arizona Technology Ventures Services Group (TVSG) was launched as a new and enhanced entity by ASU from its predecessor, the Technology Ventures Clinic at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. The TVSG will now direct the energy of ASU's entrepreneurial student body toward a goal of diversifying Arizona's economy through the incubation of small technology companies.

Under the supervision of professionals, students in the group will provide essential services to the region's innovators, entrepreneurs and small businesses during their critical, yet fragile, start-up phases.

The changes are a win-win for the 22 students who represent law, business and engineering disciplines at ASU and are enrolled in the inaugural, one-semester for-credit course, and for entrepreneurs and others on the path to making their ideas a reality.

Kosovo president returns to ASU to accept global leadership award

Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu is the first recipient of the Arizona State University's Distinguished Global Leadership Award. He was recognized Feb. 25 in a ceremony at ASU, which was attended by more than 250 members of the Albanian-American community in Arizona.

Sejdiu was on the ASU campus just days after the first anniversary of Kosovo's declaration of independence (Feb. 17) and just days before he was scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

People have been predicting for 50 years that Phoenix and Tucson would grow together into one giant desert conglomerate. A diverse pattern of land ownership in central and southern Arizona most likely will prevent that. But what is happening now, according to the report, is that the economies of metropolitan Phoenix and metropolitan Tucson are merging. With about 5 million

ASU, Penn team up to commercialize technology, share university resources

ASU and the University of Pennsylvania (Penn) have entered into a partnership to assist one another with commercialization of selected technologies for their respective universities.

The collaboration will use the resources, networks and contacts of Arizona Technolgy Enterprises (AZTE), ASU's technology transfer arm, and the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Technology Transfer (CCT) for the purpose of transferring university technology to the marketplace.

Each university technology transfer office will share a percentage of any resulting income received by the other, based on the amount of effort and activity involved in commercializing the technology. The universities will remain the owners of their respective intellectual property.

ASU already has other innovative partnerships in place to transfer university-created technologies into products for the benefit of society. AZTE has entered into separate global arrangements to market technologies developed by ASU's partner universities, Dublin City University in Ireland (through its technology commercialization organization, Invent DCU Limited) and Tecnologico de Monterrey in Mexico.

ASU-Sichuan University partnership helps design future of higher education

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One notable result was the formation of the University Design Institute (UDI), administered jointly by ASU and Sichuan University, as a think-tank and “do-tank.” Its mission is to develop and implement innovative strategies to make higher education -- and public universities in particular -- more effective in addressing society’s most complex and perplexing problems by designing organizational and educational models that can be applied worldwide.

“When we talk about ‘design,’ we’re really talking about innovative ways to think about things,” said Kathryn Mohrman, director of UDI. “The fundamental question is ‘How can we be more effective?’

We answer that by bringing people together in multidisciplinary combinations that foster more creative and innovative results.”

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About 200 corps members will remain in the Valley and teach in Phoenix-area schools next year. Many of these teachers will begin a master's program in education at the West campus in the fall.

Basketball teams share success on court

ASU’s men’s and women’s basketball teams completed a memorable season ending in the NCAA tournament for both squads. It was the first time, both teams headed to the NCAA basketball tournament in the same year.

The men’s team, making its first appearance since 2003, made it to the tournament’s second round.

The women made its fifth straight NCAA appearance and seventh in the last nine years and finished in the Elite Eight for the second time in three years.

The men were led by sophomore sensation James Harden who earned the Pac-10’s player of the honor. The women were led by Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year Brittany January.

ASU sofaomore James Harden led the men's basketball team to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2003 and racked up individual honors including being named the Pac-10 player of the year.