**A unique student housing property with a “No Party policy” and innovative amenities and services thrives in Tucson**

Sahara apartments is in its 11th year of operation as a student housing project in Tucson. Ted Mehr, the owner of Sahara Apartments, has introduced a lot of innovations to the Tucson student housing market.

Ted, who still manages the building on a day to day basis, developed this project as the “paranoid” father of a college age daughter, who was concerned about his own daughter’s safety and comfort when she had gone to live on her own while attending college.

Some of Ted’s ideas have been duplicated by others, and some are still unique to Sahara. For example, Sahara is still the only building that does not allow parties on site. Our motto is “The oasis for QUIET student living”. At Sahara you are guaranteed a quiet environment. If anyone violates the rules, the residents can call the owner, Ted, no matter what time of day or night. And he will drive down to the building to make sure the violators understand that the policy is really enforced. When students move into Sahara, they get Ted’s cell phone AND home phone numbers, you know, just in case the cell phone runs out of battery right when someone needs to call. All residents are encouraged to call Ted if they feel uncomfortable about anything. That sort of attitude is not something that you will get from the corporate-owned high rise competition.

In case you think our no party policy means no fun, you should know that Sahara has an activity director who organizes many group activities sponsored by Sahara where the residents get an opportunity to get together and do fun things as a group. For instance at the time of this writing, for the month of October, we took our residents to Mt. Lemmon for the October Fest, Sabino Canyon for a 13 mile hike, “Tucson Meet Yourself” event downtown, had a game night on site with free food and refreshments, and a movie night. We also went to the Corn Maze for Halloween and to the “International Festival of Tucson”. And that was just for October!

Sahara is still the only student building in Tucson that will give every resident a FREE bicycle to ride while living at Sahara. We even maintain and repair the bikes for free.

Sahara is also the only student building that provides hotel accommodations on site, where visiting family and friends can stay when they come to visit our residents. The hotel also accommodates professors, researchers, workshop attendees and many groups of international students that are placed at Sahara by the University.

We treat our residents like they are expensive works of art in a museum. Our gated community is protected with an infrared beam system that alerts the owner with an automatic cellphone call if someone trespasses by climbing over the walls. 80 security cameras record all events at the perimeter of the building and in the public areas. And our staff who live on site are ready to respond if required. These are some of the reasons why in our 10 year history we have never received a “Red Tag” from the police department.

Offering shuttle service to and from the campus is now standard practice for a lot of buildings, but we do it every half hour from 7 AM to 7 PM, on every school day.

At Sahara, you can enjoy the privacy of having your own studio apartment for a lot less than a single occupancy room at the Residence Halls, or sharing an apartment at one of the high rise buildings with people whose lifestyles may not be compatible with yours.

While we admit we are not for everybody, nor do we want to be, there is a lot more that you should know about Sahara before you decide what your choice of student housing should be.

Check out our website and find out why Sahara has become more popular each year as the word has spread that you can have a safe and quiet environment and still have fun.

Sahara Apartments  
919 N. Stone Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
520-622-4102

Ted Mehr, Owner  
rentsahara@gmail.com
INSIDE

PARENTS & FAMILY ASSOCIATION FALL UPDATE

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BookStores books, supplies, computer hardware & software purchases (520) 621-2426 shop.arizona.edu

Bursar’s Office Billing questions, paying tuition and fees (520) 621-3232 http://bursar.arizona.edu/

Campus Health Service Health care, psychological care, student health insurance (520) 621-6490 http://www.health.arizona.edu/

Career Services Part-time jobs on and off campus, internships & co-ops, full-time post-graduation employment and career exploration (520) 621-2588 http://www.career.arizona.edu/

Dean of Students Office Advocacy, academic integrity, code of conduct (520) 621-7057 http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu

Disability Resource Center (520) 621-3268 http://drc.arizona.edu

Graduate College (520) 621-3471 http://grad.arizona.edu

Meal Plan Office Purchasing and updating student meal plans (800) 374-7379 http://union.arizona.edu/mealplans

Off Campus Housing: Student computer labs (520) 621-5859 http://offcampus.arizona.edu

Office of Student Computing Resources: Student computer labs (520) 621-OSCR www.uits.arizona.edu/departments/oscr

Police (University of Arizona) Emergency response, crime prevention 911 or (520) 621-UAPD http://uapd.arizona.edu/

Registrar’s Office Verification of enrollment, change of schedule, grade replacement opportunity (520) 621-3113 http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/

Residence Life On-campus housing (520) 621-6501 http://www.life.arizona.edu/

Residency Classification Determination of in-state or out-of-state residency for tuition purposes (520) 621-3636 http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/residency/residenc.htm

24/7 IT Support Ctr. Student computer support (520) 626-TECH http://247.arizona.edu

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings Wildcat Parents & Families,

Welcome to the twentieth issue of the Parents & Family Magazine! You’re receiving this magazine because you have made a generous donation to support the goals of the UA Parents & Family Association. I thank you for your support! We also send this Magazine to the families of current freshman and new transfer students to ensure that you are familiar with Parent & Family Programs as a resource. I also want to recognize the Marshall Foundation and Main Gate Square as our Presenting Corporate Sponsor. We are thrilled to have their sponsorship and support again this year!

Fall at the University of Arizona is such a festive time filled with many traditional activities and events. We welcome new freshman, transfer students and their families in August during Wildcat Welcome, then have families back on campus for Family Weekend and Alumni here for Homecoming. Wildcat spirit and tradition is everywhere! If you aren’t able to be on campus for these events, you can still join in the fun by following Parent & Family Programs on social media; see more details at the end of the letter. I want to thank all the parents and family members who were on campus and volunteered with us for Family Weekend, October 14-16. It is always fun connecting with families at all of these events!

In this edition of the Parents & Family Magazine, we have a special feature on the University of Arizona’s wonderful athletes who participated in the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro. In addition, we have highlighted some UA students who are working on the OSIRIS-REx project which was launched this fall, along with many other helpful articles.

We want our parents to be engaged and connected to Parent and Family Programs and the Parents and Family Association! We are your resource! So, be sure to bookmark our website uafamily.arizona.edu and follow us on social media. You can also volunteer for events here on campus and at various locations around the country. Just let us know that you are willing to help.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful parent volunteers and donors who have served the association over the past year. I really appreciate your dedication and support – and so do our students!

As always, don’t hesitate to give Parent and Family Programs a call or send us an email if you have a question or concern. Annamarie Tellez, Eric Davidson and I are happy to be of assistance. We can be reached at (520) 621-0884 or via email at dos-uafamily@email.arizona.edu. Don’t forget to follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/uafamily, Twitter:@uafamily and Instagram:@uafamily.

With Wildcat Pride,

[Signature]

Kathy Adams Riester, M.S. Ed
Associate Dean of Students
Director UA Parent & Family Programs

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OFF TO A GREAT YEAR!

BY JOEL & KATHERINE LEWIS, PFA Co-Chairs

Welcome Parents & Family to another year at the University of Arizona! First of all, I would like to thank you for your support; we could not do what we do without YOU! So the Parents & Family Association Board would like you to know that we appreciate and are honored to represent you at the U of A. We know that for freshman parents, transfer parents, and family members coming in this year, it’s a new and exciting experience for you and your student. And yes it is an “up and down” roller coaster ride of emotions. However when all is said and done it’s all worth it in the end.

There’s so much to do on campus this fall season, from Family Weekend to football games to volleyball games to museum visits to just relaxing at one of the many restaurants on campus and in the city and don’t forget the on campus concerts! I had a chance to see Chaka Kahn this Family Weekend. Tucson is a great place to be for the fall. Temperatures are easing to a tolerable level, the sky is blue and adventure is around every corner. Our daughter is set to graduate in the spring (fingers crossed!) so I can see the light at end of this tunnel, HOORAY!!! So, as I look back on this journey I can truly say that we are the better for this experience. The U of A has always been there for us and they will always be there for you. So don’t hesitate to call the Parent and Family Programs office if you any questions or concerns, we’re here to help.

The picture to the left is the bell from the U.S.S. Arizona from Pearl Harbor that is in the bell tower in the Student Union Memorial Center which can be seen from the UA Mall. It reminds me that a lot has been paid up front so that we can have this opportunity to do the things we do every day. So let’s appreciate this gift by enjoying the college experience to the FULL-EST!! And there’s no better place to do this but at the UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA! Welcome and BEAR DOWN!

PARENTS & FAMILY ASSOCIATION board members and staff at the Family Weekend PFA Awards Ceremony and Ice Cream Social.

PHOTO BY CHRISTINA SINCERE

PFA BOARD MEMBERS ACROSS THE U.S.

Our PFA Board Members extend through different parts of the U.S.; these are your current Board Members representing how far Wildcat Nation extends.

- Joel & Katherine Lewis, Advisory Board Co-Chairs, Moreno Valley, CA
- Bill & Polly Morehouse, Immediate Past Board Co-Chairs, Darien, CT
- Sandy & John Vasseur, SALT Liaisons, Scottsdale, AZ
- Natalie Morrison, Campaign Co-Chair, Scottsdale, AZ
- Bonnie Klahr, Legislative Affairs Liaison, Green Valley, AZ
- Matt Noble, Oracle Board Liaison, Oro Valley, AZ
- Andrew & Lee Comrie, At Large Dean of Students Appointees, Tucson, AZ
- Mickey Green, At Large Appointee, Castaic, CA
- Mark Barton, At Large Dean of Students Appointee, Tucson, AZ
- David Bidwell, At Large Appointee, Lanoka Harbor, NJ
- Diane Farrell, At Large Appointee, Scottsdale, AZ
- Chris Kopach, At Large Dean of Students Appointee, Tucson, AZ
- Terri & Howie Naftalin, Student Recruitment & Retention Co-Chairs, San Diego, CA
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PARENTS & FAMILY ASSOCIATION

COFFEE CHATS

BY ANNAMARIE TELLEZ, COORDINATOR, PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

The Parents & Family Association (PFA) will be hosting Coffee Chats across the country on Saturday, February 18, 2017. Coffee Chats are informal gatherings where parents and family members will have the opportunity to share experiences, ask questions and create their own Wildcat communities in their home cities.

Coffee Chats are no-host events held at local coffee houses. You can either attend as a guest or volunteer to host a Coffee Chat. Hosts help coordinate by selecting their favorite local venue and communicating with guests. Please see our website at uafamily.arizona.edu for additional information and for the list of cities that need hosts.
True to our lush Sonoran Desert surroundings, our spa is warm and inviting, golf is a true desert experience, and dining is fresh and innovative. Come discover the Water Collection, our outdoor waterscape for resort guests. Drift lazily along the Starr Canyon River, brave the Monsoon Falls Waterslide, lounge by the Reflection Pools or twirl in the Dancing Springs.

Just minutes away from the University of Arizona and Sentinel Peak, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa sits in a stunning location that’s also convenient to the University and all that Tucson has to offer. Next time you visit Southern Arizona, stay where the Wildcats roam.

For reservations, call 888.527.8989 and mention rate code UAVX or visit jwmarriottstarrpass.com and use promo code UAZ when booking.
The Constitutional right to Freedom of Speech has been a hot topic being discussed in colleges and universities around the country. Over the past year, administrators have seen a dramatic increase in student activism which has focused attention on students’ experiences involving discrimination and harassment. Protests, rallies and even a hunger strike were held across the United States in both public and private institutions ranging from Claremont McKenna in California to the University of Missouri, and Yale. Additionally, the tone of the national debate surrounding the Presidential election has spilled over to influence campus discussions on expressive speech.

Public institutions of higher education have long been considered to be the “marketplace of ideas” in which free thought and expression must be upheld. Many college and university administrators have become even more invested in helping students to understand the place and inherent value of the Freedom of Speech, in the wake of student activism.

The right to Freedom of Speech has been an essential element for social change in the United States from women’s suffrage to the Civil Rights Movement to marriage equality. When citizens demand limitations on certain types of speech, they are potentially endangering the expression of all ideas. A key protection of the First Amendment is that the government (including public colleges and universities) is not able to regulate the expression of a citizen’s thoughts and ideas. This in turn ensures a strong forum for discussion of all issues, including topics which are controversial.

Additionally, freedom of inquiry helps students to become critical thinkers, to formulate arguments, to listen to others and hold discussions where people are in disagreement with each other. These skills are essential to developing educated and engaged citizens.

So, how do we help students utilize the practice of free expression to share their thoughts and ideas with others in a way that invites dialogue and discussion? This fall the Dean of Students Office created the #speakyourpeace campaign to aid students, faculty and staff in this endeavor. The campaign stresses the value of creating an environment where people can share and discuss their ideas in a civil manner. It includes guidelines and resources to assist people in how to go about doing this including:

> Be respectful of others in speech and behavior

> Listen to understand another’s ideas
> Question and dispute ideas in a way that respects and affirms others
> Practice non-violence, using words to inspire change

Additionally, a website with resources and educational opportunities can be found at www.deanofstudents.arizona.edu/first-amendment. It is our hope that these resources will help reinforce the importance of the Freedom of Speech while encouraging those who disagree with another’s viewpoint to counter it with more speech to create a dialogue. I hope that you will assist the UA Dean of Students Office in educating your student on the importance of Free Speech by engaging in a discussion with them. Feel free to share this article and information on the #speakyourpeace initiative and to refer them to the Dean of Students Office for further resources. Together we can ensure that the right to Free Speech remains a strong value in higher education and society.

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See Sahara Apartments advantages compared to the rest.

Student housing properties offer many choices depending on your budget. But few offer safety, comfort, modern amenities, quiet environment, AND a low price. Yes, our lower monthly rents include all utilities, HD Broadcast TV, and high-speed Internet.

**Compared to the dorms:**
Sahara offers many advantages compared to the dorms but most significant is the absolutely lowest rental rate for double occupancy studios for students in Tucson when you consider all the free services and amenities that are included in the rent. Our studio apartments are larger than the dorm rooms, include full kitchens and baths, roommate matching service, and we have onsite affordable hotel rooms available for family and friends. With all these advantages, consider checking us out before you write that dorm check.

**Compared to other properties:**
Sahara offers easy choices. Share a studio with full kitchen and bath or live in that same studio solo. Our single occupancy studios are some of the lowest priced in Tucson. Why take the chance of ending up with the “roommate(s) from hell” when you can have a studio apartment all to yourself for less? All students appreciate our 24/7 quiet environment, modern amenities, and added savings compared to other properties.

**Sahara Apartments advantages to maximize housing dollars:**
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- Sahara sponsors social events on- and offsite, and has recreational facilities to encourage exercise, games, and fun.
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Studying, exams and part-time jobs – college students have a lot on their plate. But beyond these demands, they face a more pressing challenge: Finding their purpose in life. After all, their journeys don’t stop once they have a diploma in-hand.

100% Engagement is the University of Arizona’s program that helps students align their interests with their passions to find their ideal career. Through the program, Wildcats participate in immersive learning experiences that address important challenges. Each experience combines an activity – often requiring collaboration with peers and an external community organization or company – with a competency-based outcome, mentorship and reflection to create a one-of-a-kind Engaged Learning Experience.

These experiences are as varied as the students themselves, connecting them to paths they may never have realized were available.

“I think the opportunities that we have here are really able to help you learn more about yourself,” —Yahaira, UA graduate student and research technician in the Department of Psychology. As a senior, she participated in an Engaged Learning Experience using innovative learning techniques to teach children about science at the Children’s Museum Tucson. She said her involvement in the project helped guide her decision to apply for graduate school.

“Once you get involved in one thing, you are able to hear about other things that really can just kind of catapult you into this whole new experience,” Yahaira said.

While every 100% Engagement experience is different, they all have one thing in common: Each earns students an official notation on their
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academic transcript. This not only serves as a formal recognition of their engagement, but also gives them one more way to impress potential employers once they graduate.

For first-year students, involvement in one of the 600 clubs and organizations offered on campus allows them to explore their interests and connect with peers. The UA also encourages students to take advantage of faculty office hours to learn more about the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in their field of interest. Then, prior to class registration, students can work with their academic and career advisors, as well as the Office of Student Engagement, to create a plan to apply their knowledge within an Engaged Learning Experience.

That’s how it worked for Arteen, who discovered his love for entrepreneurship as an undergraduate in the Eller College of Management. His story and those of other successful alumni are highlighted at dreamjob.arizona.edu.

After participating in various internships and graduating from the UA, Arteen moved to Los Angeles to launch a career funding startup company. Today, he has paved his way to the forefront of his field using the skills and knowledge he developed at the UA.

“At the very beginning, you’re at this huge funnel of opportunities,” he said. “The UA prepares you to find yourself and find what you really care about, and then gives you the resources to hone in on those things.” —Arteen, UA Alumnus and Venture Capitalist
From a farmworker in the fields to his new role as the UA’s senior diversity officer and vice provost for inclusive excellence, Jesús Treviño has recently brought his experience – both in life and in higher education – to the UA community with the goal of creating a truly inclusive and diverse environment for students, staff and faculty.

Treviño, who was born in Texas, about ten miles from the United States-Mexico border, said he never really planned on higher education being his career.

“I wanted to be a truck driver because that’s about as high as I could see,” Treviño said. “My parents were farm workers, my dad also worked in a junkyard and my mom was a housekeeper. … Even though they said ‘go to college,’ they didn’t know what that meant.”

He said out of nine children in his family, he was the only one that graduated from college and invested in higher education – a choice and journey he wouldn’t change.

Treviño, who jokes that he has more degrees than a thermometer, received his bachelor’s in social work and his master’s in language and international trade from Eastern Michigan University, and a master’s in education and a doctor of philosophy from UCLA.

Prior to his appointment at the UA, he worked at the University of South Dakota for four years, the University of Denver for nine and Arizona State University for a decade.

Throughout his time in higher education, Treviño said he’s seen the strategies for tackling issues related to diversity on higher education campuses evolve.

“I’ve settled on inclusive excellence,” he said. “I think it offers our best hope for trying to solve some of the issues that we actually face on American college campuses.”

One of the things Treviño said initially intrigued him about the UA: when a group of students referred to as the Marginalized Students of the University of Arizona served the campus community with a list of demands for changing campus culture, structure and overall inclusivity, it was that the students wanted their issues to be addressed systematically.

“Inclusive excellence is a systematic cultural transformation initiative that is designed to change the institution, as opposed to changing the student in order to make them fit in better,” said Treviño, who believes inclusive excellence truly distinguishes diversity from inclusiveness. “Diversity is like being invited to a dance, inclusiveness is actually being asked to dance.”

Treviño said he saw the UA using the phrase inclusive excellence, but didn’t see it being put into practice.

“He’s off to a great start,” said Andrew Comrie, provost and senior
vice president for academic affairs. “He has made it a point to visit every possible college and group he could so far; he’s still meeting with groups of all different shapes and sizes.”

Treviño said it’s important for him to meet with as many students, faculty and staff, which is why he’s met with all college deans to give them a “preview of coming attractions” and lay the groundwork for making diversity and inclusion a habit on campus.

“This is a seven-to-eight-year project,” Treviño said. “We’re not going to change the culture of this institution in one year, it’s going to take a little while to transition.”

Thomas Miller, vice provost for faculty affairs, said Treviño has hit the ground running by engaging with the UA community and working with colleges to create diversity committees to support efforts to improve and create a more inclusive campus climate.

“Dr. Treviño arrived on campus when there’s great synergy among students, activism, faculty engagement and administrative leadership from the president and provost,” Miller said. “The students, faculty and administrators are coming together in a pretty powerful kind of way to really move us forward with the sort of efforts that Dr. Treviño was hired to lead.”

Comrie and Treviño both agree that diversity and inclusion is not a one-person job, rather something an entire community must be involved in.

“The wrong model is hiring a diversity office expecting them to do all the diversity while everyone else gets a pass,” Treviño said. “A diversity or inclusive excellence infrastructure needs to be established to get everybody engaged.”

He said his hope is that in only a few years’ time, diversity and inclusion will have become a habit at the UA, with all taking responsibility and finding a productive path forward.

“Sometimes people think this is only about race and ethnicity, but it’s not,” Treviño said. “It is about every single student on this campus. Whether you’re white, female, gay or international, it’s about all of us.”

Chastity Ava Laskey, ’18, is a junior majoring in journalism and communication.
The UA Parents & Family Association (PFA) is an active group of parent and family volunteers dedicated to improving the overall educational experience for all UA students. Every family is encouraged to join the Parents & Family Association where membership is free! You can join online at uafamily.arizona.edu by creating your profile.

All Wildcat parent and family members of our students are welcomed as part of the UA Parents & Family Association. Our goal is to keep you involved and informed about events, programs, important dates, deadlines and services that will benefit your student’s success, as well as keep you connected with other Wildcat families in your local area.

As a free member of the Parents & Family Association, you will receive:

- **The Paw Print**, our e-newsletter distributed monthly during the academic year full of timely information and resources for your Wildcat.
- **Regular Email Updates** from the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Parent & Family Programs
- **A direct link to the Parent & Family Programs Staff** who will help you navigate the resources to support your student’s success.

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On a cold evening in London, a crisp breeze hit the faces of 4,237 athletes as they waited and listened to the roars of the crowd in the distance.

Emotions ran high for all of the athletes during the 2012 Paralympic Games in anticipation of entering the stadium filled with 80,000 screaming spectators.

“It was unbelievable to see all of the American flags in the stands and people going crazy when we came into the stadium,” said Bryan Barten, a Paralympian and head coach of the University of Arizona Wheelchair Tennis team, who attended that year. “It’s something that will be burned into my mind for the rest of my life.”

The 2012 Games were the largest in Paralympic History – until this year.

The 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro surpassed the record with 4,350 participating athletes from 176 countries. The athletes – including several with UA affiliation – competed in 528 medal events.

Barten has been the UA Wheelchair Tennis coach since 2007 with the Disability Resource Center’s Adaptive Athletics, which has been consistently represented in the Paralympic Games. This year, Barten competed in the Paralympics in Rio alongside 10 other current and former UA athletes. Four of the athletes he coached personally.

“It’s great doing my own competition, but I am emotionally invested in those other players, also,” said Barten.

In addition to Barten, Jennifer Poist, who competed in London in 2012, made the 2016 U.S. Paralympic Team with former UA wheelchair basketball athlete Darlene Hunter. After seven undefeated games, Poist and Hunter took home gold.

David Wagner, a former UA tennis player, played singles and doubles with partner Nick Taylor in the quad’s division. The duo competed for gold against Australia’s Dylan Alcott and Heath Davidson, but took silver. Wagner took home bronze in the single’s division against South Africa’s Lucas Sithole.

Players Chad Cohn and Josh Wheeler, community members on the UA wheelchair rugby team, competed with Team USA in Rio. The team went undefeated in their pool play, advancing to the semifinals and eventually to the finals. The team competed in a long hard battle against Australia, but took silver.

Also, Dana Mathewson, a graduate student at the UA, played singles tennis. She won the first round Saturday against Britain’s Louise Hunt, but lost in the second round to Aniek Van Koot of the Netherlands. Mathewson also played women’s doubles with former UA Player Kaitlyn Verfuerth, winning the first round against Brazil’s Rejane...
UA HAS LONG HISTORY AT PARALYMPICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Candida and Natalia Maynara and losing in the second round against the Netherlands’ Marjolein Buis and Diedre de Groot.

Several UA athletes were competing to defend individual titles, including track star Shirley Reilly. Rio is Reilly’s fourth Paralympic experience and won gold, silver and bronze in the London Games.

“Shirley is self-motivated and has the discipline to push herself,” said Derek Brown, head coach of UA Wheelchair Track and Roadracing and Men’s Basketball. “She has the experience and knowledge to set her apart from anyone else competing.”

Reilly finished fifth in the women’s finals of the 400-meter run, third in the 800-meter run and fifth in the marathon.

The Olympics and Paralympics are the pinnacle of competitive experience.

“It’s the one time you’re playing for your country,” said Barten. “Having USA on your back changes things. There’s more pressure and responsibility to represent your country. We have the greatest country in the world. I’m so honored to be able to represent it through sport.”

UA Adaptive Athletics, the largest and most comprehensive collegiate-based program in the country, has a long history of sending athletes to compete in the Paralympics.

Mike Sclappi was the first UA Adaptive Athletics athlete to be sent to the Paralympics for basketball in 1988. The Men’s Basketball team took gold that year.

Adaptive Athletics was originally created in 1974 as a club sport for disabled Vietnam veterans. The program offers an avenue for disabled individuals to not only compete athletically on a global scale, but also have the opportunity to obtain a college education. The program has six competitive teams: rugby, tennis, men’s basketball, women’s basketball, track and roadracing, and handcycling.

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olympic Games were created, known as the Stoke Mandeville Games for wheelchair athletes. The Games were eventually renamed the Paralympic Games at the 1960 Olympics in Rome. The word Paralympic derives from the Greek word “para,” meaning alongside. The Paralympics are the parallel Games to the Olympics and illustrate how the two movements exist side-by-side.

Since the 1980s, Adaptive Athletics has sent a total of 31 athletes to the Summer Games.

“We get athletes from all walks of life, even international athletes, who want to spend time at the UA, which wouldn’t be possible without the program,” said Barten.

UA athletes have gone on to become registered nurses, engineers, CIA agents and professionals in numerous other occupations.

“My biggest achievement as a coach is seeing our athletes achieve their goals. The fundamentals we are teaching go way beyond this program,” said Brown.

Athletic Director David Herr-Cardillo, the creator of the program, has seen hundreds of athletes come through the program and learn valuable life skills to go along with their education and premium athletic experience.

“When I recruit I always tell the potential student and their parents that competitive sports allows you to learn life skills that will carry with you forever,” said Herr-Cardillo. “Whether you are playing sport or not, they are the same skills you need in the workplace: responsibility, work ethic, the understanding of what your teammates are expecting of you and what expectations you have of them.”

The 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio was the second largest presence of current and former UA Adaptive Athletes in the program’s history. The Paralympics kicked off on September 7 and finished on September 18.

“What I enjoy most about the Games is when the athletes return,” said Herr-Cardillo. “The buzz that came back from the London Games was so infectious because they had such a good time. It’ll be interesting to see what their experiences were like in Rio.”
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UA STUDENTS TAKE AIM FOR THE STARS
OSIRIS-REx BLASTS OFF!

Wildcat paw prints – including a number of UA student researchers and specialists – are all over the world-renowned OSIRIS-REx mission.

BY ELIZABETH HANNAH ('17)

The OSIRIS-REx Asteroid Sample Return Mission, an enormous collaborative effort between NASA, the University of Arizona, Lockheed Martin and a number of other partners, lifted off Sept. 8 at Florida’s Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, commencing its journey through the stars toward the asteroid known as Bennu.

Scientists and engineers hope that the spacecraft, which is expected to arrive back to Earth with asteroid samples in 2023, will provide insight into the origins of both the solar system and carbon-based life.

While the world’s leading experts in space science oversee the mission’s overall process – this includes the OSIRIS-REx mission’s principal investigator, Dante Lauretta, Ph.D – team members comprising a wide array of backgrounds run OSIRIS-REx’s day-to-day operations.

Among this diverse team is a contingent of nearly 100 UA student workers – both graduates and undergraduates – who are making very real contributions to the groundbreaking mission. From operating cameras to writing code that processes data, current Wildcats are leaving their paw prints all over OSIRIS-REx.

Undergraduates shoot for the stars

Ashley Nied and Namrah Habib are two of a select few undergraduate students who have had the opportunity to offer their talents to OSIRIS-REx – short for “Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security, Regolith Explorer.”

Habib, an aerospace and chemical engineering senior, works with the mission’s image processing team. “The group is responsible for mapping the asteroid using the images that will be taken when we reach Bennu,” said Habib. “As a part of the project, I primarily work on writing code for image processing and data organization and collection.”

Nied, an optical engineering junior, has worked on several aspects of the mission. Currently, she is helping scientists map Bennu by writing a tutorial of team’s map-making software. Her work will ensure that future users will be able to quickly and easily understand the software’s functionality.

The OSIRIS-REx mission has provided both Nied and Habib with a launch pad into the field of space science.
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“Working on OSIRIS-REx has inspired me to continue working on space missions,” said Nied. “With optics, my dream is to create camera systems for satellites or spacecraft. Ultimately I hope to continue working for NASA.”

Undergraduate students sometimes face difficulty securing meaningful research opportunities; often, they find themselves scrubbing glassware or labeling test tubes. For Nied and Habib, this has not been an issue.

“The most exciting and rewarding

Eric Sahr (top), a graduate student working in the OSIRIS-REx mission's Science Processing and Operations Center, and Aaron Woodard (right), a graduate systems engineer, are two of nearly 100 students who have played some role in the OSIRIS-REx mission to this point.
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part of working for the OSIRIS-REx mission,” said Habib, “is knowing that I am actually helping something bigger.”

Graduate students power space exploration

UA graduate and professional students in masters and Ph.D. programs have made similarly significant contributions to OSIRIS REx’s design, launch and ongoing operations. Moreover, graduate student-workers involved in the OSIRIS-REx mission speak of their jobs with the same eagerness and excitement that emanates from undergraduates.

“I’m surrounded by brilliant scientists and engineers who are at the top of their field,” said Eric Sahr, a UA graduate student who works in the mission’s Science Processing and Operations Center (SPOC). “I do work that directly affects a NASA mission that is in space, on its way to an asteroid in the first mission of its kind for America. Nothing beats the feeling of looking at the night sky and realizing that somewhere up there is this machine that you’ve spent years working on.”

And like the undergraduates, OSIRIS-REx’s graduate student-workers see the mission as just the beginning of their future careers in space exploration.

“Part of my decision to come to UA was because of the Phoenix Mars mission which was being run here,” said Nathan Mogk, another graduate member of the SPOC team who works as a systems engineer. “That one finished my freshman year, but getting to work on HiRISE and OSIRIS-REx are exactly what I wanted to be doing.”
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A shrewd businesswoman and a pioneer in Tucson, she bought land in and around the University and founded the Foundation in 1930 to support education and youth, particularly those who were less fortunate. When Mrs. Marshall died in 1956 at the age of 92, she left all of our assets to a volunteer Board of Directors who continue her legacy of giving today.

Since that time, the Marshall Foundation through the management of its real estate assets on University Boulevard and through the redevelopment of the area known as Main Gate Square has donated over $21 million to the University of Arizona in scholarships, special projects, and to not for profits in Pima County.
OSIRIS-REx BLASTS OFF!
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

For Aaron Woodard, a graduate systems engineer who has been working on OSIRIS-REx for over a year, the most exciting part of the mission is watching all of his efforts pay off.

“Just the other day, we actually got our first images down [from space],” said Woodard. “Seeing all of the little pieces come together – seeing that everything is working, that we’re streaming data from space – is really fascinating.”

Woodard hopes that OSIRIS-REx will convince the public and the world’s scientific community to invest greater resources in space sciences.

“I really want to see more space exploration and sample retrieval missions in the future,” he said. “I think it’s extremely important in increasing our understanding of the universe.”

Elizabeth Hannah, ‘17, is a senior majoring in mathematics, with minors in biochemistry and Spanish.
FALL 2016

UA BY THE NUMBERS

7  THE NUMBER OF SHOW TITLES
playing this fall in the Flandrau Planetarium’s new Eos Foundation Theater: Touring The Solar System; Mysteries of the Unseen World; Tucson Sky and Beyond; We Are Stars Asteroid: Mission Extreme; Laser Light Music Show; Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon

14  THE NUMBER OF UA CAMPUS PANTRY’S scheduled food distribution days this fall semester. The mission of the UA Campus Pantry is to alleviate hunger in the UA Wildcat community by providing food assistance to those in need. http://campuspantry.arizona.edu

70+  THE NUMBER OF DEGREE PROGRAMS the UA offers totally online.

1,511  THE NUMBER OF METAL TAGS on the Student Union north entrance sculpture, one for each of the men serving on the USS Arizona on December 7, 1941. Several UA events have been planned this fall to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack. https://uanews.arizona.edu/story/uas-connection-uss-arizona-more-just-bell

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