



Naming Advisory Committee

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May 29, 2026

President Suresh Garimella
Office of the President
Old Main Administration
Via Email

**Naming Advisory Committee Report
Removing the Chávez name from the César E. Chávez Building**

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O’odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.

In carrying out its work, the Naming Advisory Committee followed the President’s charge to consider and recommend whether César E. Chávez’ name should be removed from its current location on the “old Economics” building.

The Naming Advisory Committee could not have provided the level of detail in this report without the input and support of: the University Latino community, the greater Tucson community, the Office of the Provost, the University Regents Professors, Committee of Eleven, the Faculty Senate, student staff at the Guerrero Student Center, Campus Community Connections, ASUA, GPSC, Mexican American Studies, History Department, and other students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The NAC thanks our community for their engagement and insights.

Approach to Review: The NAC worked on this request with the understanding that any name changes to university property that is already “named” should be considered in only exceptional circumstances. Moreover, the NAC considered historical, institutional, and community information and opinions in making our determination. Our review consisted of the following:

- (1) the NAC attended a public in-person forum on April 30, 2026 hosted by an Ad Hoc university group comprised of students, academic departments and Campus Community Connections where we were provided with rich historical background on the farmworkers’ movement that led to the naming of the Economics Building and heard students and community members who felt victimized every time they saw Mr. Chávez’ name on the UA campus;

(2) the NAC hosted a Zoom meeting with approximately 15 relevant stakeholders to discuss the Committee's charge and get their feedback on whether Chávez' name should be removed;

(3) the NAC hosted a listening session via Zoom on May 6, 2026, to gather more feedback from the University and the wider Tucson community; and

(4) the NAC distributed an online survey to UA employees asking whether Mr. Chávez' name should be removed from the building and to provide an explanation of why or why not.

Based on the information we heard, gathered, and reviewed, the NAC offers its recommendation as described below:

The NAC recommends to President Garimella that the name of César E. Chávez be removed from any buildings and other public areas on any of the University of Arizona campuses as soon as possible.

The NAC bases its recommendation on the overwhelming feedback that César E. Chávez does not represent the values of our institution and that 85% of the respondents to our survey and 100% of those attending our in-person sessions supported removal of his name. Below we address the President's questions as posed in the committee charge that supports our conclusion.

1. What was the original basis and rationale for naming the César E. Chávez Building?

Historically, the city of Tucson and the community of Arizona greatly revered Mr. Chávez for his work and contributions to the Farmworkers Movement.¹ Based on the efforts of the Arizona César E. Chávez Holiday Coalition,² Tucson declared March 31st as César E. Chávez Day in 2014. The community at large and the University of Arizona itself very much supported these efforts.³ A grassroots proposal for the name change was submitted to University of Arizona President Likins in 2000, and the proposal was adopted in 2003.

2. Is the principal legacy of César E. Chávez consistent with the mission, values, and educational purposes of the University of Arizona?

The Farmworkers' Movement of the 1960s credited César E. Chávez as one of its prominent leaders.⁴ Farm owners often underpaid and physically exploited the farm workers.⁵ These workers dealt with "dangerous pesticides, substandard housing, poverty wages, and rampant

¹ See Adriana Espinosa, *Tucson Recognizes César Chávez Day as Official Holiday* (Mar. 11, 2014) <https://wildcat.arizona.edu/111719/news/tucson-recognizes-csar-chvez-day-as-official-holiday/>.

² See Adriana Espinosa, *Tucson Recognizes César Chávez Day as Official Holiday* (Mar. 11, 2014) <https://wildcat.arizona.edu/111719/news/tucson-recognizes-csar-chvez-day-as-official-holiday/>.

³ See Adriana Espinosa, *Tucson Recognizes César Chávez Day as Official Holiday* (Mar. 11, 2014) <https://wildcat.arizona.edu/111719/news/tucson-recognizes-csar-chvez-day-as-official-holiday/>.

⁴ *The Farmworkers' Movement*, EJI (Dec. 1st, 2014) <https://eji.org/news/history-racial-injustice-farmworkers-movement/>.

⁵ *The Farmworkers' Movement*, EJI (Dec. 1st, 2014) <https://eji.org/news/history-racial-injustice-farmworkers-movement/>.

discrimination.”⁶ Hispanic laborers comprised most of these workers in the west, due to the “bracero program” which facilitated immigration in order to “undercut domestic wages, break strikes, impede union organizing, and solve World War II labor shortages.”⁷ In 1962, César E. Chávez established the United Farm Workers Union alongside Dolores Huerta.⁸ This movement, guided by the phrase “Sí, Se Puede” inspired farmworkers to unionize and fight for their rights against exploitation.⁹ This movement emphasized advocacy by “employing nonviolent organizing tactics rooted in Catholic social teaching.”¹⁰ For his work in the movement, Chávez received a Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1994, the highest honor that can be bestowed on a civilian.¹¹ Mr. Chávez’ reputation came under serious scrutiny when allegations surfaced this year that he sexually abused women in the movement. For this reason, Mr. Chávez’ legacy is no longer consistent with the University’s core mission and values.

The University of Arizona has six core values: integrity, compassion, exploration, adaptation, inclusion, and determination.¹² Directly comparing the University’s values against the allegations, Mr. Chávez’ legacy is inconsistent with **integrity and compassion**. The allegations show disrespectful and morally unjust behavior and show a lack of care to the members of the community Mr. Chávez was supposed to support and protect. One value stands out when addressing this situation, and that is **adaptation**, where the value of the University is to “be open-minded and eager for what’s next.”¹³ These allegations represent a shocking revelation to many members of the community for whom Chávez once fought. During Mr. Chávez’ lifetime, the recent allegations were unknown. As these allegations came to light, the Chávez name no longer represents the migrant farm workers’ movement. The farm workers’ movement is bigger than any one person, and reconsideration of Chávez’ legacy is warranted.

The University works “to expand human potential, explore new horizons[,] and enrich life for all”¹⁴ and our mission is to “continuously improve how we educate and innovate so we can lead the way in developing adaptive problem-solvers capable of tackling our greatest challenges.”¹⁵ In this light, those consulted immediately advised the NAC as to what actions should be taken. Their message was clear. The Hispanic community wants the name removed from the building with the proviso that the University “ensures the critical role of the Chicano/a/x or Latinio/a/x community in Arizona and at the University of Arizona is not erased.”¹⁶

⁶ Jessica Weingartner, *Six Champions of the Farm Workers Movement* (Oct. 16, 2025) <https://www.facinghistory.org/ideas-week/six-champions-farm-workers-movement>.

⁷ *The Farmworkers’ Movement*, EJI (Dec. 1st, 2014) <https://eji.org/news/history-racial-injustice-farmworkers-movement/>.

⁸ Janet Rose Jackman, *Tucsonans celebrate César Chávez Day* (Mar. 31 2012) https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/032812_César_Chávez_day/tucsonans-celebrate-César-Chávez-day/.

⁹ Janet Rose Jackman, *Tucsonans celebrate César Chávez Day* (Mar. 31 2012) https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/032812_César_Chávez_day/tucsonans-celebrate-César-Chávez-day/.

¹⁰ *A Latinx Resource Guide: Civil Rights Cases and Events in the United States*, LOC <https://guides.loc.gov/latinx-civil-rights/united-farm-workers-union>.

¹¹ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

¹² The University of Arizona, *Purpose, Mission & Values* (visited April 7, 2026) <https://www.arizona.edu/purpose-mission-values>.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ Letter to President Suresh Garimella from members of the Tucson Hispanic community dated April 8, 2026.

3. Are there aspects of the namesake's record, legacy, or public history that warrant reconsideration of the current naming?

In situations like this, we must consider the opinions of direct stakeholders and the communities of those affected by Mr. Chávez, both positively and negatively.

Some of the recent allegations levied against Mr. Chávez are described in the media. The *New York Times* released an extensive piece on allegations against Mr. Chávez, detailing the grooming of and sexual abuse of young girls within the movement that spanned decades.¹⁷ These allegations include sexual assault, rape, and coercion with multiple victims being children of union organizers.¹⁸ One specific encounter alleges that Chávez, at age 45, started summoning Ana Murguía, who was 13 at the time, for sexual encounters that occurred “dozens of times over the next four years.”¹⁹ Ms. Murguía recalled perceiving Chávez as a “hero,” as the daughter of a longtime organizer who “had marched in rallies alongside Mr. Chávez.”²⁰ Mr. Chávez had known Ms. Murguía since she was 8 years old.²¹

One of the central allegations came from Dolores Huerta, who spearheaded the movement alongside Mr. Chávez.²² Ms. Huerta stated that Mr. Chávez raped her after driving her to a secluded field in 1966, in addition to a pressured sexual encounter that took place in 1960.²³ A prominent public figure and leader in the movement, Ms. Huerta did not report the incident to police “because of their hostility toward the movement and she feared no one within the union would believe her.”²⁴ Another victim, Debra Rojas, alleged that Chávez had groped her breasts when she was twelve years old. Then at age 15, Mr. Chávez brought her to a motel and raped her.²⁵ Ms. Rojas has writings from when she was in school detailing and corroborating the grooming.²⁶ The article describes more instances of alleged abuse. The article in its entirety portrays a painful picture of the gravity of Mr. Chávez' actions.²⁷

¹⁷ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

¹⁸ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

¹⁹ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²⁰ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²¹ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²² Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²³ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²⁴ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²⁵ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegat>

²⁶ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²⁷ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

²⁸ See Parts I-II.

4. How should the historical context of both the namesake and the original naming decision inform the University's assessment today?

The historical context of naming the building after Mr. Chávez is again closely tied to the community of Tucson and Arizona through its large farmworker population.²⁸

A grassroots movement launched a campaign to recognize Chávez as symbol of heroism to the Hispanic community and the University of Arizona. Many community voices noted that the building was the only one on campus named after a Hispanic figure. Others noted that the name was inspirational because it was in honor of social achievements rather than financial contributions. In light of recent events, the pride of the Hispanic community has become one of pain. We suggest that the namesake be disaggregated from the exemplary values for which the name once stood. In making the assessment, the pride of the Hispanic community should be honored.

5. What significance does the building's current name hold for members of the University community and other stakeholders?

The current significance of the name is closely tied to Mr. Chávez's perception as a hero and leader of a movement who inspired many to fight against injustice.²⁹ Stakeholders in the community want the current name removed. However, more important to their community is to honor the legacy of the Farmworkers Movement and not a single individual. The remarks from our community indicate that it is much more passionate about and concerned about the University honoring the legacy of the movement. NAC believes that the University must do both: remove César Chávez' name from the building AND determine the best way for the University to honor and respect the legacy of all involved in the farmworkers' movement in Arizona.

6. What perspectives and stakeholder input should inform the Committee's recommendation?

Dolores Huerta and United Farm Workers

One of the most prominent voices to consider is Dolores Huerta. Ms. Huerta is a victim of Mr. Chávez' abuse, and, more importantly, she is also a longtime co-leader of the movement.³⁰ Another important voice is the United Farm Workers organization itself, who has stated that they "would not take part in any activities celebrating Mr. Chávez's birthday on March 31st," and that the allegations are "incompatible with the organization's values."³¹

Other experts on the Farmworkers' Movement

The Mexican American Studies Department at the University has stated a desire for the name to be covered while ensuring that "the renaming process 'avoids erasure of the contributions of the Latinx community to the state."³² The head of the department, Professor Anna Ochoa O'Leary,

²⁹ *An American Hero The Biography of César E. Chávez* (visited 4/9/2026)

https://Chavez.cde.ca.gov/modelcurriculum/teachers/lessons/resources/biographies/k-2_bio.aspx.

³⁰ Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

³¹ *Id.*

³² Mia Kortright, *University of Arizona considers renaming César Chávez Building*, Tucson Sentinel (Mar. 31, 2026)

https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/033026_ua_Chávez/university-arizona-considers-renaming-César-Chávez-building/.

has stated a desire to “have a seat at the table” for these discussions.³³ President Garimella has also stated a desire to gain input from this department, alongside the Adalberto and Ana Guerrero Student Center, UNIDOS Faculty and Staff Association and Campus Community Connections, alongside members of student government.³⁴ A good student resource might come from Latinx groups formed within colleges, for example the Latine Law Students Association and the Guerrero Student Center. Overall, consulting the relevant communities at the University and beyond has proved to be highly effective in understanding what direct stakeholders and others impacted by the name removal really want from this institution.

7. Based on the foregoing, should the University retain the current name of the building or recommend its removal?

The committee’s recommendation is driven by the voices of the community and those affected. Consulting other alleged victims as stakeholders was also extremely important, since many of the victims are also closely tied to the movement or close to Mr. Chávez personally.³⁵ Tucson Mayor Regina Romero states the desire “to be able to find a way to not erase the movement, the farm working, and the Chicano movement from the name.”³⁶ The Farmworkers’ Movement is bigger than Mr. Chávez, although he was an important figurehead. Removing Mr. Chávez’ name from University of Arizona property and honoring the farm workers must be the first consideration in honoring those who worked tirelessly to improve the lives of farmworkers and their families.

8. NAC recommendation to President Garamella:

As stated above, NAC recommends to President Garimella that the name of César E. Chávez be removed from any buildings and other public areas on any University of Arizona campus as soon as possible.

We also request that no disciplinary action be taken against those who covered the Chávez name on the building and other university locations. This situation created a dramatic and urgent response from the Hispanic community. Survivors described the pain they felt every time

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ Mia Kortright, *University of Arizona considers renaming César Chávez Building*, Tucson Sentinel (Mar. 31, 2026) https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/033026_ua_Chávez/university-arizona-considers-renaming-César-Chávez-building/.

³⁵ See Manny Fernandez and Sarah Hurtes, *César Chávez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years*, NYT (Mar. 18, 2026) <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/César-Chávez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>.

³⁶ Jacob Owens, *Tucson Wants Community Voice on Renaming Chávez Holiday*, KVOA (Apr. 8, 2026) https://www.kvoa.com/news/local/tucson-wants-community-voice-on-renaming-Chávez-holiday/article_30a9bcb9-e9f7-4fa8-952a-1db50510ee3a.html.

they saw Mr. Chávez' name or walked into the building; some student survivors even described how they stopped attending their classes in the building due to the name.

Finally, we believe that any new naming proposals should come from the community and should follow the current policy for consideration of all naming requests.

Enclosures:

1. NAC Minutes 6.19.03
2. Historical Documents
3. NAC Memo 4.19.26
4. Public Forum Notes 4.30.26
5. Forum Survivor Report 4.30.26
6. Parra-Farmworker Justice Movement and Chavez Building Name 4.30.26
7. Executive Summary of Survey Results

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The Naming Advisory Committee

Minutes: Meeting June 19, 2003
Swede Johnson 301 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Present: W. Howell (Chair), N. Guthrie, D. Imwalle, B. Lancaster, S. Ruhl.

Absent: L. Armandroff, J.P. Benedict, R. Dahlgran, E. Sander, R. Weidhopf.

Chair Howell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed Barbara Lancaster, the new Staff Advisory Council President.

Naming Advisory Committee (NAC) members discussed the return of a naming proposal request from President Likins, to name the Economics Building after Cesar Chavez.

When the committee previously discussed this proposal in January 2003, the consensus was that the proposal did not appear to have been fully vetted with the faculty or staff of all the units that reside in this building. Furthermore, committee members expressed reservations that this naming could be controversial among UA benefactors and constituents. This new request was accompanied by petitions signed by students and faculty which represent a majority of the units housed in the building, and about 75 letters from students, government officials, and community members in support of this naming.

Citing the UA's guidelines for naming buildings, listed on UA's Policies Webpage, members pointed out that, "When naming a facility or programmatic unit for a person, family, or organization *where there is no gift*, the proposed honoree shall have achieved distinction in one or more of the following ways:

- a. serving the university in an academic or administrative capacity with high distinction, or
- b. by contributing in other exceptional ways to the welfare and reputation of the university, to education, or to the community in general."

Although neither of these criteria seem to fit this individual's contributions, there has been tremendous public pressure from some very vocal supporters in the media to proceed with this naming, and the situation could become inflammatory if the President does not act. They noted that a majority of the supporting letters were identical, "canned" letters and that none were from members of the larger Tucson Community, and that only one was from an alum. Acknowledging that not everyone is an admirer of Chavez, and feeling that this request appears to be being rushed, committee members were reluctant to recommend either approval or non-approval of the proposal. They discussed the number of stakeholders who have not been consulted and should be, including the units housed in the building that do not support this naming, alumni members both in Arizona and elsewhere, particularly College of Agriculture alums, the University's major donors, the campus community including faculty, staff, and parents, the AZ legislature, the Board of Regents, and Tucson residents outside of the Hispanic community.

Naming Advisory Committee members in attendance felt the process deserves more due diligence because if the naming is approved, the media could generate tremendous criticism and backlash. The committee would like to be more deliberative at this point in time, and request that the President's Office

grant them 60 days with which to canvas the public. If President Likins agrees to wait, N. Guthrie will coordinate with Chair Howell, the Faculty Center, the Foundation and the Alumni Office how best to accomplish this.

Members in attendance unanimously approved naming the UA Gymnastics practice facility the Mary Roby Gymnastics Training Center.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

**Documents Related to 2003 César E. Chávez Building Naming Process
showing aspirations for UA and Tucson area constituencies to use the naming
to promote greater Latino educational access at the University of Arizona**

Compiled by Carlos Francisco Parra,

Asst. Professor of History, University of Arizona (UA Class of 2009)

cfparra@arizona.edu

- Letter of Support from Maria Teresa Velez, Assoc. Dean, Graduate College **(pg. 2)**
- Letter of Support from American Association for Higher Education, Hispanic Caucus Chair William Aguilar **(pg. 3)**
- Letter of Support from Bob Walkup, Mayor of the City of Tucson **(pg. 4)**
- “Likins Oks Chávez Name for Building,” *Arizona Daily Star* (Aug. 12, 2003), **(pg. 5)**
- “Econ Building to be Renamed Despite Protest,” *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Aug. 29, 2003), **(pg. 7)**
- Op-Ed and Student Letters on Chávez Building Naming, *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Sept. 2, 2003), **(pg. 9)**
- “UA Should be Proud of Chávez Building Name,” Olga Briseño, *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Sept. 4, 2003), **(pg. 12)**
- “Don’t Underestimate Chávez, King ideas,” Patrick Barret, *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Sept. 5, 2003), **(pg. 13)**
- “Building Rename Sparks Protests,” includes comments by UA President Peter Likins, *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Oct. 10, 2003), **(pg. 14)**
- “Chávez Now a Campus Fixture,” comments by UA faculty, community leaders and residents, *Arizona Daily Wildcat* (Oct. 13, 2003), **(pg. 17)**
- “Econ Building Gets a New Name,” comments by UA students and local residents on need for greater Latino inclusion at UA, *Arizona Daily Star* (Oct. 13, 2003) **(pg. 20)**

April 1, 2003

Dr. Peter Likins, President
PO Box 210066
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0066

Dear Pete,

I am writing in support of renaming the Economics Building the Cesar E. Chavez Building.

As you know, Cesar E. Chavez was a native son of Arizona whose life work focused on social justice and human rights for the poor and disenfranchised in our society. He was also an icon for Mexican Americans and Latinos in general who believed he embodied the best values of our culture.

Naming the Economics Building after Cesar Chavez would be a clear signal to the Arizona community that Mexican Americans and Latinos in general are acknowledged and welcomed at the University of Arizona. Moreover, it would remind all of us who work here that we value Mexican Americans and Latinos and the goals of equality, fair treatment and compassion that Cesar Chavez exemplified.

Granted, naming a building is only a symbolic act. Our actions need to prove that we indeed are inclusive and committed to diversity. Nonetheless, symbols are important in conveying our intentions.

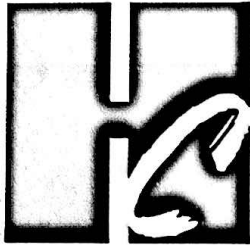
Naming the Economics building after Cesar Chavez would speak loudly of your intentions as our top leader for the University of Arizona.

Sincerely,



Maria Teresa Velez, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Graduate College

Cc Gary Pivo



THE HISPANIC CAUCUS

American Association for Higher Education

2003-2004
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April 17, 2003

Dr. Peter Likins, President
University of Arizona
P.O. Box 210066
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Dear President Likins,

The Hispanic Caucus of AAHE has learned of a growing interest to name the Economics Building at the University of Arizona the Cesar E. Chavez Building.

As you might imagine, our organization is thrilled about the idea and wholeheartedly supports this initiative. Cesar Chavez is undoubtedly the most important and enduring leader of Hispanics in the history of the United States. That he was a native Arizonian makes this consideration all the more fitting.

As one of the major research Universities in the southwest, such a move will serve as a testament of the University of Arizona's support for Hispanics.

I look forward to attending the renaming ceremony. It will be a true milestone for the University of Arizona, Cesar E. Chavez and all Hispanics.

Sincerely,

William Aguilar, Chair
Hispanic Caucus

cc: Dr. Antonio Estrada
✓ Socorro Carrizosa



ROBERT E. WALKUP
MAYOR

**CITY OF TUCSON
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

255 WEST ALAMEDA
P.O. BOX 27210
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85726-7210
PHONE: (520) 791-4201
FAX: (520) 791-5348

May 8, 2003

Dr. Peter Likins, President
PO Box 210066
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0066

Dear Dr. Likins,

I am writing in support of renaming a building on the University of Arizona campus after Cesar E. Chavez. Such an act would honor the legacy of an Arizona native son known across the world for his struggle to extend civil and human rights to more Americans.

Chavez, a native of Yuma, Arizona, organized agricultural workers and other laborers whose work was poorly compensated. These laborers toiled in harsh and difficult work environments. In many cases, these laborers were Hispanic and Latino immigrants whose race and/or citizenship status precluded them from the legal protections available to other workers.

Chavez' belief in non-violent resistance won him the respect of his followers and brought international attention to the plight of his people. His efforts directly led to a number of reforms that improved the lives of workers, their families, Hispanics and Latinos across the United States and all Americans.

Naming a University of Arizona building after Cesar E. Chavez would be a fitting tribute to the man and his legacy. I want to assure you that this act would mean a great deal to Tucson. It would be significant to Tucson's Hispanic and Latino community and to the entire Tucson community as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Walkup".

Robert E. Walkup
Mayor



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Tucson, Arizona Tuesday, 12 August 2003

PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION

Likins OKs Chávez name for building

By Bob Purvis
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

A yearlong effort to honor César Chávez with a building bearing his name moved one step closer Monday when UA President Peter Likins approved the proposal.

Effective Sept. 1, the Economics building will be renamed the César E. Chávez building in honor of the Yuma-born farm labor organizer, pending approval from the Board of Regents.

"We feel strongly that this is a positive course of action for the University to take to acknowledge our Hispanic community in a positive way," Likins said in a letter to the Board of Regents.

Although the renaming hinges on the regents' approval, "It's a done deal," said Wanda Howell, UA naming advisory committee chairwoman.

Coming just weeks after he announced an increased focus on the University of Arizona's relationships with the Hispanic community, Likins' approval of the name change is evidence of the UA's commitment to becoming a Hispanic-serving institution, said Socorro Carrizosa, director of UA Chicano/Hispano Student Affairs. "I am just overwhelmed. This is a very important thing the university has done today," said Carrizosa.

Antonio Estrada, director of the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center, has worked closely on the proposal. He called Likins' support "an honor for César Chávez and his contributions to society. I think it's great news and it will certainly help in President Likins' goal to raise recruitment of Hispanic students at the UA."

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The building houses the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center, Chicano/Hispano Student Affairs and the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Students involved in Chicano/Hispano affairs on campus said renaming the building after Chávez will give the Hispanic students that make up 14 percent of UA's enrollment a sense of place on campus.

"It just makes sense . . . we talk about him all the time in our MAS classes and at the Chicano/Hispano Student Affairs office," said UA senior Pete Marquez. "It gives us a place to feel at home. It's kind of comforting to have a place to come to that's named after César Chávez."

Efforts to rename the building hit a snag in April when supporters failed to present the naming advisory committee with results showing support from occupants of the economics building; in May Alan P. Ker, associate professor and head of the Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, wrote a memo to Estrada noting his department's opposition to the change. The naming committee OK'd the change in July.

In Monday's memo Likins said "the majority of the occupants of the economics building support the request."

The Chávez building will join The Martin Luther King Jr. building as the only two buildings named after an individual with no direct connections to the UA who hadn't contributed financially to the school.

* Contact reporter Bob Purvis at 573-4104 or bpurvis@azstarnet.com.



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Parking problems persist

Construction causes Zone 1 lot shortage

By Ashley Nowe
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For those who circle the parking lots, grumbling about their Zone 1 passes, help is on the way.

Although a number of Zone 1 lots have been lost to construction, new lots and garages are in the works to help students who can't find parking spots.

Plans for the next garage are being drawn up now, but construction will not begin until May.

The completion of all the garages is not expected until August 2005.

Additional Zone 1 lots on the north side of campus are being built right now and should be done by late September or early October, Patrick Kass, director of parking and transportation, said.

"This should make up for the lots lost to construction," he added.

But until then many students will find themselves circling the 58 areas designated for Zone 1 permit holders.

"I got to school today at 7:30 a.m. and I still couldn't find a parking space," said creative writing senior Sara Hudson. "It just makes me sick. This is the worst it has ever been."

Some students blame their parking woes on the lack of organization within the parking services, rather than the construction.

"This really sucks," said Sarah Tripp, a junior in community health. "They give out way more parking permits than there are spaces and it's obvious."

Kass said that the lost parking spaces were accounted for and only a limited number of passes were given out.

"If we know we are losing spaces, we will reduce the number of permits we give out," Kass said.

Last year 4,900 Zone 1 permits were issued. Though figures are not in until early September, Kass predicts that 4,700 Zone 1 permits will have been issued when all is said and done.

There are 4,000 people on the permit waiting list, and the Zone 1 waiting list is filled, with 2,000 people on it.

"I waited a year to get a permit, and that was before construction began," said communication senior Angel Powell.

Once the garages are built, however, the new spaces will not add extra Zone 1 parking spots, they will just



MONTINE RUMMEL/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Students are finding themselves spending a significant portion of the day searching for on-campus parking. Despite relatively high prices for Zone 1 permits, students see little benefit from the pass.

replace them, Kass said.

"The inventory will still be the same," he said.

But not all students want to dig into their wallets to pull out the extra \$215 they would have to pay for a garage spot.

Zone 1 permits cost \$235 a year, while parking garage permits cost \$450 a year.

The additional money will be used to maintain the garages and pay out its debt, Kass said.

It cost \$10,000 to \$11,000 to build one parking spot inside of a garage. The Tyndall garage cost \$12 million to build and the new Sixth Street garage cost \$16 million to build, Kass said.

"Parking here is just too expensive," said Pablo Martinez, a psychology junior. "I won't even buy a Zone 1 because it is easier to just walk or ride my bike."

With fewer parking spaces, students and faculty may have to find alternatives to the traditional permits.

Parking and Transportation Services have commuter lot permits available for \$115, which allows students and faculty to park their car off campus and take the CatTran to class.

Carpool permits are also available, Kass said. Carpool permits require that three or more individuals share one parking permit.

If parking on or near campus seems like a hassle, UA Parking and Transportation Services offers a U-Pass, which is a bus pass discounted 50 percent.

For those living near campus and commuting by bicycle, there are now 9,000 racks, Kass said.

Venturing outside the UA, the City of Tucson has designated areas north of East Speedway Boulevard and south of East Sixth Street, where students can park for a fee. The permits may cost anywhere between \$200 and \$400 depending on the location.

Those who are at the top of the waiting list could be issued permits after Sept. 3, when unclaimed permits are reissued.

Econ building to be renamed, despite protest

By Jill Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Economics building will officially be renamed the César E. Chávez Building on Sept. 1, in spite of some student opposition and plans for a possible protest.

Members of the Student Objectivist Society and the College Republicans plan to write letters to the Arizona Board of Regents to encourage them not to rename the building, and Peter Seat, president of the UA chapter of College Republicans, said there is a definite possibility that he and other opponents to the renaming may stage a protest Monday.

Seat said Chavez is not an appropriate candidate for a campus building to be named after because many people do not agree with his views or tactics.

"It's widely known that he was a socialist, and he forced people to do things," he said.

Antonio Estrada, director of Mexican-American Studies and one of the main players in the campaign to have the building renamed after Chavez, said that students have the right to protest but he said he believes Chavez is an excellent candidate, a man who fought for equity and social justice for all people, and that should transcend any political affiliation.

"This is a man who lived what he preached, and fought for everyone's well being," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano-Hispanic Student Affairs and leader of the renaming campaign. "What President Likins has done is very historic. He's bringing recognition to a national hero who impacted many of our lives."

Likins explained that changing the building's name was not just up to him, but involved a formal process requiring a nomination from an organization, a review by a naming committee, and then his approval.

The building is being renamed as a symbol of the importance of Hispanic traditions to the UA, he said.

"This is a statement from an inclusive institution that we value all cultures in America, and a way to say to Hispanic students, 'we respect your cultures and traditions,'" he said.

Likins knows the name change will not be unanimously embraced, but he feels the right decision has been made.

"This is not an isolated event," he said. "It's just one more small step in a broad campaign to make UA a welcome learning environment for people of all ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds."

Estrada said that the name change fits into Likins's goal of UA becoming a Hispanic-serving institution, as detailed in the Diversity Action Plan, a comprehensive plan that aims to increase diversity on campus.

Estrada also said that the name change will help with the recruitment of Hispanic students.

"There's nothing on campus now that highlights Hispanic contributions to the state and nation," he added.

The Economics building houses the Mexican-American Studies department, along with the Chicano-Hispanic Student Affairs resource center, the Mathematical Sciences department and the Agricultural Resource Economics department.

A ceremony to commemorate the renaming is being tentatively planned for Oct. 13, and might involve members of Chavez's family, Carrizosa said.

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Chávez important, but not for building

On April 29, 1993, some 35,000 people walked the three miles from Delano to Forty Acres, Calif., in a massive parade following the casket of a man who deceased Senator Robert F. Kennedy described as "one of the heroic figures of our time."

Now, a decade later, the same number of students will soon pass by the Economics building that was renamed yesterday in honor of César Chávez, the Yuma-born Chicano hero who was a champion for farm workers'

rights in the southwest.

They might wonder how Chávez was connected the UA.

The answer is: He wasn't.

As described in an Aug. 12 *Arizona Daily Star* article, President Likins supported the name change in a memo to the Arizona Board of Regents, "We feel strongly that this is a positive course of action for the university to take to acknowledge our Hispanic community in a positive way."

Although it is noteworthy that Likins

highlights Chávez as an important figure in Arizona and U.S. history, it is not appropriate to give the current Economics building his name. As a land-grant public mecca for knowledge in the southwest, the UA has the job to educate its students about issues that involve Chávez and what he accomplished in his lifetime. However, it is not the role of the tax-supported university to officially honor him with a building name change.

In last Friday's *Wildcat*, rumor had it that two campus groups were possibly planning a Monday protest to the name change. Both the College Republicans and the Student Objectivist Society disapprove of the

name change. Both groups decided to postpone demonstrations because there would not be many students around.

Erik Flesch, president of the Student Objectivist Society, is adamantly opposed to the renaming action on several grounds.

"A union organizer, a controversial figure, is not appropriate to name a building after, especially if some of the departments within the building disagree."

While many would debate the morality and function of unions in society, the reason why the building should not be Chávez-christened is because he did not play a prominent role in campus academics — he neither gave financial contributions nor helped shape the UA as the institution we now call home.

Harvill. Gould-Simpson. Douglas. McClelland. Marvil. McKale.

In fact, all named buildings on campus honor individuals who were important in the UA universe. The only facility that deviates from this pattern is the Martin Luther King, Jr. building, which was also inappropriately named.

The naming advisory committee, formed to follow Arizona Board of Regents criteria for evaluating proposed name changes, agreed on the Economics building change in July although Alan P. Ker, associate professor and head of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics wrote a letter to the committee highlighting his department's opposition.

The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics is not the only one to call the Economics building home. The Mexican-American Studies and Research Center, Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, divisions of the mathematics department and the Economic Research Lab all reside

under its roof, and various departments use the classrooms.

While working under the César Chávez ceiling will help recruit Mexican-American students to both the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center and Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, such a building name could have unintended consequences for the AREC Department.

The committee has evidently stretched the definition of who can be nominated for a facility name change. ABOR guidelines read: "When naming a facility or programmatic unit for a person, family, or organization where there is no gift, the proposed honoree shall have achieved distinction in one or more of the following ways — serving the university in an academic or administrative capacity with high distinction, or by contributing in other exceptional ways to the welfare and reputation of the university, to education, or to the community in general."

César Chávez, without a doubt, was a man worthy of an honorable legacy. His efforts led to better working conditions for farm workers throughout Arizona and California. His achievements are monumental and important to understanding the social climate of the last century. But Chávez did not directly affect the UA or Tucson community.

The naming advisory committee has pushed the university into murky political waters, setting a precedent that may lead the UA into trouble in the near future. While César Chávez and the achievements of workers' rights should be studied and honored, the UA has a finite number of facilities to name. Those structures should be reserved for heroes of the UA.

Jessica Lee is an environmental science senior. She can be reached at letters@wildcat.arizona.edu.



Jessica Lee
associate editor

MAILBAG

Weapons-free zone only serves awareness

This letter is in response to Kendrick Wilson's article on the UA's weapons-free zone. I commend Mr. Wilson for bringing attention to an issue that I feel should have gotten much more notice after the violence we experienced here at our own campus last fall. However, I do not agree that we should in any way feel "lucky" to be designated a weapons-free zone, nor should we feel any safer because of the title. There have been studies showing that students already feel that their collegiate world is mostly immune to the violence that affects the rest of the world; I feel that we should do what we can to discourage that kind of unawareness. I'm sure UA students are not as oblivious as other college students, due to the fact that violence has occurred right here on our own campus. I myself have to go to school every day knowing that my mother and two other nursing instructors were targeted and killed by a student who held no regard for the campus' little signs designating UA a weapons-free zone. Until Oct. 28, 2002, I myself hardly thought about the potential for gun violence at our school. Now I suppose I could consider myself to be one of the "few paranoid students" that Mr. Kendrick refers to in his explanation behind the Arizona Board of Regents' new weapons-free zone policies. Except I don't feel paranoid. And I don't claim to have any answers regarding gun-

control laws. My only wish is potential of violence in our community, the potential for that violence to affect each student personally, and for no one to allow the title "weapons-free zone" to keep him or her safe, but rather to be more aware of the actual numbers concerning firearm possession and the risks that can result.

Rachel Rogers
nutritional sciences senior

Chávez known for non-violent actions

In his Friday letter to the *Wildcat*, Erik Flesch presents a unique, subjective and erroneous view of the late civil rights leader, César Chávez. Flesch claims that Chávez and the farm workers union he founded used violence and the threat of violence as a primary means of getting what they wanted — humane treatment, for instance. It is well known that Chávez was a champion of non-violence, and today there are conservatives as well as liberals who have high regard for the man and his peaceful brand of leadership. For example, when the U.S. Postal Service unveiled the César E. Chávez commemorative postage stamp last April, Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain was in attendance. It is appropriate that the UA is renaming the Economics building, originally named the Business and Public Administration building, in honor of Chávez. Flesch, president of the Student Objectivist Society, doesn't think so, and to make his point

characterizes Chávez as the Joe Stalin of the orchards. He's entitled to his opinion, but that opinion is not based on fact and is expressed in a malicious way. But that shouldn't be surprising coming from the head of an organization based on the writings of Ayn Rand, the philosopher and second-rate novelist who was known for her intolerance to the opinions of others and her vindictiveness.

Tom Gelsinon
program coordinator,
Mexican-American Studies and
Research Center

State should make education priority

This letter is in response to an editorial board piece in Thursday's *Wildcat*. I am afraid that this editorial shows that people still don't understand how university financing works. On the state level, funding for higher education is not a question of lack of funds. There is plenty of money in the general fund. Instead, the problem is that the state continues to misallocate those funds.

The way I (and my fellow plaintiffs) interpret the Arizona Constitution is that by saying that tuition should be "as nearly free as possible," it is directing the Legislature to make higher education one of its highest priorities. Currently, higher education is NOT one of its highest priorities. The point of the lawsuit is to get the Legislature to do its job and follow its constitutional mandate. As far as the UA being a deal, again, it is NOT. As I cited in an

earlier letter this week, the Arizona Advocacy Network has found that UA tuition is not affordable to Arizona residents. Perhaps it is affordable to the editorial board, but travel to Tucson's south side and ask if folks there can afford to go to the UA.

Additionally, please remember that the education of residents is in the best interests of all Arizona residents. What this means is that money for financial aid should come from the Legislature, which gets its money from our taxes, as opposed to a tuition hike which puts that burden only on students' backs.

Rachel Wilson
first-year law student

Chávez should be remembered by UA

I feel that the renaming of the Economics building for the UFW leader is most appropriate since César Chávez contributed to the welfare of the disadvantaged and underrepresented who work to put food on American tables.

Mr. Chávez's work had a profound effect on the lives of my family and thousands of other families of migrant workers who prior to his actions were at the mercy of the ranchers. I was a participant in the rallies that sought to gather support for labor laws for migrant workers who made up the majority of field labor. I witnessed confrontations in the fields at 4 in the morning. I attended the funeral of a fellow protester and field worker who was shot for protest-

ing. Oh, yes. The good old days! All this before I finished my sophomore year in high school.

I remember traveling, not to Disneyland or beach resorts for the summer, but to Washington State to pick cherries. Then there were the summers at San Joaquin Valley, Calif., where the passage to manhood was proven by your skill in tossing 20-lb-plus watermelons for six hours a day. If that wasn't enough, then there was a trip to Ajo, Ariz., for cantaloupe or Imperial Valley, Calif., for lettuce, tomato and broccoli where I worked in 100-degree-plus heat. Here I remember the ranchers calling the Border Patrol a day before payday and rounding up the "illegals," assuring that paychecks were never collected by hard-working souls.

Sorry, Mr. Flesch, if I don't consider your fight a worthwhile one. I do admire your willingness to get involved in politics. Next time you look at your plate as you sit down to enjoy a meal, consider where your food came from. Ask who broke his back to pick it or what woman sorted it at the packing plant.

The Economics building should be named after a person who has contributed to the economy of the U.S., if not the world, and is also a notable native Arizonan. Chávez was not Hoffa. He was not Gandhi or Dr. King. He was a peasant who placed a feast before the American people. He should be remembered for that contribution.

J.S. Cortez
pre-education sophomore

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Jessica Lee is an environmental science senior. She can be reached at letters@wildcat.arizona.edu.

Weapons-free zone only serves awareness

This letter is in response to Kendrick Wilson's article on the UA's weapons-free zone. I commend Mr. Wilson for bringing attention to an issue that I feel should have gotten much more notice after the violence we experienced here at our own campus last fall. However, I do not agree that we should in any way feel "lucky" to be designated a weapons-free zone, nor should we feel any safer because of the title. There have been studies showing that students already feel that their collegiate world is mostly immune to the violence that affects the rest of the world; I feel that we should do what we can to discourage that kind of unawareness. I'm sure UA students are not as oblivious as other college students, due to the fact that violence has occurred right here on our own campus. I myself have to go to school every day knowing that my mother and two other nursing instructors were targeted and killed by a student who held no regard for the campus' little signs designating UA a weapons-free zone. Until Oct. 28, 2002, I myself hardly thought about the potential for gun violence at our school. Now I suppose I could consider myself to be one of the "few paranoid students" that Mr. Kendrick refers to in his explanation behind the Arizona Board of Regents' new weapons-free zone policies. Except I don't feel paranoid. And I don't claim to have any answers regarding gun-

control laws. My only wish is potential of violence in our community, the potential for that violence to affect each student personally, and for no one to allow the title "weapons-free zone" to keep him or her safe, but rather to be more aware of the actual numbers concerning firearm possession and the risks that can result.

Rachel Rogers
nutritional sciences senior

Chávez known for non-violent actions

In his Friday letter to the *Wildcat*, Erik Flesch presents a unique, subjective and erroneous view of the late civil rights leader, Cesar Chávez. Flesch claims that Chávez and the farm workers union he founded used violence and the threat of violence as a primary means of getting what they wanted — humane treatment, for instance. It is well known that Chávez was a champion of non-violence, and today there are conservatives as well as liberals who have high regard for the man and his peaceful brand of leadership. For example, when the U.S. Postal Service unveiled the César E. Chávez commemorative postage stamp last April, Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain was in attendance. It is appropriate that the UA is renaming the Economics building, originally named the Business and Public Administration building, in honor of Chávez. Flesch, president of the Student Objectivist Society, doesn't think so, and to make his point

characterizes Chávez as the Joe Stalin of the orchards. He's entitled to his opinion, but that opinion is not based on fact and is expressed in a malicious way. But that shouldn't be surprising coming from the head of an organization based on the writings of Ayn Rand, the philosopher and second-rate novelist who was known for her intolerance to the opinions of others and her vindictiveness.

Tom Gelsinon
program coordinator,
Mexican-American Studies and
Research Center

State should make education priority

This letter is in response to an editorial board piece in Thursday's *Wildcat*. I am afraid that this editorial shows that people still don't understand how university financing works. On the state level, funding for higher education is not a question of lack of funds. There is plenty of money in the general fund. Instead, the problem is that the state continues to misallocate those funds.

The way I (and my fellow plaintiffs) interpret the Arizona Constitution is that by saying that tuition should be "as nearly free as possible," it is directing the Legislature to make higher education one of its highest priorities. Currently, higher education is NOT one of its highest priorities. The point of the lawsuit is to get the Legislature to do its job and follow its constitutional mandate.

As far as the UA being a deal, again, it is NOT. As I cited in an

earlier letter this week, the Arizona Advocacy Network has found that UA tuition is not affordable to Arizona residents. Perhaps it is affordable to the editorial board, but travel to Tucson's south side and ask if folks there can afford to go to the UA.

Additionally, please remember that the education of residents is in the best interests of all Arizona residents. What this means is that money for financial aid should come from the Legislature, which gets its money from our taxes, as opposed to a tuition hike which puts that burden only on students' backs.

Rachel Wilson
first-year law student

Chávez should be remembered by UA

I feel that the renaming of the Economics building for the UFW leader is most appropriate since César Chávez contributed to the welfare of the disadvantaged and underrepresented who work to put food on American tables.

Mr. Chávez's work had a profound effect on the lives of my family and thousands of other families of migrant workers who prior to his actions were at the mercy of the ranchers. I was a participant in the rallies that sought to gather support for labor laws for migrant workers who made up the majority of field labor. I witnessed confrontations in the fields at 4 in the morning. I attended the funeral of a fellow protester and field worker who was shot for protest-

ing. Oh, yes. The good old days! All this before I finished my sophomore year in high school.

I remember traveling, not to Disneyland or beach resorts for the summer, but to Washington State to pick cherries. Then there were the summers at San Joaquin Valley, Calif., where the passage to manhood was proven by your skill in tossing 20-lb-plus watermelons for six hours a day. If that wasn't enough, then there was a trip to Ajo, Ariz., for cantaloupe or Imperial Valley, Calif., for lettuce, tomato and broccoli where I worked in 100-degree-plus heat. Here I remember the ranchers calling the Border Patrol a day before payday and rounding up the "illegals," assuring that paychecks were never collected by hard-working souls.

Sorry, Mr. Flesch, if I don't consider your fight a worthwhile one. I do admire your willingness to get involved in politics. Next time you look at your plate as you sit down to enjoy a meal, consider where your food came from. Ask who broke his back to pick it or what woman sorted it at the packing plant.

The Economics building should be named after a person who has contributed to the economy of the U.S., if not the world, and is also a notable native Arizonan. Chávez was not Hoffa. He was not Ghandi or Dr. King. He was a peasant who placed a feast before the American people. He should be remembered for that contribution.

J.S. Cortez
pre-education sophomore

OPINIONS

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EDITORIAL

Same-sex benefits premature

On a philosophical level, it seems appropriate to offer benefits to same-sex partners of UA employees, but until Arizona offers some form of recognition to these unions, it would be neither fair nor practical.

Several groups around campus have breathed new life into a campaign to offer these benefits, which are identical to those offered to the spouses of heterosexual UA employees. Besides basic health and dental coverage, these benefits include a 50 percent tuition reduction for same-sex partners.

Extending benefits to same-sex couples would cost an estimated \$255,000 annually, and affect 85-100 employees.

Six Pacific-10 Conference schools already offer such benefits, as do many corporations.

But the UA would be unwise to offer these benefits until the state takes action to recognize civil unions. Otherwise, the policy would amount to an arbitrary offer of benefits to people without any legitimate legal claim to them.

There's no legal way to distinguish a same-sex couple living together from two roommates, or from a boyfriend and girlfriend cohabitating. Without some legal distinction, offering domestic partner benefits would amount to discrimination against non-married, non-same-sex partners living together.

Civil unions should be legal. The state should take steps to recognize them. Gay and lesbian couples deserve the same benefits as married heterosexual couples.

But any efforts to convince UA officials to offer benefits to domestic partners are misguided until these couples are granted the recognition they deserve. So direct your lobbying efforts at state lawmakers. Explain that gay and lesbian people shouldn't be excluded from benefits offered to married people simply because of their sexual orientation.

But don't ask the UA to discriminate. President Peter Likins was right when he said his hands are tied by the state. And he has clearly expressed openness toward offering benefits to same-sex partners.

"If same-sex marriages were permissible, benefits would follow automatically," he said in the Aug. 26 *Wildcat*.

Hopefully the time to officially recognize same-sex relationships will come soon. But until it does, there doesn't seem to be much the UA can do.

OPINIONS BOARD

Opinions are determined by the *Wildcat* opinions board and written by one of its members. They are Kristina Dunham, Brett Fera, Caitlin Hall, Daniel Scarpinato and Jeff Sklar.



MAILBAG

UA should be proud of Chávez building name

I applaud President Likins for naming the Economics building after UFW leader César Chávez. Chávez is more than a historical figure — his impact on UA students is immeasurable. Look around. Minorities, women and first-generation students today are seeking to improve their lives and their communities through higher education. Along the way they were motivated by heroes — namely Chávez, who had a way of inspiring us all with his humility, intellect, resolve and profound compassion. His tireless drive to improve human rights, civil rights and environmental protection transcended his work with impoverished and unprotected agricultural workers. As a society we have all gained from his ideals.

Critics of the name change prefer that campus buildings be named after deep-pocket contributors, ex-presidents or faculty. That narrow policy can lead to embarrassing consequences. In 1993, the UA and Regents named a building after Kemper Marley, a land and liquor magnate once linked to organized crime. Marley's estate gave \$6 million to house the College of Agriculture. Surprisingly, no one protested that dedication.

According to news stories and editorials published in the *Arizona Daily Star* between 1992 and 1993, it was reported that Maricopa County prosecutors believed Marley ordered the car-bombing death of *Arizona Republic* investigative reporter Don Bolles in 1976. The Investigative Reporters and Editors Inc., a national team of investigative reporters, also linked Marley to organized crime figures in published articles.

The Regents' policy allows buildings named after those who "contribute in exceptional ways ... to the community in general." Chávez did.

Today we have a new president and a new Board and along with them we have a greater concern for increasing minority representation on campus. As Chávez would say: "Si, Se Puede! (Yes, it can be done)" That's what I learned from Chávez in the years that I covered him as a reporter and when I later mourned him at his funeral on April 29, 1993. I was in that march of 35,000 people and I wit-

nessed firsthand what he wanted us to see. Like his mentors — Mohandas Gandhi, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others — we are all in the same fight, the fight for equality and fairness.

Those who would disagree or question Chávez's honor should learn more about him and join us as we proudly step up to the plate to honor one of our own.

Olga Briseño
adjunct journalism instructor

Tucson police should focus on real crime

This letter is in response to the Gestapo-type raids that have been enacted by the Tucson Police Department to combat the horrible scourge of underage drinking. I just really want to thank the Tucson Police Department for undertaking this dire mission because it really helps the community around the UA. I mean robbery, murder and assault are bad crimes, but underage drinking has to top the list as one of the most harmful crimes affecting our community. Forget the drug problem and illegal immigration, for that matter.

There are kids under 21 that are drinking alcohol in a college-type setting as we speak! The city of Tucson has never had to deal with this problem before, and TPD is really helping our community by responding to the scene of a harmless party with helicopters, paddy wagons and multiple branches of the law enforcement agencies of Tucson.

In case you haven't caught on right now, I'm being sarcastic. Why doesn't the Tucson Police Department solve some actual crimes that affect our community in a significant way instead of trying to make headlines and wasting countless taxpayer dollars? I guess I would want to respond to the scene of a party rather than deal with a domestic disturbance call between two knife-wielding transvestites. The only thing that TPD is preventing with these ridiculous raids is Suzy P. Coed from having a hangover in the morning. And as for the resident assistants, honor students and geriatrics trying to get some sleep at 8 p.m. on Thursday night, buy some ear plugs this year because I am going to be waving a

beer in your face and playing music as loud as possible while my friend puked on your doorstep. Prohibition is not going to work here at the UA, so please stop with the self-righteous columns in this newspaper about not drinking.

Kyle Booen
pre-pharmacy sophomore

Pride of Arizona needs to improve music, show

I witnessed the worst halftime show in the history of marching bands last Saturday night at the halftime of the UTEP game. I always thought that the marching band was a real "buzzkill," and that halftime show proved my point.

The band performed for at most six minutes and left 13 minutes for the fans to go to the food lines and bathrooms. What a tremendous show! Everyone in my section was dumfounded by the performance — or lack thereof. (Original composition. No one cares.)

On numerous occasions including last Saturday night, the football team has been playing a good game and the band has come on at the half and just put the crowd to sleep.

What a waste. All that energy waiting to be released, and we are treated to the "nation's largest alternative marching band."

The powers that be need to take a serious look at the band and its performances.

A great halftime show would go a long way to making the people in attendance more enthusiastic, but as it now stands the band simply "marches" to the beat of a different drummer, and who knows who that drummer might be?

It's time that the band became a real marching band and quit trying to be an "alternative" band. It's a shame that the good fans of Arizona football have to be exposed to such a lousy band, but until a change is made, "buzzkill" is the word for their performance.

Jon East
fan of Wildcat football

CONTACT US

Letters should include name, connection to the university (year, major, etc.) and contact information. The *Arizona Daily Wildcat* accepts original, unpublished letters from all of its readers. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and should refrain from personal attacks. The *Wildcat* reserves the right to edit for clarity.

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Pop the cork, it's time for a drink of irony

One week ago, the CatFest concert rocked Centennial Hall, and in a different incident, 125 minors were arrested for underage drinking. These two events shared two similarities: underage university students and bottle openers.

It is not a secret that both the university and the City of Tucson are attempting to crack down on underage drinking.

Residence Life has expanded its strict alcohol policy, prohibiting students from displaying alcohol containers. The Tucson law enforcement authorities have pledged to intensify their watch and respond to UA students who drink before the legal age. Local neighborhood associations are pushing the UA to enforce the student code of conduct off-campus.

As a result, students are feeling the pressure from above to think twice about popping the top off a cold one. Ironically, a student organization is going against the flood of "we must stop UA students from being crazy partiers" sentiments. Last Friday, the University Activities Board handed out bottle openers at the CatFest concert featuring Roger Clyne and the PeaceMakers.

The item — a plastic orange keychain bottle and can opener with the UAB logo and their slogan "get involved" — was distributed with other free items to a concert audience, historically comprised of mostly freshmen.

But to Greg Billings, the UAB student president, the item is not a bottle opener; it is a "beverage wrench." He added, "That's the PC term for it."

Does it seem odd to anyone else that a student organization is handing out "beverage wrenches" at a concert attended by hundreds of freshmen and sophomores?

Concerned that the distribution of bottle openers to students who live in the residence halls might butt heads with Resident Life's stricter alcohol policy, it seemed the person to consult was James Van Arsdel, director of

Residence Life. "In my mind, they (alcohol and the beverage wrenches) are not related," Van Arsdel responded. "Now that I think about it, it is probably something I should give to my kids in college.... There are some situations that you just need a bottle opener, and if you don't have one you're stuck."



Jessica Lee
associate editor

"They (beverage wrenches) could be used for alcohol, but they could probably be used for a million other things," he said.

A million things? A few of us at the *Wildcat* sat around for a while and brainstormed as to what this plastic bottle opener could also be used for. This is what we came up with: opening letters, pushing buttons, picking noses, grating cheese, cleaning dirt from under nails, wearing as earrings, using as self-defense weapons or possibly dissecting fish. That was only eight ideas. After much debate, we came to the conclusion that the only way this bottle opener could be used for a million things was if there were a million bottles of beer.

With the buzz about busting underage drinkers in residence halls who use alcohol paraphernalia such as the UAB bottle opener, I thought it would be

interesting to hear what the Dean of Students Office thought of the item.

Although Veda Kowalski, associate dean of students, had not actually seen the opener, she had this to say: "There are other things the item could be used for; drinks come in all containers and there are a number of beverages that come in bottles. It is not fair to assume the item is solely used for alcohol. I don't think students would perceive it to be used only for alcohol."

She brought up a good point. Perhaps it was incorrect to assume that all students perceive that the beverage wrench could only be used for busting open a can of Natty Ice Light.

But before answering that question, I wanted to find out what common non-alcoholic products there were out there, so I went to the 7-eleven on the corner of North Park Avenue and East Speedway Boulevard.

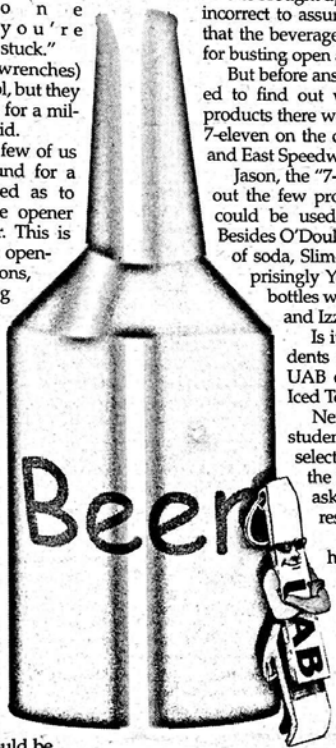
Jason, the "7-eleven guy" on shift, pointed out the few products that the bottle opener could be used for besides getting drunk. Besides O'Doul's, the products included cans of soda, Slim-Fast, energy drinks and surprisingly Yoplait yogurt. The only other bottles were of root beer, Mexican soda and Izze.

Is it far-fetched to think that students are going to whip out their UAB can opener for their Arizona Iced Tea?

Next I ventured out to see what students thought. All six randomly selected students initially identified the item as a bottle opener. When asked what type of bottle, all responded "alcohol."

"I don't really buy (non-alcoholic) bottled drinks, and when I do they are twist-off, Jennine Stebing, a sophomore majoring in Spanish and Latin American studies responded. Jane Davis, a molecular and cellular biology senior, said,

Illustration by:
Arnie Bermudez



"It's a bottle opener, for non-screw-twist-off bottles. It is definitely used for alcoholic products. But, it could also hold keys."

When asked if the product could be used for anything else, music theatre junior Ben Crawford decided he could probably kill a mouse with one.

It seems fair to say that most students would perceive the UAB beverage wrench to be a convenient tool to open a bottle or can of alcohol.

"We probably should be aware of those perceptions," Van Arsdel confessed. "It might be something we should look into."

Tom Laetsch, theatre arts junior and UAB internal vice president, said that the beverage wrenches (which he later referred to as bottle openers) are their most popular marketing item. When asked about the perception that they could be used for alcohol, Sierra Ornelas, media arts senior and the producer of Comedy Corner (which is within UAB) said, "The bottle openers promote a social atmosphere. It represents an idea that when you come to UAB you come to socialize." She also added, "Saying that bottle openers promote drinking alcohol is like saying giving out lighters promotes smoking."

"The bottle openers communicate in a language the majority of college students understand," Louis Echevarria, the UAB films Chair and management information systems senior, added.

And that language has the UA and Tucson community up in arms and frustrated. Large party busts, stricter resident hall policies and irritated neighbors are all a product of the idea that there is something inherently natural about college students drinking alcohol.

The continued distribution of the UAB beverage wrenches is diluting the UA's attempt to tackle the problem of underage drinking and disruptive party behavior. But hey, I'll have one on my keychain. After all, I'm old enough to drink.

Jessica Lee is an environmental science senior. She can be reached at letters@wildcat.arizona.edu.

MAILBAG: Continued from page 4 Don't underestimate Chávez, King ideas

While attempting to find a reasoned basis for her political disagreement, Jessica Lee on Tuesday fell far short in her effort to discredit the decision to rename the Economics building after Cesar Chavez.

Claiming no disrespect for Cesar Chavez, Ms. Lee argues the name change violates university

guidelines. However, she grossly mis-states the guidelines. Wisely, the guidelines are not limited to measuring one's contribution to the university or one's academic résumé. Instead, the guidelines expressly provide one may be considered for "contributing in other exceptional ways to the welfare and reputation of the university, to education, or to the community in general." A direct connection to the university is not required.

While inaccurately describing the scope of the regulation, Ms. Lee postures the issue in racial terms. By naming every Mexican-American organization in the Economics

building, she dismisses the renaming as simply an effort to help "recruit Mexican-American students." More disturbing, Ms. Lee presumes a racist reaction from others by suggesting "such a building name could have unintended consequences for the AREC Department."

Cesar Chávez's contributions to the "community in general" cannot be denied or underestimated. He spoke in favor of economic justice for exploited persons who otherwise had no voice. He is directly responsible for achieving just and tolerable living and working conditions for farm workers throughout the Southwest. Indeed, any

objective analysis of Chávez's goal of economic justice and his extraordinary accomplishments reflect that he improved the welfare of the community in a fashion far exceeding that of any native Arizona.

I also find greatly offensive the criticism of the naming of a building after Martin Luther King Jr. His efforts truly affected our society, both its laws and the attitudes of citizens. Through his work, African-Americans now enjoy fundamental rights denied them by prior bigoted laws and attitudes. If anyone wants to argue that Dr. King's efforts did not bring about

positive social equality to the community in general, I would like to hear what they have to say.

Perhaps, Chávez and Dr. King fall outside of Ms. Lee's political agenda. However, it is upsetting to see people take politics to such extreme measures. Cesar Chávez and Dr. King made enormous contributions to the "community in general" for which we all should be grateful. Political rhetoric that tries to minimize their contributions is just absurd.

Patrick Barrett
mechanical engineering freshman

Yuma Hall's honor



MONTINE RUMMEL/Arizona Daily Wildcat

ar biology junior Aaron Koassen, left, listens to wildlife, water-ore Julia Jolley as she asks about the future of other dorms nducted Tuesday evening.

dence Life is over the building's

e has only 1 weeks, he er of close

He said he likes being around people who have read the same books as he has, who are as dedicated to school as he is and who understand the pressures of the UA honors program.

Yuma Hall Director Doug Copeland, a

See YUMA/12

Building rename sparks protests

Building honoring Chavez upsets groups

By Greg Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Three student political groups plan to protest the renaming of the Economics building at the ceremony Sunday.

Approximately 30 members of the College Republicans, Student Objectivist Society, and the Independent Women of the University of Arizona will voice their objection to the administration's decision to rename the building in honor of Cesar E. Chavez, a Yuma-born union leader.

The protest will take place during the formal dedication ceremony in front of the newly-named Cesar E. Chavez building. It will follow a celebration march that will begin in front of Old Main at 2 p.m.

Chavez founded United Farm Workers, a union of California farm workers, in 1956. He was also known for holding hunger strikes to raise public awareness of farm labor and migrant worker issues.

"We think it's a bad choice for naming the building, and we're going to let that be known in a peaceful, civil manner," said Tyler Harris, mathematics junior and vice president of the College Republicans.

The groups plan to set up tables on the Mall where the Chavez celebration march will pass. They also plan to have picket signs and will be distributing literature that supports their cause.

"We'll have a lot of literature from the '60s and '70s, historical documents which describe what he was doing during that time," said Erik Flesch, a geosciences senior and president of the Student Objectivist Society, a group that advocates the philosophy of 20th century author Ayn Rand.

The protesters see the tribute to Chavez as one not honoring a humanitarian and civil rights leader, but instead honoring a glorified union bully.

See CHAVEZ/15

CHAVEZ: Protests mark dedication

Continued from page 1

"Chavez was a Marxist who used the threat of force on both farm workers and farm owners," said Harris. "He was a terrible human being not worthy of any honor, let alone having a building named after him."

He established a union monopoly over farm workers in California. That establishes him as anti-capitalism and individual rights," Flesch said. "His actions were violent, as they must be when establishing a monopoly."

He was violent not only to growers but also with workers who the majority of which didn't want to join his union."

Socorro Carranza, director of Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, led the campaign for passage of the Chavez name change nomination through the Facilities Naming Committee.

President Peter Likins said he had no problem approving the nomination after it passed.

"For Hispanics today, he is symbolic of a time when they began to assert themselves and fight the prejudice they were subjected to," Likins said.

While Likins understands that controversy might surround the Chavez dedication, he is not afraid to make a statement.

"When universities limit them-

selves to statements that are unambiguously held, then they are saying nothing," Likins said. "I don't attempt to secure everyone's opinion in what I do."

Protest groups believe the Chavez dedication is merely an attempt to bolster the number of Hispanic students at the UA.

"Likins is actively trying to make the UA more Hispanic-friendly," said Flesch. "It is a racist statement that all Hispanics would revere this man."

Likins does not dispute that he hopes the renaming will attract Hispanic students. Hispanic students currently make up 14 percent of the UA population.

"I try in many ways to make it as clear as I can that the university is open to everyone. I thought here is an opportunity to make Hispanic students feel welcome," Likins said. "That's not to say every Hispanic student likes Chavez."

Sean Ryan, a biochemistry graduate student, said he supports the name change.

"From what I know, I think it's a great movement to give him recognition. I think diversity is an integral part of the campus," he said.

"He's such an icon for Hispanic people, he helped them even if it's not the way people liked," said Erica Hsiao, undeclared freshman.

When universities limit themselves to statements that are unanimously held, then they are saying nothing.

— Peter Likins
UA president

More minority students on America's campuses

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The number of minority students on America's campuses has more than doubled since 1981, but white students are still more likely to attend college, a new report says.

The Minorities in Higher Education Annual Status Report issued Wednesday by the American Council on Education found that the number of minority high school graduates between the ages of 18 to 24 attending U.S. schools jumped from nearly 2 million in 1980-81 to 4.3 million in 2000-01.

Despite the gains, the ACE said only 40 percent of African-Americans and 34 percent of Hispanics attend college, compared to 46 percent of whites, continuing a disparity that was even worse in the late 1980s but still persists.

William Harvey, the author of the study, said the findings are a reflection of American society.

"The gaps relate to some of the real fundamental social and economic conditions in this country," said Harvey, the director of the Office of Minorities in Education for the ACE, a Washington-based umbrella organization repre-

senting the nation's largest institutions of higher education.

"We know that individuals in underserved communities are less likely to have the preparation in elementary and secondary school to prepare them for college. And those communities are clustered among folks of color."

Dramatic gains among women

During the 20 years starting in 1980, the ACE said black enrollment grew by 56 percent to more than 1.7 million, while Hispanic enrollment tripled to 1.5 million.

The 1 million Asian-Americans attending college in 2000 also tripled the 1980 enrollment.

Overall, 15.3 million students attended college classes last year, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The ACE said Hispanic and African-American women accounted for some of the most dramatic minority gains at both two-year and four-year institutions.

In 1980, 28 percent of female African-American high school graduates between the ages of 18 and 24 attended college. Two decades later, the enrollment among African-

American women stood at 42 percent.

The participation rates for male African-American high school graduates were not as dramatic, climbing from 30 percent to 37 percent.

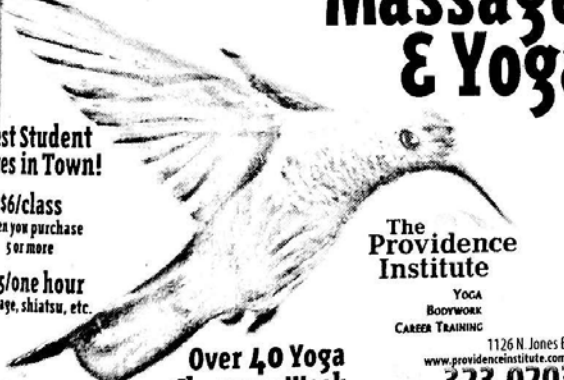
In 1980, 27 percent of Hispanic women between the ages of 18 to 24 with high school diplomas were enrolled in college. Twenty years later, that number had increased by 10 percentage points to 37 percent.

The percentage of Hispanic men between the ages of 18 to 24 with a high school education attending college remained stagnant over the same period of time, 31 percent.

Harry Pachon, the president of the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, said the increased presence of Latino women on campuses is part of the mainstreaming of Hispanics into American culture.

"The same currents that have affected feminism as a whole have affected the Latina community," said Pachon, whose Southern California organization advances issues and policies that impact the Hispanic community. "There's a big transition that has occurred among the immigrant population adopting the values of the majority society."

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CHAVEZ:

Protests mark dedication

Continued from page 1

"Chavez was a Marxist who used the threat of force on both farm workers and farm owners," said Harris. "He was a terrible human being not worthy of any honor, let alone having a building named after him.

"He established a union monopoly over farm workers in California. That establishes him as anti-capitalism and individual rights," Flesch said. "His tactics were violent, as they must be when establishing a monopoly.

He was violent not only to growers, but also with workers who the majority of which didn't want to join his union."

S o c o r r o Carrizosa, director of Chicano-Hispano Student Affairs, led the campaign for passage of the Chavez name change nomination through the Facilities Naming Committee. President Peter Likins said he had no problem approving the nomination after it passed.

"For Hispanics today, he is symbolic of a time when they began to assert themselves and fight the prejudice they were subjected to," Likins said.

While Likins understands that controversy might surround the Chavez dedication, he is not afraid to make a statement.

"When universities limit them-

selves to statements that are unanimously held, then they are saying nothing," Likins said. "I don't attempt to secure everyone's opinion in what I do."

Protest groups believe the Chavez dedication is merely an attempt to bolster the number of Hispanic students at the UA.

"Likins is actively trying to make the UA more Hispanic-friendly," said Flesch. "It is a racist statement that all Hispanics would revere this man."

Likins does not dispute that he hopes the renaming will attract Hispanic students. Hispanic students currently make up 14 percent of the UA population.

"I try in many ways to make it as clear as I can that the university is open to everyone. I thought here is an opportunity to make Hispanic students feel welcome," Likins said. "That's not to say every Hispanic student likes Chavez."

Sean Ryan, a biochemistry graduate student, said he supports the name change.

"From what I know, I think it's a great movement to give him recognition. I think diversity is an integral part of the campus," he said.

"He's such an icon for Hispanic people, he helped them even if it's not the way people liked," said Erica Hsiao, undeclared freshman.

“When universities limit themselves to statements that are unanimously held, then they are saying nothing.”

— Peter Likins
UA president

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu

Monday, October 13, 2003

University of Arizona, Tucson

Chávez now a campus fixture

Building name change honors civil rights leader César E. Chávez

By Greg Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hundreds of people rallied on campus yesterday afternoon to support and celebrate the renaming of the Economics building, now the César E. Chávez building.

Chávez was a Yuma-born leader of Chicano civil rights and founder of United Farm Workers, a national labor union for exploited farm workers from California.

Supporters gathered in front of Old Main holding red and black balloons and "Viva La Raza" signs and began a celebration march up the Mall while singing songs.

At the Administration building, President Peter Likins joined the march, and the procession marched back to the building where the formal dedication ceremony was held.

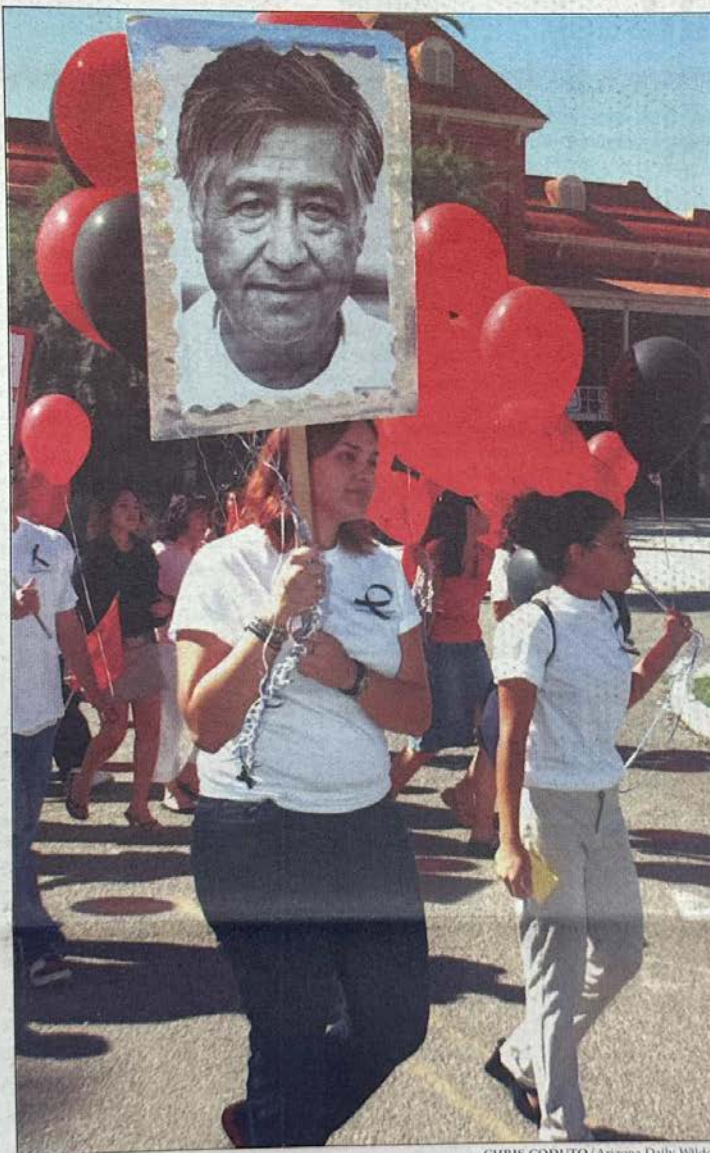
"We're honoring the man, but, more than anything, we're honoring what he stood for," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano/Hispano Student Affairs and leader of the campaign for the name change.

"There is no doubt that the greatest leader for the Hispanic people has been and continues to be César Chávez," said Antonio Estrada, director and professor of Mexican-American studies. "Chávez's name continues to embody justice and civil rights."

Also attending the dedication ceremony was Richard Chávez, brother of the late rights activist, Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-Ariz.) and the deans of both the College of Humanities and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

"Today, this is not about icon politics. Today is about the history of our people, and the struggle of our people," Grijalva said from a podium in front of the new Chávez building. "He insisted early on that we not be relegated to anything less than equals."

Richard Chávez spoke about his and his brother's humble beginnings, and said their mother, a Tucson native, would never have believed that one of her sons would one day have a building named after him.



CHRIS CODUTO/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Media arts freshman Daniela Moreno holds a photo of César Chávez during a march before the dedication ceremony of the César E. Chávez building. Organizers led a march from Old Main to the Administration building and back to the César E. Chávez building.

List to expose UA sex criminals

By Ty Young
SENIOR WRITER

University students, faculty and staff will now be able to find out if a sex offender studies or works on campus.

The Sex Crimes Prevention Act — which was authored by Republican Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona, approved at the federal level on Oct. 28, 2000, and enacted by the Arizona Legislature last week — will give people access to the names of all registered sex offenders working or living on campus.

The act is an extension of the 1996 Megan's Law, which established a registry for all sex offenders and allowed law enforcement officials to track registered offenders' employment and resident status.

Megan's Law also created a system for a broad-based community notification plan, including a Web site and posted flyers that give names and addresses of registered sex offenders.

With the adoption of the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, Megan's Law will now extend to the UA campus.

UAPD, as an informational arm of the Sheriff's Department, will notify university officials and employers of registered sex offenders who are trying to register or find employment on campus.

While on campus Saturday, Kyl said he thinks the newly adopted law will likely improve the lives of all on campus.

"I think it's going to make (campus) a much safer place," he said. "Students on a university campus should have just as much right to a safe environment as anyone living anywhere."

The major change for Arizona residents is that law enforcement officials will now need to report a registered sex offender who works or resides on campus.

The act also amends the Family Educational

Scholastic achievements, awards run in the family

By Alexandria Blute
STAFF WRITER

With so much time spent on campus, the Ridley family dinner table conversations often center on one thing: their day at school.

Eric Rosenwald, an aerospace and engineering junior, is not the only one in his house going to the UA. His stepfather, Carl Ridley, is a professor of family and consumer sciences, and his mother, Linda Spirk Ridley, is an undeclared student.

Rosenwald and his stepfather were honored by their respective colleges for academic achievements last weekend as part of the Family Weekend activities.

On Friday night, Ridley hurried around campus from one awards ceremony to another to watch both

her son and her husband be recognized.

Rosenwald was honored at 3 p.m. in the Gallagher Theater with an award for academic distinction by the faculty of the department of aerospace and mechanical engineering in the college of engineering and mines.

The award is given to those who maintain a high grade point average. Rosenwald had collegiate experience long before he ever got here.

"I just kind of grew up on campus," he said of his decision to come to the UA. "It was really just natural for me. My biological dad got a Ph.D. in astrophysics here, so I was always on campus when I was a little kid."

About an hour later, the Ridelys hurried upstairs to the convocation of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences where Carl was surprised by being named Outstanding Teacher.

As professor of family studies and human development, Ridley has been teaching at the UA for 26 years.

Soyeon Shim, a professor of family and consumer sciences, said that the award Ridley received is only given to longtime faculty members.

"This is given to senior members of the faculty who have a cumulative track record of teaching and instruction in both the undergraduate and graduate programs," Shim said.

She added that the award is the highest distinction any faculty member can receive in the college of agriculture and life sciences.

James Hunt, a teaching assistant for Ridley, spoke highly of Ridley's work as an educator.



Carl Ridley
Professor of family and consumer sciences

"He's one of those professors where students automatically connect with him," Hunt said. "It's too often in family studies that theory just doesn't come to life, and Carl really makes the subject matter come to life."

One of Ridley's colleagues, Dr. Clyde Feldman, described Ridley as "one of the most modest people in the whole damn world."

The Ridelys and Rosenwald said that their experiences at the UA have become a true family affair.

"My husband would go to school and my son would go to school and I'd be sitting here thinking 'Hey! Why do they get to have all the fun?'" said Linda Spirk Ridley, who enrolled at the UA and is working towards a degree in art history. "I want to go to school too!"



Eric Rosenwald
aerospace and engineering junior

RENAMING:

SBS plans on establishing doctorate program in Mexican American studies

Continued from page 1

"César remains a controversial person, but he always said you can never be afraid to rock the boat. You can never be afraid to question the status quo," Chávez said.

Ed Donnerstein, dean of the UA College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, announced that his college is working toward a doctorate program in Mexican-American studies that he believes will establish the department, which is housed in the Chávez building, as the best in the nation.

Chuck Tatum, dean of the UA College of Humanities, said that his college has established several new scholarships in César Chávez's name.

"We need to use the symbolism of the naming of the building to galvanize us to action," Tatum said.

Speaking on behalf of the UA chapter of MEChA, a Chicano student organization, Nathan Olivares-Giles said the ceremony is a proud occasion for Chicanos.

"This is a proud day because our university has chosen to celebrate Chávez as an American hero," said Olivares-Giles, an undeclared freshman. "Having Chávez's name on this building gives us pride in our culture."

Tanya Alvarez, an art teacher at the César Chávez Middle School in Tucson, brought many of her students to witness the dedication ceremony and participate in the celebration march.

"(Chávez) is so important as a role model for our students. He gives them a positive self-identity. He's an



Socorro Charrizosa, director of Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, left, and UA President, Peter Likins, stand next to the new sign in front of the former Economics building. The Economics building was formally rededicated as the César E. Chávez building on Sunday.

American hero, and there's not too many that are Mexican-American," Alvarez said.

The ceremony also attracted many Chávez supporters from all around the Tucson community.

"This is the first time they've named a building here after a Mexican-American. It shows that there are a lot of supporters of the Hispanic community," said Horacio Gonzalez, a local resident.

The Student Objectivist Society was also on hand at the ceremony to quietly protest the Chávez dedication with

signs. Members distributed literature on tables to the far left of the ceremony.

Their organization views Chávez as a union boss who used coercive tactics to force workers into joining his union and was otherwise disruptive to the free market.

"A couple of people came by and said they agree with us, and a couple came by and said they didn't agree with us," said Erik Flesch, geosciences senior and SOS president. "There were a few people who wanted to have a debate, and there was a couple of people who were just shouting at me."

The Arizona Daily Wildcat

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ADAM BAKER/Arizona Daily Wildcat

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Tucson/Region

ARIZONA DAILY STAR · SERVING PIMA, COCHISE, SANTA CRUZ AND PINAL COUNTIES

B Monday
October 13, 2003
SECTION

Infant left at Bisbee officer's door

By Bob Purvis
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

A 2-day-old infant left on the doorstep of a Bisbee police officer's home has been placed in a foster home, where he is in good health, the town's police chief said Sunday.

Chief James Elkins said police Officer Robert Coronado wasn't home when someone knocked at his door and awakened his female

roommate at about 5 a.m. Friday. The woman answered the door after repeated knocks to find the baby wrapped in nothing but a diaper and a blanket on the doorstep.

"She said whoever was knocking was pretty persistent. They must have been waiting for someone to turn the lights on," Elkins said.

Elkins said Coronado, who works the overnight shift, has no

idea who would have left the baby there, but he suspects the child's parents might have seen his squad car parked in front of the home and felt comfortable leaving the child there.

The child was taken to Copper Queen Community Hospital in Bisbee, which is about 10 miles south-east of Tucson, where he was found to be in good condition.

The infant was turned over to Child Protective Services, which placed him in a foster home. Officials will try to locate the baby's mother.

"We're just glad the baby's safe," Elkins said. "At least the baby was put somewhere that if the mother couldn't take care of it, we could

SEE INFANT B2

Many vie for slice of huge bond pie

Open space was 1st intent; requests balloon to \$660M

By Tony Davis
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

About \$660 million in requests for parks, hospital buildings, radio systems and open-space hours for a county bond election have poured into a citizens advisory committee that likely will have barely had that much to spend.

Gaps between money sought and money available are not new for county bond issues. But those who decide what goes on to the May 2004 bond measure face a different kind of challenge than in the past.

Unlike previous county bond issues, the original push for this one came from advocates for a single cause: open space preservation.

Their plan was to raise up to \$550 million to buy land for the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. The Board of Supervisors made it clear last summer that open space and money for investing in re-development of older neighborhoods were the driving forces.

But the majority of the money from the requests now pending are more conventional, coming from county agencies such as the Sheriff's Department, the Parks Department, the Facilities Management

SEE BOND B6

Econ building gets a new name



Hundreds march through the University of Arizona campus before the renaming ceremony of the Economics Building in honor of César Chávez.

UA celebrates César Chávez



Richard Chávez addresses the crowd.

By Bob Purvis
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Amid a sea of red United Farm Workers of America flags and chants of "Si se puede," and "Viva César Chávez," the University of Arizona officially renamed the Economics Building in honor of the workers' rights champion Sunday.

UA President Peter Lékins unveiled the building's new name

in front of a lively crowd of about 500 people.

The building, which is just northwest of Old Main on South Campus Drive, is home to the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center, Chicanos/Hispano Student Affairs and the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

"It's about time," said preschool teacher Carlos Diaz

Todd, who was among the crowd celebrating the name change.

Diaz-Todd takes his class on field trips to the UA every year and he said many of his students' parents have never set foot on the campus. Renaming the building is a step toward making Tucson's Hispanic community feel included at the UA.

SEE CHAVEZ B2



The county seeks to buy and protect land near Agua Caliente Canyon at the base of the Catalinas.

Road Runner

Park getting new entry, bus zone

By Susanna Cahill
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Drivers and bus riders will find it easier to visit Morris E. Udall Park next year after the city builds a new park entrance and bus station on North Sabino Canyon Road.

Currently the park, at 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road, has entrances and bus stops on Tanque Verde.

The new entrance and bus station will be on Sabino Canyon, just south of Tanque Verde. Construction is scheduled to start in March.

Safety concerns about drivers exiting the park on Tanque Verde inspired the new entrance, said Vince Catalano of the city's traffic engineering department.

Right now, people who want to go west on Tanque Verde must turn east on the road, then make a U-turn.

"It's a much safer maneuver to go to Sabino Canyon where there is a light," Catalano said.

The new entrance has been designed to prevent people from cutting through a neighborhood southwest of the park.

Catalano said the city held several meetings with neighbors who were concerned about park traffic finding its way onto residential streets. One more meeting will be held before construction begins to show residents the final design of the entrance.

The \$100,000 project to install the new en-

RoadQ

QUESTION: Michael Hegarty asked if Wilcox Road will be repaved between East Grant Road and East 23rd Street. "The road surface is in miserable shape," he wrote in an e-mail.

A: Earlier this month, the city resurfaced Wilcox between Grant and East Pima Street by adding a thin layer of asphalt on top of the existing pavement. In 2005, the city plans to completely replace the pavement in Wilcox between East Speedway and East Broadway. Only routine maintenance is currently planned for the rest of the road.

The construction of a new senior center west of the main recreation center at Udall.

Miriam Stowell, 76, attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the senior center last week. She takes the bus to Udall twice a week and said the new bus station will be "wonderful."

The \$300,000 bus station will feature shelters, restrooms and vending machines.

Stowell thinks more people should ride the bus to the park. "It's so much easier," she

said. "People who drive have to look for a parking space, and they drive around and around."

Transportation initiative discussion

A citizens transportation initiative that goes before city voters on Nov. 4 will be discussed at a Friday meeting of the Metropolitan Pima Alliance.

Three panelists will participate: Steve Farley of Citizens for a Sensible Transportation Solution; Katie Dassenberg of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council; and John Dougherty of the Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.

The panelists will discuss propositions 200 and 201, which call for increasing the city sales tax and construction sales tax to pay for extra bus service, a 13-mile light rail line, street maintenance and other transportation improvements.

The breakfast meeting runs from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites, 3151 E. Grant Road. The cost is \$30 for alliance members and \$25 for others. RSVP by Tuesday by calling 755-1050.

Road Runner answers road-related questions in this column and on KVVA Channel 4's Thursday morning "Daybreak" program. Send your questions to P.O. Box 26007, Tucson, AZ 85726, call 528-4176, or e-mail roadrunner@azstar.com.

METRO BRIEFING

JCC to host panel discussion on fire, the Torah and more

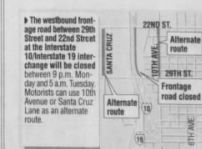
"Fire: Torah and Reconciliation Ecology" is the topic of a panel discussion tonight sponsored by The Southern Arizona Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life and the Tucson Jewish Community Center.

Panelists Michael Rosenzweig and Christopher Baisan of the University of Arizona will lead the discussion and dialogue on fire, Torah and how reconciliation ecology can improve the relationship of humans and their environment.

The free, public program is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room of the Tucson Jewish Community Center, 3800 E. River Road at Dodge Boulevard.

TRAFFIC WATCH

The westbound frontage road between 29th Street and 22nd Street at the Interstate 10 interchange will be closed between 5 p.m. Monday and 5 a.m. Tuesday. Motorists can use 10th Avenue or Santa Cruz Lane as an alternate route.



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CHAVEZ

Members of a UA club are critical of the name change

Continued from Page B1

Diaz-Todd said.

"Now I can take the children here and say, 'Look, this building belongs to you,' " he said.

Students, politicians, union members and civic leaders mingled in the large crowd on the UA campus. Shaking hands and joining each other in song, many held the flags of the farm workers union that Chávez helped found.

Richard Chávez, César Chávez's brother, called it a great day.

"It's a great feeling. I am extremely happy to know it's happening," Chávez said, adding that his brother would be honored to have a place of learning named after him. "He envied it because he never had a formal education . . . but when he talked to students he would always tell them to stay in school because one day they would truly appreciate it."

Founder of the United Farm Workers of America, Chávez was largely credited for bringing farm workers' rights into the national spotlight by using methods of peaceful protest. He led a five-year boycott of table grapes that ended in bargaining agreements with some of California's major growers.

Hispanic students at the UA said the university did the right thing in renaming the building after Chávez, a Yuma native who died at the age of 66 in 1993.

"It gives us a sense of pride

in our heritage and in the institution," said student Nathan Olivares-Giles.

Others said the Chávez building is a step toward fulfilling Likins' promise of making the UA a Hispanic-serving institution and raising Hispanic enrollment.

"There is just so much potential out there, but Hispanics feel intimidated," said UA freshman Suzette Marquez, who said she was shocked at the lack of a Hispanic presence when she started school in August.

Six student-members from a UA club called the Students Objectivist Society opposing the name change passed out fliers critical of Chávez and held signs that read "Chávez Heroism a Myth."

Although Chávez supporters argued with the group, university police said the ceremony was without incident.

Community members, some of whom had worked with Chávez during labor strikes and grape boycotts in the 1970s, said the Chávez building will stand as a symbol of inclusiveness for all Hispanics in Tucson.

"We finally can say, 'Yes, there's a building named after César Chávez, a building named after La Raza, a building named after one of us,' " said Pancho Medina who worked with Chávez on several occasions during grape boycotts in Arizona.

The Chávez building joins the Martin Luther King Jr. Building as the only other building named after an individual with no direct connections to the UA and who never contributed financially to the school.

◆ Contact reporter Bob Purvis at 629-9412 or bpurvis@azstarnet.com.

CORRECTION Oct 15, 03

To: Naming Advisory Committee
From: Mona L. Hymel
Re: Cesear Chavez Name Change
Date: April 19, 2026

Hello everyone:

I am providing a quick recap of last week's meeting. Then I want to delegate some tasks so we can complete this work more quickly. Tomorrow, you can let me know if we need to add anything to our list of jobs and delegate some of these items to committee members.

First, we have scheduled 2 meetings to connect with the University community and the wider Tucson community.

-The first meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 24, from 9-10 am. This meeting will focus on the University community.

-The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7 from 4-6pm. This meeting will focus on the wider Tucson community.

I am attaching a draft flyer/email for the forums (see below). But I need panel suggestions for the second forum. For the first forum, the Committee will be panelists to take comments and answer questions. I would like to send these announcements out even if we haven't finalized the panels and zoom links. Thus, requiring a second notification. (your thoughts?)

So, please let me/Jane know if you can make either or both of the meetings.

We need to decide who will be panelists for the second meeting and who will follow up.

Once we have agreed on the messages for the forums (I HAVE ATTACHED DRAFT), we need to give Jane Cherry the listserv information for Staff, Students, and other available lists targeting the groups discussed last Monday so she can get the message out. I decided to use a flyer format so it will be easily forwarded.

I have contacted several of the individuals that we determined were important in answering President Garamella's charge.

Tomorrow, we will discuss the items that are still outstanding. Also, I would like to look at the draft report and identify what still needs to be done.

Sincerely,
Mona

Notes from the forum

Introduction

Anna O'Leary – Professor and Department Head of Mexican American Studies

- Begin with invited speakers and their short presentations.
- Objective is to gather comments on current building name.

Speakers – Presentations & Remarks

Cassandra Hirdes - Director of Health Promotion (please see attached statement)

- Oversees survivor advocacy program at the University of Arizona (UA).
- Provided remarks in honor of survivors.

Carlos Francisco Parra - Assistant Professor of History (please see attached slides)

- Presentation: Farm workers movement legacy | Nuestra Dignidad (Our Dignity), Our Hope
- What is the farm worker justice movement?
 - Ongoing social movement centering on better pay, safe working conditions, and dignity for the workers who plant and harvest the crops which feed the United States of America.
 - Short history of the United Farm Workers and farm workers movement
- Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and University of Arizona communities?
 - United Farm Workers success limited in Arizona but significant for inspiring youth protests anti-Mexican discrimination in Tucson and Phoenix school districts.
- Why does the spirit of the farm worker justice movement matter now?
 - Place making, belonging and healing
 - Land grant institution promoting educational opportunities and reflecting its people
 - Dignidad y Esperanza (Dignity and Hope)

Socorro Carrizosa – Former Director of Adalberto & Ana Guerrero Student Center and Former Director of Chicanos Hispanos Student Affairs

The following are bullet points that summarize the talk by Socorro:

- **Introduction:** How do we continue to create a home for students here? How do we create a space where people feel that they belong, that they are part of this?
- Nuestras manos crearon esta universidad (Our hands created this University). Nuestro sudor hizo esta universidad (Our sweat created this University). Y en Arizona y en los Estados Unidos (In Arizona and the United States).
- **Process of naming:**
 - Discussed the process by which the building was named and how it was named without a donor.

- During the process and in collaboration with President Likens she learned that it was possible to name a building without a donor as long as the individual provided distinguished service to the university, to academics and the nation.
- They looked at Professors and others including Guerrero and the community coalesced around Chavez.
- The process included community input, faculty senate presentations and involved local, state and national leader input.
- The process also involved input from the people who occupied the building at that time.
- The U of A president was in full support of the process and the naming and presented it to ABOR
- The **purpose of naming** the building for a Hispanic leader was to create a space where students on campus (particularly those of Hispanic heritage) would feel at home, not just at the center but in the building and on the university campus. A space that recognizes and represented the Hispanic culture. This was also a precursor to becoming an HSI and to encourage enrollment of Hispanic students at the U of A.
- **Recommendation:** rename building after a Latino word or phrase that represents this community rather than a person.
 - “Todo mundo tiene cola que le pizen” (Everybody has a tail that can be stepped on).

Paulette Navarres - Representative of Guerrero Student Center Student Council

- “I stand here before you as a representative of the Guerrero Student Council. The Guerrero Student Council was formed in response to the frustration of students. We are here today to support survivors and the renaming of the building. It is crucial for students’ wellbeing and success for this name to be removed and renamed. There are students going into the building every day and students who refuse to enter the building because of the emotional distress this name causes. We need to center survivors, community members, and students in these conversations. They cannot be had without the inclusion of them throughout the process. We urge you to rename this building to something the community recommends, still honoring the Hispanic heritage of the community that makes up the University of Arizona and Tucson. We demand for the community to be a part of the naming committee, as it is the community who gave the building its name. Si no hay comunidad, no hay comité (If there is no community, there is no committee).” – Navarres

Lucero Ramirez – Senior Coordinator, Adalberto & Ana Guerrero Student Space (statement attached)

Mona Hymel – Chair of Naming Council Committee, Chair of Faculty Senate

- Committee is responsible for evaluating naming requests; The university requires the committee to evaluate any requests to un-name a building.
- On March 31, 2026, President Garimella asked the Naming Advisory Committee to answer a list of questions regarding the un-naming of the Cesar E. Chavez building.

1. What was the original basis and rationale for naming the Cesar E. Chavez building?
 2. Is the principal legacy consistent with the mission, values and educational purpose of the University of Arizona?
 3. Are there aspects of the namesake's record legacy or public history that warrant reconsideration of the current naming?
 4. How should the historical context of both the namesake and naming decision inform the University's assessment today?
 5. What significance does the building hold for members of our university, community, and other stakeholders?
 6. What perspectives and stakeholder input should inform the committee's recommendation?
 - The charge specifically states that the Committee is expected to seek input from members of the university community and relevant stakeholder groups whose perspectives may assist in informing its review and recommendation.
- **Process to date**
 - April 13, 2026 – Members met and discussed the President's charge. Developed a general plan – to talk to university and community leaders regarding un-naming of building.
 - Had a meeting thereafter with number of university leaders in the Hispanic community
 - March 30, 2026 - public forum is meant to gather relevant evidence
 - **Plan moving forward**
 - Listening session on May 6th via zoom.
 - Online survey is shared with entire community.
 - Gather all information and synthesize it to develop recommendations.

Public Comments

Students were invited to comment. Please find below a summary of those comments:

- Student wanted to call out the administration for the comments made by the chair of the committee: 'the committee has begun examining the historical institution and community context behind the naming of the building and whether the namesake's legacy aligns with the University's mission and values' – suggesting that this was not necessary and was in fact shameful.
- Students have not been invited to be a part of this process to date... At this point, we were sitting in here, we the students have had enough we are sick this institution not listening to us, not inviting us at all. We don't receive an invite, we don't get a voice and then it's put in an email that we are. So, if you are in solidarity with students, we ask that you please stand up, walk out; we are done. I'm serious, stand up, walk out; we are done.
- "Our commencement speaker is Eric Schmidt who is in the Epstein files and a known sexual abuser. This university says that they care about survivor advocacy but have shown over and over again that you put policy over sexual assault. Student questioned the need for additional listening sessions that don't produce results.

Students and other supporters exited the forum

Summary and bullet points of other comments:

Community Member (self-identified as a Grad Student)

- In my opinion, it is not about the person, it's about the work, about the workers rights, it's about human rights. It's about standing to make sure that people are not stepped down on.
- **Suggestions for naming:** the first is AGAVE (Advocacy for Growers Agricultural Voices and Equity) an acronym he came up with. Second suggestion is ROADRUNNER (Rights Organizing Advocacy for Desert Rural Unionized Networks and Nonexploited Economic Resilience) center.

Community Member (emeritus faculty)

- No tengo confianza (I do not have faith) with what's going on here.
- The President's message did not say anything about renaming, he talked about un-naming. He wants to find a fund rich donor to rename it after.
 - o ¿Qué importa cómo bautizamos un edificio?(What does it matter what we call a building?)
 - o Names that meant something because the people behind them gave something: gave their talent, they gave their time to you and the students. Then came the era of the checkbook, and with it a quiet bargain. Your dollars, your walls, your name in stone.

Adriana Grijalva – UA Student Body President

- “We are losing track of what’s going on here. The point is the Chavez building name and talking about it.”
- “Being Hispanic, it (the building) means something and it’s about not losing that meaning while we engage in this process about the name--keeping that meaning there, and the at the heart of that, because without students there is no university.”
- “Our students are everything, through these processes not forgetting about their voices in that and making sure that is centered throughout.”

UA Professor Nolan Cabrera

- “The community wants the name to change.”
- “I challenge Provost Prelock to get Facilities Management on the phone and allow them (coverage of the building name) to stay up because last time they were immediately taken down.”

Recommendation: “Defer the Naming Committee’s authority to the community to rename the building.”

UA Alumni & Community Member Marti-Cortez—member of “los Universitarios”

- Said she was “Encouraged and surprised, and cautious of this process.”
- **Recommendation for naming:**
 - o Rename the building after John L. Huerta: Founded the Los Universitarios (college students) Student Club at the UofA during the 1950’s; comprised of a small group of first generation students on campus. The program was the glue that kept them informed, together and encouraged to finish their degrees. Huerta was also instrumental in creating

the Hispanic Alumni Association and other philanthropic activities to help ensure Hispanic student success.

Community Member

- A small group of students that started “Los Universitarios” (college students) organized and hosted a dance every year open to the public. The funds raised from this event would go towards their program scholarship to encourage Hispanic students to pursue a degree in higher education.
- **Recommendation** for renaming “Los Universitarios”(college students) as a title to consider renaming the building. That is a group we all owe a great debt to.”

UA Alumni & Community Member

- “I don’t believe the answer to this question is to name a building after another person. I believe it needs to be [named after] a powerful term in Spanish. If we can’t have that [community] at the University level, we are failing our students, our future leaders. People have flaws, people have history and it only takes one person to speak out for this to happen again. **It needs to be a universal term, something that is welcoming, kind and powerful.**”

UA Alumni & Community Member (UA college of law alumna, Pima County Public Defender, ret, Isabel Garcia

We need to think about those who build, those who have given their hearts and minds to the making of the university. We have farmworkers and miners. We have struggles. My father was a copper miner. The meanings and movement transcend time. We need to get away from the cult mentality and name the building after the struggles, it’s about all of us, reflective of their struggles and the student struggles of the past.

UA Alumni & Community Member

- “The people who built it and ran it [physically] were from our communities. It's important that we do not rename it after a person because then that becomes a cult. **It must be named after the farm workers.**”

Community Member (Eva Carillo Dong, Pima Co. Supervisor TUSD teacher/administrator, ret)

- It is important to honor the community and not just one person. To honor the struggles the community has faced; the workers’ struggles not only agricultural workers, What is done with building, we must ensure that it's for the community. That it reflects the Latino community. We need to make sure we are not stuck on process.

Community Member (Rosalie Lopez—self identified as the first Latina to graduate from the Journalism program)

- Proposed “**Los Trabajadores” (the workers)** as a potential option to consider.
 - o “Los que se fregaron” (the ones who got screwed/the short end of the stick) May encourage the students to embody that term, to be a hard worker.

Socorro Carrisoza – Public Forum Speaker

- Proposed **“The Guerrero Building”**
 - o Something that I think would make a lot of sense. Not simply because of Professor Adalberto Guerrero but for **Guerreros (warriors)**.
 - o **Guerreros de Educación (Warriors of Education), Guerreros de Justicia (Warriors of Justice)**

Community Member

- The current building name needs to be covered. Naming the building after a person has its flaws. Naming it after a term or phrase transcends time. Proposed the phrase **“Si Se Puede”**.

UA Staff Member

- Before we discuss names, the President states the students are our North Star. And our North Star’s just walked out. That should be the main concern because those are our ‘Universitarios’ (college students) now.

Public Forum Adjourned.

Summary of recommendations from the forum:

- Cover the current name through the end of the semester
- Add to or replace the current naming committee with impacted community members
- Consult and center student voices
- Multiple suggestions for new name within the document

I want to begin by recognizing the women who came forward and broke six decades of silence. As the president of Esperanza United, Vivian Huelgo, reminds us, “Survivors owe no one their stories. We support each person’s autonomy to decide if, when, and how to share their experiences.”

These recent events are a powerful reminder that interpersonal violence is not rare or isolated—it affects people every day, across all communities, often in ways that remain unseen. That reality makes our response critical. When someone does come forward, our responsibility is to meet them with care and to take their experiences seriously.

Many survivors carry their experiences quietly, shaped by fear, uncertainty, and the possibility of not being believed. Creating space for truth and accountability means refusing to dismiss or minimize those voices. It also means recognizing that survivors are not abstract—they are part of our communities: friends, coworkers, and family members who deserve dignity and support. The way we talk about these issues impacts whether others feel safe enough to come forward.

We can hold complexity. It is possible to acknowledge someone’s contributions while still taking survivors’ stories seriously. What must remain constant is our commitment to compassion, accountability, and the well-being of those who have been harmed. As author and founder of Justice for Migrant Women, Mónica Ramírez noted, sexual violence against farmworker and migrant women has persisted for decades, yet it remains deeply under-resourced and insufficiently addressed.

Supporting survivors means affirming that their experiences matter. It requires advocating for systems that respond with care and challenging a culture that too often prioritizes comfort over truth. Through both our words and our actions, we can make clear that survivors are not alone.

If you are a survivor here today, please know there is a space on campus where you will be believed, supported, and respected. Our staff is here for you. The Survivor Advocacy program offers confidential, no-cost services to students and employees at the University of Arizona. We provide individualized support, recognizing that each survivor’s needs and experiences are unique. We are here to share options, answer questions, and move at your pace.

Kim, one of the Survivor Advocates, and I will be available today if you’d like to talk or need information for yourself or someone else.

We understand that this is a really challenging time for people, and we will be opening up the forum later for individuals to share. We are asking that this space support the emotional safety of everyone here so if you are feeling like you would like to process or share more specifics of interpersonal violence, a reminder that the advocates are here for you. You can also find resources or reach out online at survivorsupport.arizona.edu. Thank you for supporting survivors and thank you for being here.



Farm Workers Movement Legacy: *Nuestra Dignidad, Our Hope*

Carlos Francisco Parra
Assistant Professor of History
University of Arizona

April 30, 2026



Likins OKs Chávez name for building

By Bob Purvis
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

A yearlong effort to honor César Chávez with a building bearing his name moved one step closer Monday when UA President Peter Likins approved the proposal.

Effective Sept. 1, the Economics Building will be renamed the César E. Chávez Building in honor of the Yuma-born farm labor organizer, pending approval from the Board of Regents.

"We feel strongly that this is a positive course of action for the University to take to acknowledge our Hispanic community in a positive way," Likins said in a letter to the Board of Regents.

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT
Wednesday, September 24, 2003
University of Arizona, Tucson

Minority enrollment rises

Number of freshmen on campus breaks 2001 record by nine students

By Andrea Kelly
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite concerns last year that fewer students would come to the UA if a tuition hike was passed, the number of Hispanic and freshmen students on campus broke records this semester.

There are 4,950 Hispanic students at the university this year, compared to 4,851 Hispanic students last year, according to a report released yesterday by the office of assessment and enrollment research.

This year's freshman class of 5,988 students breaks the 2001 record by nine students. This is also an increase of 150 students from last year.

Patti Ota, vice president of enrollment management, said that the increase in Hispanic enrollment may be attributed to an "investment in financial aid and good recruiting efforts aimed at Hispanic communities."

In order for the school to be recognized as a Hispanic-serving institution, one of President Peter Likins' goals, 25 percent of the student population must be Hispanic.

"How soon we can get there (25 percent) is not the issue. The issue is that we are seen as an institution Hispanic students want to come to," Ota said.

Ota said that the university must try to cater to the surrounding demographics.

"Our first responsibility is to meet the needs of the state of Arizona. The state has a significant Hispanic population. Therefore, we must be seen as a comfortable place for Hispanic students to come and get degrees," Ota said.

Rock Kovic, director of the office of assessment and enrollment research, attributed the record enrollment to increased financial aid.

"I don't think we'd have had the enrollment if we had not used the extra tuition for financial aid," Kovic said.

After the regents approved the university's largest tuition increase of \$1,000 for resident undergraduates, Likins used \$14 million of the revenue generated by the increase for financial aid.

See ENROLLMENT/11

ARIZONA DAILY STAR
UA tries
to inform
students
on hazing

By Cara O'Connor
STAFF WRITER

"Animal House" image of college life, where togs, keggs and hazing incidents make up the key to stopping it, said the university officials are... trying to change... high education... hazing students about hazing... the key to stopping it, said... Corder, greek life... can't think our students are... and enough about what... is, why it shouldn't be... being and the consequences... the... part of the Faculty Fellows... the Dean of Students... will host an open discus-... hazing at noon today in... Gallagher Theater. This... is an important step in... ing students about hazing... to prevent it, said... Thompson, senior associa-... tion of students... gress. Life officials have... looking to inform the com-... munity about hazing with... education programs... discussions with chapter... and, most recently, the... See HAZING/3



Psychology freshman Astrid Henao said she is pleased that the enrollment statistics show that the Hispanic population is the highest ever at the UA, yesterday at the ChicanoHispano Student Affairs Center. "I think it is awesome, a lot of times the Hispanic population is not well represented and it is good we are finally moving up."

AZ Daily Star (Aug. 12, 2003)

AZ Daily Wildcat (Sept. 24, 2003)

Farm Workers Movement Legacy: *Nuestra Dignidad, Our Hope*

Our Conversation Today:

- What is the farm worker justice movement?
- Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?
- Why does the spirit of the farm worker justice mvm't matter now?



The 2003 César E. Chávez Bldg. naming was meant to honor the farm worker justice movement's aspirations for Dignity and Hope by Promoting Educational Access and the American Dream at a Public Land-Grand University

I. What is the farm worker justice movement?



- Farm worker justice mvm't – ongoing social mvm't centering on better pay, safer working conditions, and **DIGNITY** for the workers who plant and harvest the crops which feed the U.S.
- Prior to 1960s, organizing farm workers into collective units to negotiate better labor conditions from agricultural corporations was nearly impossible due to:
 - Agricultural corporations (“factories in the fields”) holding local, nat’l political influence
 - Lack of legal recognition of farm worker labor rights
 - Economic, social vulnerability of most farm workers (**lack of educational opportunities**)

I. What is the farm worker justice movement?

- 1960s: Increasing success of strikes in rural CA by Filipino American workers encouraged formation of multiracial labor effort in grape fields of Delano, CA (NW of Bakersfield)
- **Delano Grape Strike (1965-1970)** – coordinated effort initiated by Filipino farm workers and expanded by Mexican American workers for improved work conditions, higher pay, union protections
- **COLLECTIVE ACTION**: *strikes, marches, community organizing, and consumer boycotts of grapes and stores selling non-UFW grapes*
- **United Farm Workers (UFW) Union** combined efforts of Filipino organizers Larry Itliong and Philip Vera Cruz with those of César Chávez and Dolores Huerta to coordinate the Delano Strike
- **UFW represented collective, multiracial effort of many people, most significantly inspiring Mexican Americans throughout U.S. West**



Arizona farm workers in the 1970s



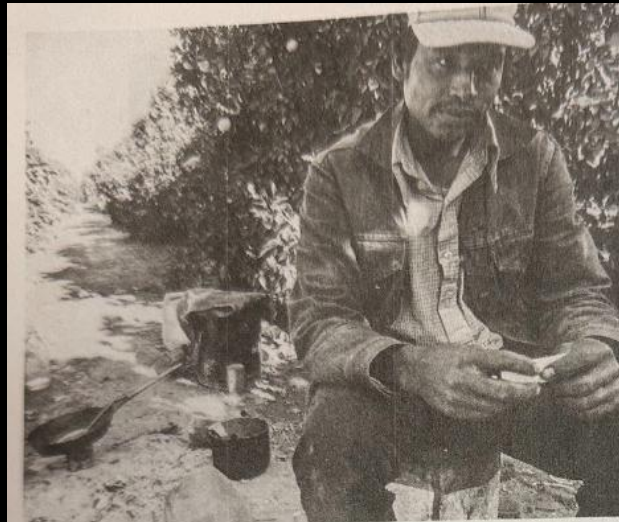
Marana, AZ (1979)



Senior Barrios fell from a lemon tree and injured his arm. Because he was in the country illegally he was refused admittance to Phoenix area hospitals. By the time a doctor agreed to see him, gangrene had set in and his arm had to be amputated. How would he provide for his family with only one arm?



Arizona farm workers live in the orchards and wash themselves and their clothes in irrigation ditches.



Workers in Mesa area lemon orchards had two choices of where to sleep at night. Sleep in a warehouse on top of bags filled with pesticides or in the orchards. Many chose to sleep outside in the orchards.

Images source: Cathy Murphy. *A Photo Documentary: Marching Through History with César Chávez and the Farm Workers.* (2020)

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?



Cathy Murphy. *A Photo Documentary: Marching Through History with Cesar Chavez and the Farm Workers.* (2020)

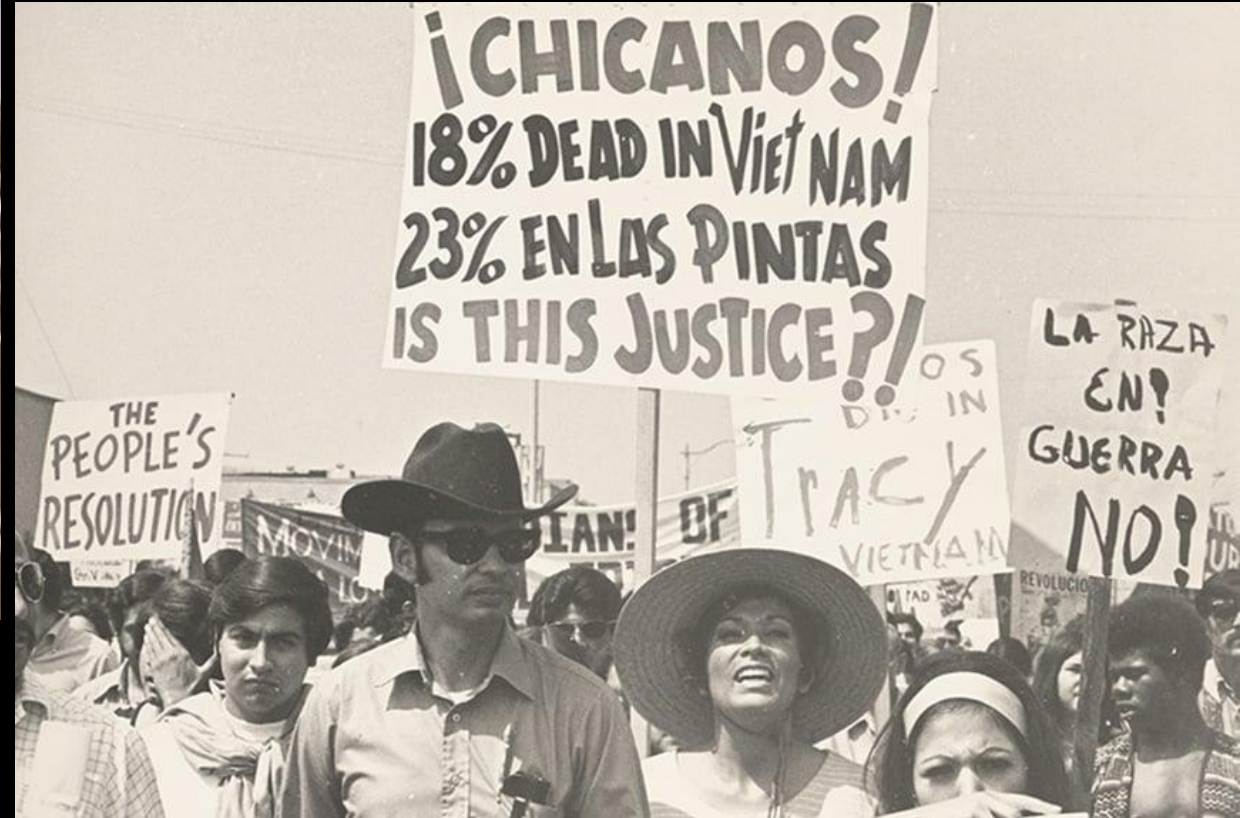


"Agencies Pledge to Curb Abuse of Child Farmworkers." *San Diego Union-Tribune* (May 5, 2010), <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2010/05/05/agencies-pledge-to-curb-abuse-of-child-farmworkers/>



Karen Coates, Valeria Fernández, and Rebecca Zissou. "The Teens who Feed America." *Junior Scholastic.* (Jan. 27, 2020), <https://junior.scholastic.com/issues/2019-20/012720/the-teens-who-feed-america.html?language=english#1100L>

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?



- UFW farm worker justice efforts inspired rise of Mexican American civil rights activism in healthcare, employment non-discrimination, anti-war mvm'ts, and educational access

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

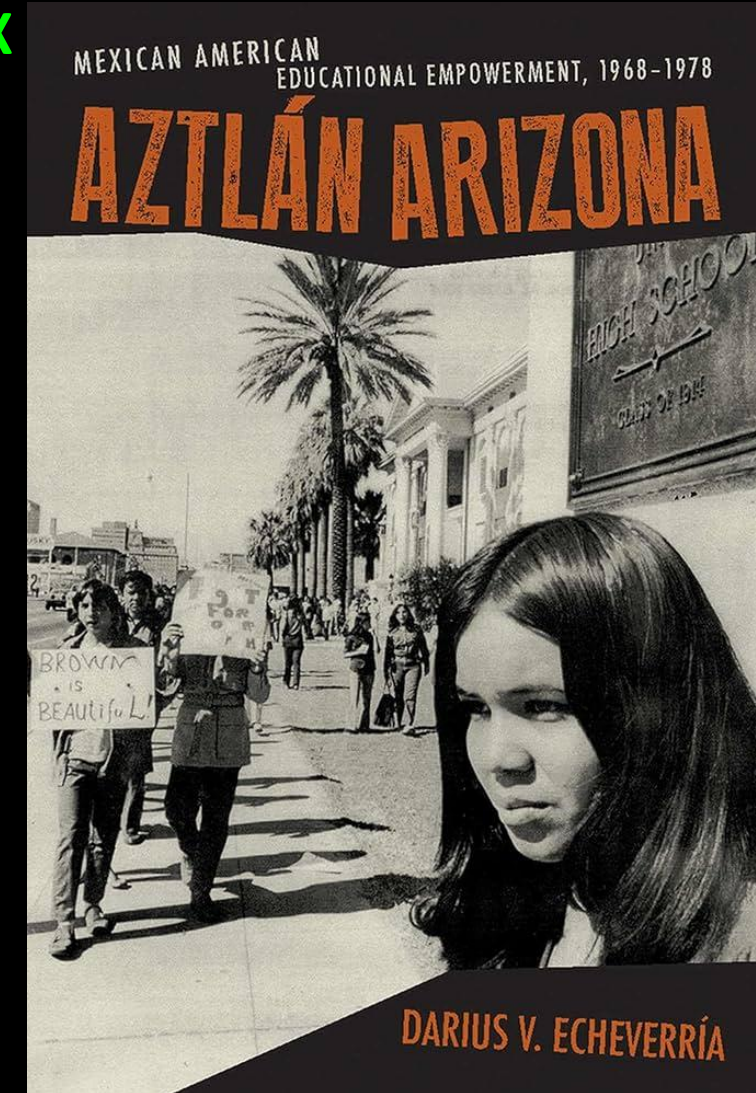
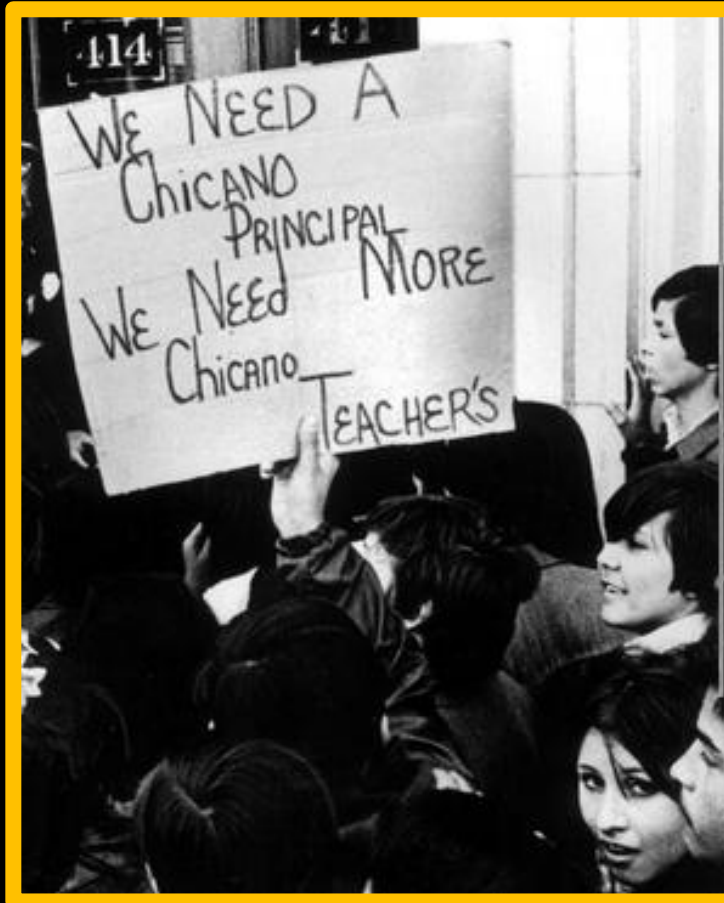
- UFW success limited in AZ, **but significant for inspiring youth protests against anti-Mexican discrimination in Tucson and PHX school districts (1968)**, rise of bilingual education and greater educational opportunities in general



Adalberto Guerrero



**Adalberto "Beto" Guerrero,
Pioneering Bilingual Educator who
advocated for passage of 1968
Bilingual Education Act**



DARIUS V. ECHEVERRÍA

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

- UFW success limited in AZ, **but significant for inspiring youth protests against anti-Mexican discrimination in Tucson and PHX school districts (1968)**, rise of bilingual education and greater educational opportunities in general
- **“Sí Se Puede”**— May 11-June 4, 1972, protest against AZ House Bill 2134 outlawing secondary boycotts (such as UFW campaigns against grocery stores selling boycotted grapes); Chávez held a 24-day fast in Santa Rita Hall near downtown Phoenix; Coretta Scott King, Presidential Candidate George McGovern, many AZ Mexican Americans visited in support
 - **Dolores Huerta popularized “Sí Se Puede” chant during Chávez’s 1972 Phoenix fast**
- Chávez: Born north of Yuma (March 31, 1927); died in San Luis, AZ, border town south of Yuma (April 23, 1993);





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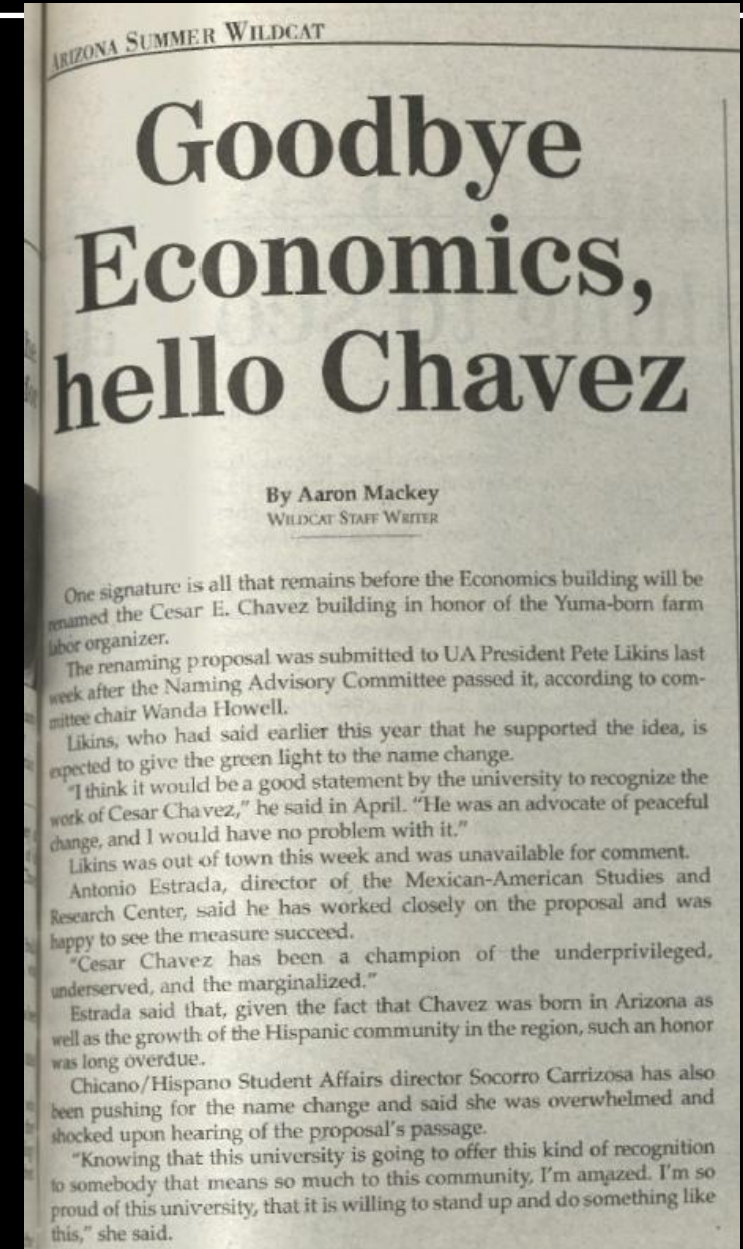


May 25-June 7, 1993: Professor Jorge Mancillas helped lead students in a 14-day hunger strike to create the UCLA Chicana/o Studies Dept

- Chávez's April 1993 death led to wave of student activism promoting unfinished Mexican American civil rights goals of greater educational access
- Student hunger strikes for Chicano (Mexican American) courses, academic programs, and student services at UCLA, UC Santa Barbara, Stanford Univ, etc.
- The UA's 2003 César E. Chávez Bldg naming was part of this larger cultural, historical moment

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

- As symbol of Mexican American civil rights struggle and higher aspirations (dignidad), many civic groups promoted Chávez commemorations to expand greater Latino inclusion into the American Dream via:
 - Equal economic opportunities
 - Greater access to Higher Education



AZ Daily Wildcat (July 9, 2003)

II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

A peek into our considerations of the 2003 building renaming to honor local communities, expand Latino higher ed access

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Wednesday, September 24, 2003 University of Arizona, Tucson

Animal House
A tries to inform students about hazing

By Cara O'Connor
STAFF WRITER

The "Animal House" image of campus life, where togas, keg parties and hazing incidents make up the weekend Friday night, has been the perception of Tucson since its founding. Although "Animal House" is not more than 25 years ago, the perception is embedded in the minds of Americans, and it's what university officials are desperately trying to change through education. Hazing incidents about hazing are the key to stopping it, said the dean. Conder, greek life advisor, said, "I don't think our students are educated enough about what hazing is, why it shouldn't be hazing and the consequences of it." The dean of the Faculty Fellows, said, "The Dean of Students will host an open discussion about hazing at noon today in the Gallagher Theater. This is an important step in educating students about hazing and how to prevent it," said Thompson, senior association president. The greek life officials have been working to inform the community about hazing through education programs, discussions with chapter leaders, and, most recently, the

Minority enrollment rises

Number of freshmen on campus breaks 2001 record by nine students



Psychology freshman Astrid Henao said she is pleased that the enrollment statistics show that the Hispanic population is the highest ever at UA yesterday at the Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs Center. "I think it is awesome, a lot of times the Hispanic population is not well represented and it is good to see it finally moving up."

By Andrea Kelly
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite concerns last year that fewer students would come to the UA if a tuition hike was passed, the number of Hispanic and freshmen students on campus broke records this semester. There are 4,950 Hispanic students at the university this year, compared to 4,859 Hispanic students last year, according to a report released yesterday by the office of assessment and enrollment research. This year's freshman class of 5,958 students breaks the 2001 record by nine students. This is also an increase of 150 students from last year.

Patti Ota, vice president of enrollment management, said that the increase in Hispanic enrollment may be attributed to an "investment in financial aid and good recruiting efforts aimed at Hispanic communities."

In order for the school to be recognized as a Hispanic-serving institution, one of President Peter Likins' goals, 25 percent of the student population must be Hispanic. "How soon we can get there (25 percent) is not the issue. The issue is that we are seen as an institution Hispanic students want to come to," Ota said.

Ota said that the university must try to cater to the surrounding demographics. "Our first responsibility is to meet the needs of the state of Arizona. The state has a significant Hispanic population. Therefore, we must be seen as a comfortable place for Hispanic students to come and get degrees," Ota said.

Rick Kroc, director of the office of assessment and enrollment research, attributed the record enrollment to increased financial aid.

"I don't think we'd have had the enrollment if we had not used the extra tuition for financial aid," Kroc said.

After the regents approved the university's largest tuition increase of \$1,000 for resident undergraduates, Likins used \$14 million of the revenue generated by the increase for financial aid.

See ENROLLMENT/11

AZ Daily Wildcat
(Sept. 3, 2003)

OPINIONS

Tuesday, September 2, 2003 5

Chávez important, but not for building

On April 29, 1993, some 35,000 people walked the three miles from Delano to FortY Acme, Calif., in a massive parade following the casket of a man who deceased Senator Robert F. Kennedy described as "one of the heroic figures of our time."

Now, a decade later, the same number of students will soon pass by the Economics building that was renamed yesterday in honor of César Chávez, the farmworker leader who was a champion for farm workers.

They might wonder how Chávez was connected to the UA.

The answer is "He wasn't."

As described in an Aug. 12 Arizona Daily Star article, President Likins supported the name change in a memo to the Arizona Board of Regents. "We feel strongly that this is a positive course of action for the university to take to acknowledge our Hispanic community in a positive way."

Although it is noteworthy that Likins highlights Chávez as an important figure in Arizona and U.S. history, it is not appropriate to give the current Economics building his name. As a land grant public maces for knowledge in the southwest, the UA has the job to educate its students about issues that involve Chávez and what he accomplished in his lifetime. However, it is not the role of the tax-supported university to officially honor him with a building name change.

In last Friday's Wildcat, rumor had it that two campus groups were possibly planning a Monday protest to the name change. Both the College Republicans and the Student Objectivist Society disapprove of the name change. Both groups decided to postpone demonstrations because there would not be many students around.

Erik Fleisch, president of the Student Objectivist Society, is adamantly opposed to the renaming action on several grounds. "A union organizer, a controversial figure, is not appropriate to name a building after, especially if some of the departments within the building disagree."

While many would debate the morality and function of unions in society, the reason why the building should not be Chávez-named is because he did not play a prominent role in campus academics — he rather gave financial contributions to the UA. The only facility that deviates from this pattern is the Martin Luther King, Jr. building, which was also inappropriately named.

The naming advisory committee, formed to follow Arizona Board of Regents criteria for evaluating proposed name changes, agreed on the Economics building change in July although Alan F. Ker, associate professor and head of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics wrote a letter to the committee highlighting his department's opposition.

The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics is not the only one to call the Economics building home. The Mexican American Studies and Research Center, Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, divisions of the mathematics department and the Economic Research Lab all reside

under its roof, and various departments use the classroom.

While working under the César Chávez ceiling will help recruit Mexican-American students to both the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center and Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, such a building name could have unintended consequences for the AREC Department.

The committee has evidently stretched the definition of who can be nominated for a facility name change. ABOR guidelines read: "When naming a facility or programmatic unit for a person, family, or organization where there is no gift, the proposed honoree shall have achieved distinction in one or more of the following ways — serving the university in an academic, administrative capacity with high distinction, or by contributing in other exceptional ways to the welfare and reputation of the university, to education, or to the community in general."

César Chávez, without a doubt, was a man worthy of an honorable legacy. His efforts led to better working conditions for farm workers throughout Arizona and California. His achievements are monumental and important to understanding the socioeconomic of the last century. But Chávez did not directly affect the UA or Tucson community.

The naming advisory committee has pushed the university into murky political waters, setting a precedent that may lead the UA into trouble with the state and White César Chávez and the achievements of workers' rights should be studied and honored, the UA has a number of facilities to name. Those structures should be reserved for heroes of the UA.

Jessica Lee is an environmental science senior. She can be reached at jlee@wildcat.arizona.edu.



MAILBAG

Weapons-free zone only serves awareness

This letter is in response to Kendrick Wilson's article on the UA's weapons-free zone. I commend Mr. Wilson for bringing attention to an issue that I feel should have gotten much more notice after the violence we experienced here at our own campus last fall. However, I do not agree that we should in any way lead "back" to be designated a weapons-free zone, nor should we feel any safer because of the title. There have been studies showing that students already feel that their college world is mostly immune to the violence that affects the rest of the world; I feel that we should do what we can to discourage that kind of awareness. I'm sure UA students are not as oblivious as other college students, due to the fact that violence has occurred right here on our own campus. I myself have to go to school every day knowing that my mother and two other nursing instructors were targeted and killed by a student who held no regard for the campus' anti-signs designating UA a weapons-free zone. Until Oct. 28, 2002, I myself hardly thought about the potential for gun violence at our school. Now I suppose I could consider myself to be one of the "few paranoid students" that Mr. Kendrick refers to in his explanation behind the Arizona Board of Regents' new weapons-free zone policies. Except I don't feel paranoid. And I don't claim to have any answers regarding gun-

control laws. My only wish is potential of violence in our community, the potential for that violence to affect each student personally and for no one to allow the title "weapons-free zone" to keep him or her safe, but rather to be more aware of the actual numbers concerning firearm possession and the risks that can result.

Rachel Rogers
nutritional sciences senior

Chávez known for non-violent actions

In his Friday letter to the Wildcat, Erik Fleisch presents a willful, subjective and erroneous view of the late civil rights leader, César Chávez. Fleisch claims that Chávez and the farm workers union he founded used violence and the threat of violence as a primary means of getting what they wanted — a wage treatment, for instance. It is well known that Chávez was a champion of non-violence, and today there are conservative as well as liberals who have high regard for the man and his peaceful brand of leadership. For example, when the U.S. Postal Service unveiled the César E. Chávez commemorative postage stamp last April, Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain was in attendance. It is appropriate that the UA is retaining the Economics building, originally named the Business Administration building, in honor of Chávez. Fleisch, president of the Student Objectivist Society, doesn't think so, and to make his point

earlier letter this week, the Arizona Advocacy Network has found that UA tuition is not affordable to Arizona residents. Perhaps it is affordable to the editorial board, but not to Tucson's south side and ask if folks there can afford to go to the UA.

Additionally, please remember that the education of residents is in the best interests of all Arizona residents. What this means is that money for innocent aid should come from the Legislature, which gets its money from our taxes, as opposed to a tuition hike which puts that burden only on students' backs.

Tom Gelsman
program coordinator,
Mexican American Studies and
Research Center

State should make education priority

This letter is in response to an editorial board piece in Thursday's Wildcat. I am afraid that this editorial shows that people still don't understand how university financing works. On the state level, funding for higher education is not a question of lack of funds. There is plenty of money in the general fund. Instead, the problem is that the state continues to misallocate those funds.

The way I find my fellow plain-folks interpret the Arizona Constitution is that by saying that tuition should be "as nearly free as possible" it is directing the Arizona Legislature to make higher education one of its highest priorities. Currently, higher education is NOT one of its highest priorities. The point of the lawsuit is to get the Legislature to do its job and follow its constitutional mandate.

As far as the UA being a dead again, it is NOT. As I cited in an

Chávez should be remembered by UA

I feel that the renaming of the Economics building for the LPWF was the most appropriate since César Chávez contributed to the welfare of the disadvantaged and underrepresented who work to put food on American tables.

Mr. Chávez's work had a profound effect on the lives of my family and thousands of other families of migrant workers who prior to his actions were at the mercy of the ranchers. I was a participant in the rallies that sought to gather support for labor laws for migrant workers who made up the majority of field labor. I witnessed confrontations in the fields at 4 in the morning. I attended the barbeque of a fellow professor and field worker who was shot for protesting the classroom.

I remember traveling, not to Disneyland or beach resorts for the summer, but to Washington state to pick cherries. There were the summers at San Joaquin Valley, Calif., where the passage to manhood was proven by your skill in tossing 20-lb-plus watermelons for six hours a day. If that wasn't enough, then there was a trip to Ajo, Ariz., for cantaloupe or Imperial Valley, Calif., for lettuce, tomato and broccoli where I worked in 100-degree plus heat.

Here I remember the marches calling the Border Patrol a day before payday and rounding up the "illegal" immigrants from park who were never collected by hand-working souls.

Sorry Mr. Fleisch, if I don't consider your fight a worthwhile one. I do admire your willingness to get involved in politics. Next time you look at your plate as you sit down to enjoy a meal, consider where your sausage came from. Ask who broke his back to pick it or what woman sorted it at the packing plant.

The Economics building should be named after a person who has contributed to the economy of the U.S., if not the world, and is also a notable native Arizonan. Chávez was not Florida. He was not Gandhi or Dr. King. He was a peasant who placed a team before the American people. He should be remembered for that contribution.

J.S. Cortes
pre-education sophomore

AZ Daily Wildcat (Sept. 24, 2003)

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A peek into our considerations of the 2003 building renaming to honor local communities, expand Latino higher ed access

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Rachel Wilson
first-year law student

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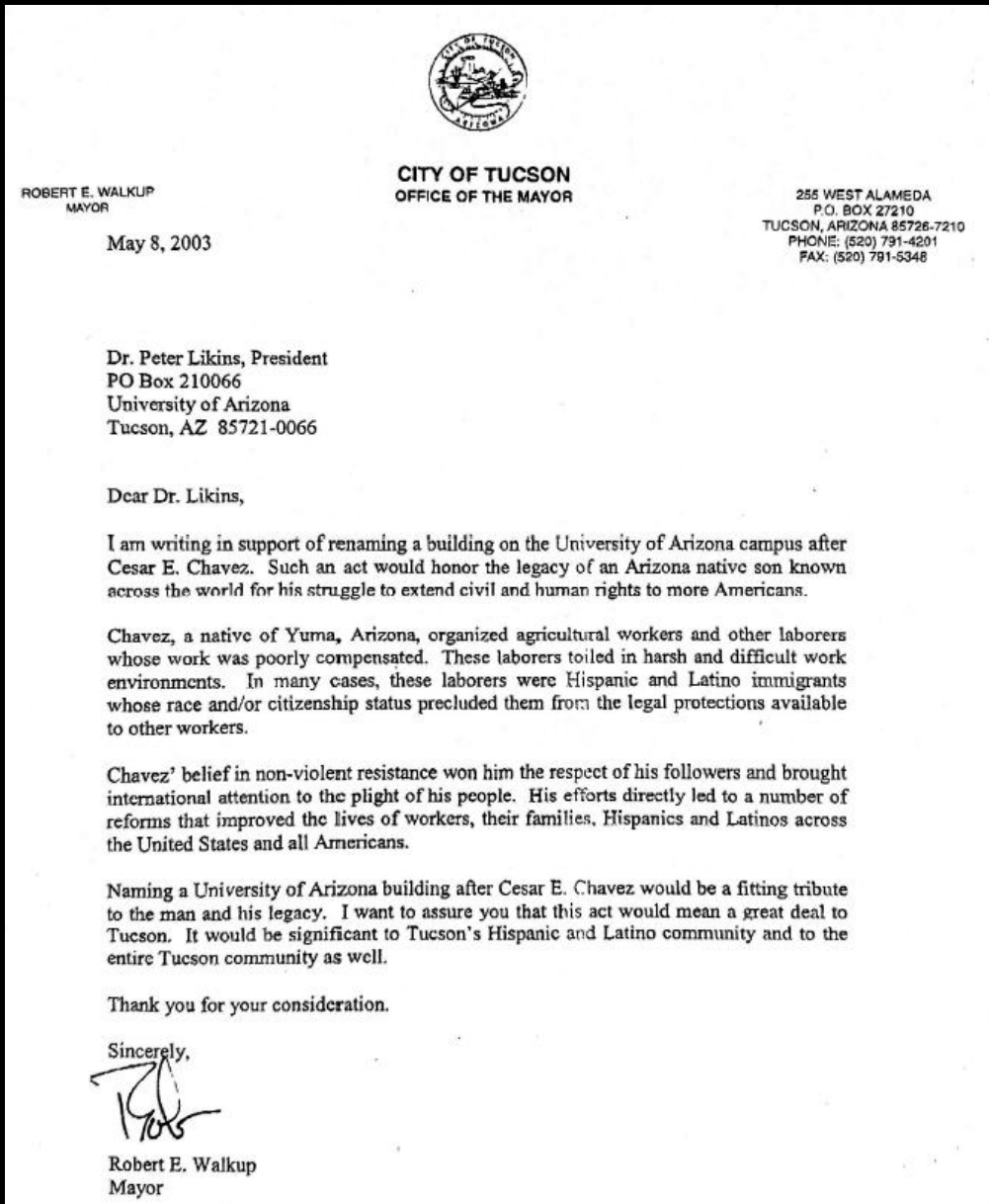
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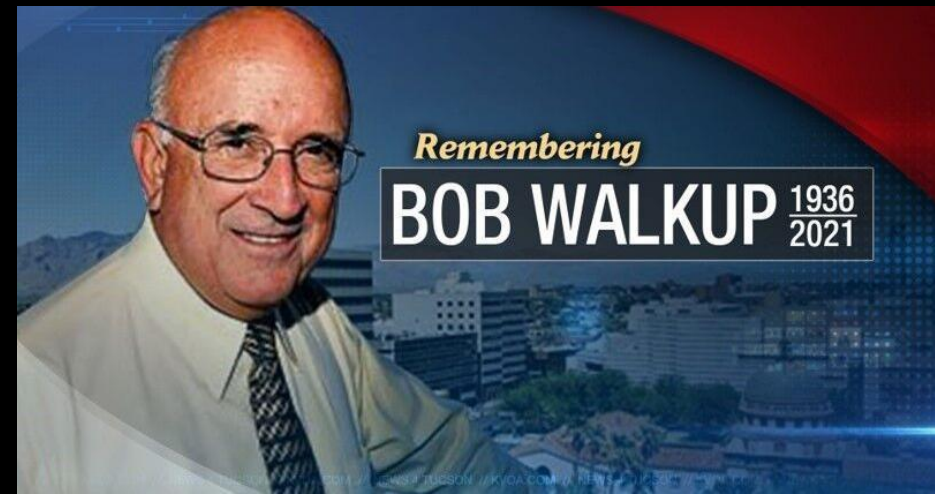
II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

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“Naming a University of Arizona building after Cesar E. Chavez would be a fitting tribute to the man and his legacy. I want to assure you that this act would mean a great deal to Tucson. It would be significant to Tucson’s Hispanic and Latino community and to the entire Tucson community as well.”

- Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup (May 8, 2003)



II. Why does this movement matter to the Tucson and UA communities?

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Friday, August 29, 2003

3

Econ building to be renamed, despite protest

By Jill Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Economics building will officially be renamed the César E. Chávez Building on Sept. 1, in spite of some student opposition and plans for a possible protest. Members of the Student Objectivist Society and the College Republicans plan to write letters to the Arizona Board of Regents to encourage them not to rename the building, and Peter Seat, president of the UA chapter of College Republicans, said there is a definite possibility that he and other opponents to the renaming may stage a protest Monday.

Seat said Chavez is not an appropriate candidate for a campus building to be named after because many people do not agree with his views or tactics.

"It's widely known that he was a socialist, and he forced people to do things," he said.

Antonio Estrada, director of Mexican-American Studies and one of the main players in the campaign to have the building renamed after Chavez, said that students have the right to protest but he said he believes Chavez is an excellent candidate, a man who fought for equity and social justice for all people, and that should transcend any political affiliation.

"This is a man who lived what he preached, and fought for everyone's well being," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano-Hispanic Student Affairs and leader of the renaming campaign. "What President Likins has done

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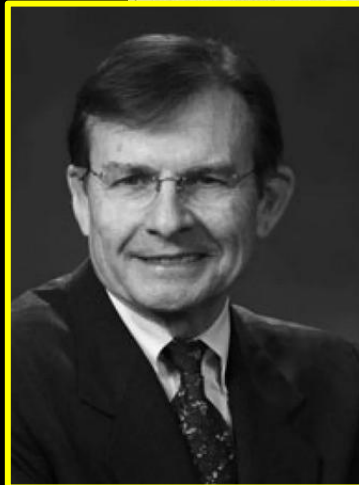
renaming is being

tentatively planned for Oct. 13, and might involve mem-
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"[UA President Peter] Likins explained that changing the building's name was not just up to him, but involved a formal process requiring a nomination from an organization, a review by a naming committee, and then its approval.

"The building is being renamed as *a symbol of the importance of Hispanic traditions to the UA*, he said.

"This is a statement from an inclusive institution that we value all cultures in America, and a way to say to Hispanic students, 'we respect your cultures and traditions,' he said."



AZ Daily
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"This is a man who lived what he preached, and fought for everyone's well being," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano-Hispanic Student Affairs and leader of the renaming campaign. "What President Likins has done is very historic. He's bringing recognition to a national hero who impacted many of our lives."

Likins explained that changing the building's name was not just up to him, but involved a formal process requiring a nomination from an organization, a review by a naming committee, and then his approval.

The building is being renamed as a symbol of the importance of Hispanic traditions to the UA, he said.

"This is a statement from an inclusive institution that we value all cultures in America, and a way to say to Hispanic students, 'we respect your cultures and traditions,'" he said.

Likins knows the name change will not be unanimously embraced, but he feels the right decision has been made.

"This is not an isolated event," he said. "It's just one more small step in a broad campaign to make UA a welcome learning environment for people of all ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds."

Estrada said that the name change fits into Likins's goal of UA becoming a Hispanic-serving institution, as detailed in the Diversity Action Plan, a comprehensive plan that aims to increase diversity on campus.

Estrada also said that the name change will help with the recruitment of Hispanic students.

"There's nothing on campus now that highlights Hispanic contributions to the state and nation," he added.

The Economics building houses the Mexican-American Studies department, along with the Chicano-Hispanic Student Affairs resource center, the Mathematical Sciences department and the Agricultural Resource Economics department.

A ceremony to commemorate the renaming is being tentatively planned for Oct. 13, and might involve members of Chavez's family, Carrizosa said.

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““This is not an isolated event,’ he said. ‘Its just one more small step in a broad campaign to make UA a welcome learning environment for people of all ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds.”



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University of Arizona, Tucson

Building rename sparks protests

Building honoring Chavez upsets groups

By Greg Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Three student political groups plan to protest the renaming of the Economics building at the ceremony Sunday.

Approximately 30 members of the College Republicans, Student Objectivist Society, and the Independent Women of the University of Arizona will voice their objection to the administration's decision to rename the building in honor of Cesar E. Chavez, a Yuma-born union leader.

The protest will take place during the formal dedication ceremony in front of the newly-named Cesar E. Chavez building. It will follow a celebration march that will begin in front of Old Main at 2 p.m.

Chavez founded United Farm Workers, a union of California farm workers, in 1956. He was also known for holding hunger strikes to raise public awareness of farm labor and migrant worker issues.

"We think it's a bad choice for naming the building, and we're going to let that be known in a peaceful, civil manner," said Tyler Harris, mathematics junior and vice president of the College Republicans.

The groups plan to set up tables on the Mall where the Chavez celebration march will pass. They also plan to have picket signs and will be distributing literature that supports their cause.

"We'll have a lot of literature from the '60s and '70s, historical documents which describe what he was doing during that time," said Erik Flesch, a geosciences senior and president of the Student Objectivist Society, a group that advocates the philosophy of 20th century author Ayn Rand.

The protesters see the tribute to Chavez as one not honoring a humanitarian and civil rights leader, but instead honoring a glorified union bully.

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

CHAVEZ: Protests mark dedication

Continued from page 1

"Chavez was a Marxist who used the threat of force on both farm workers and farm owners," said Harris. "He was a terrible human being not worthy of any honor, let alone having a building named after him.

"He established a union monopoly over farm workers in California. That establishes him as anti-capitalism and individual rights," Flesch said. "His tactics were violent, as they must be when establishing a monopoly.

He was violent not only to growers, but also with workers who the majority of which didn't want to join his union."

Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano Hispano Student Affairs, led the campaign for passage of the Chavez name change nomination through the Facilities Naming Committee. President Peter Likins said he had no problem approving the nomination after it passed.

"For Hispanics today, he is symbolic of a time when they began to assert themselves and fight the prejudice they were subjected to," Likins said.

While Likins understands that controversy might surround the Chavez dedication, he is not afraid to make a statement.

"When universities limit them-

selves to statements that are unanimously held, then they are saying nothing," Likins said. "I don't attempt to secure everyone's opinion in what I do."

Protest groups believe the Chavez dedication is merely an attempt to bolster the number of Hispanic students at the UA.

"Likins is actively trying to make the UA more Hispanic-friendly," said Flesch. "It is a racist statement that all Hispanics would revere this man."

Likins does not dispute that he hopes the renaming will attract Hispanic students. Hispanic students currently make up 14 percent of the UA population.

"I try in many ways to make it as clear as I can that the university is open to everyone. I thought here is an opportunity to make Hispanic students feel welcome," Likins said. "That's not to say every Hispanic student likes Chavez."

Sean Ryan, a biochemistry graduate student, said he supports the name change.

"From what I know, I think it's a great movement to give him recognition. I think diversity is an integral part of the campus," he said.

"He's such an icon for Hispanic people, he helped them even if it's not the way people liked," said Erica Hsiao, undeclared freshman.

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UA president

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III. Why does the spirit of the farm worker justice movm't matter now?

César E. Chávez Building Officially Dedicated on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2003



ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT
 www.wildcat.arizona.edu
 Monday, October 13, 2003
 University of Arizona, Tucson

Chávez now a campus fixture

Building name change honors civil rights leader César E. Chávez

By Greg Holt
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hundreds of people rallied on campus yesterday afternoon to support and celebrate the renaming of the Economics building, now the César E. Chávez building.

Chávez was a Yuma-born leader of the UFWA, a national labor union for agricultural farm workers from California.

Supporters gathered in front of Old Main and held up signs and black balloons and "Viva La Raza" signs and began a celebration march up Old Main while singing songs.

At the Administration building, President Dennis L. Swartz joined the march, and the procession marched back to the building where the dedication ceremony was held.

"We're honoring the man, but, more than anything, we're honoring what he stood for," said Socorro Carrizosa, director of Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs and leader of the campaign for the name change.

"There is no doubt that the greatest leader of the Hispanic people has been and continues to be César Chávez," said Antonio Grijalva, director and professor of Mexican-American studies. "Chavez's name continues to embody justice and civil rights."

Also attending the dedication ceremony were Richard Chavez, brother of the late rights leader, Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) and the dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

"Today, this is not about union politics, it's about the history of our people, and a struggle of our people," Grijalva said from the podium in front of the new Chávez building. "It's important that we not be relegated to anything less than equals."

Richard Chavez spoke about his and his brother's humble beginnings, and said their father, a Tucson native, would never have dreamed that one of her sons would one day have a building named after him.

Media arts freshman Daniela Mireles holds a photo of César Chávez during a march before the dedication ceremony of the César E. Chávez Building. Organizers led a march from Old Main to the Administration building and back to the César E. Chávez building.

CHRIS COOKSTON/Arizona Daily Wildcat

See RENAMING/3

RENAMING: SBS plans on establishing doctorate program in Mexican American studies

Continued from page 1

"César remains a controversial person, but he always said you can never be afraid to rock the boat. You can never be afraid to question the status quo," Chávez said.

Ed Donnerstein, dean of the UA College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, announced that his college is working toward a doctorate program in Mexican-American studies that he believes will establish the department, which is housed in the Chávez building, as the best in the nation.

Chuck Tatum, dean of the UA College of Humanities, said that his college has established several new scholarships in César Chávez's name.

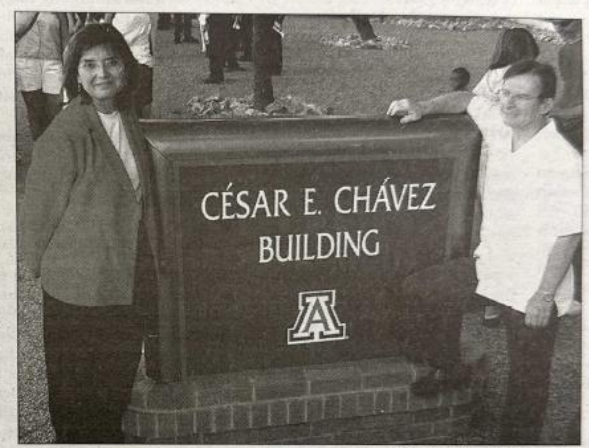
"We need to use the symbolism of the naming of the building to galvanize us to action," Tatum said.

Speaking on behalf of the UA chapter of MEChA, a Chicano student organization, Nathan Olivares-Giles said the ceremony is a proud occasion for Chicanos.

"This is a proud day because our university has chosen to celebrate Chávez as an American hero," said Olivares-Giles, an undeclared freshman. "Having Chávez's name on this building gives us pride in our culture."

Tanya Alvarez, an art teacher at the César Chávez Middle School in Tucson, brought many of her students to witness the dedication ceremony and participate in the celebration march.

"(Chávez) is so important as a role model for our students. He gives them a positive self-identity. He's an



ADAM BAKER/Arizona Daily Wildcat
 Socorro Charrizosa, director of Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs, left, and UA President, Peter Likins, stand next to the new sign in front of the former Economics building. The Economics building was formally rededicated as the César E. Chávez building on Sunday.

American hero, and there's not too many that are Mexican-American," Alvarez said.

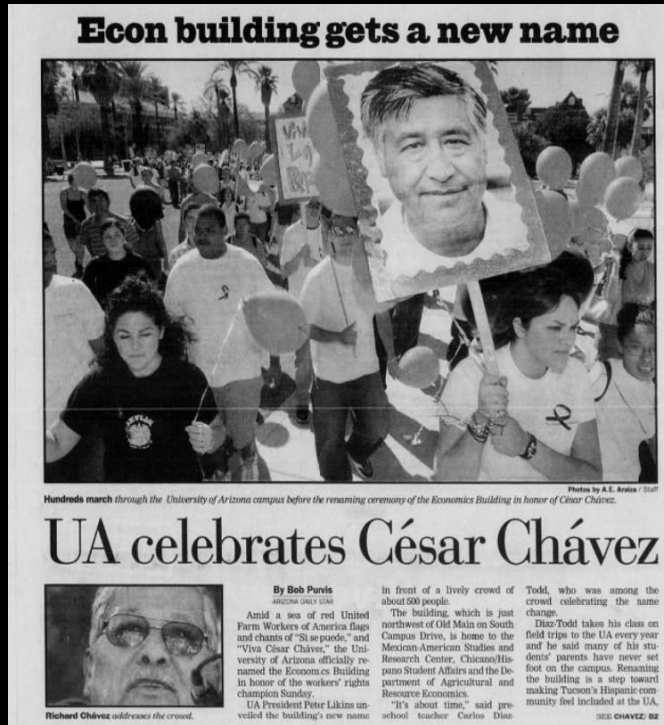
The ceremony also attracted many Chávez supporters from all around the Tucson community.

"This is the first time they've named a building here after a Mexican-American. It shows that there are a lot of supporters of the Hispanic community," said Horacio Gonzalez, a local resident.

The Student Objectivist Society was also on hand at the ceremony to quietly protest the Chávez dedication with signs. Members distributed literature on tables to the far left of the ceremony. Their organization views Chávez as a union boss who used coercive tactics to force workers into joining his union and was otherwise disruptive to the free market.

"A couple of people came by and said they agree with us, and a couple came by and said they didn't agree with us," said Erik Flesch, geosciences senior and SOS president. "There were a few people who wanted to have a debate, and there was a couple of people who were just shouting at me."

Bob Purvis. "Econ Building Gets a New Name." *Arizona Daily Star* (Oct. 13, 2003), B1-B2



"Hispanic students at the UA said the university did the right thing in renaming the building after Chávez, a Yuma native who died at the age of 66 in 1993. 'It gives us a sense of pride in our heritage and in the institution,' said student Nathan Olivares-Giles.

"Others said the Chávez building is a step towards fulfilling Likins promise of making the UA a Hispanic-serving institution and raising Hispanic enrollment.

"There is just so much potential out there, but Hispanics feel intimidated," said UA freshman Suzette Marquez, who said she was **shocked at the lack of a Hispanic presence when she started school in August.**

"[Pre-school teacher Carlos] Diaz-Todd takes his class on field trips to the UA every year and he said many of his students' parents have never set foot on the campus. **Renaming the building is a step towards making Tucson's Hispanic community feel included at the UA,** Diaz-Todd said. 'Now I can take the children here and say 'Look, this building belongs to you,' he said. [...]

III. Why does the spirit of the farm worker justice mvm't matter now?

12 Wednesday, September 24, 2003

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

ENROLLMENT: 37,083 students largest enrollment ever, admins want first-year retention improved

Continued from page 1

Total enrollment is now at 37,083 students, the highest it has ever been.

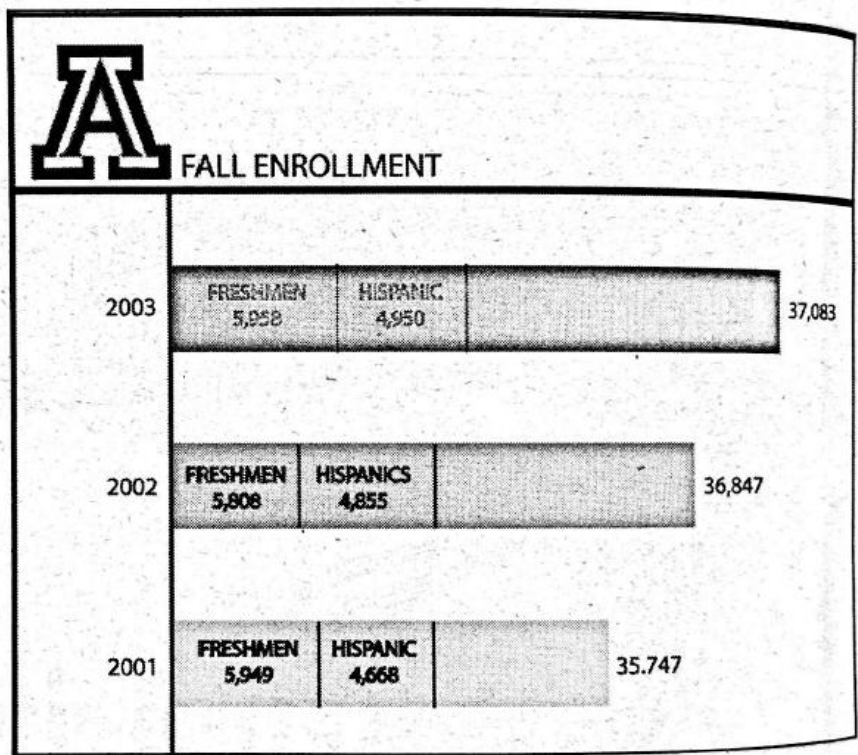
The university is using the new enrollment management policy group to review the enrollment statistics and find ways to improve retention among first-year students.

Improving retention is one way to increase overall enrollment, Ota said.

"If you assume we bring in the same number of freshmen, that translates into more sophomores if retention improves, and there will be more continuing students. Over a four-year period the size of the student body will increase," Ota said.

The current retention rate for freshmen is at 77 percent, said Rick Kroc, director of the office of enrollment research. This means that about a quarter of freshmen leave the school after their first years.

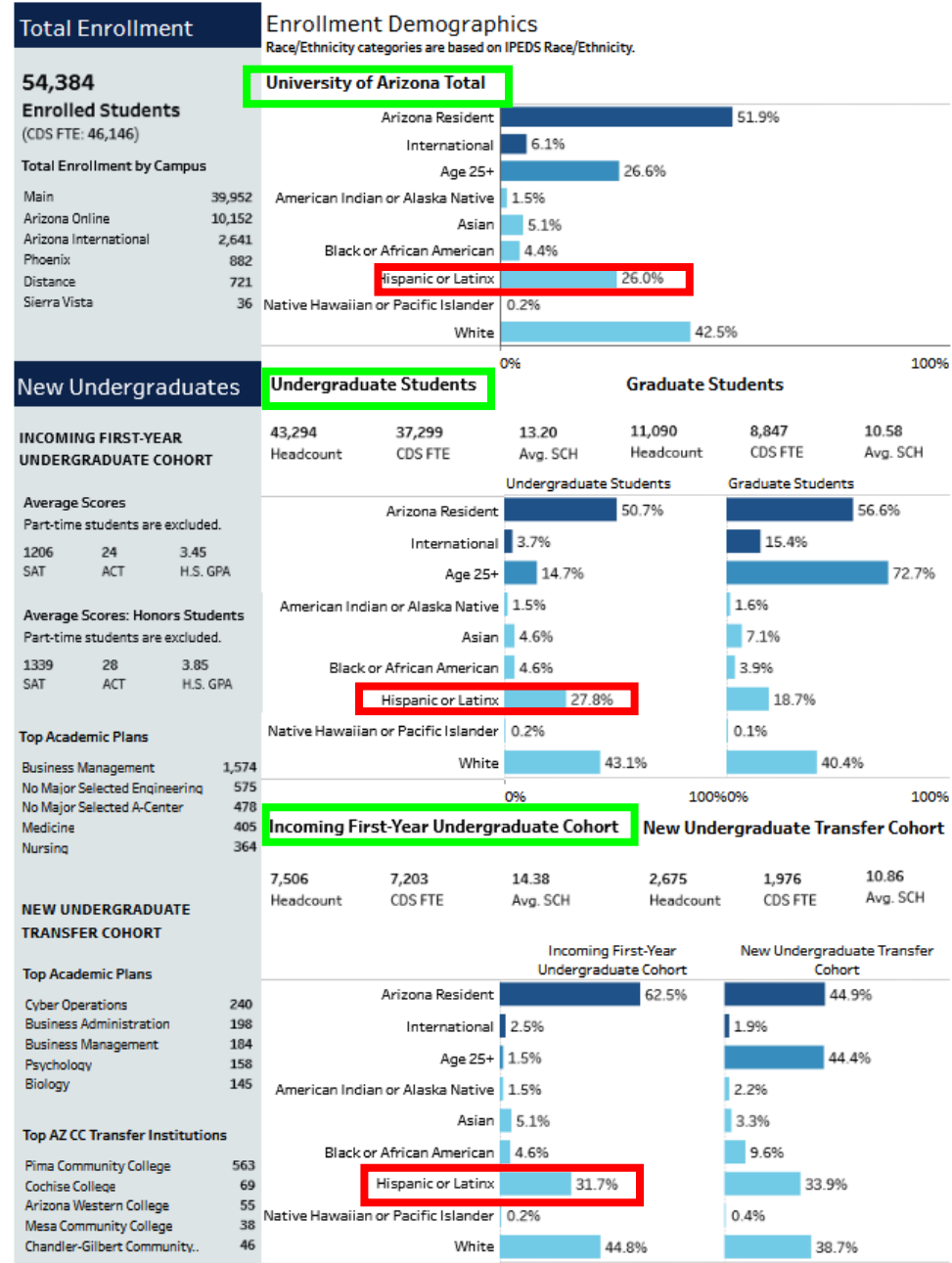
In the future, administrators plan to manage the rate at which enrollment increases and focus on retaining the students who attend.



2003 UA Latino enrollment: 4,950 (13% of undergrad students)

2025 UA Latino enrollment: 12,035 (27.8% of undergrad students)

Census Highlights | Fall 2025



UA University Analytics and Institutional Research,
<https://uair.arizona.edu/content/enrollment>

III. Why does the spirit of the farm worker justice mvm't matter now?

From the standpoint of a UA student (and faculty member)...

- Place-making, belonging, and healing
- Land-Grant Institution Promoting Educational Opportunity and Reflecting its People
- **Dignidad y Esperanza – Dignity and Hope**



ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Wednesday, September 24, 2003
University of Arizona, Tucson

Minority enrollment rises

Number of freshmen on campus breaks 2001 record by nine students

By Andrea Kelly
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite concerns last year that fewer students would come to the UA if a tuition hike was passed, the number of Hispanic and freshmen students on campus broke records this semester. There are 4,950 Hispanic students at the university this year, compared to 4,839 Hispanic students last year, according to a report released yesterday by the office of assessment and enrollment research.

This year's freshman class of 5,998 students breaks the 2001 record by nine students. This is also an increase of 350 students from last year. Pat Ota, vice president of enrollment management, said that the increase in Hispanic enrollment may be attributed to an "investment in financial aid and good recruiting efforts aimed at Hispanic communities."

In order for the school to be recognized as a Hispanic-serving institution, one of President Peter Likens' goals, 25 percent of the student population must be Hispanic.

"How soon we can get there (25 percent) is not the issue. The issue is that we are seen as an institution Hispanic students want to come to," Ota said.

Ota said that the university must try to cater to the surrounding demographics. "Our first responsibility is to meet the needs of the state of Arizona. The state has a significant Hispanic population. Therefore, we must be seen as a desirable place for Hispanic students to come and get degrees," Ota said.

Richard Kent, director of the office of assessment and enrollment research, attributed the recent enrollment increase to financial aid.



Psychology freshman Avelina Heron said she is pleased that the enrollment statistics show that the Hispanic population is the highest ever at the UA, yesterday at the Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs Center. "I think it is awesome, a lot of times the Hispanic population is not well represented and it is good we are finally moving up."



© Runable Skoutz

...has an open discussion about hazing at noon today in the Ag Center Theater. This is an important step in letting students about hazing to prevent it, said Thompson, school association president. He officials have been talking to the center about hazing with education programs. discussions with chapter and, most recently, the

See HAZING

See ENROLLMENT/11

Executive Summary of Survey Results

(regarding the removal of César Chávez name from the Economics Building on the UA campus)

A survey was distributed to the community where respondents were asked if Chávez' name should be removed from the building on campus. There were 581 respondents with 504 (86.75%) responding 'yes' and 77 (13.25%) responding 'no'. A brief summary of the reasons given for the respondents' answers are provided below. The entire survey and raw data are attached.

PRIMARY REASONS for a YES response

The overwhelming consensus among respondents is that César Chávez' name should be removed from the building due to several reasons listed below:

Sexual Abuse Allegations (Core Issue)

- Credible, extensively documented allegations of sexual assault and rape of women and minors
- Multiple victims coming forward with consistent accounts
- Grooming and abuse of power against vulnerable individuals, including co-founder Dolores Huerta

Institutional Values Misalignment

- Building names represent institutional endorsement and honor
- Keeping the name contradicts the university's stated values of integrity, compassion, and inclusion
- Incompatible with the university's role as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)

Impact on Survivors

- Daily reminders cause re-traumatization for abuse survivors on campus
- Sends message that sexual violence is tolerable if perpetrator has status/accomplishments
- Disrespectful to victims who carried trauma silently for decades

Separation of Person from Movement

- The farm workers' movement is larger than one individual
- Can honor the movement and labor rights without honoring Chávez specifically
- Other leaders (notably Dolores Huerta) deserve recognition

Community Precedent

- City of Tucson, Pima County, and other institutions have already removed his name
- University risks appearing out of step with community values by delaying

General Principle

- No one—regardless of accomplishments—should be honored through institutional naming if credibly accused of serious misconduct
- Sexual predators should not have buildings named after them under any circumstances

The feedback emphasizes this is not about erasing history, but about refusing to actively honor and celebrate someone with documented patterns of sexual abuse.

PRIMARY REASONS for a NO response:

Respondents opposing removal of Chávez' name cite the following arguments:

Due Process and Fairness

- Chávez is deceased and cannot defend himself
- Allegations remain unproven; no criminal convictions
- Treating allegations as facts without legal proceedings undermines due process
- Concerns about setting precedent of guilt by accusation

Historical Significance Cannot Be Erased

- Chávez' contributions to labor rights and farmworker protections are substantial and documented
- His work resulted in real legislative changes and improved working conditions
- The building name honors the movement, not just the man
- History should be studied in its complexity, not erased

Double Standard and Selective Application

- Other historical figures with serious allegations (MLK, founding fathers who owned slaves, current political figures) retain honors
- Removing Chávez' name while ignoring similar issues elsewhere is inconsistent
- Selective targeting appears motivated by political trends rather than principle
- Question: Why hold Chávez to standards not applied to other problematic figures?

"Cancel Culture" Concerns

- Reflects modern moral retroactive judgment on historical figures
- Creates slippery slope: if Chávez is removed, many others must be too
- Prioritizes current sensitivity over historical context
- Represents knee-jerk reaction to loudest voices rather than careful deliberation

Resource Waste

- Costly to rename/rebrand buildings; funds better spent elsewhere
- Administrative burden for minimal benefit
- Name change doesn't solve actual problems

Community and Representation Value

- Latino representation on campus is limited; Chávez represents cultural pride
- Name removal could be seen as erasing Latino contributions to history
- Building serves important symbolic function for Latino/Chicano students and organizations
- Double standard: removing Latino figures while white historical figures retain honors reinforces marginalization

Educational Opportunity

- Rather than erasing history, buildings should include plaques explaining complexity
- Students should learn both accomplishments and criticisms
- This aligns with university's educational mission
- Understanding history requires nuance, not erasure

Practical Concerns

- No appropriate replacement name identified
- Removing name without clear alternative shows poor planning
- Building has historical significance beyond the allegations

Philosophical Arguments

- No human is perfect; perfection should not be prerequisite for historical recognition
- Good accomplished should not be negated by personal failings
- Ability to do good doesn't excuse harm, but shouldn't erase all recognition
- Forgiveness and complexity should be part of institutional values

The "NO" responses emphasize preserving historical complexity while maintaining representation for Latino communities, questioning inconsistent application of naming standards, and distinguishing between acknowledging harm and erasing history entirely.