

SEPTEMBER 2001

## Campus welcomes diverse, academically talented freshmen

They come mostly from high schools in the West Valley. One-third identify themselves as ethnic minorities, and 34 percent have been awarded merit scholarships. More than 240 students made history Aug. 20 when ASU West admitted its inaugural freshman class.

"We are proud to welcome a freshman class that reflects the diversity of the Valley," says Elaine Maimon, campus CEO and provost. "Faculty and staff have devoted extraordinary amounts of time and energy during the past year in preparing a challenging curriculum,

academic support services, and extracurricular offerings to help freshman students succeed academically and grow as individuals."



*Recent ASU West graduate Manny Padia gets freshmen and their parents on their feet during an Aug. 17 orientation session.*

Most of the freshmen have enrolled in learning communities, in which a cohort of approximately 30 students takes two or more linked classes and works with an instructional team. "The learning community concept is designed to provide an atmosphere that encourages students to form social networks and enjoy academic success," says Emily Cutrer, interim Arts & Sciences dean and chairperson of the Lower-Division Task Force.

A one-credit "University 101" class will develop freshmen's critical and creative thinking skills.  
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## Program explores visual media

The forms, technologies and histories of media arts are explored in ASU West's new minor and certificate program in Film and Video Studies. Students in the program have access to high-quality equipment for creating and editing work in computer graphics, digital audio, digital video and CD ROM authoring.

"The Film and Video Studies program exposes students to theory as well as practice in the field of the moving image," says  
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## Oct. 13 gala offers music, food, fun

It's an event that keeps getting better as it grows — ASU West's fourth annual Courtyard Cafés gala, Saturday night, Oct. 13, features the Valley's hottest bands playing under the stars in the campus's intimate courtyards.

Bands that were a big hit at previous galas will be back. Sistas Blue, Carmela y Más, and the Rhythm Ramblers will make you get up and dance to the blues, big band and Latin sounds.

New additions include the Stilettoes, performing early rock, doo-wop, and Motown  
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## 'Factbook' examines addictions

Information and statistics related to substance dependence among children and adults, problematic Internet use, and pathological gambling are compiled in the *Arizona Factbook on Addictions*, developed and produced by the Partnership for Community Development (PCD) in the College of Human Services.

"These addictive behaviors have serious consequences for society," says John Hultsman, PCD director. "As the *Factbook* reports, one-fourth to one-half of men who commit domestic violence acts have substance abuse problems, and substance-abusing women are more likely to become victims of

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while exposing them to multiple disciplines and global perspectives. The course also teaches students practical skills including use of the library and campus e-mail system.

"Our goal is to offer to lower-division students the kind of education we're known for at the upper division – a learner-centered curriculum that directly involves students as active participants in the learning process," Maimon says.

As it expands its mission to serve freshmen and sophomores, ASU West will continue its commitment to serve community college transfer students as well as non-traditional age students.

## Personality Profile: Tom Cabot

*He's seen a lot of changes since he came from ASU Main in the fall of 1989 to become the first full-time supervisor of ASU West's registration site. Tom Cabot now serves as registrar, overseeing the student registration process. Tom doesn't hesitate to help out on the front lines – a recent Friday found him working through a computer glitch in the process of registering a student.*

**Then vs. now:** "We no longer have long lines of people waiting to sign up for classes like we did in the early '90s. Adding telephone registration made the difference. We expect to add Web-based registration within the next year."

**That darn cat:** When Tom and his wife vacationed on the Caribbean island of St. Martin two years ago, they returned with an unusual keepsake – a kitten born to a feral cat at the resort where they stayed. "Marty" is now king of the house. He's one of five cats and a dog at the Cabot household.

**A varied career:** Tom edited a



newspaper when he was in the Army in Germany, taught high school English in Kearny, Ariz., worked in corporate communications for U-Haul, and ran a video store. "In the late '80s I gave some thought to where I'd most like to work, and decided the university was the right place for me."

**Got any grandchildren, Tom?**

The answer becomes apparent when you step into his office, which has many photos of his two grandsons. Two more grandchildren are on the way, one from each of Tom's daughters.

## Art exhibits are wild, touchable

Wildlife paintings and sculptures meant to be touched are featured in two September exhibits produced by ASU West's Interdisciplinary Arts & Performance (IAP) Department.

The "Please Touch the Artwork" exhibit, featuring works on loan from the Tactile Museum for the Blind and Visually Impaired, will be housed in the Art Gallery in UCB 228 through Sept.

28. Hours are 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays, and noon to 4 p.m. all other weekdays. A closing reception will be held Sept. 28 from 6 to 8 p.m.

You won't be invited to touch the paintings in Fletcher Library during September, but you'll definitely want to see the wildlife art created by internationally known artists. The exhibit is presented in collaboration with the West Valley Art Museum.