

CSUN to function as heart of student organizations

BY ERIN NIEMEYER
AND BROOK BRAYMAN
STAFF REPORTERS

Student government President John Pida is approaching this year with an aggressive agenda. "My goal is to make student government strong and productive and to do it as a team effort," Pida said. "Goals can't be identified unless there is student participation."

Pida used an analogy of a body's circulatory system to define the student government's role. He said that the student government functioned as the heart of all student organizations.

According to Office of Student Information Director Steven Hagen, the primary goal of the Pida administration is "to develop the student government into a more well thought out, strategic organization, looking forward

with goals well in hand."

The administration feels that a smoother transition process between years is also an important issue that needs to be resolved to obtain better results from each successive legislative term.

The agenda also calls for controlling any future tuition increase; working with the alumni administration to insure funding designated for student programs; funding increases for tutoring and computer laboratories; and adding staff to the pre-school program.

Pida, a physical therapy major, previously served as student senate pro-tempore and senator from sports and leisure.

The student government's executive board also includes Vice President Joe Mills and Senate President Patrick Smith.

Mills, an architecture major, has held no previous student

government title, but has leadership experience as a residence hall adviser and has served on many student board and committees.

"Some of my goals for vice president is to get more students involved in student government, to have more activities that would cater to the majority of the students on campus, as opposed to just focusing on a narrow group's interest, and to get a lot of good things that (were happening in previous student governments)," Mills said.

Smith, a communications major, served two years as a business senator. He serves as liaison between the executive and legislative branches of the student government.

Smith votes on the executive board but can also be called upon to vote on a Senate issue in the event of a tie. Senate President Pro-Tempore Terry Moore, an

environmental studies major, serves in place of Smith in cases of absence.

The Senate approved at its Aug. 14 meeting the following student director positions for this year:

- Nevada Student Affairs Director David Turner, acting as an advocate between UNLV students and the local government.

- Elections Board Director Stephanie Araiza, ensuring that fair and legitimate elections are conducted and that campaigning limitations are upheld. She also will attempt to increase student awareness.

- Student Services Director Ted Greenhalgh, overseeing the services provided to students

which are available free or at a minimal cost.

- Organizations Board Director Toby Cole, overseeing the welfare and security of student government-recognized groups on campus and mediating inter-organizational disputes. All funding to support these groups is provided by the Organizations Board and must be approved the director.

- OSI Director Steven Hagen, acting as a liaison between student government and students, faculty and media.

- Entertainment and Programming Director Brian Saliba, arranging the calendar of entertainment events sponsored by student government.

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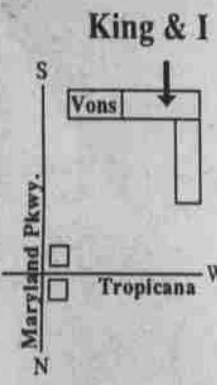
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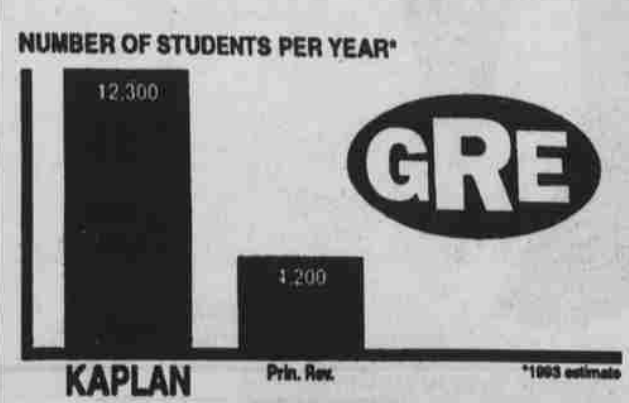
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