



ARIZONA STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

2004 PRIMARY ELECTION

VOTER EDUCATION GUIDE

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Notices

All state legislative candidates were given the opportunity to respond to a higher education questionnaire. The responses in this guide have been reprinted exactly as submitted. They have not been edited for spelling, grammar or content. Candidates without responses did not submit them for the Voter Education Guide. Candidates without photographs did not submit one for the Voter Education Guide.

Election and Voting Information

Primary Election—September 7, 2004

Voter registration for the primary election closes August 9, 2004 at midnight. Request an Early/Absentee Ballot for Arizona before August 27th, 2004.

General Election—November 2, 2004

Voter registration for the general election closes October 4, 2004 at midnight. Request an Early/Absentee Ballot in Arizona before October 22nd, 2004.

For more information about voting or to request an early ballot to vote by mail, please visit the Arizona Secretary of State's website: www.sos.state.az.us or call 1-877-843-8683.

Legislative District

If you do not know your legislative district, please visit the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission's website: www.azredistricting.org or call (602) 364-1350.

Formatting of Voter Education Guide

The candidates are sorted by district and listed in each district by last-name alphabetical order. The names and party of each candidate are listed above their responses to the questionnaire, if they chose to respond. The campaign websites, if known, are listed for each candidate so that voters can learn more about the candidates. It is also noted in italics if the candidate is currently an incumbent in the position for which they are campaigning.

Arizona Students Association

The Arizona Students Association is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy, education and research organization serving the public university students of Arizona. For more information about ASA, please visit: www.azstudents.org.

The responses and campaign websites express the opinions of each candidate and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Arizona Students Association.

Responses from Candidates for State Senator

Candidates for State Senator – District 1

Name: Ken Bennett

Party: Republican

Website: www.bennettarizona.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 1



Name: Susan Friedman

Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is where students most challenge themselves to answer specific questions and explore both broad questions and their personal interests. It's where new scientific issues begin, and original contributions to progress in the social sciences and arts begin.

Improving both basic and advanced educational opportunities is critical to Arizona's and the United States' successful future. It's where the solutions to diseases, unemployment, hunger, environmental destruction and population growth begin and may reach conclusion.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

In general terms the state needs to underwrite education to some extent to minimize fees. The legislature needs to encourage business and philanthropic participation in providing facilities, jobs for students, internships to make clear the relationship between learning and doing, and incentives to students to complete their studies.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Supporting and improving educational opportunities at all levels is my priority. Progress in solving problems and improving the lives of Arizona residents is not possible without coordinating improvements in education. I will support more money for education; will try to involve industry, perhaps through tax incentives but hopefully in other ways, to invest and participate in increasing opportunities for the schools, students and faculties; and I look forward to working with other legislators and the public to discover new ways to deal with the conflict between the persistent shortage of funds and increasing needs.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

We need both need-based and merit-based programs. If we ignore meritorious students because they do not appear to need scholarships or loans or jobs, we may lose them to other schools and states. And additional ways to support highly competent students, regardless of financial means, are honors programs, special internships and assistantships. Supporting needy students is obviously a good and necessary effort. The important thing is to give every academically qualified person help and encouragement to participate, learn, contribute and graduate.

Candidates for State Senator – District 2

Name: Albert Hale

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is the key to the future. Education should always be a priority in Arizona.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

A scholarship trust fund may be a way to finance education of all students. Funds from the Indian casinos may be a source.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

1. Serve on the Education Committee 2. Advocate for higher education issues.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Need-based and merit-based should both be support. All students need support. The more students get educated, the better for Arizona & USA.

Candidates for State Senator – District 3

Name: Ron Gould
Party: Republican
Website: www.rongould.com

No response submitted.

Name: Joe Hart
Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Very high

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Continue to work for more accountability in funding and access to classes to accomplish a four grad.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Continue to work with those who represent higher ed. and to keeping expensive's low.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Both have value and they should be used according

Name: Bill Wagner
Party: Republican
Website: www.electbillwagner.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 4

Name: Susan Burke

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Jack Harper

Party: Republican

Website: www.harperforsenate.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 5

Name: Jake Flake

Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

A very strong place for those who are sincerely interested in a higher education. I don't think the state can afford to pay for students to go to college simply for a social life. However we must have the institutions in place with personal in place to educate those who want a higher education.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

First-For the first two or three years of college we should lean stronger onto the Community Colleges. They cost the state about ½ as much as the University. As for the students costs families should plan and save for college. Also I firmly believe that students should work through college & universities. I have 13 kids & 11 sons & daughters in law. 7 of my kids have graduated from college thus far & 3 have master. All from their own college savings, scholarship and working their way through college.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Make my voice heard. I strongly believe in higher education but only for those who really want it. If they really want it they will get it. Higher education is not for everybody. Tech & job training education is also important.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I lean more toward merit-based programs. However is thru merit it and can't afford it because they haven't prepared for college financially their should be scholarships to help them. Families and individuals need to prepare for college early & then when the time comes they will be ready.

Name: Cameron Udall

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 6

Name: Dean Martin
Party: Republican
Website: www.votedeanmartin.com
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Marla Wing
Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?
100 % the utmost important factor

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?
Increase grant money & encourage private donations

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?
they are #1 on my list

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?
need based is more needed, because matching fund programs are fundamental to continued education

Candidates for State Senator – District 7

Name: John Vannucci

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Jim Waring

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 8

Name: Carolyn Allen
Party: Republican
Website: www.carolynallenaz.com
Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Robert Ditchey
Party: Republican
Website: www.ditcheyforsenate.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education opportunities are vital to Economic Development plans. Supporting higher education is a priority.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Partner with higher education providers to develop incentives for private funding and investment in education.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I have three children in K-12 and my wife is a middle school teacher. We all plan on continuing our education in Arizona. We have a vested interest in higher education.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe the best programs take needs and merit into account. Basic benefits programs enhanced by merit based are best in my opinion.

Name: Stuart Turnansky
Party: Democrat
Website: www.stu4azsenate04.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 8



Name: Orville Weyrich
Party: Libertarian
Website: www.voteorville.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is necessary to ensure the future prosperity of our children and economic prosperity for the state. Without a well educated work-force we cannot attract and retain good paying jobs for our citizens.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

One of my highest legislative priorities is to broaden the current \$500/year education tax credit to include unlimited credit on taxes (Real Estate, Vehicle, Property, sales on major purchases) paid in Arizona for contributions or tuition payments to any school in Arizona, K-12 and College/University.

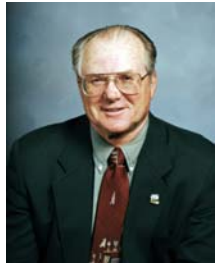
3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

My goal is to take the state legislature out of the middle and give tax credits to encourage private contributions to higher education directly by the taxpaying public. The citizens are very supportive of education, and should have the right to directly allocate their tax funds to support education.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Individual taxpayers should allocate their tax credits to the scholarship fund of their choice. The taxpayers should decide what the award criteria should be. It is not proper for me as a legislator to force people to pay taxes and then spend the money as I see fit.

Candidates for State Senator – District 9



Name: Robert Burns

Party: Republican

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The greater the pool of higher educated workers the more attractive Arizona becomes to those employers in need of those workers.

Higher educated workers can attract higher wages and in so doing

help drive up the average wage scale in Arizona with ripple benefits to many others.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

During this past legislative session President Crow of ASU stated that there were 11,000 students at ASU on hardship scholarships. He also indicated a high failure rate for students in their first year. The point is that a plan is already in place, but is it overly generous – are we attracting students who are not ready at the expense of those who are.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

This is not an issue, higher education dedicates significant resources to make sure the interests of higher education are well known by all members of the legislature

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

If I understand the question you are talking about programs of student support. As an expansion of my answer in 2. above, to provide programs for students based on financial need who are not ready is a waste of resources. I see merit-based support as the most logical.

Candidates for State Senator – District 9

Name: Steve Poe

Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The community college and university system in AZ are of utmost importance in the creation of well-paying jobs and the overall quality-of-life that people and good corporate residents are looking for in any state. We have neglected this important part of our economy for the last ten years or more.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Part of the job of our state gov't is to be sure that training and education are not out of the reach of most Arizonans and should budget accordingly. I believe that we should give tuition costs in four-year increments, so students can know, up-front, the costs for tuition for the four years.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

My door will always be open to public education interests. I will also work to make sure that any committees I may be a part of, will have a policy of inclusion in all planning processes, when it comes to bills affecting higher education interests.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I assume this topic is concerning student aid, but am unclear with this wording. At the present, I do not have a particular position on this issue. I would certainly hope that information supporting both sides of the issue will be readily available from the competing interests, and I will be glad to hear more on this problem.

Candidates for State Senator – District 10

Name: Linda Gray
Party: Republican
Website: www.lindagrayer.net

No response submitted.

Name: Lydia Guzman
Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Very High. We must invest in higher education to create economic stability for planning growth in AZ.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

By creating incentives for students internships/volunteer opportunities to offset cost of tuition vs. wage benefits.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

If (I hope it does) Proposition 102 passes – I will support universities to continue with programs that will continue to create funding source opportunities.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Merit based because this will generate funding opportunities through research grants and the need programs will be funded as part of the proposals for granting.

Candidates for State Senator – District 11

Name: Seth Apfel
Party: Democrat
Website: www.seth Apfel.com

No response submitted.



Name: Barbara Leff
Party: Republican
Website: www.barbaraleff.com
Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is the key to economic success for Arizona. We need a highly educated workforce to compete for the high paying

jobs that we wish to attract.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Generally across the country, the trend has been that when tuition increases, financial aid also increases. We must make sure, however, that the middle income student, is not excluded from an affordable college education. We must make sure that all students who are in need can qualify for assistance. I also think we need to fully scholarship students who enter fields where there is a shortage, such as in nursing, or those who will work in underserved areas for a period of time. I would also like to see work- study opportunities increase. In that way, industries that need people can help finance those students' education.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I already talk about the needs and the importance of our Universities all the time. As Chairman of the Commerce Committee, I take a lead in economic development issues. Higher education is an integral part of that discussion.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

They are both important. Merit- based is especially important so that the middle income student does not fall through the cracks.

Name: Sean Nottingham
Party: Libertarian

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 12

Name: Robert Blendu

Party: Republican

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

We need alot more engineers and less lawyers.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I will find out why the cost exceeds the rate of inflation.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Higher education has never been under represented in the last 40 yrs.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

The talented need-based student should not be ignored. The world runs on results. I favor merit-based.

Name: Kathi Foster

Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

One of top five issues. For me personally, since I represent UA, it is within the top three. I am especially interested in affordability of universities and community colleges.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I support two years of State funded college for eligible students. We need to find a dedicated funding source for this. The State should also encourage financial assistance from the Federal Government.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Having been a State Representative in the past, education at all levels has always been my #1 priority. I was the Ranking Member of the House Education Committee and an appointed Commissioner to the Education Commission of the States. I also served as a School Board Member for eight years. My advocacy on behalf of education is life long. I plan to continue that in the State Senate.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

It depends on the program and the situation.

Candidates for State Senator – District 13

Name: Richard Miranda

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 14

Name: William Brotherton, Jr.

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 15

Name: Ken Chevront

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Andrew Smigielski

Party: Republican

Website: www.andrewforaz.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 16

Name: Linda Aguirre

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 17

Name: Jesse Hernandez

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Harry Mitchell

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The highest. Arizona's economy depends up on an educated workforce, and our university system is the core of this goal. In addition to the importance to the economy, Arizona's quality of life is also dependent upon the educational level of its citizenry.

2. With the consistently increasing cost of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Post-secondary students have historically used scholarships, grants, loans and part-time jobs to get through school. This will not change. I am committed to keeping higher education as affordable as possible, but at the same time maintaining quality.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Because of the importance of higher education I will seek out and listen to all who represent higher education. As a member of the Senate Education Committee (ranking Democratic member) and representing District 17 in which A.S.U. is located, I have a special interest in higher education issues.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I don't lean more towards one program or the other. As they serve different populations, both are important and have their place in our university system. I would work to increase both types of programs.

Candidates for State Senator – District 18

Name: Karen Johnson
Party: Republican
Website: www.karenforus.com

No response submitted.



Name: Mary Jo Vecchiarelli
Party: Republican
Website: www.maryjo2004.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education has in Arizona's future?

I grew up in Ohio received a bachelors degree before moving to Arizona in 1974 to attend ASU and complete my Master's degree. My experience in Arizona was very positive and I have made Arizona my home. I have completed my doctorate from ASU and a 30 year career retiring in 2001 as the Principal of Mesa High School. I have been financially successful and have contributed to Arizona's economy. I believe that quality higher education is vital to Arizona's future. Businesses require it, and it will attract the people who will contribute to our economic development and provide for our future leaders.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I support the proposal which would allow universities to benefit financially from their research. I believe that this will provide the additional funds needed to restrain the increasing costs of higher education.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Education has been a made a positive difference in my life. I taught at ASU from 1974-1978. I have been both a consumer and provider of high education. I am knowledgeable and have had positive experiences.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Both, there needs to be a balanced approach. The universities have a broad client base. There are students, business, economic development, research and new knowledge bases that will make demands on the universities. The administration needs to be diligent in setting the course to meet both current and future needs.

Candidates for State Senator – District 19

Name: Marilyn Jarrett

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 20

Name: John Huppenthal

Party: Republican

Website: www.huppenthal2004.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is a key door to economic advancement, personal fulfillment and enjoyment of one's youth.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

We need to constantly propagate a culture of frugality in administration; the latest in computer technology for service delivery and economic growth to generate supporting revenues for the Universities.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Constantly have my door open to University representatives, insist on a student focused university culture and making sure that Universities get a fair share of state revenues. In the past, I have insisted that the Regents focus on providing an excellent education to students. It seems to have worked. The percentage of graduating students rating the quality of their education excellent has gone up hugely in the last 6 years.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

We need to be balanced to ensure that merit is rewarded without denial of opportunity to students from lower income families.

Candidates for State Senator – District 20



Name: Slade Mead

Party: Republican

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The future of Arizona is directly linked to our secondary education both in terms of our three universities that educate over 100,000 citizens and our community colleges that educate 400,000 plus students. Our future economy depends on an educated work

force. ASU is the key to the economic engine in the Valley. It's the crown jewel.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The tuition increase has improved the amount of financial aid available to those students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Giving these students an opportunity to attend university not only helps bring people out of poverty but it allows the caliber of student to rise. I have heard that over 50% of those who attend UofA never graduate. We must get that number fixed and graduate more students. By making financial aid available to more students, that will help the graduation rate. The plan is already being implemented.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I have spent two years on the Senate Education Committee as Vice-Chair trying to help the universities and community colleges whenever I can. Two years ago, I blocked the state budget that had over \$80M in cuts to education. Because of Linda Binder and my action, the funding was reinstated and the university research bill moved out of the Senate Appropriations Committee and eventually passed. Last year I made sure that the Senate budget was a bipartisan compromise that included the necessary growth funding for the universities. I, along with a small group of legislators, was just recognized by UofA for my efforts to help the universities. I am proud of my record.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Need based. Denying people an opportunity to attend school because they can not afford going is not in the long-term best interest of the state. Through education poverty is attacked.

Candidates for State Senator – District 21

Name: Jay Tibshraeny

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 22

Name: Thayer Verschoor

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 23

Name: Robert Mitchell

Party: Democrat

Website: www.bobmitchellforsenate.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

At the present time Arizona ranks well below the national average in baccalaureate degrees. If Arizona wants to compete in the global economy we must make higher education our number one goal.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I don't have a specific plan at this time. I am from a middle class family and know first hand the financial challenges presented to students. I also taught at Casa Grande Union High School (a community with low economic social economic background) and know first hand the problems students have paying for school. The articulation of curriculum between the Community Colleges and the four year universities is critical.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will fight for them.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Because of the diverse student population across the state I would lean towards need-based programs. If we truly want to leave no child behind then we should tailor our programs to the needs of the children. All day kindergarten is a great example. There is a need for it and we will provide it.

Name: Rebecca Rios

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 24

Name: Robert Cannell

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Rodney Martin

Party: Libertarian

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Very Important. Arizona has the potential to be a Tech Hub in the Southwest, to that end higher education is essential to prepare the work force. Additionally Arizona has the potential to be the alternative energy capital of the Nation, higher education is essential in that as well. Access to higher education is also essential to lift people out of poverty and address high unemployment in rural areas of Arizona.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Work to keep tuition down, work with business to provide additional access to higher education and remain flexible as to innovative proposals to keep costs down and to increase access.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Higher education lifted me out of poverty. This will be a HIGH priority for me. Access and cost issues as well as effectiveness and student oriented results will be issues I will be looking at.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Depending on the Program, I would have to look at this on a case by case basis. However I lean toward need based.

Candidates for State Senator – District 25

Name: Marsha Arzberger
Party: Democrat
Website: www.arzberger.net
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: L.E. Thompson
Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 26

Name: Toni Hellon

Party: Republican

Website: www.tonihellon.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Senator – District 27

Name: Jorge Luis Garcia
Party: Democrat
Website: www.votegarcia.org
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Jesus Romo
Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Arizona is the second fastest growing State in the Nation. Because of our climate, geological beauty and excellent location, we will continue to grow; we must adopt educational policies that are congruent with the quality of our environmental life. Because of this, we must allocate resources to teachers, classrooms and access to higher education. Presently we do not pay or treat our educators with the professional appreciation that they so vastly deserve, and our schools suffer from dilapidation, inequities of resource allocation, and insufficient classrooms. This contributes to a low graduation rate and disinterest in higher education.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

We must have a vision of our State that is diametrically different from now, where education has the highest priority; in the meantime we must form a coalition of students, educators, and those who support us to pressure the State to adopt policies that will provide access to education as a primary goal.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Press forward higher education bills, educate legislators about the importance of higher education to all our districts, form coalitions, and, in general, work hard to put forward our vision.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Need base because merit-base programs are already insured, and need-based programs are suitable with my interest of providing access to opportunity for the disadvantaged.

Candidates for State Senator – District 28

Name: Mick Chvala

Party: Libertarian

No response submitted.

Name: Gabrielle Giffords

Party: Democrat

Website: www.gabriellegiffords.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Chuck Josephson

Party: Republican

No response submitted

Candidates for State Senator – District 29

Name: Victor Soltero

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Bruce Murchison

Party: Republican

Website: www.murchison2004.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education must have a priority in order to provide companies with workers who have advanced skills. Without the engineers, teachers, etc, only low skilled workers will be hired here and the higher skilled workers will be imported from out of state or worse yet, the companies could leave altogether, taking precious jobs with them.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I believe programs set up to help students who are financially challenged should be continued without infringing on merit based programs. I would also encourage more businesses to help need based programs.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Being a teacher, education is a top legislative priority for me. I will push education issues with a lot of force.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I see a need for both programs, but lean more toward merit based programs. I have seen many people overlooked for scholarships in deference to less fortunate people financially even though the people were better qualified academically. This caused many problems for the latter set of people.

Candidates for State Senator – District 30

Name: Timothy Bee

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Responses from Candidates for State Representative

Candidates for State Representative – District 1



Name: Allan Briney

Party: Libertarian

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Very important.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially

challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I have no set plan. I favor scholarships for students showing achievement, discipline and hard work. I would encourage financial support from business, religious organizations, foundations and individuals. I am opposed to discriminating affirmative action programs.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I would support non-frivolous higher education, tempered by reason and financial constraints.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I admire individual achievement. which, hopefully, would be rewarded regardless of financial status.

Name: Wesley Edmonds

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 1



Name: James Kimes

Party: Democrat

Website: www.votekimes.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education has a critical role in determining the quality of Arizona's future and its workforce. Higher education promotes diversity in the workplace and in the community. It raises the quality of life and standard of living. Higher education provides

the ability to respond to Arizona's growing needs in traditional and emerging professions with the new economy.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The state must have a dynamic relationship with federal government and corporate loan and scholarship programs to ensure that higher education is affordable for Arizona students in our community colleges and universities. State stipend programs that would provide the cost of four years at a public college could be established in exchanged for serving in the public service for a designated period.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a candidate endorsed by the Arizona Education Association, Nadine and Eddie Basha, and Carolyn Warner, former Superintendent of Public Instruction, I will totally support the legislative agenda of AEA. I will support all legislative initiatives of benefit to higher education. With my having been Governor Janet Napolitano's Campaign Coordinator for Yavapai County, I will support her aggressive efforts to improve education in Arizona.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

While I recognize the need to have a balance between these two approaches to aiding students, I lean more toward greater utilization of need-based scholarships. However, we must not preclude granting of financial assistance to those from families with greater ability to pay for their child's education. The size of the scholarship should be based, in part, on financial need. We must ensure that qualified students from the poorest of families have access to excellent higher education. All higher education institution in Arizona should apply a set of common standards for assessing a family's ability to pay for higher education.

Candidates for State Representative – District 1

Name: Lucy Mason

Party: Republican

Website: www.lucymason.org

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Tom O'Halleran

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 2

Name: Beverly Becenti-Pigman

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Ann Kirkpatrick

Party: Democrat

Website: www.annkirkpatrick.com

No response submitted.

Name: Sylvia Laughter

Party: Independent

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Albert Tom

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 3

Name: Peggy Toomey Hammann

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.



Name: Bruce Hinman

Party: Democrat

Website: www.hinmanforazhouse.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is vital in the development of Arizona's future. Our basis for building a strong, viable economy with depth, diversity and vision depends on strong, well educated leaders to spearhead

economic growth. The fields of education, industry, banking, professional services, law, medicine and other technical fields all need the support of a solid State network of higher education. Tomorrows leaders need to be developed and nurtured by higher education today.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

College students and their families need to be made aware of the various grant and loan programs that are out there. There should be outreach education programs to inform prospective students of the options for funding their education. Funding for scholarships can also be sought from private corporations. There are many options for financing higher education and we have to look at these students as our future professionals. Financing higher education is a priority and an investment in the future.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Listening to the voices of those involved in higher education is key. Meeting and discussing the issues and concerns of educators is the only real way a legislator can keep informed on the needs of higher education.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I think that both programs are essential. There are people who are qualified, but who would get left behind without need-based programs. We should have a diverse student population as well as a diverse future professional human resources pool and that means that need-based programs are a must. On the other hand, outstanding scholars should be rewarded for their excellence. We want to keep the best and the brightest and that's what merit-based programs do. I feel that there is room, and a need, for both types of programs.

Candidates for State Representative – District 3

Name: Charles Cullison II

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Trish Groe

Party: Republican

Website: www.gowithgroe2004.com

No response submitted.

Name: Nancy McLain

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 4

Name: Tom Boone

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Judy Burges

Party: Republican

Website: www.votejudyburges.com

No response submitted.

Name: Carole Hubbs

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 5



Name: Sylvia Tenney Allen

Party: Republican

Website: www.allenforazhouse.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

It is very important and what would the future bring if we don't continue to advance in technology and learning?

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

We need to strengthen and improve our Community Colleges, which provides smaller tuition and allows for students to stay at home while attending. Larger Universities need to look at ways to cut overhead and look for waste that can be trimmed. The money needs to be getting to the student, teachers and classroom.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I am especially interested in seeing different ideas for reforming our higher education system in this State and better ways to allocate our education dollars.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I'm not sure I understand this question. But if it is referring to student programs for entrance into school then I would say this. At the High School level we need to be sure we have properly helped all students who want to further their education. I think the problem is that some students just don't know how to go about it if they haven't earned scholarships. Just be sure we have help available for all situations.

Name: Jack Brown

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: William Konopnicki

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 6

Name: Ted Carpenter
Party: Republican
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Pamela Gorman
Party: Republican
Website: www.pamelagorman.com

No response submitted.

Name: Clancy Jayne
Party: Republican
Website: www.azleg.org/cjayne
Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is one of my top priorities in working to put Arizona Back in the high tech job creation.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The Board of Regents have consistently protected low income students from any tuition increases and I pledge to continue this policy.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As we did in the University Research funding bill, I will continue to take the lead in building a coalition to get future university legislation passed.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I will continue to work to support programs that provide students with the most diversified and marketable education as they enter the work force.

Candidates for State Representative – District 6



Name: Rick Robinson

Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education will be significant in Arizona's ability to attract employers that will provide higher paying employment opportunities.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

More emphasis is necessary on securing scholarships and grants from private industry. In addition, revisions must be made to the State Procurement Code, the Tax system, and the disposition of State Trust Land. These actions will provide additional funding to the education system a facilitate a larger number of public funded grants and scholarships.

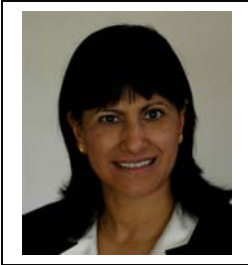
3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a University graduate I will insure that my experiences are presented and utilize any viable options to insure that higher education is properly represented. As I mentioned previously, higher education will be significant in ensuring a higher level of economic development.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe they are equally important to ensuring a diverse academic base and to provide the opportunity for higher education to more potential academic leaders

Candidates for State Representative – District 6



Name: Rano Singh

Party: Democrat

Website: www.ranosingh2004.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The ideas, energy and genius that created Silicon Valley came from Stanford and UC Berkeley. Higher education is the key to

Arizona building success in the 21st century knowledge economy. Great schools and quality lifestyles will attract talented people who can help build a better Arizona.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The Article 6 Section 11 of the Arizona Constitution states that the Universityshall be as free as possible." Recent increases in tuition to over \$4,000 have put a degree out of the reach of many. At the same time the Legislature has reduced the funding per student by over \$1000 between 2001 and 2005 in inflation adjusted dollars. The legislature must fully fund Arizona's public Universities.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

My experience on Governor Napolitano's Citizen's Finance Review Commission and Governor Hull's Arizona Partnership for the New Economy taught me that reaching a consensus is not easy. Bringing people with different perspectives together to focus on shared goals is the only way to build a strong future for Arizona

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Arizona has done a poor job of providing scholarships for either merit or need based students. Last year only 135 Robert C Byrd Scholarships were awarded to Arizona High School Students. All three hundred High Schools in Arizona should have one of these scholarships. We need to expand the LEAP scholarships and fully fund them without taking away money from the Universities.

Candidates for State Representative – District 7

Name: Ray Barnes
Party: Republican
Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Virgel Cain
Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher Education is Vital to the future of Arizona, we must support our public education system K-12 as well as our institutions of higher learning to prepare Arizona for the future.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I feel that John Kerry has the perfect plan. If a student is willing to give time to his/her country then we are willing to finance their college education. The country benefits from all of the time and commitment from those students and the student benefits from an opportunity to have a college degree at little or no expense to them personally. The country further benefits by a more educated work force. Everyone wins!

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I am a total advocate for public education. An educated citizenry is vital to the survival of a democracy. I will support all measures that are in support of public education, K-12 and our university system. We must find a way to make education of our children our number one priority.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I feel that every American child should be able to go to college, trade school, or community college. If they do not have the means to pay for that then we need to make a commitment as a country to assist them (see #2 above). A student that excels in school should be given the opportunity to further their education and again should be provided with assistance if they are not able to personally pay for that education. Education is an INVESTMENT not an expense, an INVESTMENT in our future. We all benefit with a fully educated citizenry.

Candidates for State Representative – District 7

Name: Wes Marsh

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Mark Monday

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: David Burnell Smith

Party: Republican

Website: www.smithfor7.com

No response submitted.

Name: Thom Von Hapsburg

Party: Republican

Website: www.vonhapsburg.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 8



Name: Nancy Buel

Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education and its proper funding are paramount to the economic and social growth of Arizona. With a well educated population, we will attract more professional and better paying jobs to our state.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

We need to provide grants to those students who are financially challenged. Pell Grants have been considerably reduced and our State must take up the slack.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will push for all higher education interests, especially for those that will enhance the faculty and research centers that have been proposed for our universities.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support both merit-based and need-based programs equally.

Name: Royce Flora

Party: Republican

Website: www.royce2004.com

No response submitted.

Name: Michele Reagan

Party: Republican

Website: www.votereagan.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 8

Name: Colette Rosati

Party: Republican

Website: www.rosati2004.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Nancy Stein

Party: Democrat

Website: www.nancystein2004.org

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 9

Name: Phil Hanson

Party: Republican

Website: www.philhanson.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Rick Murphy

Party: Republican

Website: www.rickmurphyaz.com

No response submitted.

Name: Bob Stump

Party: Republican

Website: www.bobstump.org

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 10



Name: Aaron Jahneke

Party: Democrat

Website: www.aaronjahneke.net

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future? Education is a critical component in Arizona's future. It helps disadvantaged kids become empowered adults.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Hopefully I will be able to make education more accessible to low income students by freeing up enough money in the general fund to allocate for low income tuitions, particularly if the community colleges begin offering 4 year degrees. This will be a lengthy challenge because we must reform the tax code and deal with the corporate tax exemptions before we can truly implement educational funding reform.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will help campaign for more moderates in the legislature who will share my values and ideals about education. Until we have the numbers who value education in the same way and have similar goals, there will be a stalemate. I think things are starting to turn around though since our state has clean elections and candidates from both parties are more accountable to the voters.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I probably lean towards merit based because I think hard work deserves rewards. It is the very nature of our country that we should reward based on effort first.

Name: Doug Quellan

Party: Republican

Website: www.dougquellan.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 10



Name: Jackie Thrasher

Party: Democrat

Website: www.thrasher2004.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

I support adequate funding for Pre K through 20 education systems in Arizona. I believe higher education opportunities need to be accessible and a realistic option for all the people of Arizona.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I support increased federal loan, student loan, scholarship, grant programs, and the Dream Act. I support loan forgiveness plans for students, e.g., forgiving student loans for those that would teach in low-income districts for a specified time of service.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a teacher with 24 years experience, I understand the education perspective and I will be an advocate for all education issues at the Legislature.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I lean towards need-based programs. However, I am aware that there is not a consensus definition of the term need-based. And if economic, gender, ethnicity or opportunity is not considered, then it's possible that need may not be fairly determined.

Candidates for State Representative – District 10

Name: James Weiers

Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Arizona should strive to have the best universities in the world. The better our university system, the more bright our future. We should also make sure that our universities keep pace with the latest technologies and career fields. I believe our system has done that recently with the biotech and other new fields of research being expanded.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Our state constitution guarantees that college be provided as near to free as practical for qualifying Arizona residents. I support that and want to keep tuition low. Historically, our budgets have offset tuition costs by at least 50%.

Having said that, I think it is critical for Arizona to join some other states in a three tier educational system. Currently, we have either research universities or community colleges. The many students that wish to get just a four year bachelor degree end up paying for the cost of graduate programs. For instance, the average professor at a research university may only teach around 4 to 6 hours per week on average, where a professor at a four year university (also known as a teaching university or a liberal arts university) teaches as much as 14 to 16 hours per week. Since four year university professors do not focus on research or getting published, the cost per student is greatly reduced.

California has junior colleges, Cal-State four year colleges and University of California research universities. I favor the same approach. That way whether you want a two year degree, four year degree, or graduate work, you have a campus geared directly to you.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I have worked hard to get ASU-West to be a full four years and only succeeded after four years of work. I do not believe the West Valley should be ignored and have to do 2 plus 2 or commute to Tempe. I have always supported prioritizing education above all other programs. In general, university funding tends to be regional at the Legislature. Those in university districts support the funding, those outside support it less.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe tuition assistance should be needs based. I believe that admissions should be merit based only. Poor students should not have financial needs interfere with attending a university. However, we should keep our standards high so that we only accept students who are ready for a rigorous course of study. We cannot provide the best learning experience if we have to make up ground for unprepared students. Students who are not prepared can still attend community college for two years, prove themselves ready and transfer to a university. I help pass the articulation legislation to ensure that process works smoothly.

Candidates for State Representative – District 11

Name: John Allen
Party: Republican
Website: www.johnallen2004.com

No response submitted.

Name: Alberto Gutier
Party: Republican
Website: www.gutier4house.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Our universities and community colleges train our young people to meet the challenges in this century to attract business to our state that provide higher paying jobs.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The Board of Regents needs to create more programs with legislative funding that meet our constitutionally mandate in providing higher education as close to free as possible.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a lobbyist that on a pro-bono basis fought for university full funding and research facilities, my record can be verified with the university lobbyist that represent each school.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I need to be more educated on this issue.

Name: James Iannuzo
Party: Libertarian

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 11



Name: Garry Myers

Party: Libertarian

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is a tool that some people can use to increase their earning potential over a lifetime. Its value is to the individual, not to the state.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

As I noted in my previous answer, education increases the earning potential of a person over his or her lifetime. This benefit should be paid for by the persons who will achieve this higher earning potential, i.e., the students themselves. The cost of higher education is increasing because it is subsidized by the state. These subsidies amount to the taking of money from the poor to help others become rich. I am against them.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will represent the taxpayers, not the interests.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I lean toward the total privatization of education, because it will allow market forces to impose efficiency and effectiveness at every level of education.

Name: Stephen Tully

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 12

Name: William Arnold
Party: Republican
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Leonard Clark
Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Arizona's high education is the key to ensuring the survival of democracy and a vibrant well paying economy here in Arizona.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I will publicly take strong stands to keep tuition down. I will privately lobby public officials to keep tuition costs down. If I have to stand up against various boards such as the Board of Regents I will.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will not be intimidated and I will bring in the students to help lobby those who would make it more difficult for students to graduate with degrees or certificates.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I lean more towards need based but I would certainly continue to reward students who have worked and studied hard.

Name: John Nelson
Party: Republican
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Ken Thomas
Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Jerry Weiers

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 13

Name: Steve Gallardo
Party: Democrat
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Martha Garcia
Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Bill Johnson
Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Isaac Serna
Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Paul Valach
Party: Democrat
Website: www.valachforhouse.com

No response submitted.

Name: Maclovia Zepeda
Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 14

Name: Debbie McCune-Davis

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Robert Meza

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 15

Name: Oksana Komarnyckyj
Party: Republican
Website: www.oksanaforhouse.com

No response submitted.

Name: David Lujan
Party: Democrat
Website: www.davidlujan.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

I think it is critical to the future positive development of our economy that Arizona makes higher education a top priority. If we want to attract more corporate headquarters and better-paying jobs, we need to ensure that our universities provide quality programs and quality graduates. We need to provide our universities with the resources to accomplish those goals.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Every student in this state, including undocumented students, should have the opportunity to obtain an affordable college education. I support capping in-state resident tuition and providing more scholarships for in-state students.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will not support any legislation that increases the cost of obtaining a higher education for Arizona students nor will I support legislation that will cut our current university programs.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I don't know. Need more information.

Name: Tara Roesler
Party: Republican
Website: www.tara04.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative—District 15



Name: Kyrsten Sinema

Party: Democrat

Website: www.sinema2004.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is the second key to Arizona's future success – public education grades pre-K-12 is the first key. We must stay true to the Arizona constitution's intent to provide higher education "as nearly free as possible" if we want to bring Arizona into a healthy economic future.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I believe the state should subsidize higher education at a greater level so tuition isn't increasing at astronomical rates every year, as it has been for the last several years. A state budget crisis should not be solved on the backs of college students. Arizona should institute a financial aid program funded through the state budget that provides tuition assistance to low-income students. Most states have state-funded financial aid – Arizona has a responsibility to institute and adequately fund such a program.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will confer regularly with higher education representatives, including students, as they are the ones directly affected by tuition increases, budget cuts, and other legislative decisions.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support need-based programs. Merit based programs define merit in very narrow terms, usually through standardized test scores and GPA scores. Standardized tests are not reliable indicators of intelligence, dedication, or future success. They are, however, excellent indicators of a student's financial upbringing (there is a 97% correlation between standardized test scores and a family's income level). Therefore, merit based programs tend to benefit students who are lucky enough to be raised in middle or upper income households. Low-income, minority students are underrepresented in merit-based programs, not because they lack merit, but because the indicators of merit are largely connected with income and wealth rather than true achievement and/or potential.

Name: Wally Straughn

Party: Democrat

Website: www.wallystraughn.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 16

Name: Leah Landrum Taylor

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Ben Miranda

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: John Ramos

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Julian Sodari

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Betty Ware

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 17



Name: Edward Ableser

Party: Democrat

Website: www.eza2004.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is the foundation of Arizona's future. In order for Arizona to be a desirable destination for businesses, research, and culture, Arizona must produce highly educated students with the skills to fill these high demand jobs. Arizona has been known as a victim of a 'brain drain,' where many of our most talented students leave the state because of our reluctance to fully fund our university system. With proper funding, our universities will be able to attract our best students while making education affordable for those with need. Currently, a great deal of money goes towards paying our best students to attend our universities, which drains funding from need-based programs to make the universities more accessible. When our universities are fully funded and are considered top-level educational institutions, the 'brain drain' will decrease, we will be able to contribute more of our funding towards our needier students.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Funding of higher education must be a priority and not seen as the fat of the budget that can be trimmed. Proper funding of our universities can keep costs down for students. Tuition rates have skyrocketed because of the recent budget crises and the unwillingness to view education with the importance that it deserves. Cutting education funding to solve a budget problem in a given year is extremely short-sighted and does not take into account the importance of higher education in Arizona's future. Financial aid calculations should also be made that compensate for changes in inflation and cost-of-living. Financial aid has not been increased at the pace that the costs of the average student have, and this has led students to drop out of college and give up on their dreams.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As an instructor at Arizona State University, I have the credibility to present this case to the state legislature. I will vote to fund higher education as a priority and will speak in its favor of such funding before the other members of the state house. As a former member of ASASU and its Government Relations department, I understand the need to bring student leaders into the legislative process. I will work closely with the leaders of the student governments and of student coalitions on our campuses. ASA should be able to work with legislators that share a common vision and aid in its efforts.

Candidates for State Representative – District 17

Edward Ableser's response continued:

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

In my research I have seen that those students that do not have to worry about finances are much more likely to excel than those who are constantly concerned about paying for college. My research has led me to lean towards programs supporting need-based aid. Article 11 Section 6 of Arizona's Constitution states that "The university and all other state educational institutions shall be open to students of both sexes, and the instruction furnished shall be as nearly free as possible." Universities should be available for as many of Arizona's students as possible, and those who have greater financial need are desperate for programs that allow this to be the case.

Candidates for State Representative – District 17



Name: Meg Burton Cahill

Party: Democrat

Website: www.keeptmeg.org

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

An excellent higher education opportunity is one of the key factors in business location decisions. We need to increase our investment in higher education and continue investment in research infrastructure. In other words quality, and accessibility to that quality education play roles in attracting businesses that will grow Arizona's economy.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Continue to be a voice of reason and responsibility through articulating the value that will come to Arizona when we invest in mechanisms that assist in expanding accessibility to our universities. (Look at my voting record.) I need to be there to have a voice and a vote for funding.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will continue to be vocal and unrelenting in fighting for higher education as I have for my 3 and ½ years of service in the House. I build bipartisan coalitions utilizing positions grounded in the sound public policy foundation I acquired in my public policy graduate studies at ASU.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

There are few simple public policy decisions, including this one. And as with most complex public policy issues there must be balance applied to these decisions. That said, the legislature should invest more in higher education and acknowledge the value of investing in mechanisms to make higher education more affordable.

Candidates for State Representative – District 17



Name: Laura Knaperek
Party: Republican
Website: www.laura2004.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Arizona's economic future depends on its higher education system for many reasons. A bright, prepared workplace, innovation, technology, quality jobs, and recruiting and retaining economic

engines are just a few.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

There must be a place for all students in Arizona's higher education system. Keeping tuition to a minimum and ensuring both need-based and merit-based scholarships is imperative.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I have a record of working on behalf of higher education. I will continue to do so. I will also push for a higher education standing committee in both Houses.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe a mixture of both is needed to ensure all students have a chance to become productive citizens.

Name: Mark Thompson
Party: Republican
Website: www.markthompson2004.com
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 18



Name: Mark Anderson

Party: Republican

Website: www.markandersonaz.com

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is very important for Arizona's future. I am a strong supporter of the vision that Dr. Crow has for ASU and the University system here in Arizona. I believe that high-level

technology jobs are important for the economy of the state.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I believe the recent efforts to raise tuition in order to provide additional scholarship resources for needy students was an excellent idea. Arizona's tuition should be kept as low as possible, but increasing the scholarships for low-income students is important.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Higher education is always represented well at the Legislature. The Universities and Community Colleges have well-qualified and effective lobbyists who do an excellent job.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support need-based and merit-based programs. It does not need to be an either-or proposition.

Candidates for State Representative – District 18



Name: Colby Bower

Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future? Higher education is one of the most important elements in developing our economy here in Arizona. The ability to attract new business and industry greatly depends on the state's ability to produce well-trained, well-educated workers. The state university system is absolutely critical in ensuring our long-term economic outlook is bright.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

We need to make sure that as costs increase, we offer opportunities and creative financial options for students. We have to protect education spending in the budget process and ensure that dollars are being spent on the student, not on needless administration. Another option that needs explored is allowing universities to create revenue through research. While these plans are in their infancy, they need to be fully investigated and implemented.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a graduate of ASU, I take higher education very seriously. My door will always be open to concerns and ideas from all vested groups.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support merit based programs simply because it's fair. It's only right that someone be judged and evaluated on their merits over their race, religion or economic background.

Name: Joe Brown

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Cecelia Fleming

Party: Republican

Website: www.members.cox.net/fleming2004

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 18

Name: Kevin Jackson

Party: Democrat

Website: www.kevinjackson.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Education is one of my main priorities in my campaign. The role that higher education will play is that of a rewarding future for generations to come. Post high school education will also indirectly strengthen the economy and bring about other benefits for the community.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

The cost of higher education has been skyrocketing in recent years, and more prospective students are finding themselves skipping college or thousands of dollars in debt. In order to protect students, much research needs to be done to find methods of assisting students without debt or straining the university system.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

In order to make sure higher education interests are represented, I will periodically meet with student associations, teacher associations, and other groups with a main interest in education. I will listen and propose legislation, if need be.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support programs that are need-based and merit-based, together. In order to completely help all students, we need both types of programs to insure that those who need and deserve a quality college education receive it.

Name: Russell Pearce

Party: Republican

Website: www.russellpearce.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: J.T. Ready

Party: Republican

Website: www.jtready4az.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 19

Name: Chuck Gray

Party: Republican

Website: www.chuckgray.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Gary Pierce

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 20

Name: Joel Beckwith

Party: Libertarian

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

It has a large impact. Higher education is needed to fill and create jobs in America. I currently hold one of those jobs.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I will protect them by decreasing spending of Arizona's legislature. I will push to not spend money, and collect less in revenues so that the people who pay those taxes are better able to put their children through schools themselves, wherever and however they choose. For those who do not pay taxes (or as much taxes), I will be able to help them less, since I can't give them back money they didn't pay and I won't give them someone else's hard earned money. I would support any manner that will produce more jobs so that these people who have less money are able to work to save for education. Also I would promote that children actually learn in their public schooling. Many high school graduates today graduate without the proficiency that the 12th grade demands, and this is a crime. I would not support passing of students who are not proficient to the level required. I wouldn't want to handicap them from the beginning. It's better to be held back a grade and learn the material than to never learn it and have a meaningless piece of paper.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will push to reduce spending in every area, especially those not mandated in the state constitution. Big spending projects such as stadiums, and light rail can be left to private interests. I will also push to return this money to the taxpayers, otherwise it will be spent elsewhere. I cannot force people to take education seriously, although I would advise them to. In other countries like Japan and India, there is much more importance placed on school performance and education. We must instill this sense of importance over here in America if we are able to produce good workers such as these countries. This also means that we cannot fraudulently pass students who are not up to the requirements of the class or grade they are enrolled in. Also I would recommend colleges focus more on accepting students they best believe will succeed in the college, then the right mix of ethnicity, despite it being a noble goal. The most economical use of resources will be the best solution in the longest run.

Most of my comments here have little to do with the legislature, and rightly so. The AZ State Legislature should obviously accept the importance of education, but it should leave education issues to experts in the field of education, and leave them about their business to freely manage this.

Candidates for State Representative – District 20

Joel Beckwith's response continued:

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Merit based is the answer I believe would explain my stance. I believe that scarce resources (education, medicine) should go to those who are to make the most of those resources, otherwise, those resources are not being economized. The federal "No Child Left Behind" also means, "No Children let Ahead", that means that most scarce resources are spent on those least likely to make good use of them. Therefore I would be against this program. I would more likely support the exact opposite. But you don't have to listen to me, you can see how the program will turn out 10 years from now if not today to see that it is already in trouble.

Name: Jeff Dial

Party: Republican

Website: www.jeffdial.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 20



Name: John McCormish
Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

We are now participating in what is called the "knowledge economy". That being the case, education in general, and higher education in particular, is of the utmost importance. This is why I am a member of the South Mountain Community College President's Advisory Council and the Compadre High School

Advisory Board.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I believe the state needs to find additional funds for our state universities, which the schools can direct to the area of scholarships. The state can also do more to underwrite loans for deserving students. Assuming the initiative passes that allows the state universities to profit from private partnerships, some of this money could be dedicated to scholarships or a state loan fund.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I intend to be an advocate at the state legislature for education at all levels.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe that we need both. Merit-based programs reward those who have achieved at the highest levels; and need-based address those that are qualified but unable to attend school due to family economic circumstances.

Name: Anton Orlich
Party: Republican
Website: www.orlich.com

No response submitted.

Name: Bob Robson
Party: Republican
Website: www.robson2004.com
Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 20

Name: Jim Torgeson

Party: Democrat

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Overall, education is the number one issue facing the state. We need K-12 to be reorganized to raise the bar and the level of education. Higher education comes in right after that.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

I believe that there must be a way to make tuition a fixed amount for students entering the university and limit increases to true cost of living standards.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As I said before, education is top priority. I will commit to educators that their priorities will be "mine". Society is remembered by intellect, art, language, and philosophy, not balance sheets.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Need and merit are not necessarily exclusive. Merit goes a long way, but need is just that: need. There is a balance.

Name: Linda Wegener

Party: Republican

Website: www.wegenerin2004.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 21

Name: Warde Nichols

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Gretchen Wolfe

Party: Republican

Website: www.gretchenwolfe.com

No response submitted.

Name: Steve Yarbrough

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted

Candidates for State Representative – District 22

Name: Andy Biggs

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Eddie Farnsworth

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Wade Reynolds

Party: Libertarian

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 23

Name: Ernest Bustamante

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Cheryl Chase

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 23

Name: Steve Flynn

Party: Libertarian

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

I think that higher education will still be an option for many Arizonans and out of state students. Our universities offer an inexpensive education for in-state and out of state students alike. I hope to see more classes offered in the office complexes around the state. That is far more practical than building a new campus every ten years or so.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

There are already countless programs to help students who have trouble paying for a college education that is already subsidized as it is. To make it more fair and equitable, I'd like to see a user-fee system instead of taxation. Students and/or their families would pay for the full cost of an education, while those who do not attend college would be exempt from paying anything. That may seem harsh, but it would not be so if people could keep their money and spend it only on the government or private services that they desired.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Since user-fees in lieu of taxes will not happen soon, I would try eliminate useless government programs so we would have the funds necessary to run a first rate university system. The state funds some programs, which should have never even been considered to be proper or constitutional. The state constitution mandates the funding of education, but it is erroneous to assume that more money will always solve our problems.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I am whole-heartedly against affirmative action. It is reverse discrimination and an insult to intelligent women and people of color as it indicates that they need a helping hand from the government. Some people have no business attending college regardless of race or gender. Some are not intelligent enough, others find school to be boring, while others still, are too busy making a great living to attend classes.

Candidates for State Representative – District 23



Name: Frank Pratt

Party: Republican

Website: www.frankpratt.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is very important to Arizona's future. We need an educated workforce in order to attract quality employers.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Although the costs for universities have risen sharply in the past few years, when compared to other states Arizona universities are still a bargain. Our community colleges serve 80% of the freshman and sophomores, all at very reasonable tuition costs.

Still, we can help students pay for the costs associated with higher education with better communication about the availability of Pell Grants, scholarships, work-study programs, etc. Many students believe that there is no money for school when in fact most students just don't know where to find it.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I believe that the state legislature respects and appreciates the higher educational interests of this state. I do.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe that there should be a blend of both programs. It is wonderful to award scholarships based on merit and I honor the merit scholars. Yet, there is an urgent need to provide educational opportunities for students who may be first-generation college students, or late-bloomers, or career changers.

Name: Pete Rios

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 24

Name: Amanda Aguirre
Party: Democrat
Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Russ Jones
Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

The Genome project is just one example of a higher tech industry that the state is committed to attracting. It should be a goal to make every effort to educate and hire Arizonans for these jobs. Partnering is the answer, between business and higher education.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Unfortunately in Arizona, access to higher education, at an equitable cost, is denied to many Arizonans by concentration of those resources in just a very few locations. I support the reorganization of those resources to help insure that "all" have equal opportunity at commensurate costs to higher education.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

By supporting measures to provide consistent, long term investment in higher education by our state.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I believe it shouldn't be an either, or proposition, but should be a balanced approach.

Name: Fernando Quiroz
Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 24

Name: Sherry Smith

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: William Michael Smith

Party: Democrat

Website: www.mikesmith2004.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 25

Name: Manuel Alvarez

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Mary Ann Black

Party: Republican

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

It is critical to the future of Arizona, a well educated and informed public will make good decisions.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Look for more foundation money and other sources of grant money to assist those who need financial aid.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Listen to education interests and support legislation that meets their needs.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I support both because some students have the desire to go on but may have lacked the grades due to extenuating circumstances.

Name: Jennifer Burns

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Louis Johnson

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 25

Name: Monica Perez

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: David Stevens

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Lori Tapia

Party: Democrat

Website: www.loritapia2004.com

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 26



Name: Martin Drozdoff

Party: Democrat

Website: <http://groups.msn.com/committeetoelectmartindrozdoff>

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher Education is vital to the economic well being of our state. We need a highly trained human infrastructure to act as a magnet

for high paying jobs from "clean" industries-similar to what Massachusetts and Singapore has done.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

In addition to financial aid and merit programs, a two tier university system with lower tuition rates for the first tier is in order. These lower rates would be comparable to community college tuition rates. This system could be started in a year.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Listen to the college community, and sponsor legislation as needed.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Both are worthy of support so that we have a good mix of student population representing the diversity of our state.

Name: Pete Hershberger

Party: Republican

Website: www.azdistrict26.com

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Steve Huffman

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 26



Name: Amanda Simpson

Party: Democrat

Website: www.amandasimpson2004.org

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is Arizona's future. Our universities will produce the next generation of doctors, scientists, engineers, writers, CEOs and entrepreneurs. They are the birthplaces of new ideas and technologies. Our universities must attract and retain the best and brightest students and faculty and support the business incubators that will grow around them and depend on them.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Initially it will require adequate funding from the state, but (as outlined in the response to question 4 below) the system will attract much of its own financing and support. Once a student is accepted into an institution of higher education, every effort should be eliminate finances as a reason for departing from the path of leaning and growth. Our legislature must keep up with the cost of education as it is the future of our state that is at risk if we don't.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

The first step is to ensure that we have legislators that understand and support the need higher education. Following that is for the legislature to hear directly from the business and financial leaders of the state as to the direct connection of higher education to the state's economy.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

While I was an undergrad, the school had a blind admission policy – blind to ability to pay. This ensured that the school had the most capable students to learn and excel. This resulted in a college with an exceptional reputation for its alumni, which resulted in attracting superior faculty as well as corporate research sponsorship.

Candidates for State Representative – District 27

Name: Olivia Cajero Bedford

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Phil Lopes

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

One of top five issues. For me personally, since I represent UA, it is within the top three. I am especially interested in affordability of universities and community colleges.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Our goal should be that financial matters are never a barrier to accessing higher education. Am not yet sure how to implement this goal but be assured that I will work on it.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

I will sign on to bills of interest, sponsor them when appropriate, and continue raising issues related to higher education especially affordability.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Although both are necessary, I lean more toward need based because meritorious students appear to have more private financial aid options.

Candidates for State Representative – District 28

Name: David Bradley

Party: Democrat

Website: www.davebradley2004.com

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is front and center in the Arizona horizon. This is true whether we are speaking of economic and workforce development or extricating people from poverty or attracting new businesses.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Our intent in the legislature was to provide more grant and loan opportunities for those in need. Affirmative action based on economic need is essential to the vibrancy and success of the University system. We will have to find the resources either through pulling down more Federal funds when and where possible and or organizing foundations to provide matching grants for those who are eligible for state assistance.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

The most important thing is staying in touch with students, faculty and the administration of the universities before, during and after session.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

I lean towards supporting need-based in our State universities. That is not to say that merit is not a factor in the type of support given. Merit based is not any less important it is jus that those eligible on merit alone often have many more option available to them.

Name: Richard Dale

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 28

Name: Ted Downing

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

An investment in education is an investment in our future and the welfare of our state. An informed and educated citizenry is the mark of a prosperous community and the cornerstone of a knowledge-based entrepreneurial economy. More importantly, it protects our democracy and freedom. This is why financing educational opportunity is one of my top three legislative priorities.

As the only university faculty on the legislature I have forged working relationships with members of both parties. My voting record shows my continued commitment to higher education issues.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

As I did during this past legislative session, I will fight to preserve the quality and affordability of higher education; such as financial aid in the form of grants, not loans..

This past session I successfully worked to increase funding for research grants to the system through biotech research, but this is only a beginning in one small area with a benefit to a fraction of the students. I think we should work on a program to cancel the cost of loans for students or provide some other incentive for those who participate in community service, especially teaching. I would welcome the opportunity to work with you on legislation. Remember, a plan needs a 31-16-1 vote to become a reality plus lots of work from interested citizens.

At the state level, we have a LONG way to go.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

Over the past decade and a half, Arizona budgetary support of higher education has gone down significantly. In fact, state funding for student financial aid constitutes an insignificant 1% of the total financial assistance given Arizona higher education students and is dropping! I hope you would pressure my colleagues to change that.

At a more basic level, funding of higher education does not happen in a vacuum. Readjustment and reworking of the legislative budget is a prerequisite for better financial support of higher education. Funding for the Department of Corrections is rising much faster than funding for higher ed. This trend MUST be reversed by reforms on both sides of the equation. For that reason, I joined the Sentencing Alternative Group of 3 democrats and 6 republicans working on this in the House.

Candidates for State Representative – District 28

Ted Downing's response continued:

I was one of 34 House members who rebelled and passed the unexpected FY04-05 budget. It funded community colleges a full 100%, not the 80% recommended by many conservatives. We increased pay to university employees, implemented incentive packages to decrease brain drain and for the first time met the University of Arizona's entire request for funding.

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Most Arizonan are not born on third-base. In fact, most are not even in the stadium. I support both need and merit-based aid, I lean toward need-based. Need-based aid will ensure that those born with an inherent disadvantage can receive a quality education. Further, merit-based aid will help keep Arizona's brightest in Arizona. Money should never be an impediment to education.

On a personal note, had it not been for public education and generous grants when I was a graduate and undergraduate, I would not have completed my Ph.D. from Stanford and undergraduate work. People trusted me with grants and aid – a kid they did not personally know. I have tried to repay that debt by my service to society – including my work in the State legislature. I hope this chain of generational reciprocity continues long after I am gone.

Name: Daniel Hickman

Party: Libertarian

No response submitted.

Name: Dan Lawrence

Party: Democrat

Website: www.votelawrence.com

No response submitted.

Name: Bill Phillips

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Candidates for State Representative – District 29

Name: Linda Lopez

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

No response submitted.



Name: Tom Prezelski

Party: Democrat

Incumbent

1. In your opinion, what place does higher education have in Arizona's future?

Higher education is critical not only for not only quantifiable, economic development reasons such as work force development and the creation and attraction of new industries, but also for the more esoteric value it adds to quality of life by creating and attracting an

educated population.

2. With the consistently increasing costs of higher education, what is your plan to protect students who are financially challenged and how will you implement this plan?

Costs are increasing beyond the rate of inflation in part because this legislature has shown a hostility to higher education and has expressed this hostility by cutting budgets and otherwise failing to give our colleges and universities the money they need, even in the relatively flush 1990s. These shortfalls have resulted in tuition increases. One way to mitigate the problem of increased costs is to better address the financial needs of our colleges and universities through the budget process.

Beyond that, there are some other creative ideas for addressing this issue under discussion. For example, I understand that the University of Arizona and Pima Community College have been discussing a tuition subsidy plan that may help some lower-income students. This plan and others like it will certainly require action by the legislature, and I intend to support such efforts.

3. What will you do to make sure higher education interests are represented in state legislative issues?

As a University of Arizona alum and a former Arizona Students Association official, I can bring some special insight into higher education issues. Though I do not serve on the relevant committees, I have worked hard to keep informed and been vocal in caucus and on the floor in advocating for the needs of the colleges and universities.

I am also willing to continue working with the ASA to help and encourage students to participate more actively in discussions of the issues they care about.

Candidates for State Representative – District 29

Tom Prezelski's response continued:

4. Do you lean more toward programs supporting need-based or those supporting merit-based programs and why?

Both have their place, but I think that government should lean more toward need-based programs. Not only is this consistent with the mandate of the Arizona Constitution, but also because it should be kept in mind that not all of the creative ideas that will guide us in the future will come from straight “A” students. There are many average and above average students who have a place in our colleges and universities, and society would benefit if they were educated, and they should not be denied for lack of resources.

Furthermore, mediocre scholarship has never been a barrier to students from higher income families.

That being said, merit based programs are important as well, both to the deserving individuals as well as to the institutions. The state should support and accommodate efforts to provide such scholarships.

Candidates for State Representative – District 30

Name: David Gowan

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Marian McClure

Party: Republican

Incumbent

No response submitted.

Name: Jonathan Paton

Party: Republican

No response submitted.

Name: Esther Sharif

Party: Democrat

No response submitted.

Name: Douglas Sposito

Party: Republican

No response submitted.