

# UA Arboretum Celebrates Grand Opening

By Susan McGinley

**T**he University of Arizona campus offers more than the stately brick buildings, modern stadium, and grassy mall that so readily come to mind. Its entire landscape of beautiful trees and shrubs has been designated an arboretum.

The UA Campus Arboretum celebrated its acceptance into the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta with a grand opening in fall 2002. UA president, Peter Likins welcomed the guests, followed by David Yetman, former Pima County Supervisor, local author and currently host of KUAT's "The Desert Speaks," who delivered the keynote address.

The University of Arizona campus is the oldest continually maintained green space in Arizona. For more than 100 years, UA students, faculty, staff and visitors have enjoyed the beautifully landscaped campus in the heart of the Sonoran



Elizabeth Davison  
*Boojum tree on UA campus*

the UA Campus Arboretum the same status accorded the Tucson Desert Botanical Gardens, the Phoenix Desert Botanical Garden, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, and the ASU Campus Arboretum. ☒

Desert. Many specimens have been planted by faculty and students, or donated by graduating classes.

This unique collection of trees and shrubs provides educational and research opportunities for students and faculty, historical examples of plants from arid and semi-arid climates around the world, and restful shady places for study or retreat.

The Campus Arboretum has assisted in the beautification of grounds around the ROTC building, begun plans to improve landscaping in the ILC, and helped with early efforts to improve the landscape around Old Main.

Inclusion in the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta gives

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For more information about the UA Campus Arboretum, see [arboretum.arizona.edu](http://arboretum.arizona.edu).