

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: President Robert Robbins <http://president.arizona.edu/>

DATE: June 1, 2020

- Effective immediately through the start of the fall 2020 semester, we will hold weekly Reentry Task Force briefings each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. All briefings will be streamed live at arizona.edu/live. Any changes to this schedule will be announced via the University's official Twitter account, <https://twitter.com/uarizona>, and posted on the main [COVID-19 information page](#) (under 'STATUS'). Our press conference last week featured several of our innovative faculty working on testing, tracing and treating.
- Dr. Richard Carmona, the 17th Surgeon General of the United States and University of Arizona Distinguished Professor, has been appointed to lead the University's Reentry Task Force. All pandemic-related issues at the university will flow through this taskforce. As Director of the Task Force, Dr. Carmona will head the development and execution of our return-to-campus plan for fall 2020. Dr. Carmona will report directly to the President, and the Reentry Task Force will integrate and be informed by the previous work of Provost Folks, SVP Cantwell, and SVP Dake.
- Zoom Town Halls are continuing with colleges and administrative units across the university. A [Town Hall FAQ page](#) is now live and viewable by any employee with a NetID. This web page is a living document and will be continuously updated with questions and answers as the Town Halls continue.
- The University of Arizona Health Sciences has been awarded \$1.35 million in COVID-19 relief funding to support sixteen rural hospitals across Arizona. The funding will be sent to the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program at the Center for Rural Health in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. This funding, which will be critical for the ongoing operations of many rural hospitals, embodies our university's land-grant mission.
- The University of Arizona has begun the process of awarding the \$15.4 million in CARES Act funding designated for direct student support. The first batch of funds was disbursed on May 14 to 8,013 eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who were displaced from campus housing, lost funding for meal plans, had to unexpectedly travel long distances and/or live in rural areas of Arizona. The university is awarding the emergency funds as follows:
 - Approximately \$5 million in direct grants to students
 - Approximately \$5 million via an application process embedded in the current Student Emergency Fund process
 - Approximately \$5 million during summer session and the fall semester
- The search for a Senior Vice President for Native American Advancement and Tribal Engagement is nearing a close as four finalists were interviewed virtually the week of May 25. We hope to announce the selected candidate for this important role soon.