

## REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Liesl Folks  
<https://provost.arizona.edu>

DATE: 4 Dec 2020

ACCOMPLISHMENTS and GOALS:

- **Campus Announcements:**
  - Memo sent to students on 11/10 announcing relaxed Fall 2020 Academic Grading and Withdrawal Policies, as a pandemic mitigation measure.
  - Memo sent 12/7 announcing call for proposals for Provost's Investment Fund (PIF). <https://provost.arizona.edu/provost-investment-fund>
  
- **Bi-Weekly Live Chat session topics with faculty and instructors in the past month;**
  - November 5<sup>th</sup> – Faculty Demographics and Hiring
  - November 18<sup>th</sup> – General Education Refresh
  - December 3<sup>rd</sup> – HLC Reaffirmation of Accreditation 2021  
*Next session will be January 28, 2021 – Student Services*  
(<https://provost.arizona.edu/content/provost-forum>)
  
- **Update on leadership searches:**
  - COS Dean Finalists held public open forums on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Final campus visits scheduled for Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.
  
- **Faculty Recognition:**
  - Virtual ceremonies to recognize various awards taking in early December in place of in-person event that was postponed from April 2020.
    - Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Awards:**  
Ian Pepper, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Melissa Tatum, College of Law
    - Five Star Faculty Award:**  
Faten Ghosn, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
    - Swanson Prize for Teaching Excellence:**  
Susan Knight, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Lisa Rezende, College of Science  
Robert Williams, College of Law
    - Koffler Prize:**  
G. Dirk Mateer, Eller College of Management
    - Sherrill Creative Teaching Award:**  
Joela Jacobs, College of Humanities
    - Distinguished Scholars Award:**  
Ali Behrangi, College of Science

Kacey Ernst, College of Public Health  
Jonathan Sprinkle, College of Engineering

**Early Career Scholars Award:**

Ann Shivers-McNair, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Vasiliki (Vicki) Karanikola, College of Engineering  
Caleb Simmons, College of Humanities

**Outstanding Postdoctoral Award:**

Rachel Neville, College of Science

More information here: <https://facultyaffairs.arizona.edu/awards-distinction>

- **Updates to RCM:** Partnering with Business Affairs staff to incorporate inputs provided by academic units and campus leaders on Guiding Principles for any possible changes to RCM – outcomes to be reviewed with SPBAC at next meeting.
- **Reorganization to support Undergraduate Student Success:** re-structured the units within the Provost's Office to increase focus on student success, including retention and completion. Full details to campus during week of 12/7/2020.