

## REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

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

DATE: May 1, 2023

### Sustainability and Climate Action Plan

- We are beginning the collaborative and consultative work to create a Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, the first of its kind at our institution.
- As an outcome of the Strategic Plan, in 2018 we committed to reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2040. We now have the opportunity to create a comprehensive roadmap for achieving climate neutrality while addressing urgent challenges caused by the climate crisis. The Action Plan will identify a series of goals, objectives, and initiatives for the University that will:
  - Reduce our greenhouse gas emissions as well as energy and water use, further increase our use of renewable energy, and promote other climate and broader sustainability and resilience solutions;
  - Integrate resilient practices and sustainability as a guiding principle across our operations, teaching and research activities;
  - Activate students, faculty and staff as well as our community partners in making the University a more sustainable place to live, work and learn.

### Staff & Student forums

- I committed to hosting forums with students and staff to hear their questions related to campus safety updates.
- I hosted the student forum on Friday, April 28 and was pleased to engage with students on these important topics. I want to extend my thanks to the ASUA leadership who assisted with the planning of this forum.
- The staff forum will take place on May 4 from 12-1pm in Crowder Hall, and I welcome all staff at the university to attend. I want to hear your questions and ideas and share updates and information directly. Staff Council has assisted in planning this event and will be able to provide information about attending the forum remotely for those who cannot attend in person.

### RII Updates: Inventions and Partnerships

- The National Academy of Inventors has ranked the University of Arizona 29th among the top 100 universities in U.S. for utility patents granted in 2022. The ranking is based on the number of patents (92) issued to university inventors.
- The University of Arizona Applied Research Corporation is teaming with the College of Engineering as one of four universities identified to establish pilot programs of the federally funded Defense Civilian Training Corps (DCTC) program. DCTC is a pipeline to recruit undergraduate students for future employment in DoD by helping place students in DoD labs or command organizations to begin their careers after their complete the program at UA.
- March 24 marked 6 months until the University of Arizona-led OSIRIS-REx mission is scheduled to return material from the dawn of the solar system to Earth for study. Our involvement in this industry exemplifies how we are helping lead the way in space exploration and discovery.