

## REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

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

DATE: November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Accomplishments:

- Arizona Online
  - Surpassed 9,500 students for the first time during 7w2 registration.
  - Successfully launched Catbot, our unique cognitive AI chatbot, on the Arizona Online website [www.online.arizona.edu](http://www.online.arizona.edu)
  - Gained national recognition for the MentorCats peer-mentoring program and hosted an invited public webinar for online education leaders sponsored by the University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA), the leading professional organization for online education in the US.
  - Arizona Online and UAGC have formed an outreach partnership to offer programs to K-12 school district personnel in Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana.
- Distance Education (hybrid programs)
  - UA-Yuma, along with ASU-Yuma, NAU-Yuma, and Arizona Western College, signed a Binational MOU with Universidad Estatal de Sonora, 4FrontED, and Elevate Southwest to collaborate in the areas of education, communication and experiences to increase educational and economic development of the United States' southwest corner and Mexico's northwest communities near the border.

### RII Updates

- NSF announced the new slate of Science and Technology Centers including the \$30M UArizona-led [New Frontiers of Sound](#), led by Dr. Pierre Deymier in Materials Science and Engineering.
- University of Arizona faculty received three new Department of Energy [Early Career Awards](#).
- The NSF began its annual postdoc survey process with deadline of February 2024. The results are a Phase II AAU membership indicator. Research Intelligence staff work with colleges and departments to identify and report on postdoctoral research scholars, funding sources, and aggregate demographic data.
- [UArizona-led OSIRIS-REx mission delivers largest-ever asteroid sample to Earth](#).
- Led by Adriana Zuniga-Teran, a researcher in the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, [a new UArizona program looks to diversify STEM engagement among local youth](#).
- [The last required piece of the world's largest telescope takes shape at UArizona](#). The Richard F. Caris Mirror Laboratory will start fabrication of the seventh segment of the primary mirror necessary to complete the Giant Magellan Telescope.

- Barney Maccabe, executive director of the Institute for Computation and Data-Enabled Insight, shared his thoughts on [AI regulation and the importance of effective regulatory framework, collaboration with industry, academia, and professional societies, and building upon initiatives like the Bill of AI Rights blueprint](#) developed by the White House Office of Science and Technology.
- [UArizona was recently ranked #22](#) in the top 100 universities in the U.S. for issued patents.

#### ABOR Tuition Hearing

- ABOR will host a public hearing on the UA's proposed tuition and fees on Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00AM. This virtual hearing allows the public to provide public comment to the board on the university's tuition proposal in advance of the board vote expected at the November 15-17<sup>th</sup> board meeting in Tucson.