

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

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

DATE: November 1, 2021

ACCOMPLISHMENTS and GOALS:

Continuing to Manage COVID-19

- On October 15, 2021 we announced the University requirement to comply with President Biden's [Executive Order](#) and guidance from the [Safer Federal Workforce Task Force](#). In accordance with the Executive Order and associated guidance, all University employees, including student workers and graduate assistants/associates, must upload vaccine documentation showing they are fully vaccinated by December 8, 2021. Employees may also request a religious or disability/medical accommodation.
 - Prior to the announcement, 51% of employees had uploaded their vaccine documentation, which has since increased to 70%. Human Resources and our COVID-19 Response Team are working closely together to continue to increase compliance prior to December 8.
 - The University has also received many requests for accommodations.
- Since October 20, 2021, our percent positive has remained very low at 1.2%.
- TakeAway Testing, which recently launched in September, now comprises 50% of all PCR testing on campus, and volume continues to increase weekly. TakeAway Testing was recently expanded to include 20 campus dorm locations, providing thousands of students with free and convenient testing resources at their fingertips.
- Eligibility for Rapid Antigen testing was recently expanded to include all employees, off-campus students, and DCCs, as well as campus housing residents.

Historic Gift Commitments

- On October 9, 2021, The University of Arizona Honors College became the W.A. Franke Honors College in recognition of a \$25 million gift commitment made by the Franke family.
- The Franke's gift will provide student scholarships, stipends to defray the cost of living in the Honors Village, and funding to help students participate in study abroad. The gift also establishes an endowed chair for the college's dean and a new Honors Faculty Academy. The academy will provide top faculty members with financial rewards for research and teaching purposes, giving the college a recruitment and retention tool, and ensuring honors students can work closely with mentors on research projects.
- Giving to the University continues to thrive. From July 1, 2021, to September 30, 2021, we have received approximately \$75.5 million in gifts and commitments. Compared to the same time period last year, the University had received \$44 million in gifts and commitments.

Inaugural Tribal Leaders Summit

- On October 21 – 22, 2021, the University hosted nearly two dozen tribal leaders from across the United States for a two-day Tribal Leaders Summit. During the summit, tribal leaders heard from University leaders and faculty about research and initiatives for and about Indigenous communities and gave input on ways to improve these efforts in order to better serve Native American students and communities.
- During the Tribal Leaders Summit, we hosted leaders and representatives from the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Hualapai Tribe, Pascua Yaqui, Pueblo of Zuni, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Tohono O'odham Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma, and Tulalip Tribes in Washington State.
- Thank you to Senior Vice President for Native American Advancement and Tribal Engagement, Levi Esquerro, for orchestrating this incredible event, which we plan to hold annually.

Latinx Faculty & Staff Association Launches

- I am pleased to see the launch of the University's inaugural Latinx Faculty & Staff Association, co-led by Assistant Vice Provost for Hispanic Serving Institution Initiatives, Marla Franco, and Vice President for University Initiatives, Celina Ramirez. The association aims to provide opportunities for connection, networking, and community building.
- The association kicked-off with an in-person reception with nearly 80 attendees and subsequently offered two additional events to accommodate employees' schedules and comfort with in-person gatherings. Additionally, a Microsoft Teams page was created for the Latinx Faculty & Staff Association to help keep employees connected – please consider joining.

UAccess Student Guest Center Now Offered Fully in Spanish

- Parent & Family Programs recently collaborated with Hispanic-Serving Institution Initiatives, UITS, and the University's National Center for Interpretation to launch the UAccess Student Guest Center fully in Spanish. Guest Center allows students to share access to their Student Center with family members in order to check financial aid and view and pay outstanding balances, among many other important services. As a Hispanic Serving Institution, including a Spanish language option in Guest Center reflects the University's commitment to servingness.

Enrollment Continues to Trend Upwards

- Point-in-time enrollment data continues to trend upwards with a 7.98% increase in resident applications and a 9.71% increase in domestic non-resident applications.
- Enrollment fee interactions, used to predict commitment/yield, are also trending upward with a 17.57% increase for residents and a 54.09% increase for domestic non-residents.