REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

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

DATE: December 2, 2019

ACCOMPLISHMENTS and GOALS:

- The week before last, the University of Arizona hosted the Arizona Board of Regents for our Operational and Financial Review—one of our most important ABOR meetings of the year.

- Thank you Jessica and others on the Faculty Senate team for putting together a highly successful breakfast meeting with Regents. They were impressed, and it set us up well for the OFR presentation that followed.

- It was a success. Regents commented on the open conversation and praised the current direction of the University of Arizona, noted successes of our students, faculty and other team members and appreciated our candor regarding challenges the university faces.

- Much of the focus was on the strategic plan and ongoing initiatives, and I wanted to share a few of the points that resonated with the Regents and had them appreciating you and the rest of our team:

  - Every college and many other units are developing their strategic plans around the University of Arizona strategic plan. The Arizona Athletics strategic plan was noted.

  - Rankings:
    - US News Global rankings places UArizona top 85 in world, 44 in US and 21 in US publics
    - Global rankings focuses on our research and faculty reputation—we are truly among the best in the world. Global rankings do not include retention and graduation rates—an area where have and we will continue to improve.
    - We are 1 of only 13 US public universities in the top 20 for most research and top 20 most students

  - We recruited the highest ranked freshman class ever while maintaining high accessibility:
    - 41.4% of incoming students in top 10% of high school. This is up 10.7% from 2018, and it exceeds our 2025 goal of 40%.
    - 19.2 % of our incoming freshman class graduated in the top 10 students (#s 1-10, not top 10%) of their high school class; up 21.5% since 2018.
    - We increased National Merit Scholars—from 40 in 2018 to 73 this year; up 82.5%
    - We increased National Hispanic scholars—from 85 in 2018 to 121 this year; up 42.3%
    - We also built upon our diversity—diversity among all students was 41% but grew to 45% for incoming undergraduate students