

Dear Colleagues:

I welcome you to the University of Arizona and congrats on joining our community. The Provost Team's goal is to help you be successful at meeting your career and life goals. I have completed 33 years at UA and I never dreamed I would be in this position when I started in 1985. I was a confident 26-year old new PhD and it was hard work, a few good breaks, and strong advice and help from colleagues, friends, and family that carried me to this day. There were many ups (wonderful wife, healthy and successful children, exciting applied research programs, great group of undergraduate and graduate students) and a few downs along the way (parents passing, a divorce, a failed promotion package, many rejected proposals), but I am still happy that I made the decision to come here. I have had a pretty good outcome for a first-in-family-in-college, inner-city kid from Pittsburgh. Go Steelers.

This is a great time to be at the UA. Our community is in the middle of creating a task-level strategic plan and this has been a shared governance process where many faculty have given input. We have many creative and exciting ideas and a strong group of faculty, staff, and students to work on implementation. I hope that you will go on our website and see our <u>UA community values</u>. We start with "inclusion and appreciating diversity" as these are fundamental parts of the UA identity. Recently we have attained Hispanic-Serving Institution status and we are one of only a few R1 or AAU Universities to achieve such a designation. I am sure that you will have faculty colleagues across the campus whose excellence helps us attract and teach a diverse group of eager students, enables us to generate new collaborative ideas that further discipline specific research and interdisciplinary research at the boundaries of fields, and creates opportunities to make a strong impact on local, state, national, and international communities. We are all excited to be working to support your ideas and I strongly suggest that you think boldly and work on impactful ideas.

I look forward to talking with you about opportunities and your success at the University of Arizona **New Faculty Orientation** on **August 14** and **August 15** at **8:15 am** in the <u>Collaborative Learning Space</u>, inside the <u>Science-Engineering Library</u>. Send a <u>**RSVP online**</u> to attend or contact Asya Roberts at 520-626-0202, asya@email.arizona.edu.

Sincerely,

Jeff Goldberg Acting Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost