



OFFICE OF
THE PROVOST

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the University of Arizona. While I have been here for twenty-five years, I can still clearly remember arriving in Tucson and teaching my first classes at the University. It was a busy first semester juggling class preparation and getting my research program off the ground. I quickly settled into my department (now a school), Geography and Development, and I soon became involved in getting to know faculty members across campus. Through those colleagues and the graduate students I worked with, I was able to connect to various interdisciplinary communities that helped me to expand my area of research. Making strong connections across campus is a big part of what makes the University of Arizona such a special place, and I encourage you to develop your own scholarly network right away. Capitalizing on our deep sense of interdisciplinarity is just one element of the special academic and campus culture at the UA. You will also want to embrace the excitement around creating an engaging experience for students, fostering innovations in research and discovery, and partnering with the public and private sector to expand our impact in the community. These are living ideas that reflect the priorities of the many groups that make up the University. I see a valuable role for new faculty in helping to shape them and keep them current, especially as we begin the academic year with our new President, Bobby Robbins, and join with him in planning a compelling future for the University.

I look forward to talking with you about these opportunities and your success at the University of Arizona New Faculty Orientation on August 15 at 7:45 am in the [Collaborative Learning Space of the Science-Engineering Library](#). Please [RSVP](#) online or contact Asya Roberts at 520-626-0202 or asya@email.arizona.edu.

Sincerely,

Andrew C. Comrie, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost