

# Faculty Senate

Sept. 8, 2025



# Advancing Student Success: Campus Conversations

- Focused small group conversations with community partners, staff, faculty, undergraduate students and graduate students (main campus and non-main campus/online), Native American students, and student leadership.
- Engagement Timeline: June – September.
- Completed 14 out of 21 and met with over 300 individuals so far in these sessions.
- Met with additional community members via other meetings and engagements
- Hearing many recurring themes:
  - Advising needs
  - Coordination of services
  - Increased communication
  - Better transfer pathways

# Academic Success Goals (ASGs)

## Advancing the Strategic Imperatives

*The Academic Success Goals serve as a guiding framework for all faculty, staff, and students involved in advancing the university's academic mission.*

- Retreat with the deans, Provost Integrative Leadership Team and Faculty Senate Executive Committee to formulate the ASGs and determine metrics.
- Working with UAIR and campus partners to determine how to obtain data for the metrics and track progress.
- Next steps-integrating data from UAIR and Provost conversations to ensure priorities are integrated in the ASGs



# Student Success Goals

- 2 % increase in **retention** over the next 3 years to get to 90%
- 2% increase in **graduation rates** over the next 5 years
  - Target to get from 55% to 65% for 4 years and to 85% for 6 years
- 95% for **career outcomes** where our graduates have a job or are in graduate school





# Enrollment/Admission Initiative

- Streamline and enhance enrollment, admissions, financial aid and merit allocation, and onboarding/welcome programs.
- Support students from admission through graduation to promote timely degree completion.
- Coordinate and integrate student services and resources > First Year Student Experience



# Community College Connections

- Met with community college leaders
- Strengthening pathways between community colleges and U of A
- Improving the transfer process
- Enhancing support for transfer students



**PimaCommunityCollege**





# Student Success Initiative

## Strategic Advising for Student Success

- **Purpose:** To position academic advising as a strategic function that drives student success by improving retention, graduation rates, and engagement across the undergraduate experience.
- **Primary Focus:**
  - Elevating the quality and consistency of advising.
  - Strengthening advisor capacity through training and investment.
  - Enhancing the student experience through structured advising milestones and integrated support.





# Academic Initiative

## UNIV 101 & 301 Task Force

- **Purpose:** Advisory task force to review and improve UNIV 101 and 301, core components of the 32-credit general education curriculum.
- **Primary Focus:** Enhancing UNIV 101 through design thinking to refine course goals, learning outcomes, and implementation strategies.
- **Scope of Work:**
  - Identify course strengths, limitations, and opportunities for improvement.
  - Ensure alignment with university-wide student success priorities.
- **Membership:** Includes students, faculty, staff, and academic leaders.
- **Deliverable:** A final report with recommendations and action plans.





# Academic Initiative

## Undergraduate Research Activities

### Realignment & Consolidation

- Undergraduate Research (UR) supports now under the Office of the Provost
- Managed by the Office of Undergraduate Research & Scholar Development
- Creating clear pathways for undergraduates to connect with research mentors

### Key UR Programs

- Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP)
- Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE)
- Semiconductor Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE)
- Hands-on projects connecting classroom learning to real-world problem solving

### Featured Research Programs

- Faculty-led, student-centered research opportunities
- Cover wide range of fields: STEM, arts, humanities, and more
- Accessible to students with diverse academic interests

### Student Benefits

- Preparation for medical or graduate school
- Stipends and financial support
- Opportunities to present at conferences
- Potential for publication





# Faculty Recognition & Resources

- Luminaries Outstanding Faculty Awards event on Oct. 16 to celebrate 2025 awardees.
- Now Open:
  - Faculty Awards nominations
  - Strategic Priorities Faculty Initiative (SPFI) Fund
  - Author Support Fund
  - Scholarly Engagement Fund (new)
  - Provost's Graduate Interdisciplinary Program (GIDP) Finishing Fellowship (new)

