

President's Updates

October 6, 2025 Faculty Senate

- **Employee raises** have gone into effect, with the changes in compensation to appear in the October 17 pay date. We are very pleased that our faculty and staff excellence and impact can be recognized in this way.
- The Office of Research and Partnerships is holding **two town halls with SVP Tomás Díaz de la Rubia** this month. The first took place this morning (Oct. 6) and the second is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 10. The events are intended to lay out where the research enterprise is headed and to provide attendees the opportunity to ask questions and engage research leaders. [Registration and more information is online.](#)
- Dr. Díaz de la Rubia shared his first [letter to the university community](#). He praised the accomplishments of this past year and described how the university is “responding with purpose” to the challenges and opportunities of our world.
- Marketing and Communications is completing work to refresh the university’s **brand strategy** in alignment with our strategic imperatives, under Christie Harper’s leadership. The team has engaged thousands of U of A stakeholders in formulating the brand strategy which will be completed in October, followed by development of a brand creative campaign that will elevate the university’s national and international reputation while supporting the strategic imperatives.
- More than 400 staff participated in the annual **ONE Conference**, a professional development, engagement, and networking opportunity focused on marketing and communications roles. The conference featured leadership updates and an engagement showcase, where staff shared their successes and best practices.
- TAMT, Faculty Affairs, and HR provided a joint training to Department Heads and Directors on September 12 related to **conflict resolution and de-escalation**.
- Government and Community Relations is planning for the **annual DC Summit** Oct. 13-16, which brings state legislators to Washington, DC to highlight the importance of research to our university’s mission, and its impact on the state and beyond. GCR also is partnering with ORP to host a **Congressional staff delegation trip to campus Nov. 12-14**. The agenda will focus on strategic initiatives, including space, national security and fusion energy.
- **Fundraising has started strong for FY 26**. As of September 23rd the UA Foundation has raised \$72.0 million in gifts and commitments, compared to \$44.5 million at this time last year.
- **Arizona Public Media** earned its fourth National Edward R. Murrow Award for Journalistic Excellence in Innovation, recognizing its groundbreaking Spanish-language content. Student translators from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese partnered with AZPM producers to create an all-Spanish episode of Arizona Illustrated.
- A recent \$5 million gift from R. Ken Coit, highlights the confidence of our supporters in the future of **Arizona Athletics**. In addition, revenue generation continues to improve, with on-field and concourse suites selling out for the entire football season, and attendance trends remaining strong for the entire stadium.

- **Retiree and Alumni Gmail:** As part of continued efforts to enhance effectiveness of IT operations and reduce licensing and data storage costs, UITS will migrate alumni email accounts created since 2009 and all retiree email accounts from Gmail to Outlook on Nov. 4, 2025. The change will affect related Google accounts, and UITS has begun notifying affected alumni and retirees about these upcoming changes and the actions they may need to take. Our [24/7 Support Center](#) will be staffed and prepared to assist alumni and retirees who reach out for assistance.
- The **Budget Model working group** continues to develop recommendations that are expected to be shared in campus information sessions in a few weeks, with the goal of starting implementation July 1, 2026.