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### Vice President & Dean Burgess

COLLEGE UPDATES

During disruptive and stressful experiences, I find it heartening – you may, too – to remember our history and heritage. Those before us started higher education in Arizona. Since 1885, we have changed the economic trajectory for thousands of families, helped hundreds of thousands of Arizonans improve their health, and controlled human and animal disease epidemics. Those before us built a foundation of resilience, innovation, entrepreneurship, egalitarianism, and compassion.

All these traits helped the University of Arizona in Fall 2018 weather a semester unlike any other – except, perhaps, Spring 2020.

By the end of the summer of 1918, the U.S. had won the decisive Battle of Cantigny and the Second Battle of the Marne, fixed the Great War's outcome in the Allies' favor and, by doing so, announced itself as no longer an economic also-ran. While American families were grieving 116,000 war dead, an influenza pandemic struck that became a much greater killer and took a terrible economic toll.

UA students were quarantined on October 3. If students living in town wanted to continue classes, they had to move to campus for the duration. Students' Army Training Corps soldiers posted at West Gate restricted access to university grounds.

100 students fell ill. On October 20, two died and classes were suspended.

**Herring Hall, the Women's League Building, and the top floor of Agriculture Hall also were designated hospital wards for SATC. The Red Cross sent bed socks, pneumonia jackets, nightshirts, sweaters, wristlets, food for convalescents, plus hot coffee for soldiers on guard duty on cold nights. For over two weeks, a number of courageous faculty members stayed on campus day and night, assisting in nursing, operating kitchens, and fumigating quarters.[1]**

[195,000 Americans died from influenza ... that October alone.](#)

Tucsonans and university students alike celebrated Armistice Day with bonfires and dancing in the streets. The lack of social distancing was fuel to the pandemic's fire. Public health officers ordered that everyone wear face masks. [Pima County deaths peaked in November](#), though no one knew so at the time. There were no computer models to project when the worst would hit.

Conditions had eased on campus, however, and quarantine was lifted on November 14. It wasn't safe yet for classes to resume so university leaders focused efforts on recruiting. They marketed their programs specifically to returning servicemen.

**All men who entered college in early January could receive a year's credit by the end of June. During the winter term (January 2 – March 21), they could take courses listed in the fall 1918 catalog, then move into a spring term that ended June 21. The schedule eliminated examination weeks, vacations, and extra holidays.**

Just like today, 1918 at the UA was scary and unsure. Just as I've seen you do these last nine weeks, on campus and statewide, College of Agriculture faculty, staff and students worked with each other toward a common goal. Most importantly, they worked for each other.

No matter what you do these coming days, you are no less part of tomorrow's legacy than you were before SARS-CoV2 virus existed as a human pathogen. It will be with us for years and we must find a way to live with it. Like our 1918 forebears, you have earned a special place in our history. Future generations will look to see what you did when they face their own difficult challenges.

The rest of 2020 will be hard, and a lot will be asked of you. We will be challenged again and again during these next many long months. I will forever carry with me pride to be a part of us and remember that the most important thing we did was to work together for each other.

[1]Elm, Adelaide. 1985. "The University of Arizona: The War Years, 1917-1918." Arizona and the West 27, no. 1 (Spring): 37-54.

[Read More from Shane's Blog](#)



### Associate Dean Staten

CAREER & ACADEMIC SERVICES UPDATES

## CALS VIRTUAL GRADUATION CONVOCATION

Friday, May 15, 2020  
2:00pm (AZ time)

CALS Facebook:  
[uarizonaCALS](#)



### Graduation Traditions, Familiar and New

In CALS, it's our nature to embrace opportunity wherever and whenever it emerges. Driven by our commitment to put students first, we immediately seized the opportunity when May 2020 in-person graduation ceremonies were canceled. Based on student input and stakeholder feedback, CALS is developing a combination of options to celebrate all May/August 2020 graduating students:

- a dynamic, virtual convocation that will be live-streamed on Friday, May 15, 2 pm AZ time via the [CALS Facebook page](#);
- an in-person convocation on Friday, October 30 (during Homecoming and dependent on the nation's recovery);
- and the option for students to participate in December 2020 or May 2021 college ceremonies.

Central to the May 15 virtual convocation is a CALS graduation video, which is currently in production. The video will include traditional ceremony features like a message from the Dean, Student Speakers, recognition of Outstanding Students, and individual recognition of all students graduating. We've leveraged this virtual format to add new features as well – unit videos that will precede individual student recognition, student commentaries, and also celebration videos submitted by graduating students. Landmark Stories is leading the video production along with CALS Branding & Marketing. We're fortunate to have an award-winning documentary team in our college and appreciate their enthusiasm for, and support of, delivering an exceptional student experience. All faculty, staff, students and supporters are encouraged to tune into the live-stream graduation convocation on Friday, May 15 at 2 pm AZ time via [the CALS Facebook page](#).



### Associate Vice President Antin

RESEARCH UPDATES

### Rapid Implementation of CALS COVID19 Pilot Projects

To proactively contribute toward solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 8, 2020, the CALS COVID-19 Pilot Project Grant Program was announced. CALS is the only UArizona college to implement a COVID-19 grant program.

Fifteen proposals were received by the April 14 submission deadline. The following eleven projects were funded on April 20, 2020:

Project Title	PI	Co-Pis	Unit	Award Amount
COVID-19 Stressors: Implications for Family Functioning and Parent and Child Wellbeing	Barnett, Melissa		FCS	\$24,974
Understanding Metabolic Risk Factors for Severity of COVID-19 via Generation of Novel Mouse Model	Duca, Frank	Van Doorslaer, Koenraad Renquist, Ben	ACBS	\$28,666
A Comprehensive TempO-Seq SARS-CoV-2 and Host Response Assay Platform	Galbraith, David	Zhongguo, Xiong Seligmann, Bruce	SPLS	\$30,000
Development of Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) Laboratory Capacity for COVID-19 Research	Gerba, Chuck	Ikner, Luisa Betancourt, Walter Pepper, Ian	ENVS	\$28,000
Discovery of Natural Products-Based Antiviral Agents for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)	Gunatlaka, Leslie	Ahmad, Nafees	SNRE	\$30,000
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and COVID19	Josephson, Anna		AREC	\$13,275
Personalized Cell Therapies to Combat COVID19	Simpson, Richard	Katsanis, Emmanuel	NCS	\$29,975
Stress and Coping among Firefighters on the Frontlines of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Testing a Mindfulness Intervention	Zeiders, Katie		FCS	\$25,700
Rapid production and animal test of nanoparticle-displayed vaccine candidates against SARS-CoV-2	Zhongguo, Xiong	Georgieva, Teodora	SPLS	\$29,975
Mechanisms underlying the regulation of ACE-2 in the lung	Zhao, Ningning		NCS	\$30,000
Bend the Curve Hand Sanitizer Project	Vish Viswanathan Gaytri Vedantam		ACBS	\$10,000



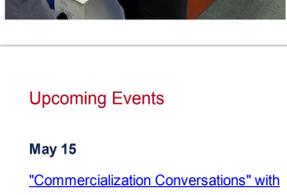
### Associate Vice President Ratje

FINANCE, ADMIN. & OPERATIONS UPDATES

### March Visit to Yuma

In early March, a gaggle of ALVSCE business officers and College of Engineering professors toured Yuma to see first-hand the agricultural production cycle from new ideas to fresh produce, clean and bagged and ready to be delivered to stores. UArizona has such an impactful presence in Yuma now. My thanks to Paul Brierley, Stephanie Slinski, Sonnet Nelson, Bert Hernandez, Mark Siemens, Russ Engel, and many others for the experience.

What struck me most was the consistent plea from community leaders that Yuma wants and needs the University of Arizona to play a growing role in the future. A compelling reminder for me, a Tucson-based employee, that we are the university for all of Arizona.

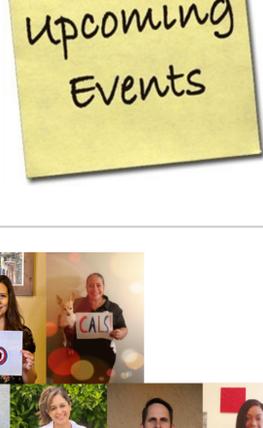


### Upcoming Events

May 15  
["Commercialization Conversations" with Tech Launch Arizona leadership \(virtual\)](#)

May 15  
[CALS Virtual Graduation Convocation](#)

June 1-3  
[AZ 4-H Virtual Summit 2020](#)



### Difference Makers

**Celebrating our colleagues who inspire with humanitarianism, courage and innovation**

Do you know a colleague in the Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension who has shown courage, humanitarianism, selflessness, innovation, or simply inspired you and others? Share their story on [Compass](#) and to read about others across our division who are making a positive difference in ways big and small.

[Nominate a Difference Maker Today!](#)

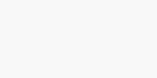
### In the News

[How Can Oil Prices Plunge Below Zero?](#)  
Futurity

[How sewage could reveal true scale of coronavirus outbreak](#)  
Nature

[Cherry Blossoms Are Popping Out Early Because of Warming](#)  
Scientific American

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