



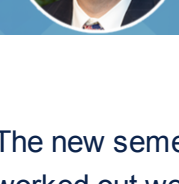
# Teaching & Research Updates

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

## Issue 5, August 2018

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### Vice President & Dean Burgess

COLLEGE UPDATES

The new semester is upon us. I hope the summer worked out well for you professionally, but even more so, personally. I hope you were able to recharge and catch up with those close to you. Perhaps do something you needed to get done, but just couldn't get to, or you got to do something you'd always wanted to do. This was the case for me. Jenny and I visited Normandy, France, where, amongst other things, we saw the enormity of the WWII invasion of D-Day and the lasting impact of the Battle for Normandy.

This is a trip we'd always wanted to do and one thing left the greatest impression on me. It's commonplace for people to discuss the D-Day invasion, and the ensuing Battle for Normandy, in the context of the political times, of logistics or of incredible individual human heroics—certainly our theatres focus on the latter.

But what hit me the most is the same thing that impacts me the most here at the University of Arizona. There were hundreds of thousands of soldiers involved on both sides who will remain anonymous to almost everyone. For every soldier there were 27 support people on the Allied side alone extending right back to U.S. factories and farms, and they were also anonymous. And there were all of the soldiers' family members. There were tens of thousands of French civilians killed and many more impacted in other ways. Each person, whether we will ever hear their name or not, had a full and complex and detailed story. Each is part of who we are today.

Of course, our students and their families and stakeholders are central to what we do, whether we get to know them in person or not. Everyone who works in our organization is important. We can't fully deliver on our missions that change lives for the better without you and without many other people in our organization whom you may never meet.

Finding out about you, what you think and your story is the most important part of my job. Luckily for me, it's also the best part of my job. This is what I look forward to the most each day and I hope we'll get a chance to talk this semester.



### Associate Dean Staten

CAREER & ACADEMIC SERVICES UPDATES

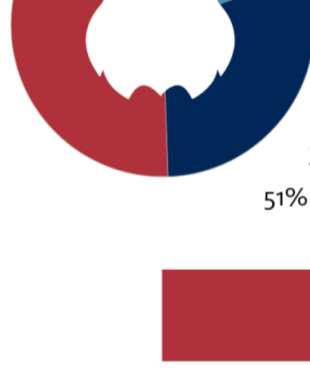
## CALS Undergraduate Student Enrollment Advances Land-Grant Mission

This past April the University of Arizona earned designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) by the U.S. Department of Education. The UA joins 105 four-year public institutions and only a few from Research I and the Association of American Universities that meet the eligibility criteria for HSI designation. In Arizona, the UA is the first of our state universities to receive HSI designation and joins 13 higher education institutions, mostly community colleges, as an HSI.

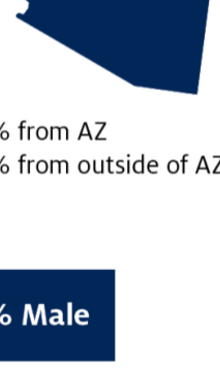
To earn HSI designation institutions must have a Hispanic undergraduate student enrollment of at least 25%. While the UA achieved this milestone in 2016, the CALS student body has met and exceeded the HSI percentage since 2014. Hispanic undergraduate enrollment in CALS increased from 25.7% in 2014 to 29% in 2017. This puts CALS ahead of all other colleges on campus in Hispanic enrollment, with the exception of Humanities which is 1/5 our size. The increased percentage of Hispanic students in CALS will likely continue with the entering class, although we won't have the official numbers until the UA Census Date.

As the primary agent for delivering on the university's land-grant mission, CALS has a particular responsibility to ensure our student body reflects the state's population distribution. In Arizona, Hispanics made up [31.4% of the state's 2017 population](#); 2030 projections indicate that will increase to 37.3% (based on a [2013 report](#)). CALS will continue to be a campus leader in serving Arizona's growing Hispanic population by being a gateway to great jobs and rewarding careers. The trends in Hispanic enrollments are good news for Arizona and the UA. Most importantly, this is good news for Hispanic students who pursue higher education. [Read more about Hispanic-Serving Institutions](#).

### WHO WE ARE



1% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  
2% Unknown  
5% American Indian/Alaska Native  
5% Black/African American  
6% Asian  
30% Hispanic/Latino  
51% White



72% Female  
28% Male

Based on Fall 2017 CALS undergraduate data



### Associate Dean Ratje

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION UPDATES



## Boyce Thompson Arboretum

I'd like to recognize and thank our colleagues from the [Boyce Thompson Arboretum](#), Dave Magoon and Dustin Green from UA Human Resources, and Heather Roberts-Wrenn from CALS for joining with me in a half-day retreat of team building, camaraderie, and information sharing on June 11.

BTA has undertaken the [Wallace Desert Garden expansion](#), which will almost double the exhibits and walking trails. CALS has had strong ties to BTA since the 1920s. It is a living laboratory and peaceful oasis in Superior that highlights the many diverse and uniquely adapted arid land plants. Projects like the Wallace Garden project remind me of the significant work going on throughout CALS. It is easy to fall victim to isolation through our individual work, and a lesson to take time to learn about the many great things going on in our college.



## Upcoming Events

### September 6

UA Strategic Planning Leadership Team visit with Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension

### October 18

Fall 2018 Luncheon

### October 19

National Phenology Network 10th Anniversary Symposium

### October 21

[Insect Festival](#)

### October 21

[Livestock Judging Cup golf tournament](#)



## Employee Engagement Survey

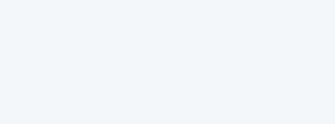
Our division has hired TalentKeepers to conduct our [2019 Employee Engagement Survey](#). This is a [direct result of some of the feedback you provided us](#) about previous surveys. We are also [consolidating our efforts](#) and combining the division-wide Employee Engagement Survey from February 2017 with the Cooperative Extension Climate Survey of summer 2016 and fall 2017.

The survey will open on Monday, September 10 – so be ready to give your feedback and please encourage your coworkers to respond as well. The more people participate, the more reliable our results will be.

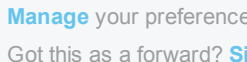
The Employee Engagement Survey is your opportunity to share your thoughts about what is going well and what could use some improvement. Results from this survey will directly impact the way your unit is run and how things are changed and improved in the coming year. Share your thoughts, and help us make this the most sought-after place to be for employees.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, you can direct them to the leaders of our survey initiative: [Heather Roberts-Wrenn](#) and [Dominic Rodriguez](#).

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