The Self-Study Process at the UA

• Co-chairs chosen late Spring 2008

• 5 Working Team chairs/co-chairs selected Fall 2008

• Working Teams collect information Spring and Fall 2009

• Working Teams provide draft chapters late Fall 2009

• Co-Chairs and Executive Team use draft chapters and collect more information to draft Self Study Spring and Summer 2010

• Extensive sharing of Self Study and results Fall 2010

• Site Visit 6-8 December 2010
Overall Findings of the Self-Study Process

• The UA is a student-centered research university with world-class faculty and accomplishments.

• The Student experience has improved over the last 10 years, although improvement areas remain.

• 4 improvement areas identified & task forces charged
  – Achieving Faculty Diversity
  – Planning and Budgeting for the Future
  – Assessment and Decision Support
  – Future and Furthering of Engagement
University of Arizona Seeks Feedback from Visiting Team in the Following Areas

- Improving student retention and graduation rates
- Assessing and recognizing community engagement
- Changing relationship of public universities with the state
Criterion 1: Mission and Integrity

- Key indicators of fulfillment of commitment to access, quality and discovery
  - Arizona Assurance
  - UA ADVANCE
  - Broad diversity initiatives
  - Arizona Telemedicine
  - Proactive approach to promoting integrity

- Challenges & Opportunities
  - Consistent communication of mission
  - Consistent communication and shared governance
  - Improving diversity of all forms and at all levels
Criterion 1: Mission and Integrity

• Bridging to the Future
  – Communicate its mission more clearly across many constituencies

  – Continue to work to achieve increased diversity, especially among faculty

  – Create governance structures throughout the university to promote and support even more effective decision-making

  – Enhance communication of integrity as a core value.
Criterion 2: Preparing for the Future

• Key indicators of fulfillment of criterion
  – Managing the ongoing reductions in state legislative financial support
  – Tuition and fee increases
  – Responsibility-centered management (RCM)
  – A plan for new distributed learning centers
  – Faculty retention

• Challenges & Opportunities
  – Managing changing budgetary composition
  – Maintaining financial access for Arizona students
  – Evaluating and assessing its institutional effectiveness
  – Effective strategic planning
Criterion 2: Preparing for the Future

- Bridging to the Future
  - Improved alignment of planning and budgeting at and across all levels
  - Rapid implementation of budget redesign and development of new or additional means of revenue generation
  - Investment in the UA academic workforce
  - Improved data infrastructure and sharing of information
Criterion 3: The Student Experience

- Key indicators of fulfillment of criterion
  - Four- and six-year graduation rates have increased dramatically over the last 15 years
  - UA is a student-centered research university
  - UA's 14 Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs
  - World-renowned UA School of Dance
  - UA's award-winning McGuire Entrepreneurship Program

- Challenges & Opportunities
  - Increasing student learning outcomes assessment
  - Changing demographics of the instructional workforce
  - Increasing retention and graduation rates for all, but especially for some underrepresented groups
  - Increasing affordable access to higher education
Criterion 3: The Student Experience

• Bridging to the Future
  – Improve the diversity of teaching faculty
  – Use assessment to assure quality learning experiences
  – Commit resources to keep classroom technology current
  – Support the Honors College to ensure the success of a diverse honors student body
  – Support programs for the classroom and beyond that improve the retention and graduation rates of a diverse student body
Criterion 4: Discovery

• Key indicators of fulfillment of criterion
  – Phoenix Mars Mission confirms water ice on Mars
  – iPlant Collaborative addresses “grand challenges”
  – Dept. of Communication’s Media Program addresses such topics as the effects of television violence on society
  – Harp Fusion is world’s largest touring concert harp ensemble
  – Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Program

• Challenges & Opportunities
  – Increasing research funding and infrastructure support
  – Increasing interdisciplinary opportunities for students
  – Expanding translational research
Criterion 4: Discovery

• Bridging to the Future
  – Focus on a Strategic Plan that is realistic and specific enough to guide decision making and budgeting
  – Invest in faculty creativity, building upon current strengths and translation of discoveries to improve the human condition
  – Generate new resources for creativity and discovery with a focus on the long-term goal of increasing the endowment
  – Better capture and communicate accomplishments outside of traditional measures of grant dollars to value a broader spectrum of research
Criterion 5: Engagement and Service

- Key indicators of fulfillment of criterion
  - BIO5 Institute
  - Center of Excellence in Women’s Health
  - Arizona State Museum
  - The Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences
  - The UA Poetry Center
  - Partnership with Pima County designed to ensure the sustainability of the county’s hospital

- Challenges and Opportunities
  - Development and sustaining of long-term partnerships
  - Evaluation of quality & impact of engagement activities
Criterion 5: Engagement and Service

• Bridging to the Future
  – Develop ways to capture, assess and communicate existing engagement and achievements
  – Communicate and foster greater involvement with the local business community and other local sectors
  – Create a strong culture of engagement throughout the institution and communicate its programs to both internal and external constituencies
  – Reward faculty involvement
  – Promote curricular and program innovation
Preparing for the 6-8 December 2010 Site Visit

• Inform yourself about the Self Study findings:
  – Read all/parts of the Self Study at www://nca2010.arizona.edu
  – Attend/Participate in public meetings
    • November 15 in Gallagher Theater at noon
    • November 17 in Tucson Room at 6:30pm
• Attend Site Visit Team public forums as appropriate
• Attend meetings with the Site Visit Team if invited