

February 20, 2009



Dear Campus Community,

The University of Arizona North Central Association 2010 reaccreditation process, *Bridging to the Future*, ramped up in August 2008. As The University of Arizona sets its course to 2020, we are acutely aware that the public's needs in higher education are rapidly changing. Our world today is dramatically different from that of the last time the UA was accredited in 2000. We now need to account for living in a global world where technological advances are occurring at unimaginable speeds and where integrated approaches to solving major human and environmental issues are essential. Translating our science and humanistic studies is critical to successful engagement with the public. As a land-grant institution, we take very seriously our shared responsibility for leading the public into the future.

The University of Arizona as a premier *Student-Centered Research University* is rich in its history of strong research and outreach efforts, instructional and interdisciplinary programs, and world-class faculty. The Self-Study Report will involve a serious evaluation of all of the University's components, and utilize the outcomes to get to the future on track, more focused, and stronger than we have ever been.

We look forward to working with the Campus Community in the creation of the 2010 North Central Association Self-Study Report, and we invite you to join us as we begin *Bridging to the Future*.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Shelton
President

Meredith Hay, PhD
Executive Vice President and Provost

RNS/jg