

Today's Milestone

ALVSCE_Bulletin <alvsce_bulletin-bounces@list.cals.arizona.edu>

on behalf of

Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension Weekly Bulletin

<alvsce_bulletin@list.cals.arizona.edu>

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Dear Colleagues,

This morning we award degrees to more than 240 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences undergraduates and graduate students.

This won't be like our traditional December ceremony (I miss the noise!). And it isn't a rerun of last May's incredible virtual ceremony. Our Career and Academic Services team have worked hard to create a meaningful unique celebration to include lots of messages and photos from our graduates. This time around, it will be hosted on YouTube.

CALS December Virtual Graduation Convocation Premiere, Friday, December 18, 9:00 a.m. (pre-show begins at 8:45 a.m.)

uazcals.com/youtube

Join me in congratulating our newest alumni – and celebrate your own success with theirs. If you are on Instagram, share your personal congrats there using #UAZCALSGrad

As this singular year ends, I recognize and thank you.

This year brought grief, fear, frustration, and too many other emotions to list. But it also brought out your empathy, collegiality, courage, grit and ingenuity. You have shown resilience and kept the worst effects of exhaustion, emotional depletion and burnout at bay. Now you must take a proper break, please. As you do, celebrate the genuine successes we have had together in 2020.

Though constrained by the pandemic's darkest time, 2021 brings hope. Not only hope that vaccines will hasten life returning to normal but also hope that we not allow the serious issues of inequity, injustice, intolerance and violence that we so painfully acknowledged in 2020 to be suppressed, as in the past.

With the greatest hope that we continue to face our greatest challenges by bringing out our best selves, as we did together in 2020, my best wishes to all of you for a happy and restful holiday season.

Shane

My mask protects you; your mask protects me. We've controlled infectious diseases without vaccines for thousands of years. **Wearing our masks** means we can have a functioning economy and concurrently save thousands of lives.

[All UA employees, students and visitors must wear a face covering inside all UA buildings](#), unless alone in a single occupancy office, and in [UA outdoor spaces](#) where continuous physical distancing of at least six feet is difficult or impossible to maintain.

Shane C. Burgess

Vice President for the Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension
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The University of Arizona is located statewide on the ancestral homelands of indigenous peoples.