

[To view this email as a web page, go here.](#)

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

January 8, 2024, 2:42 p.m.



## Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

First, I want to acknowledge that the financial challenges and uncertainties we have been facing together – especially, in the College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences, since Activity Informed Budgeting was implemented – are still top of many people’s minds. I understand the anxiety and uncertainty you have felt. I have seen, recognized, and been inspired by your resilience and dedication despite this.

On December 13, President Robbins presented his Financial Action Plan to the Arizona Board of Regents. One of the changes he announced will significantly affect our college: *“immediately eliminating Activity Informed Budgeting (AIB) and transition(ing) to a Centralized Planning Budget Model in FY 2025”*. You will hear this next budget model called “incremental budgeting” – a system used at the UA for almost all of its history. (See <https://www.arizona.edu/financial-updates> for continual financial updates.)

President Robbins also told the Regents seven things that “We Are **Not** Doing”. One is that we are not *“jeopardizing our teaching and research mission”*. This is very important because we can show that CALES’ employees are fully engaged in efficiently and effectively delivering our teaching and research missions consistent with UA’s policies and guidance. These data will be presented to Interim CFO John Arnold in March.

I recognize that we are still in a period of ambiguity and uncertainty. I want to assure you of three things:

1. We will do as we have always done and do our business well so that we can deliver on our strategic intents.

2. Your voices and concerns will continue to guide our decisions through the role shared governance continues to play in decision-making.
3. My guiding principle will be to make decisions that have the highest probability of keeping all our people in their jobs.

I will work alongside you as we navigate the changes ahead. Our shared commitment to our students, our research, and our communities statewide is the bedrock of our success, regardless of changing conditions. Our shared commitment is our shared heritage; it has stood the test of time and represents the principles on which this land-grant university was founded in 1885. We are being asked once again to harness our collective dedication, strength, and courage. I believe that together we can lead into 2024 with the same shared purpose that has changed Arizona for the better for almost 140 years.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the important work you do every day.

Sincerely,

**Shane**

Shane C. Burgess

Vice President, Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension

Charles-Sander Dean of the College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences  
The University of Arizona

---

*This email was sent to: ALVSCE faculty, staff, and postdoctoral research associates.*

#### **Privacy Statement**

Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences and Cooperative Extension, Forbes Building, 1140 E. South Campus Dr.,  
Tucson, AZ 85721, US

© Copyright 2024 The University of Arizona. All rights reserved.

#### **Land Acknowledgment**

*We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build*

University of Arizona Announcement

*sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.*