

**Statement from Arizona Board of Regents Chair Larry Edward Penley  
in Response to Governor Ducey's executive budget is exactly that.**

"We applaud the governor for proposing a responsible spending plan that prioritizes our most important assets: our public universities. Today, Arizona enjoys its best economic recovery in memory. A strong P-20 education system makes critical investments in ABOR's National Initiative, which will focus our universities on addressing Arizona's needs and help us graduate students to meet the demands of a skills-based economy. This budget plan also continues support of the Arizona Teachers Academy, which plays a critical role in growing our state's next generation of classroom teachers.

"A strong P-20 education system and robust economy go hand-in-hand. We applaud Governor Ducey for recognizing that a strong P-20 system is integral to our state's success. The board thanks Governor Ducey for his continued support and looks forward to working with his administration on