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PRESS CLIPPINGS

Ex-ASU president looks to mold state's future
'Do tank' ready
to tackle tough
statewide issues

By BLAKE HERZ06
TRIBUNE

Retirement isn't what it
used to be for many people, and former
A r i z o n a
State Uni-
versity Pres-
ident Lattie
Coor is no
exception.
He' s
move d
downtow n
— to ASU's
downtow n
Phoeni x
campus, to
be exact —
to head up
The Office
for Arizona's
Future.
He's the chairman and chief executive of what he calls a "do tank." His execu-tive director is Sybil Francis, a longtime public policy

Sybil Francis

analyst and the wife of Michael Crow, the man who took over Coor's former job atASU.
Coor has more than 30 years' experience in govern-ment and Francis spent most of . her '20 , year s in Washington, D.C., as a con-gressional and presidential adviser.
The two intend to parlay
their experience into a pleth-ora of statewide issues.
"Arizona's agenda for the past 50 years has centered around growth," Coor said. "It is now time to identify
and actively pursue the qual-ities we most seek in the Ari-zona of the future."
The fQento^has set two initiatives. One is lowering the high school dropout rate. And the other sounds wildly lofty T*T developing a vision for Arizona's future.
Coor and Francis said
their three-person staff will bring local experts together to address the issues.
They officially opened the
center to the public on Wednesday. However,

Francis and Coor have spent several months finding spon-sorships and meeting with 20 different interests in the edu-cational field to discuss the state's dropout rate, one of the highest in the nation.
Although Coor did not
interact with many high school dropouts while at the helm of the state's largest university, it is an area that interests him.
One% of their first steps is to get a better handle on the scope of the problem, Coor said. He noted that 57 per-cent of the state's dropouts do so for "unknown" reasons, which could include moving out of state.
The center has already outlined six preliminary points as part of its vision for the future, including the pur-suit of a knowledge-based economy and creating oppor-tunities for everyone.
For more information, call
the center at (480) 727-5005 or visit www.arizonafuture.org.

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