



**Dr. Lattie F. Coor**  
Chairman and CEO



**Dr. Sybil Francis**  
Executive Director

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### June 2-3: Arizona Business & Education Coalition (ABEC) Annual Conference (Scottsdale)

National education leaders will address  
“Achieving World Class: What Will It  
Take?”

#### June 19-20: Beat the Odds Leadership Seminar

Orientation and training seminar for  
principals of schools joining the Beat the  
Odds School Partners program

■ **Dr. Lattie Coor has begun exploring opportunities to bring a tailored version of the Gallup World Poll to Arizona.** The poll found that what people want most is a good job and that skilled people all over the world are willing to migrate to places where they find the greatest opportunities. As envisioned, building a unique version of the poll for Arizona would provide a wealth of information about what citizens are thinking. With a steady influx of new people from diverse backgrounds and cultures, who is Arizona today and how closely do the concerns of citizens align with those of leaders? As the discussions progress, the center will keep you informed in future issues of the newsletter.

■ **Printed, Spanish-language executive summaries of the “Beat the Odds” research study are now available.** Please contact the Center for the Future of Arizona at 602-496-1360 or [info@arizonafuture.org](mailto:info@arizonafuture.org), or download it at [www.beattheoddsinstitute.org](http://www.beattheoddsinstitute.org).

■ **The preliminary response of the Arizona Department of Education regarding the 7 percentage point drop in Arizona’s high school graduation rate reported in the May 14 *Arizona Republic* is that the drop reflects improvements in data collection.**

Dr. Sybil Francis is calling for a thorough examination of the data behind the decline, including an assessment to determine how and why earlier data led to inflated graduation numbers. More information: [www.arizonafuture.org](http://www.arizonafuture.org).

■ **In addition to increasing student achievement, the Beat the Odds framework also can effectively address teacher attraction and retention issues.** Larry C. Kennedy Elementary School’s experience is detailed at [www.beattheoddsinstitute.org](http://www.beattheoddsinstitute.org)

