



Dr. Lattie F. Coor
Chairman and CEO



Dr. Sybil Francis
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12: Move On When Ready

An Innovative Idea for Education
(Friendship Village, Tempe)
Presentation by Sybil Francis.

The Arizona We Want: A Citizens Call to Action

Lattie Coor will discuss plans to make the results of the Gallup Arizona Poll part of Arizona's future.

April 1: Ernest McFarland Lecture, ASU School of Public Affairs (Phoenix Mercado)

April 6: Prescott College

April 8: Annual Rim Country Business Awards Luncheon (Payson)

April 16: Arizona Game and Fish Planning Commission (Phoenix)

■ **Arizona educators continue to show strong interest in the "move on when ready" concept.** The initiative seeks to raise academic achievement for all children, allow them to advance based on demonstrated academic achievement and, when ready, graduate from high school as early as age 16, and pursue one of several education pathways. House Education Committee Chair Rich Crandall met in early March with approximately 20 district superintendents and school principals to answer questions regarding legislation to advance this concept. The event was hosted by the Center for the Future of Arizona. The "Move On When Ready" Bill (H.B. 2731) on March 22 was unanimously approved by the House members present. To learn more about CFA's work in this area, please visit www.arizonafuture.org/tctt.

■ **The Nature Conservancy recently hosted a statewide meeting to discuss critical actions that Arizona can take to protect its natural environment, water supplies and open spaces.** The meeting is part of a broader effort to advance *The Arizona We Want* citizens' agenda, an initiative of the Center for the Future of Arizona. More than 20 stakeholders representing public, private and nonprofit sectors participated. The need for protective action was underscored by the Gallup Arizona Poll, which found that Arizonans regard the state's natural beauty and open spaces as its greatest asset. Next steps include building a scorecard that identifies specific actions to be taken and the benchmarks against which Arizona will measure progress.

■ **Collaboration is vital to improving student achievement, yet many teachers are reluctant to work collaboratively.** Andalucia Primary School Principal Jaime Camacho has learned how to successfully address teachers' concerns and advance student achievement. She is one of 84 principals participating in the Beat the Odds program this school year. Visit www.BeatTheOddsInstitute.org to learn more.

■ **Arizona's application for "Race to the Top" funding from the U.S. Department of Education was not selected in the first round of competition.** Forty states plus the District of Columbia applied to receive a portion of the \$4.35 billion in education reform grants. Only Tennessee (\$500 million) and Delaware (\$100 million) were awarded grants during the first phase of the competition. Applications for a second round of funding are due in June. At press time, Arizona had not determined whether it would submit a revised application.