

Contact: Sarah Harper, (602) 402-1341, sarah.k.harper@azregents.edu
Julie Newberg, (602) 686-1803, julie.newberg@azregents.edu

Statement from Arizona Board of Regents Chair Ron Shoopman in Response to Governor Ducey's State-of-the-State Address

"We applaud Governor Doug Ducey for his leadership on the major issues facing Arizona and his continued focus on education. Arizona's economy requires a strong P-20 system that prepares students for career and life.

"Arizona's public universities are honored that Governor Ducey has prioritized bringing more highly qualified teachers to our state's classrooms through his support of the Arizona Teachers Academy. We are exceptionally proud that our universities, working together, launched the academy over a year ago and are helping recruit and train quality teachers for classrooms across the state.

"We commend Governor Ducey and legislators for the kind of forward thinking that has resulted in the Teachers Academy. The board also echoes the governor's appreciation of Regent Fred DuVal, whom he credits with the idea for the academy. Similar innovative and powerful ideas are necessary to ensure the Arizona of tomorrow remains strong and that a quality public higher education remains affordable and accessible.

"The Arizona Board of Regents looks forward to learning more about the governor's plans as he unveils his executive budget Friday and will continue to work together on behalf of Arizona students and families."

###