



**Statement**  
September 8, 2016  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact :** Sarah Harper, 602-229-2542, 602-402-1341 [Sarah.K.Harper@azregents.edu](mailto:Sarah.K.Harper@azregents.edu)  
Julie Newberg, 602-2292534, 602-686-1803, [Julie.Newberg@azregents.edu](mailto:Julie.Newberg@azregents.edu)

## **Statement from ABOR President Eileen Klein on OSIRIS-REx Launch**

(Phoenix, Ariz.) – “As we approach the final countdown for the launch of the historic University of Arizona-led OSIRIS-REx mission today, our hearts are filled not only with anticipation for a successful launch, but with tremendous pride in the research, design and testing that has gone into this mission to journey to the asteroid Bennu and back. Scientists at the University of Arizona have brought this vision to life through this mission with NASA and partners that include Arizona State University, builder of the mission’s Thermal Emission Spectrometer (OTES), an instrument that will analyze long-wavelength infrared light from the asteroid to map minerals on its surface.

“This historic mission to the asteroid Bennu is emblematic of the groundbreaking innovation that takes place at Arizona’s public universities, research that encourages exploration and discoveries about our planet and universe. In anticipation of an outstanding launch, I express my appreciation to all who brought this mission to fruition. This mission stirs great wonder as we contemplate the discoveries it will unveil to us in Arizona and to people all over the world about the beginning of our solar system and the origin of life.”

###