

News release

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ABOR Appoints Lorenzo Martinez to Oversee Board's Business, Financial Operations

Phoenix, Ariz. - The Arizona Board of Regents announced today that Lorenzo Martinez has been appointed chief financial officer, overseeing business, management and financial affairs of the board.

In this role, Martinez is responsible for developing financial policies and procedures for Arizona's public universities enterprise while working with the board and universities in areas such as capital development, capital improvement plans, budget requests and tuition setting. John Arnold, the board's executive director, previously served in this role.

"Lorenzo is a consummate professional with a strong background in capital projects and finances. With more than 25 years of service to the state and our universities in budgeting and capital oversight, his expertise has contributed significantly to the success of the public universities in Arizona," Arnold said. "I look forward to working closely with him in his new role."

A first-generation college graduate, Martinez began his career at the ABOR office in 2007 as assistant executive director for capital resources. Most recently, he was associate vice president for finance and administration for the board, responsible for reviewing capital development plans, financing for university projects and impacts on university budgets as well as credit ratings and debt profiles.

Before his work with the board, Martinez served 16 years with the Joint Legislative Budget Committee where he was responsible for analyzing university and other state agency budgets and reviewing university and statewide capital plans and projects.

Martinez cites the adoption and implementation of the board's Impact Arizona strategic plan as one of the most transformational events in the history of the board and universities, a plan that outlines critical goals and measures in areas such as advancing educational attainment, creating new knowledge to enhance lives and boosting Arizona's economy and competitiveness. Martinez also emphasized the importance of operational and financial reviews presented to the board by the universities, which provide comprehensive overviews of each institution's finances and progress toward goals outlined in the strategic plan.

"I'm looking forward to continuing to work with our universities in a different capacity, within the broad context of our strategic plan that advances the enterprise, student success, research and Arizona," Martinez said. "The longer I've been here, the more I appreciate what an economic driver the universities are, not just in producing talented graduates, but how the universities elevate the quality of life in Arizona and the innovation that results from research."

Martinez earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.