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ABOR Director of Institutional Analysis Dan Anderson to Retire After 40 Years of Service

After more than 40 years of service to the state, Arizona Board of Regents Director of Institutional Analysis Dan Anderson is retiring.

Anderson is a data expert who proved instrumental in bringing many innovations to Arizona's public university system, namely through new data and reports that inform the work of the board and Arizona's public universities as well as education throughout the continuum.

Wages of Graduates is a signature report developed by Anderson, a data-rich document produced on an annual basis that outlines the tangible benefits of higher education in Arizona such as median wages that are 82 percent higher for an individual with a bachelor's degree than someone with a high-school diploma.

"Dan's expertise though the years has contributed immeasurably to public higher education in Arizona. His attention to detail, data mastery and work ethic that always results in the best possible information informs our enterprise and education along the entire pipeline," said ABOR President Eileen Klein.

College going and completion reports that began under Anderson drills down data to individual high schools to reflect how many students are continuing on to higher education and those that graduate from institutions of higher learning. These reports are important for efforts such as Arizona's educational attainment, Achieve60AZ, and for high schools to assess their success in educating students.

ABOR's strategic plan and key measures that reflect the universities' progress toward meeting specific quality benchmarks represent another key project that Anderson aided in its development, reflecting accountability, transparency and the university system's mission to increase student success through metrics such as increasing retention, boosting graduation rates and impacting Arizona through research endeavors that lead to start-up companies and state-of-the-art innovations.

"I know of no higher education system in the nation that is as transparent and as clear about where we are, where we are going and how to get there," Anderson said. "Our strategic plan has changed fundamentally the way that regents and our universities approach their business processes."

Recently developed by Anderson and colleague Ryan Tucker is a new first-of-its-kind [analytical tool](#) that enables Arizona and other states to more accurately gauge educational attainment among citizens, including the number of citizens earning a certificate or professional license. This tool, in turn, informs attainment efforts across the country and in Arizona.

A trusted resource and data expert in Arizona, Anderson is a frequently sought after for speaking engagements where he discusses higher education as well as the data that he prepares for the enterprise. As a member of the Finance Advisory Committee, Anderson is part of a team that advises the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and Legislature on projected state revenue and he is a member of the Economic Estimates Commission that projects state expenditures in relation to personal income.

He joined the staff of the Arizona Board of Regents in 2002 and previously served the state of Arizona as research administrator for the Arizona Department of Economic Security since 1975.

Anderson earned his master's degree in economics from Arizona State University and his bachelor's degree from Blackburn College in Carlinville, Ill., an institution that he recently joined as a trustee.