Dear Colleagues -

Today Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey announced that Arizona’s stay-at-home order will be extended until May 15. This is in keeping with current Arizona trends and the White House’s recommendation that states should relax stay-at-home orders only after seeing a decline in COVID-19 deaths for a 14-day period.

The governor also announced that the state will begin a gradual and phased approach to reopening. This approach is very much in keeping with Pima’s plan for a gradual and phased return to campuses and facilities, as I reported last Friday.

The College remains focused on student success while balancing the very real public health crisis created by COVID-19. That means our actions will be driven by the best data and recommendations of local, state and national public health experts. We recognize that the best way for Pima to aid in the economic recovery of our region is to reopen in a manner and at a pace that best protects the health of our employees and students. Our Deans and others are actively working on plans that will allow students to complete hands-on programs in the summer in a safe and controlled environment. This will dovetail with return of personnel over many weeks.

I have been very impressed with the quality of work and the quality of service we have been able to provide in a virtual environment. This work has only continued to strengthen and has given us the ability to ensure that a return to campuses and facilities takes place in a way that helps protect the health and safety of our College community.

I will continue to keep you updated on the College’s plans.

Lee D. Lambert
Chancellor