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DATE: September 27, 2006

TO: Deans, Department Heads, and Directors

FROM: Robert Shelton, President, University of Arizona
Mary E. Voyatzis, Chair, Commission on the Status of Women
Melissa Vito, Senior Vice-President for Campus Life

RE: Arizona Women in Higher Education, Southern Arizona Conference
October 27th, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm, Doubletree Hotel

We would like to remind the campus community about the First Annual Arizona Women in Higher Education - Southern Arizona Conference that will take place on Friday, October 27th.

This year's conference theme is "Connecting All Women-Breaking Down Barriers," featuring a keynote presentation by Sheila Slaughter, Visiting Scholar in the Department of Education, and three separate breakout sessions, each covering six different topics. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is joining forces with the UA's Way Up and Beta Groups, Pima Community College, and the University of Phoenix to create and deliver this new, unified, professional development conference designed especially for women working in higher education. The conference promises to inspire engaging dialogues regarding leadership for life, health for the mind, body and spirit, and financial health for the future. We ask all supervisors to encourage their professional and classified staff to attend this important conference.

The conference will be held on Friday, October 27, 2006, from 7:30 am until 4:30 pm, at the Doubletree Hotel, 445 South Alvernon Way, Tucson. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. The conference fee is \$50. Advance registration is required, and space is limited so please register soon www.csw.arizona.edu.

CSW along with the other conference sponsors are committed to providing low cost professional development opportunities to women in higher education. The Arizona Women in Higher Education, Southern Arizona Conference is evidence of this commitment. Supervisors who support their employees in participating in this conference (provided it does not cause undue hardship to the unit), not only allow the attendees an opportunity to expand their knowledge, but also to make use of the UA 16-hour professional development leave policy. (Policy information: <http://web.arizona.edu/~policy/training.shtml>).

CSW has sponsored and co-sponsored many professional development activities since its inception. In 2004 and 2005, CSW's Professional Development Workgroup organized and hosted the Intersections: Living, Learning & Working conference geared to meet the professional development needs of classified staff women. These conferences were very successful and well attended, and we anticipate the same for this year's conference.