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Dear ASU Students and Prospective Students:

It is my privilege, as its 16th president, to welcome you to Arizona State University and introduce you to the 2003–2004 Graduate Catalog. Within these pages you will find confirmation of why ASU is a Research Extensive university and on the verge of becoming the new American University, in one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the country.

ASU consistently attracts talented and diverse students and faculty who are drawn by our commitment to delivering a quality education, to achievements in research and creative activities, and by the richness in our cultural diversity. The depth and breadth of ASU graduate degree programs will give you a true sense of our commitment to quality in research and teaching.

I am tremendously excited to welcome you to ASU and to our vigorous academic community.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Crow
President
I extend a warm welcome to new and continuing graduate students at Arizona State University. Our advanced programs are a source of pride for our students, alumni, and faculty. We offer 48 doctoral programs, 95 master’s degree programs, and 15 graduate certificates, supported by 1,600 faculty members whose innovative teaching and groundbreaking research are recognized nationally and internationally.

A leading center for research and technological development, ASU partners with the private sector to advance the economic competitiveness and quality of life in Arizona. Benefiting from the rich resources and intellectual capital existing in the Phoenix metropolitan area, ASU is a key contributor in developing the industries and services of the New Economy. As one of the major metropolitan research universities in America, we take pride in our success in matching university talents and expertise with the vision of community leaders to shape the future.

Our faculty are at the forefront of reforming doctoral education. ASU is one of 14 institutions in the U.S. participating in the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation’s Responsive Ph.D. program to improve doctoral education in the arts and sciences. We emphasize professional development through our Preparing Future Faculty program, one of the first in the nation, and our Preparing Future Professionals program for students headed toward nonacademic careers. A prominent feature of graduate education at ASU is the wide range of opportunities for students and faculty to work together on interdisciplinary, collaborative research projects.

We are proud of our commitment to graduate education: to prepare our students to become scholars and professional leaders in a new century marked by constant change, rapid technological advances, and rich traditions. Our partnership with ASU students provides a nurturing environment to enhance their intellectual and personal growth. Please call on us if we may be of assistance.

I wish you every success in the pursuit of your goals at Arizona State University.

Cordially,

Bianca L. Bernstein
Dean of the Graduate College