

Vice President for Research, Graduate  
Studies, and Economic Development



Administration 601  
P.O. Box 210066  
Tucson AZ 85721-0077  
(520) 621-3513  
FAX: (520) 621-7507

On behalf of the University of Arizona, I appreciate your interest in the ADVANCE Program for Institutional Transformation. With funding awarded by the National Science Foundation in the fall of 2006, the University of Arizona (UA) is building on a solid foundation of previous activities such as the Millennium Project to support the full participation and advancement of women in science and engineering and to provide a model of equity in the academy.

Our ADVANCE program has a three-tiered strategy for improving the representation and advancement of women faculty in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) departments. We plan to foster directly the scientific and leadership careers of women; to promote responsibility for gender equity among faculty and administrators; and to develop management software useful for promoting more equitable decision-making. Our goal to alter the culture of the institution by eradicating unconscious bias will contribute not only to the intellectual environment of the UA, but also more broadly to the health of scientific disciplines.

Participating UA ADVANCE members represent a diverse array of faculty, staff, and faculty administrators working toward this common goal of gender equity in the sciences. This website will give you up-to-date information regarding our efforts, approaches, and results. It also will provide you an opportunity to contact us with any questions you may have. The UA is deeply committed to creating an environment of research and teaching that is distinguished by unbiased practices, and my colleagues and I welcome your suggestions to assist us with this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie P. Tolbert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Leslie P. Tolbert, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research, Graduate Studies,  
and Economic Development  
UA ADVANCE Principal Investigator