

DEBRA K. DAVENPORT, CPA AUDITOR GENERAL WILLIAM THOMSON
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

November 7, 2003

The Honorable Robert Blendu, Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee

The Honorable John Huppenthal, Vice Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Dear Senator Blendu and Representative Huppenthal:

Our Office has recently completed a 24-month followup of the Arizona Board of Regents regarding the implementation status of the 8 audit recommendations (including sub-parts of the recommendations) presented in the performance audit report released in September 2001 (Auditor General Report No. 01-27). As the attached grid indicates:

- 5 of the 8 recommendations have been implemented; and
- 3 of the 8 recommendations are in the process of being implemented.

Unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our follow-up work on the September 2001 performance audit report.

Sincerely,

Debbie Davenport Auditor General

Attachment

cc: Dr. Linda J. Blessing, Executive Director Arizona Board of Regents

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS

24-Month Follow-Up Report To Auditor General Report No. 01-27

FINDING I: Board Has Made Progress in Addressing Policy Issues

	Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
	1. The Board should identify which recommendations from the Governor's Task Force in Higher Education and the Arizona Town Hall would be appropriate for it to adopt.	Implemented at 6 months	
,	2. The Board should then prioritize the recommendations and implement them or delegate them to the universities.	Implementation in Process	

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS

24-Month Follow-Up Report To Auditor General Report No. 01-27

FINDING II: Board Should Strengthen Oversight of Information Technology

	Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
ov te th	ne Board should design and implement an versight process for university information chnology projects that includes a review of the need or justification for such projects. To do its, the Board should:		
a.	Identify the information it will require universities to submit including such things as development costs, operating costs, proposed technology, major deliverables, other alternatives considered, and benefits to be achieved;	Implemented at 12 months	
b.	Determine which projects should be submitted to the centralized oversight process, such as all projects expected to cost more than a specified dollar amount; and	Implemented at 12 months	
C.	Develop a mechanism and timetable for university submission and Board review of the projects.	Implemented at 12 months	

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS

24-Month Follow-Up Report To Auditor General Report No. 01-27

FINDING III: Board Should Continue Its Progress in Developing Arizona Regents University

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
1. The Board needs to conduct additional research on the demand for ARU's programs. As part of this research, it should identify the groups who would likely enroll in ARU's programs.	Implementation in Process	
2. The Board needs to continue to strive to obtain university support for ARU.	Implemented at 6 months	
3. As part of its long-term planning, the Board needs to consider how it wants to expand ARU programs.	Implementation in Process	