Highlights from another year of innovative breakthroughs
**Year in review**

**Economic impact**

$4.3B.

annual economic impact on state of Arizona

$13B

wages earned annually by ASU graduates in Arizona workplace

$100B

investment capital generated by 120 ASU faculty and student startups since 2003

---

**Research**

**Top 10 in U.S. for total research expenditures** among institutions without a medical school, ahead of Caltech, Carnegie Mellon and Princeton

**One of the fastest-growing research universities** — ahead of Harvard, Yale, Duke and others

— HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SURVEY, 2018

$604M

in estimated research expenditures in fiscal year 2018

Top 10 in U.S. for NASA-funded research expenditures, ahead of Stanford, Columbia and UCLA
Academics

Prestigious faculty
More than 300 ASU faculty have been conferred by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine with highly prestigious awards, including Nobel laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners, MacArthur Foundation fellows and Fulbright American scholars.

ASU annually graduates thousands of innovators who excel in engineering, business, education, the arts and other fields. In 2017-18, ASU awarded degrees to 18,178 undergraduate and 7,796 graduate students.

#1 public university for international students four consecutive years.
— 2018 INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION REPORT

#1 Most innovative in the U.S.
four consecutive years, ahead of Stanford and MIT, in survey of higher education peers

Top-100
university for research and teaching

50
ASU degree programs — in arts, business, education, engineering, law, public affairs and science — in the top 25 in the U.S., ahead of all Arizona universities, public or private.
— U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, 2019

Top 1%
“most prestigious” world universities
— TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION, 2019

4.32
grade-point average of 2018 incoming Barrett, The Honors College freshmen, including 1,000+ National Merit scholars

Athletics

Best in field

• Pac-12 Coach of the Year — Jay Santos, gymnastics; Trish Ford, softball; Zeke Jones, wrestling.
• Pac-12 Freshman of the Year — Spencer Torkelson, baseball; Cairo Leonard-Baker, gymnastics.
• Zahid Valencia: Pac-12 Wrestler of the Year second year in a row.
• Maggie Ewen: 3 NCAA titles — discus, shot put (2); Honda Sport award.
• Roberta Liti, women’s golf, Pac-12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year.
• 3rd straight national women’s triathlon title in as many years of varsity play.

Philanthropy

105K
individuals, corporations and foundations providing philanthropic support in 2017-18

$253M
generated through Campaign ASU 2020 gifts in 2017–18

10,000
students received scholarships through private support at ASU in 2018

ASU 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW 3
January

ASU takes the next bold step to become the world leader in sustainability research and education, launching the Global Futures Initiative. GFI harnesses the innovative capacity of academia to develop options for the sound management of our planet.

An ASU team discovers a promising step in the fight against Alzheimer’s by examining the effects of the disease to rob brain cells of their primary energy source — decades before symptoms first appear.

February

ASU scientists develop a breakthrough for targeted cancer therapy and precise drug design, successfully programming nanorobots to shrink tumors by cutting off their blood supply.

March

A research unit in ASU School for the Future of Innovation in Society is named a top-10 think tank for science and technology policy by The Global Go To Think Tank Index. In a survey of more than 6,600 think tanks across the world, the Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes earns top-10 recognition for the second consecutive year.

ASU students invent at-home Pap smear device called Domi Care that will allow women to take a Pap smear test in the comfort of their own homes.

ASU wins 2018 Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion in International Education award

ASU’s unique program for helping first-generation college students overcome obstacles to studying abroad, including funding, earns top national recognition.

ASU is a top producer of Fulbright student winners, ranking seventh in the nation for student Fulbright awards among public universities, ahead of the University of Virginia, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Penn State.

ASU is among the top universities in the U.S. for Peace Corps volunteers.

The Ambassador Barbara Barrett and Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Washington Center opens, expanding ASU’s impact in Washington, D.C.
April

Former United Nations Ambassador Amanda Ellis joins ASU to create and cultivate international strategic partnerships and program initiatives in international sustainability, diplomacy and development, global gender issues, diversity and inclusion.

The ASU Preparatory Academy robotics team earns a coveted spot in the world championships.

The Global Locust Initiative, a new ASU research and action program, connects international experts to combat the expensive crop damage insects wreak worldwide.

May

Eminent scholar and ASU Regents’ Professor Douglas C. Montgomery gives $2 million to support industrial engineering at ASU.

ASU Prep Poly STEM Academy, a K-8 charter school, ties for the top spot in Arizona Department of Education ratings.

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art and ASU launch a partnership to advance a new generation of art museum leaders and a more inclusive museum career field. LACMA, the largest encyclopedic art museum in the western U.S., and ASU’s Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, the largest comprehensive design and arts school in the nation, will develop a program that combines academic training and work experience to advance the careers of professionals who are committed to disrupting and diversifying the field.

June

In the scientific journal Neuron, ASU scientists reveal certain herpesviruses may trigger Alzheimer’s disease. Researchers at the ASU-Banner Neurodegenerative Disease Research Center, and their colleagues at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, use large data sets from brain donors and bioinformatics to reveal a hidden link between certain herpesviruses and Alzheimer’s disease.

The National Cancer Institute awards more than $8.5 million to ASU to establish a new cancer center. ASU becomes one of just 13 research institutions around the world selected by the NCI’s Cancer Systems Biology Consortium to serve as a hub for fighting the disease.
An ASU team uses artificial intelligence to detect wildfires before they become catastrophic with software that analyzes data from surveillance drones to scrutinize early-stage wildfires.

July

ASU researchers empower Pakistani colleagues to confront the country’s sustainability risks with two of Pakistan’s leading higher education institutions. ASU launches the U.S.-Pakistan Centers for Advanced Studies in Energy, called USPCASE. The organization will help Pakistan address the lack of sustainable energy sources through research.

August

The Scripps Howard Foundation establishes a Howard Center for Investigative Journalism at ASU with a $3 million gift to the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts and others — at the century-old newspaper headquarters of The Los Angeles Herald Examiner in downtown LA. The expanded offerings are in the company of USC, UCLA and the California Institute of Technology, with a projected launch in 2020.

September

A Biodesign Institute building is home of the world’s first compact laser. A five-story, 191,000-plus-square foot building opens on ASU’s Tempe campus, providing world-renowned scientists and student researchers even more space for groundbreaking discovery. Biodesign Institute Building C will be home to the world’s first compact X-ray free-electron laser — a key drug discovery and biodesign research tool.

ASU and Mayo Clinic researchers seek the keys in detecting Parkinson’s disease before it displays observable signs. Specifically, blood-based biomarkers are the target, which may lead to earlier, more accurate diagnoses, the ability to track the progression of the disease and more targeted treatment options.

ASU Online and Google partner to launch a first-in-U.S. biology online course offering a virtual-reality lab option.
ASU earns a top-5 spot for sustainability in Sierra Magazine's annual "Cool Schools" report. It also is ranked No. 7 nationally in the 2018 Sustainable Campus Index, a publication of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

---

Natalie Diaz, a poet who teaches at ASU’s English department, is awarded the MacArthur "genius" grant, the fourth member of the university's current faculty to be honored. The fellowship recognizes "exceptional creativity" and is awarded to "people on the verge of a great discovery or a game-changing idea."

---

ASU’s public service college to the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Beyond the study of a collaborative, hands-on approach to developing solutions to societal challenges, the Watts' generosity will embed students, faculty and staff in the community to address local problems.

---

ASU rises in the rankings as a top producer of Teach For America members, earning the No. 3 spot among 680 colleges and universities surveyed. It is the fourth straight year ASU has been named among the top producers of Teach For America corps members who commit to teach for two years in high-need urban and rural public schools.

---

ASU and Uber Education launch a partnership to provide fully funded tuition coverage for eligible drivers or a family member. The program designed to make a college degree more accessible is similar to ASU’s groundbreaking partnership with Starbucks.

---

ASU's 'starbirth' research is selected a top-10 Breakthrough of the Year by Physics World. The publication recognized ASU cosmologist Judd Bowman and his research team for detecting evidence of the earliest stars in the universe, born a mere 180 million years after the Big Bang.

---

ASU launches the Smart City Cloud Innovation Center in partnership with Amazon Web Services. The one-of-a-kind innovation center focuses on building smarter communities in the Phoenix metropolitan area by using AWS Cloud to solve pressing community and regional challenges.

---

October

The ASU Watts College receives a transformational gift of $30 million from Greater Phoenix natives Cindy and Mike Watts. The gift results in the historic renaming of

---

From historic stadium to community jewel; Sun Devil Stadium's "365 Community Union" sets new standards as a year-round events, learning and cultural hub for the ASU campus and community.