PRESIDENT’S MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

The President’s Medal of Excellence honors innovative leaders who have worked to advance awareness and action on issues that affect the well-being and positive development of their communities.

These leaders embody a dedication to the community, and partnership with the community, as well as a constant desire to learn and do more to improve communities and provide models for success. Their leadership has helped ASU in its effort to define excellence and inclusion and serves as a model to others for positive community impact.
MAY 10, 2006 - LEADERSHIP DAY

LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION
8:30am – 10:30am

BREAKFAST AND CONVERSATION

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION
President Michael M. Crow

EXCELLENCE IN NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP
PANEL CHAIR: Robert Ashcraft, Director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management, and Associate Professor in the School of Community Resources and Development

EXCELLENCE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING
PANEL CHAIR: Mike Pyatok, Executive Director of the Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family and Professor in the School of Architecture

REMARKS
Jerry Bisgrove, President and CEO of Stardust Companies

CLOSING
Rob Melnick, Associate Vice President for Economic Affairs and Public Policy and Director of the Morrison Institute of Public Policy

HONORARY DEGREES DINNER
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Jerry Bisgrove will be recognized during the dinner as the inaugural recipient of the President’s Medal of Excellence

MAY 11, 2006 – ASU SPRING 2006 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
9:00am – 12:00pm

ROBING OF HONORARY DEGREE AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

GRADUATION MARCH

PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE
President Michael M. Crow

GRADUATION CEREMONIES FOR CLASS OF 2006

LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION PANELISTS

EXCELLENCE IN NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP
Malissa Geer, ASU American Humanities student
April Quinlan, ASU Stardust Fellow, ASU American Humanities alumna, Whispering Hope Ranch

EXCELLENCE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Patricia Arredondo, Professor of Psychology in Education, Associate VP and Senior Advisor for Academic Initiatives
Mary Augustine, Resident of the Nageezi House
Peg Bortner, Director of the Center for Urban Inquiry
Carmen Guerrero, Mesa Comité de Familias en Acción
Veronica Reed, ASU Masters in Building Design, Energy Efficiency and Climate Responsive Architecture, Former Project Associate Stardust Center, Principal, Sustainable Design Studio in Quito, Ecuador
Jerry Bisgrove has come to impact social and economic development in ways that we are just beginning to realize. Year after year, his leadership has reflected the spirit of social embeddedness and as a result has inspired others to make a positive impact on their communities. Arizona, the Phoenix metropolitan area, and Arizona State University are fortunate to have Jerry and his wife Debi as part of our community. For these reasons and more, ASU is proud to honor Jerry Bisgrove with the 2006 Inaugural President’s Medal of Excellence.

As chairman and CEO of Stardust Companies, Jerry Bisgrove has dedicated his work and investments to making Arizona a better place for its residents, particularly its most vulnerable groups. Through the corporation’s charitable arm, Stardust Charitable Group, Jerry has provided outstanding leadership in the community, working compassionately to improve the lives of low income working families. His commitment and determination have evoked public awareness of the need for affordable housing communities as demonstrated in his work with such nonprofits as Habitat for Humanity, Valley of the Sun and its South Ranch Community. South Ranch has emerged as one of the most successful communities in the nation and has been called a “blueprint for the American dream.”

Seeing potential in the largest research university in the nation taking on the issues of social and economic transformation, Jerry began two major partnerships with Arizona State University to move vision to action. He continues to give broad support for scholarships, endowed chairs, and a wide range of programs. However, Jerry’s understanding of the unique connections between culture, education, family success, quality housing access, socially minded business innovation, and regional development led him to invest in and build the capacity of the ASU Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family and the ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management.

Jerry’s belief in President Michael Crow’s vision for ASU as the New American University is leading these centers to be not only regional catalysts for change, but national leaders in their fields.

Beyond ASU, Jerry serves on the boards of the Arizona Community Foundation, as Chairman, the Translational Genomics Research Institute Foundation and the Scottsdale Healthcare Foundation. He is a founding board member of Science Foundation Arizona, a member of Greater Phoenix Leadership and United Way’s Alexis de Tocqueville Society. Jerry has also received the Center City Starr Award from the Phoenix Community Alliance in December 2002, the Spirit of Caring Award from Valley of the Sun United Way in 2003 and the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award from the Greater Phoenix Urban League in 2004.

Jerry graduated from Niagara University in 1968 with a degree in economics. He and his wife Debi, have resided in the valley since 1991 and received the Outstanding Philanthropists Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals in 2004.
The Stardust Foundation

The relationship between the Stardust Foundation and Arizona State University continues to evolve, making a stronger impact on both the university and the community. The Stardust Foundation is part of the Stardust Charitable Group based in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Stardust Charitable Group comprises several charitable entities, the largest of which is the Stardust Foundation, and represents a new entrepreneurial style of philanthropy that requires strategy, collaboration and measurable results.

Stardust's mission is to provide opportunities for Arizona's working families, who are willing to be engaged in their family and greater community. The opportunities, holistically crafted, integrate housing, education, healthcare and jobs. The balanced Stardust effort creates the ultimate goal of neighborhood stability, greater community enrichment and a world-class state.

ASU is grateful for Jerry Bisgrove's exceptional giving and support through the Stardust Foundation in helping to move forward the New American University. We look forward to our continued partnership in shaping a brighter future for Arizonans.
ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management

America’s nonprofit organizations are being called upon as never before to deliver essential human services that enhance the quality of life in communities. Yet these vitally important organizations are only as effective as the individuals who serve in their leadership and management roles. The ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management exists to advance nonprofit leadership practice so that organizations can better achieve their mission and so that undergraduate students, graduate students, and career professionals get the educational support they need. Whether the mission is housing, youth development, recreation, or neighborhood revitalization, effective nonprofit organizations improve individual lives and enhance our entire community.

1. Stardust Fellowship Program at ASU
Investments from the Stardust Foundation made possible a matching grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation that resulted in the creation of the Stardust Fellowship Program at ASU. This is the only national fellowship program for undergraduate students in the field of nonprofit leadership and management. The program has provided a “beyond the local campus” leadership development experience for outstanding students who are emerging leaders of American Humanics (AH) campus affiliates nationwide. Over the past two years, twenty-eight Fellows have benefited from leadership development workshops and mentoring provided by the faculty and staff of the ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management. Through the program, Stardust Fellows inspire other students by designing and implementing capacity building projects that strengthen their campus programs and connect students to nonprofit organizations in their communities.

2. The Stardust Student Philanthropy Fund
The Stardust Student Philanthropy Fund was created as a two year pilot project to provide select American Humanics students with experiences as grantmakers to complement their curriculum in nonprofit studies. Students learned how to think about community philanthropy as they designed requests for proposals, reviewed processes for grant allocations and evaluated each grant. The philanthropy fund experience provided students with an opportunity to experience both sides of the giving transaction, first as grant seekers through what they learned in their nonprofit curriculum, and then as grantmakers through the Stardust Philanthropy Fund co-curricular experience. Lessons learned from students involved with this project have helped inform the experiential learning approaches in the new American Humanics undergraduate and graduate degrees programs being offered Fall 2006 at the new ASU Downtown Phoenix campus.

3. The American Humanics Management Institute
The American Humanics Management Institute (AHMI) is an annual national conference that brings together 750 students from seventy universities across the nation to learn about the challenges and opportunities in the field of nonprofit leadership and management from nationally renowned scholars and practitioners. Seed monies from the Stardust Foundation each year provide working capital for our students as they raise money each fall. This scholarship campaign helps fund their participation in AHMI and provides a laboratory for students to build competencies as nonprofit administrators. Students research prospects, write proposals, do direct solicitation and report
results. Since the first investment from the Stardust Foundation to AHMI, the annual return on investment has averaged 6:1 thus providing our students with a powerful lesson in how to leverage philanthropic dollars.

4. Research, Programs, and Technical Assistance
The Stardust Foundation has made several unrestricted investments over the years to the ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management. These grants have helped support research, technical assistance, and education programs. Such support provided a strong and necessary endorsement about the importance of the Center’s mission and was the evidence needed by the Kellogg Foundation to choose ASU for additional investments. The Center’s leadership role, in partnership with the Arizona Community Foundation and other stakeholders, has resulted in the organizing and launching of the recently formed Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits. In the first year alone, ninety inaugural member organizations have joined this state-wide coalition. Services such as group purchasing for employee insurance programs, “back-room” operations support, and other programs are being explored to meet the needs of partner nonprofits who desire ways to increase their efficiencies and effectiveness. Thanks to Stardust, ASU’s Center has emerged as the leading nonprofit capacity enterprise in the Southwest United States.
ASU Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family

The ASU Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family has taken on the challenge of applying architectural design and development to the needs of diverse families, cultures, and environments. Based in Phoenix, ASU’s research and development unit focuses on: 1) establishing the social and economic foundation for and effects of permanent affordable homes for working families; 2) studying the impact of family services on family and neighborhood stability and success; and 3) meeting the technological and architectural challenges of sustainable homes for working families. Support from the Stardust Foundation in 2003 allowed for the creation of the Center at ASU, which is already making a strong impact.

1. Nageezi Design Build with the Navajo Nation
The Stardust Foundation’s investment allowed the Center to produce the first experimental house in New Mexico using a special insulated concrete block produced by the Navajo Nation. A senior Navajo couple benefited from the culturally and environmentally responsive new house. The Navajo Housing Authority is preparing to build thirty-five more of these houses, which are specifically designed around Navajo cultural traditions and have an eighty percent reduction in energy costs. The Navajo Nation now wants to collaborate with the ASU Stardust Center as its research and development arm for promoting the use of its sustainable building material. The Center is bringing these materials and design ideas to the Phoenix region as well, beginning with the construction on a new house for a family in Guadalupe. ASU students benefited from the learning experience of building the Nageezi house, and in Guadalupe, ASU students will be working in conjunction with YouthBuild, a program for youth at risk.

2. Innovative Design Services for Nonprofit Developers
The ASU Stardust Center has provided innovative design services to several non-profit developers, who, as a consequence, are producing several hundred homes that are more culturally appropriate for the families and more energy efficient than conventional construction. These homes are also built at higher densities, thereby lowering land costs, and are more unique than classic subdivision homes in the region. Once the homes are built, they will become models for other developers and cities to emulate. The City of Phoenix is working with the Center to help move the proposed innovative materials and systems forward so they can become a more common practice.

3. Multi-Use Affordable Housing in Growing Downtown Phoenix
The Center is collaborating in the design and development of a multi-use, mixed-income project in Downtown Phoenix. The project is near the light rail and new ASU campus. It will include 800 units of market-rate housing, affordable senior and family housing, student housing, and a Native American cultural center. Retail, recreational and commercial space will also be included. The varied residents will be integrated into educational and recreational programs that will connect seniors, students, families and their children. Assistance from the Stardust Foundation and Stardust Companies is helping to move the project forward in land purchase and design development.

4. For-Profit Collaborations that Reduce Urban Sprawl
The ASU Stardust Center is collaborating with several for-profit developers who are developing affordable rental housing or inclusionary housing in Tempe and Guadalupe. The designs are intentionally high density to lower the cost of land and are ‘anti-sprawl’ models. They are also culturally appropriate to meet the needs of Hispanic families. Additionally, each is innovative in their
organization of outdoor space to be more climate-conscious. These
designs act as models for how to create affordable housing and mixed-
income housing at higher densities, more tuned to desert living.

5. Participatory Design for High Density Neighborhoods
The Center is collaborating with a neighborhood group and a nonprofit
developer in Mesa to design a new mixed-income and mixed-use
development with 250 units near a new transit station. The strategy
of including the neighbors directly in the design process with 3-D
modeling kits is intended to be a usable format for other developers.
Incorporating neighborhood opinions early in the process increases the
likelihood that higher density projects will be accepted while allowing
the community to choose its living environment. The design itself will
also be a model for those planning near transit stations to incorporate
density while accommodating neighborhood concerns.

6. The Center’s Annual Affordable + Sustainable Design/Build Projects
These projects provide the Center with hands-on research in materials
and methods of construction and culturally responsive design. The
design/builds, the first on the Navajo Reservation and the second in
Guadalupe, are also an effective means of public education as they
attract significant media attention to the critical need for thoughtfully
designed affordable homes that are adapted to our desert climate. The
projects have provided a means of forging partnerships with innovators
in green technologies as well as with organizations such as the Navajo
Housing Authority, YouthBuild, and the College of Design and the
School of Construction at ASU. Each project provides service-learning
opportunities for students at ASU, while dramatically transforming
the living conditions of the families participating in the project, and
providing highly effective models for a new approach to housing in the
region’s poorest communities.

7. The ASU Stardust Center Seed Grant Program
This grant program supports pilot research projects central to the
research mission of the Center. Faculty researchers leverage the grant
in order to enhance their competitiveness for larger external grants.
Transdisciplinary collaboration among ASU faculty and partnerships
with community organizations is strongly encouraged. In Spring 2006,
four seed grants were awarded. Carlos Balsas, School of Planning, will
discover ways to balance the needs of homeless with the revitalization
plans of downtown. Peg Bortner, Center for Urban Inquiry, will explore
numerous housing issues for ex-prisoner women and their children.
Filiz Ozel, School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, will
develop a new modeling effort that allows multiple stakeholders of a
community to examine and value spatial factors in asset management
decisions. Patricia Arredondo, College of Education, is spearheading a
study of South Ranch II, a 195-unit Habitat for Humanity low-income
housing development for first-time homebuyers, primarily immigrants.
Each spring the grantees of the previous year’s awards present their
work at a luncheon sponsored by the ASU Stardust Center.

8. Systematic Post Occupancy Evaluation of Buildings
Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) is a process of systematically
evaluating the performance and/or effectiveness of one or more
aspects of a building after it has been occupied. Stardust Foundation
funding is allowing Stardust Center staff to conduct POEs on their
design/build projects and other innovative residential developments,
with the purpose of assessing either: the performance of building
materials and systems, or the performance of the building in
functional, behavioral, economic, and social/cultural context.
For example, in the Pinchot Community Apartments and Learning
Academy in Phoenix, New Arizona Family, Inc. is supporting a
community-focused, service-enriched environment for women
committed to sustained recovery from alcohol and substance abuse. The POE will assess the impact of community and housing features on women’s ability to overcome risk factors and to maintain healthy lifestyles for themselves and their children.

9. Stardust Center Research Resources
Investment from the Stardust Foundation is allowing the Center to produce an up-to-date online resource that offers the latest information and research on the many facets of affordable housing, all with ideas for Arizona. Culled from academic, professional and government research, the Research Resources website presents information in a friendly, accessible and useful format to readers involved in affordable housing design, development, production and program provision. The website is organized in five layers: Research Synthesis; Best Practices & Case Studies; Visual Data; Research Profiles; and Links. Research Resources is currently under development, with an expected online date of October 1, 2006.

10. Visualizing Residential Density Tool
Visualizing Residential Density is a three-part visualization tool that was designed to help developers, community organizations, architects and builders demonstrate the viability of higher density residential developments to public officials and neighborhood constituents. This tool is visual, interactive, and is represented by actual projects in metropolitan Phoenix. Making a proposal more real and relevant to those audiences rather than purely conceptual, the tool has three components: a visual profile and brief narrative descriptions of actual residential developments in the Phoenix metropolitan area; a density calculator that provides a visual interactive display of infrastructure, access, and resource costs for each density level, and compares those with use/costs of standard sprawl density; and a tour of three-dimensional scenarios of three of these developments. The tour is a partnership between the Center and the ASU Decision Theater.
New American University

ASU seeks to advance social and economic development in Arizona. As it evolves, ASU will serve as the prototype for the New American University, redefining the existing conception of research universities. ASU is building a comprehensive metropolitan research university that is an unparalleled combination of academic excellence and commitment to our social, economic, cultural, and environmental setting.

The New American University is an institution that measures its academic quality by the education its graduates have received rather than by the academic credentials of its incoming freshman class; one whose researchers, while pursuing their scholarly interests, also consider the public good; one whose students, faculty, and staff transcend the concept of community service to accept responsibility for the economic, social, cultural, and environmental vitality of the communities they serve.

http://www.asu.edu/newamericanuniversity/

Social Embeddedness

ASUdiffuses the boundaries between the university and the community it serves.

Social Embeddedness is core to the development of ASU as the New American University. Social embeddedness is a university-wide, interactive, and mutually-supportive partnership with the communities of Arizona. At ASU, this vision involves the ongoing integration of five innovative and distinct, yet interrelated, actions:

- Community Capacity Building - enabling community-based organizations and institutions to become strong and effective by providing support, training, and access to resources and information.
- Teaching and Learning - involving faculty and students in solving problems facing communities.
- Economic Development - responding to the needs of the university and the needs of communities as ASU pursues its role as an economic engine.
- Social Development - enhancing the well-being of the diverse people and communities of Arizona, by working closely with public and private institutions.
- Research - advancing relevant inquiry by valuing community input, knowledge, and needs.

Truly reciprocal partnerships with the communities of Arizona demand informed expectations of real outcomes and benefits. A shared responsibility for these outcomes and benefits will lead to positive social change in the community and in the research, teaching, and service practices of ASU.

http://www.asu.edu/ui/socialembeddedness/
On behalf of our offices, we would like to pay special thanks to all those who took part in the celebration of Jerry Bisgrove's partnership with Arizona State University. We hope that Jerry's work and leadership inspires others to also pursue excellence.

**Office of University Initiatives**
Office of the President
Arizona State University

**University Ceremonies**
Office of the Sr. Vice President and Secretary of the University
Arizona State University