Date: April 15, 2021
To: All NAU Students, Faculty and Staff  
Subject: Formal Adoption of Core Safety Values

Northern Arizona University (NAU) has long recognized the value of strong safety programs. As leaders in higher education, we know that the risks inherent to our activities are real and must be managed. We also recognize the organizational benefits of working and learning in an environment that reflects best compliance practices. With this in mind, I formally adopt the following Core Safety Values for NAU:

**Safety is everyone’s responsibility.** NAU is committed to providing a campus environment that supports the health and safety practices of our faculty, students, staff, and visitors and empowers each of us to be responsible for the safety of others.

**A safe working and learning environment for all NAU Community Members.** As a matter of regulatory compliance and in recognition of duty of care, NAU is committed to best practices for safe work and learning.

**Good science is safe science.** Safety is a critical component of scholarly excellence, responsible conduct of research, and daily activities. NAU is committed to the integration of safety into curricular and work design.

**Good design is safe design.** NAU’s built environment has an important impact on the usability and safe serviceability of all spaces. NAU is committed to collaborative design process, which considers the safety of the occupants and skilled trades professionals who provide crucial maintenance operations.

**Safety training and safety education are essential elements of employment and education, and a point of differentiation for NAU graduates.** NAU strives to instill a culture of safety in our present operations, while modeling industry standards for future graduates.

**An established culture of safety is necessary to reduce risk throughout the academic enterprise.** Through commitment to NAU’s safety culture, NAU’s leadership operationalizes the responsibility to reduce risk to our stakeholders, the environment and the capital investments that comprise our organization.

NAU intends to be at the forefront of a nation-wide trend of proactively supporting a culture of safety in our research, scholarship and operations activities. It is my expectation that every member of the NAU Community will embrace their role and responsibility in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Rita Hartung Cheng  
President