

2023-2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF...

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**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA -  
NEAR YOU**



# MEET YOUR OFFICERS

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Hello! I'm Lori, a classic non-traditional student studying Design Arts and Practices online. I returned to school after a twenty-four-year career as a video journalist for NBC Los Angeles, a thrilling career that put a couple of Emmys on my shelf. I left the news business to discover the next iteration of myself. One important goal was to finish the education I started in my twenties but the idea of walking into a classroom at my age worried me. Online education solved that problem. I am now rectifying my regret in a way that works for me and I'm grateful. It's my honor to serve on the ASUA-NY board. My goal is to make sure online students are valued, respected, and heard, so please tell me about your experience! Go Wildcats!



**Lori Bentley Law**  
**President**

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# MEET YOUR OFFICERS

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Hello Everyone! My name is Madissen Miller and I am so excited to fulfill the role of Executive Vice President. I am a Distance student at the UA's Gilbert location studying Nursing, so the health and wellbeing of students is very important to me. After I complete my BSN I want to further my education and become a Midwife! I believe very strongly that everyone's voice matters and that even if we don't agree with that voice, it still deserves to be heard. I hope to create a space for all students, both online and distance, that is open, respectful, and compassionate and follows the same ideology. I look forward to supporting you on your journey, and I hope to be a light during times of darkness. Let's Go Wildcats!



**Madissen Miller**  
**Executive Vice President**

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# MEET YOUR OFFICERS

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Hello! I'm Owi Akpan, currently serving as the Administrative Vice President (AVP) of ASUA-NY. My journey in University of Arizona is a blend of technology and continuous learning as a software developer. My commitment to growth led me to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Applied Computing, aligning with my passion for Mathematics and Physics. Outside work, I enjoy reading, keeping up with the news, and nurturing my love for music through playing the acoustic guitar and singing. At ASUA-NY, my aim is to leverage this multifaceted background to enrich our community, ensuring our members feel supported and connected. Your experiences and insights are vital, so I'm all ears! Let's make our association a thriving hub for everyone involved.



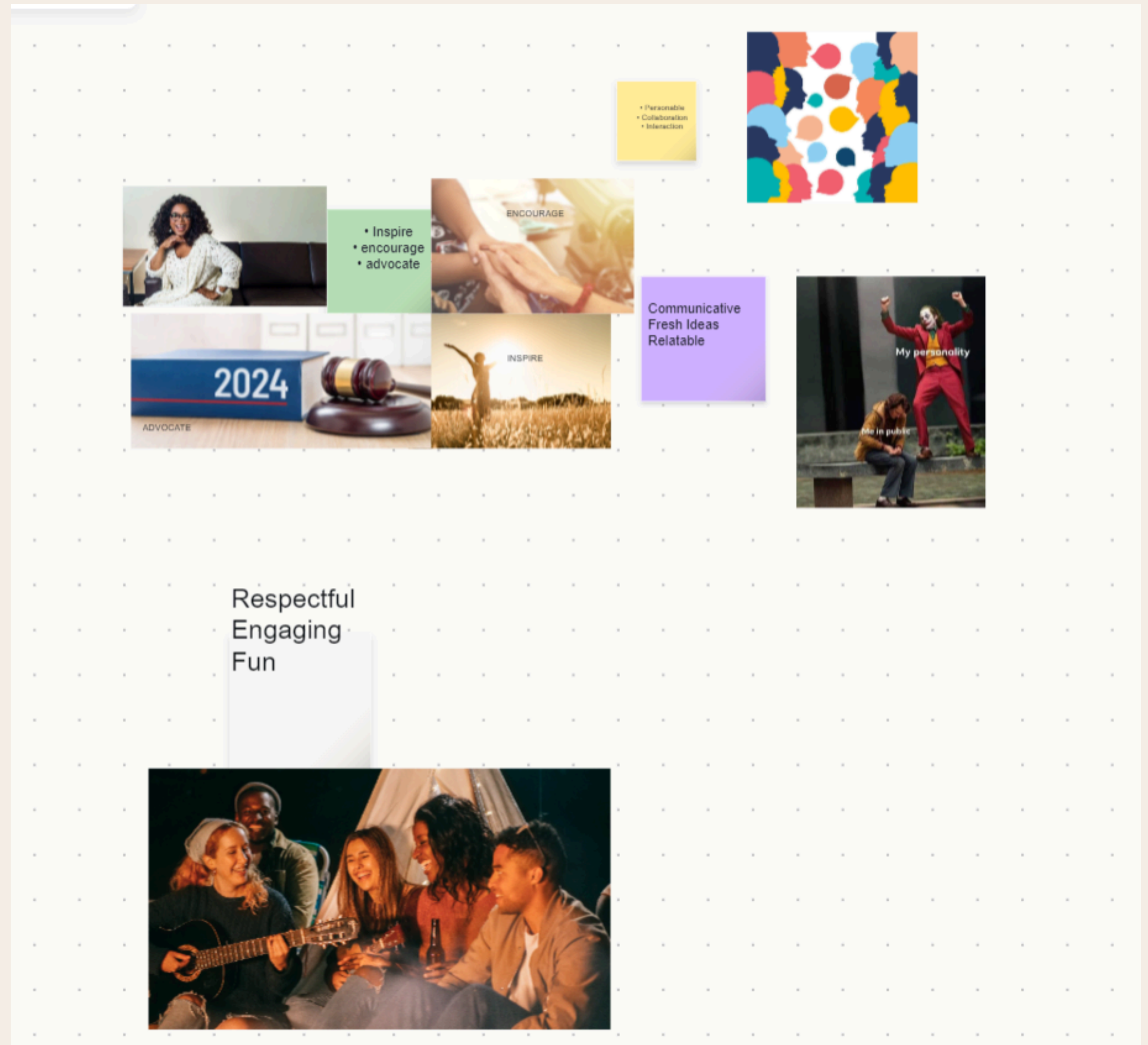
**Owi Akpan**  
**Administrative Vice President**

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# VISION

To prepare for the semester ahead, leaders gathered to brainstorm to year ahead on a virtual whiteboard. To visualize, words and photos were compiled to display the energy they wished to capture. To no one's surprise, everybody proposed different ideas.

- **Personable**
- **Collaboration**
- **Interaction**
- **Communicative**
- **Fresh ideas**
- **Relatable**
- **Advocate**
- **Inspire**
- **Encourage**
- **Respectful**
- **Engaging**
- **Fun**



# KEY

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Increased the Instagram followership from 95 to 245 followers
- Promoted campus club accessibility to by communicating with club leaders and creatively featuring clubs with virtual content on social media
- Joined conversations where students talked about getting involved with university happenings
- Published the "What I Want My Professor to Know" video series
- Created youtube channel
- Hosted a Town Hall meeting to hear the voices of the constituents and learn about their wishes
- Requested collaboration from Eller College of Management faculty about reorganization advice

# KEY

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTINUED)

- Engaged with constituents at a virtual Game Night
- Posted an engaging recurring Instagram series called "Virtual Vibes," based off data portraying Online students' preferences toward educational content
- Proposed policy edits, successfully enabling part-time Arizona Online students to be eligible for Dean's List
- Initiated the Student and Instructor Spotlight series on social media to boost the actions of deserving community members
- Created a unique Discord channel for Student Government news and announcements
- Reached over 1,000 accounts with a boosted Instagram ad

# KEY

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTINUED)

- Initiated conversations with UA Distance campuses to put a \$199 donation to work by adding campus-branded signage
- Edited the bylaws and constitution to be more relevant and accurate to the job
- Invited campus leaders Caleb Simmons and Craig Wilson to speak at meetings about future budget and stipends
- Traveled to Tucson for Homecoming to meet with campus leaders, learn about resources that can be relayed to Online and Distance students and represent the student body.
- Documented the Tucson trip via an Instagram takeover
- Engaged with 1,500 students and alum over Instagram, Discord and Facebook



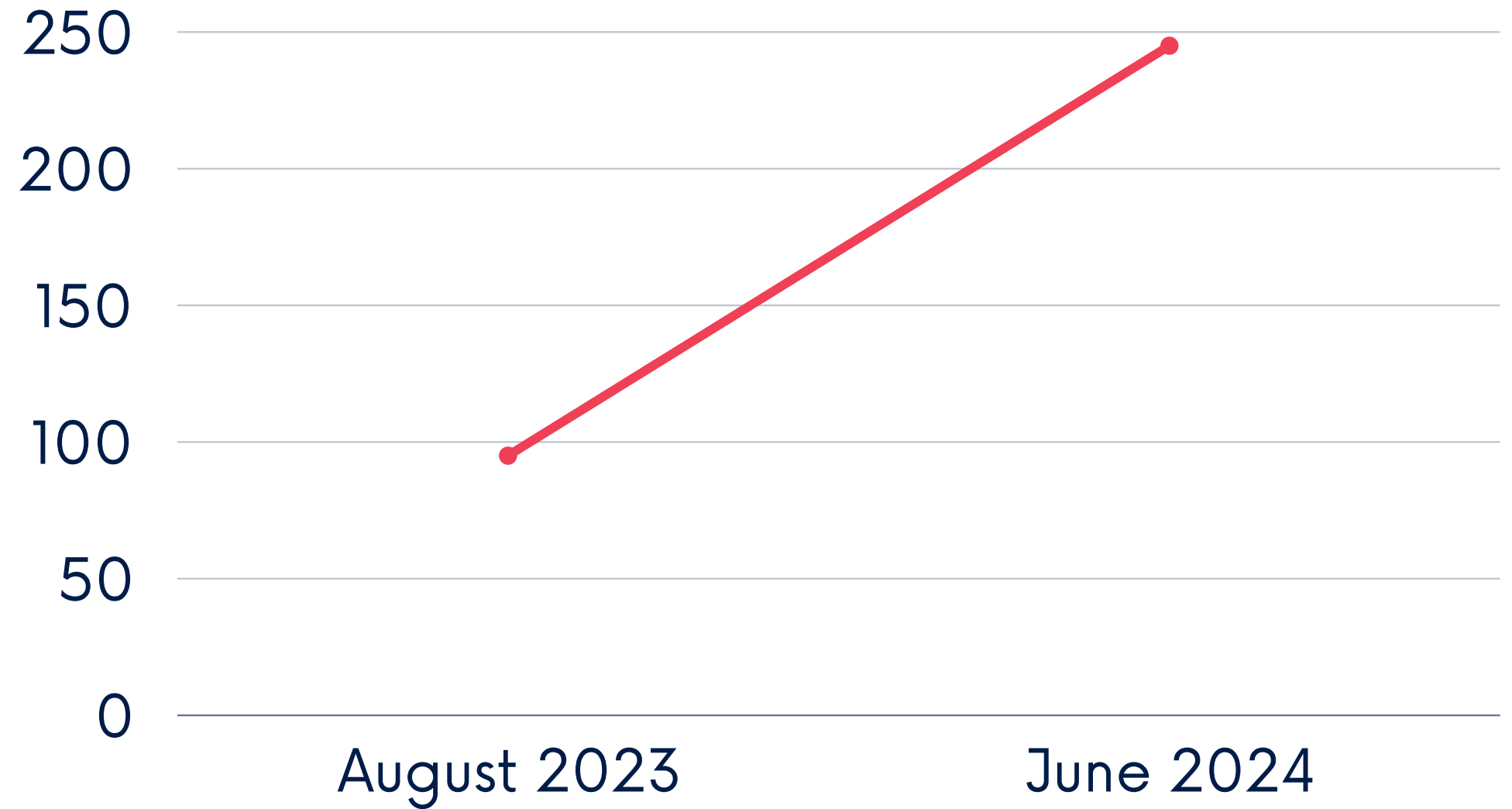
# KEY

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTINUED)

- Created video of major accomplishments to contextualize ASUANY for constituents
- Reported on Commencement ceremonies via an Instagram takeover
- Rebranded the organization logo
- Participated in a D2L focus group
- Selected a new board of highly talented and experienced students
- Hosted a Think Tank virtual session to share study tips for successful learning
- Onboarded new officers via one-on-one conversations, authoring individual continuity documents, and ongoing communications
- Sent a letter of advocacy for Online and Distance students to ABOR in response to the Spring 2024 Executive Sessions

# INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

This board more than doubled their Instagram followership in less than a year in office--from 95 to 245!



# HOMECOMING

Lori and Madissen were able to travel to campus for Homecoming 2023, where they participated in leadership workshops, met staff, learned about resources, and met fellow Online and Distance students.



# DEAN'S LIST

ASUA-NY successfully advocated for a change in the Dean's List eligibility criteria for online students. Moving forward, Arizona Online students who take 6 or more units in any term—winter, spring, summer, or fall—will be eligible to earn the Dean's List distinction, recognizing their academic achievements.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

News

Amendments to the Undergraduate Dean's List, Honors and Awards Policy

**To:** Campus Community  
**From:** Office of the Registrar  
**Subject:** Amendments to the Undergraduate Dean's List, Honors and Awards Policy  
**Date:** Apr 03, 2024

In the fall of 2023 and spring of 2024, the Office of the Registrar, and Arizona Online proposed amendments to the **Academic Distinction, Dean's List, Honors and Awards** policy, which applies to undergraduate students. The policy has been updated to better reflect the diverse course loads of the University undergraduate population and provide meaningful and identifiable recognition for student academic success.

The updated policy was approved by the Undergraduate Council, Undergraduate College Academic Administrators Council, and the Faculty Senate during the spring of 2024.

Amendments to the policy include:

**Expanding the applicability of Dean's List and Dean's List with Distinction**

Recognizing the achievement and progress of half-time students, a new category has been introduced for inclusion on the Dean's List with Distinction, with eligibility starting at a minimum of 6 units. Additionally, in alignment with the University's full-time status policy, the unit requirement for the full-time Dean's List and Dean's List with Distinction has been revised to 12 credits. This update prompts the removal of the Honorable Mention category, as its requirements were identical to the newly updated full-time Dean's List requirements, making it redundant. These amendments enhance recognition while upholding academic standards.

**Removing year-based Academic Distinction**

Academic Distinction served as the annual counterpart to the term-based Dean's Lists, with many students receiving both forms of recognition for grades earned during the same term. Emphasizing term-based accomplishments will simplify the process for both students and the institution. Additionally, for full-time and half-time students, Dean's List and Dean's List with Distinction will now be recognized for all terms—winter, spring, summer, and fall.

**Renaming policy name and headings for clarity:**

- The policy title is now Undergraduate Dean's List, Honors & Awards. This change reflects the removal of Academic Distinction and specifies that the policy applies exclusively to undergraduate students.
- "Graduation with Academic Distinction" is replaced with "Bachelor's Degree Latin Honors." This term is chosen for its wide recognition across institutions, unlike "Graduation with Academic Distinction," which is less clear.
- The section previously titled "University Academic Honors" is now "University Academic Recognition." This update helps differentiate between academic recognitions and the honors program.
- The single section "Other Awards & Honors" has been split into two sections: "Commencement Awards & Recognition" and "Honor Societies." This separation clarifies that Commencement Awards are one-time recognitions given at the end of a student's academic journey, while Honor Societies may involve ongoing membership throughout their time as a student.

The amended policy is effective Spring 2024. Please note that the new Dean's List categories will be awarded for the first time in Spring 2024, and the Academic Distinction (academic year) will be awarded for the final time in Spring 2024 (based on coursework from Summer 2023 through Spring 2024).

The **amended policy can be read in full** online (any personal bookmarks or direct links to the policy page should be updated to this new policy URL).

Questions about the updates to this policy should be addressed to the Office of the Registrar at [catalog@arizona.edu](mailto:catalog@arizona.edu).



Lori's Post

Lori Bentley Law  
 Moderator · Top contributor · May 20 at 3:53 PM · 🌐

Woo hoo!!! Evidence of our proudest advocacy for Online and Near You students has arrived!! As you all know, the eight-week course pacing of online education can be intense. Plus, many online students have full-time jobs or families. Many students were frustrated that their hard work would never be acknowledged with Dean's List honors, thanks to the 15 credit unit requirement. We, your student representatives, approached university leadership with the idea of modifying the re... See more

ASUA  
 CHOOSE A NEAR YOU

UAccess  
 STUDENT CENTER

WOO HOO!!!!

PERSONAL ▾ ENROLLMENT ▾ ADVISING ▾ ACADEMIC RECORD ▾

Academic Honors & Awards

Our Proudest ASUA-NY Accomplishment!! Getting Dean's List Eligibility for Half-Time students!!

Academic Honors and Awards

Below is a list of your academic honors and awards. If the list is incorrect or you wish to add an honor or award you have received, please contact the appropriate administrative office.

Honors and Awards	Grantor	Issue Date
Dean's List with Distinction - Half Time		05/09/2024

Lori's Post

Keri Imai Hedgren  
 Wow! I never would've thought to look! Thanks!

Academic Honors & Awards

1w Like Reply Edited

Annie Custer Admin · Top contributor  
 Keri Imai Hedgren A huge achievement!!

1w Like Reply

Jennifer Hansen Group expert  
 This is great news, and recognizes the accomplishments of so many deserving students!

1w Like Reply

Annie Custer Admin · Top contributor  
 Jennifer Hansen ^^ Agreed

1w Like Reply

Claudia Cano Wolff ★ Rising contributor  
 This is such EXCITING NEWS! Thank you for all you do! 🙌🙌🙌 I can't wait to (hopefully and eventually) earn a spot on the Dean's list. 😊

1w Like Reply

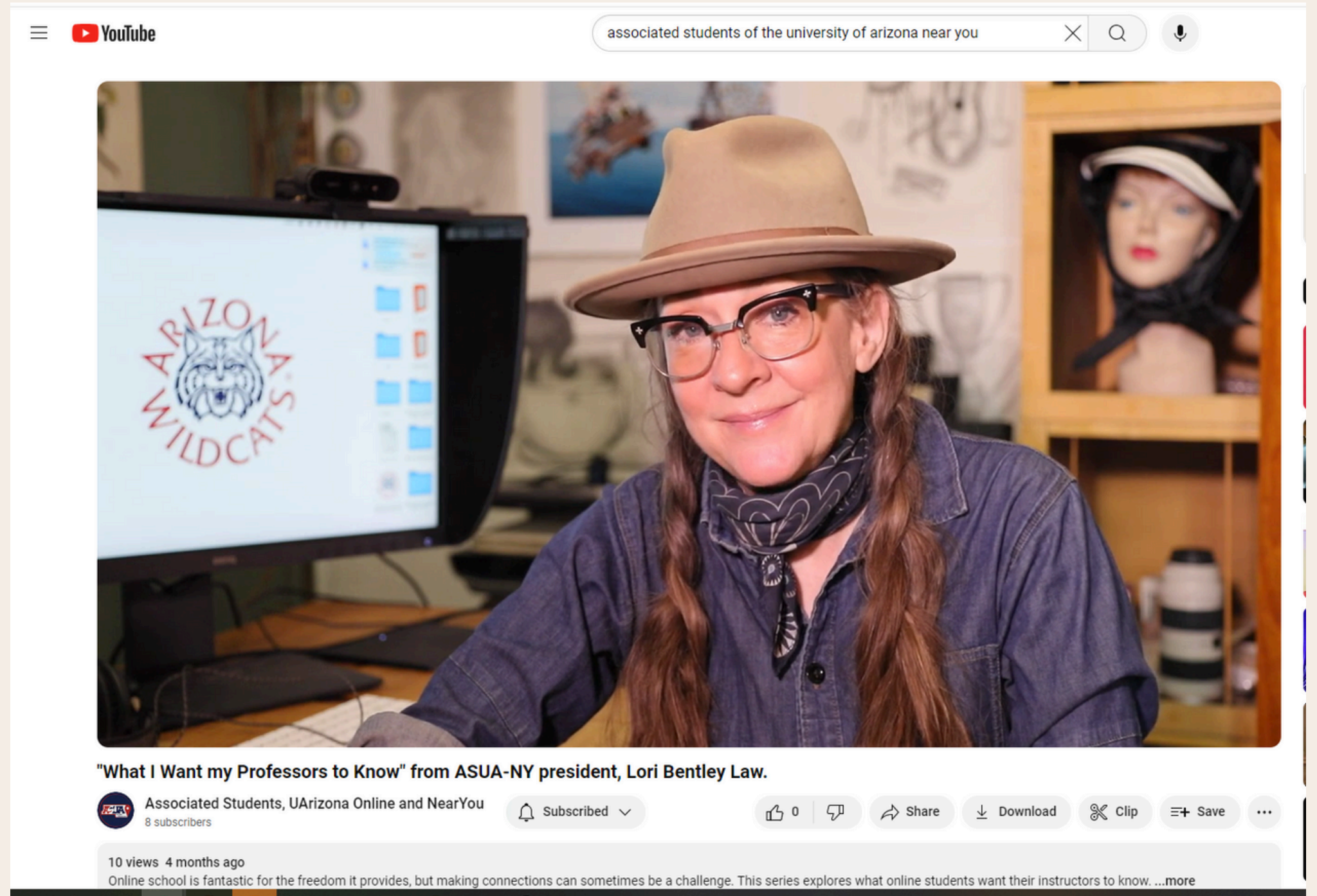
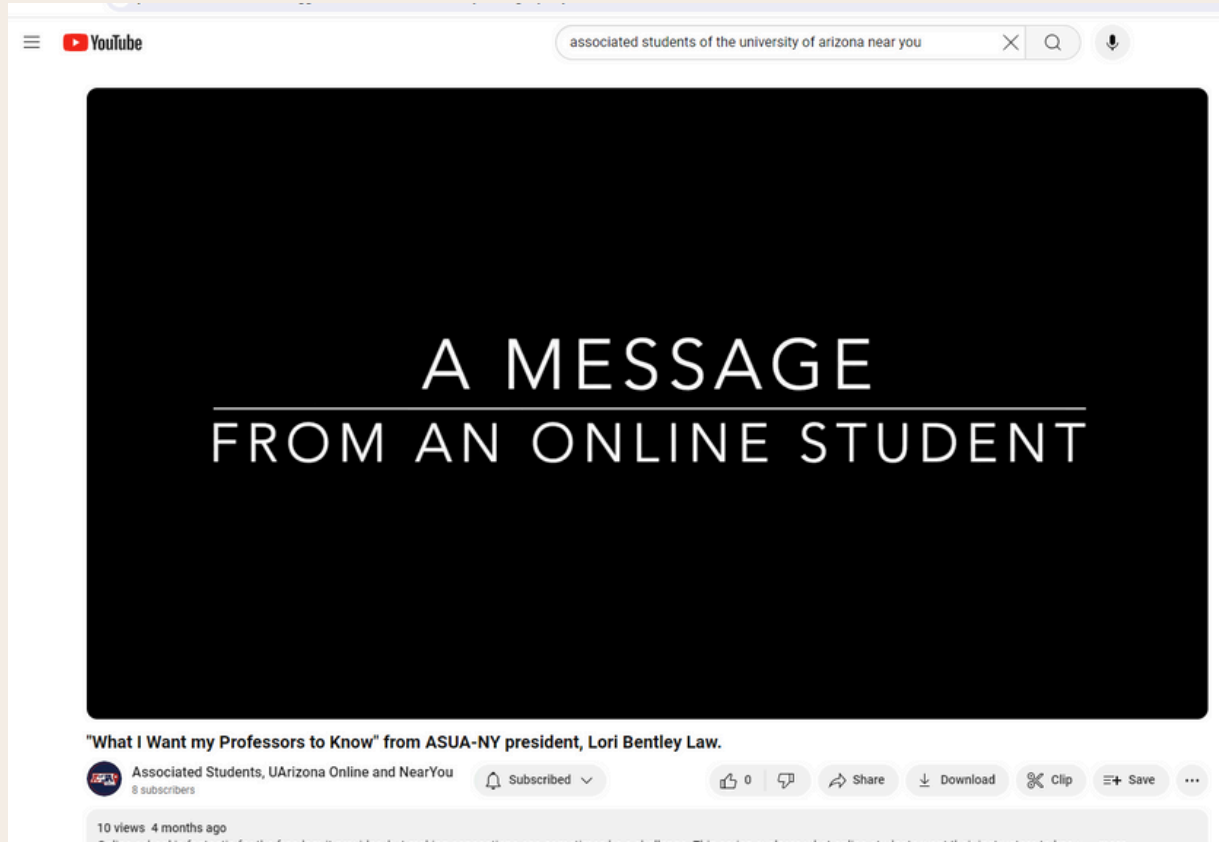
Annie Custer Admin · Top contributor  
 Claudia Cano Wolff I believe in you

1w Like Reply

Claudia Cano Wolff ★ Rising contributor

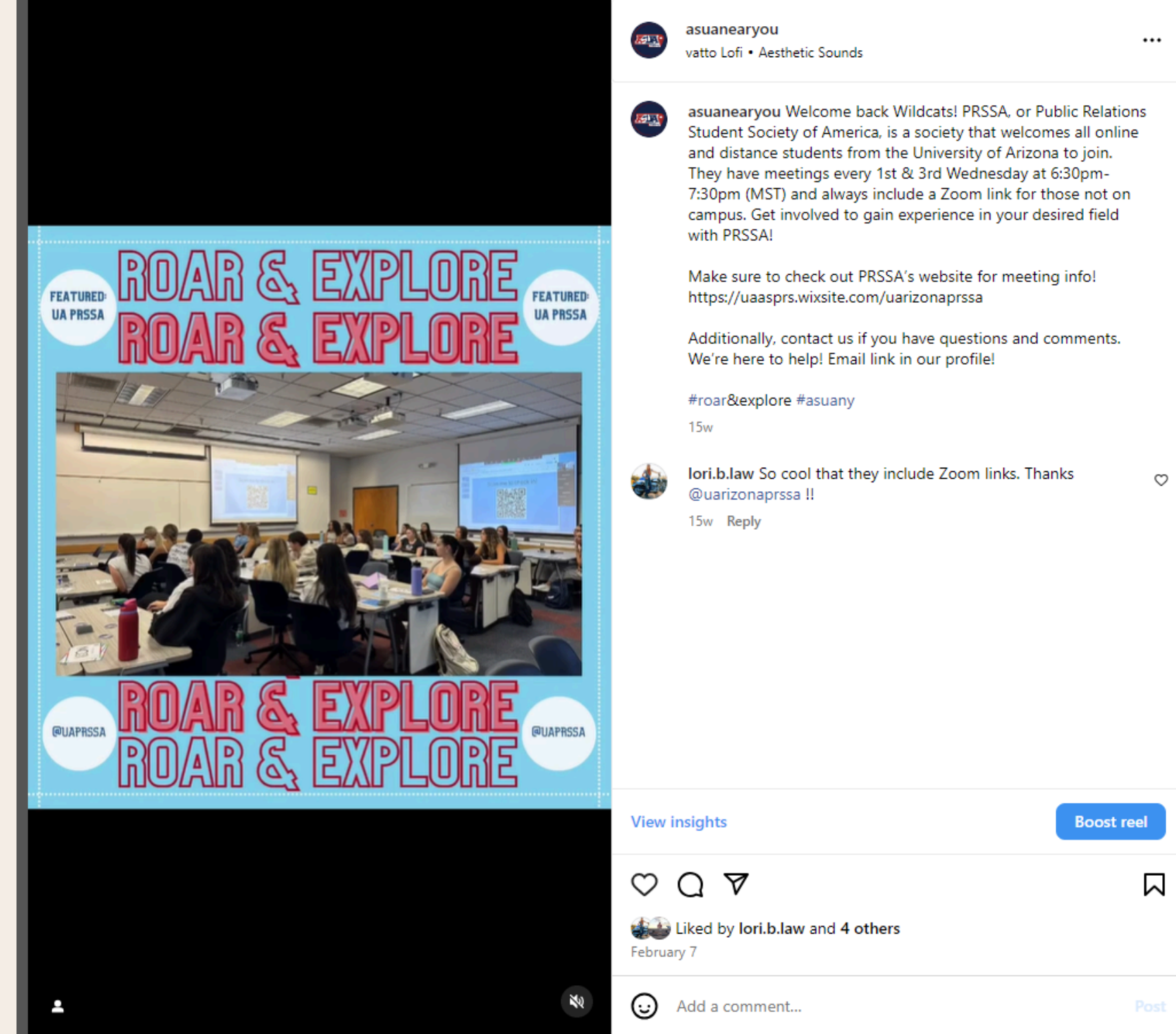
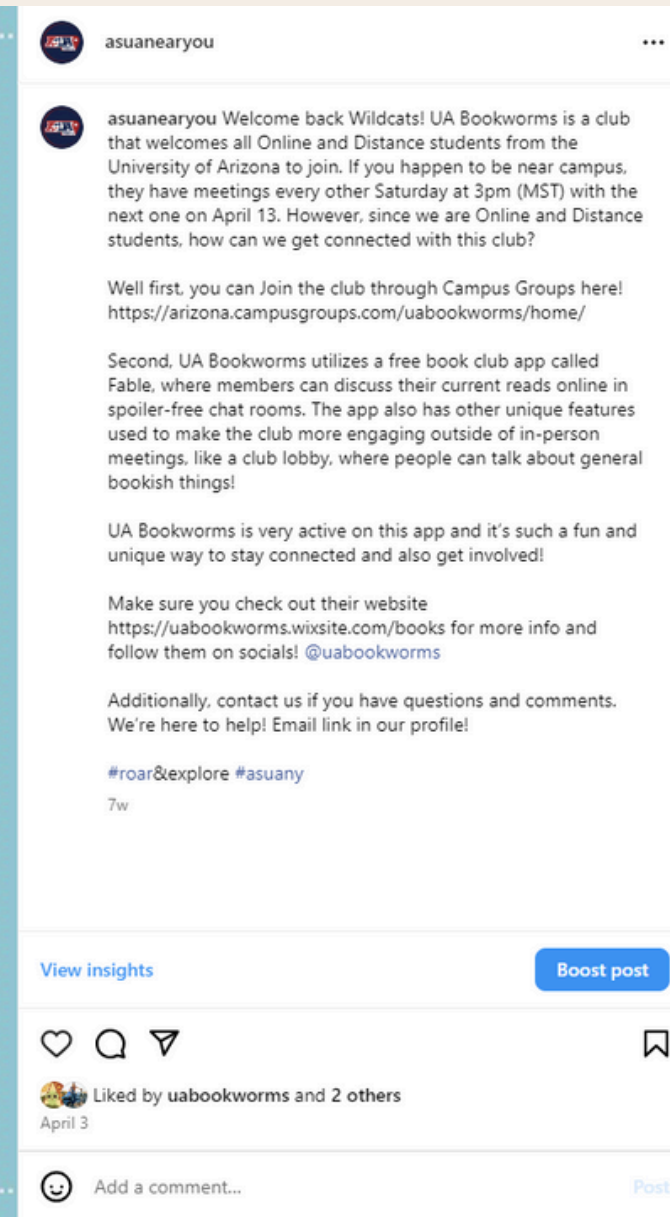
Write a comment...

# WHAT I WANT MY PROFESSORS TO KNOW - YOUTUBE SERIES



# CLUB FEATURES

Each week, Madissen featured a different club that was accessible to Online and Distance students to join-- highlighting the virtual features of meetings and interactions!



# VIRTUAL VIBES

Each Friday, Owi sent us into the weekend with his words of wisdom in finding balance between being a student and fulfilling roles outside of school.



asunearyou Original audio

asunearyou Finding Balance 🧘 with Owi Akpan 11w

anniecuster Always a voice of wisdom, Owi 11w 1 like Reply

View insights Boost reel

👍 🗨️ 📌

👤 Liked by lori.b.law and 5 others March 8

😊 Add a comment... Post

# ON THE HORIZON

FOR THE 2024-2025 BOARD...

Meet the new board!



You can anticipate relentless advocacy for the student body, cutting-edge technological advancements to stay ahead of the curve, and innovative ideas to enhance the student experience.

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