

From: President

Sent: Monday, September 13, 2010 12:38 PM

To: James Strong; Russell Giambelluca; John Garcia; John Sarraille; Steven Filling; Thomas McGhee; Frank Borrelli; Becky Temple; Neil Jacklin; Clarissa Lonn-Nichols; Julia Reynoso; heredia.diana10@gmail.com; Faculty-Staff

Subject: UBAC Recommendations

Dear Colleagues,

I wish to thank and commend the University Budget Advisory Committee for completing the very difficult process that resulted in a series of recommendations to me for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year (see attached UBAC letter).

Since receiving the UBAC recommendations, the CSU has asked campuses to plan for an essentially “flat” budget and to reduce base budgets to cover the loss of one-time furlough savings last year, as well as other unfunded mandates. These recent instructions, combined with the current state fiscal situation, weighed very heavily in my budget decisions.

I have carefully reviewed the UBAC recommendations concerning how to approach these reductions. One recommendation asks that we rethink processes and priorities, which I consider to be an important and necessary step. It is abundantly clear that we cannot absorb this magnitude of reductions and expect to continue operating as we have in the past. Another recommendation calls for no cuts to permanent staff. As I said during my State-of-the-University address, while my administrative team and I have done, and will continue to do, everything possible to avoid reductions of permanent staff, the size of the budget cuts, the timing, and the various constraints imposed on us to govern our budget reduction options, may limit our ability to achieve this highly desirable goal. However, I stand firm in my conviction that our staff colleagues play an integral role in support of our faculty and students. I do not take any of these decisions lightly, but given the magnitude of last year's cuts, combined with the cuts we have already implemented this year, we are left with very few options. With these understandings, I have accepted the UBAC recommendations.

I also point out that the colleges participated in a special self-support summer session in an effort to preserve course schedules, maintain our budgeted student enrollment, and provide courses for students to allow them to progress toward degree completion. This resulted in a surplus that will be used to help mitigate further budget reductions.

Attached is a summary document that outlines nearly \$4.3 Million in initial base budget reductions (excluding benefits) by division that will be made for FY 2010/11. These cuts incorporate the UBAC recommendations. The size of the current cuts varies among divisions based upon factors that reflect both operational and strategic priorities. The aggregate cut to campus resources is about 4.7%.

At this time, it is still uncertain as to whether the CSU will receive additional state funds or sustain additional cuts to our current 2010/11 budget. Nevertheless, we will continue to aggressively lobby the legislators and the Governor, urging them to restore funding to the CSU and not impose further cuts.

I have met with campus labor leaders and have heard their concerns over workload. I call upon managers to think carefully about the impacts of changing work assignments on staff and faculty. I am confident that we can find ways to support each other, by acting out of mutual concern, respect and cooperation as we work through these transitions. I certainly take no pleasure in having to make these tough choices, but the CSU Stanislaus community has a history of working together in difficult times, and it is my hope that tradition will continue.

Thank you again to UBAC and to each of you for participating in this complex, time consuming, but vitally important process.

Regards,
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Attachments:

1. UBAC Recommendations
2. Budget Reduction Summary by Division

Hamid Shirvani, President
California State University, Stanislaus
One University Circle
Turlock, CA 95382
(209) 667-3201
president@csustan.edu