December 15, 2008

TO: University Budget Advisory Committee

FROM: Ham Shirvani, President


We are facing two sizeable budget challenges this year. First, we need to balance the budget for 2008/09 and, second, move quickly to begin addressing the 2009/10 budget issues.

As you know, after covering $2.4 million of the current year gap we have a remaining balance of $2 million that we still need to address. It is critical that we have a plan in place to deal with the remaining shortfall and allow sufficient time to discuss and plan for the 2009/10 budget reductions.

In order to accomplish this, I am asking that UBAC submit the following to me by January 16, 2009:

1. A recommendation regarding the current year budget reductions, with reference to the reduction targets given to each Division and the plans proposed by each Vice President. I continue to consult with a broad range of University representatives on this matter, and look forward to having the benefit of UBAC’s perspective on how to proceed. I plan to take action before the end of January on the budget reductions for 2008/09.

2. A recommended approach to developing budget reduction scenarios for 2009-10, which should address the following parameters:
   a. A $6 million target base budget reduction, inclusive of permanent reductions implemented in 2008/09. This figure represents the current $4.4 million shortfall and the anticipated $1.4 million reduction that we expect before the end of the year.
   b. Recommended reduction targets and rationale for each Division.
   c. Provision for maintaining our funded enrollment target of 7,090 FTES, protecting full-time, permanent positions to the greatest extent possible, and allocating personnel reductions equitably between faculty and non-faculty. Delivery of University services and activities for students requires a full range of staff, managers and faculty working together.
   d. A due date of March 2, 2009, for submission of Division budget proposals for 2009/10 with recommendations from UBAC by March 27. UBAC’s recommendations should address the total projected budget gap, as piecemeal recommendations will not allow us to consider the full picture before decisions are made. My goal is to make initial budget decisions for 2009/10 by the first week in April.

I very much appreciate and value your hard work and dedication in addressing these critical issues.

cc: President’s Executive Cabinet
    Academic Senate Executive Committee
    Faculty Budget Advisory Committee