Florida State University

Response to Deficiency in Enrollment Funding, Tuition Veto, Absence of Technology Fee, Property Tax Reform, Declining State Revenues and Flat Tuition

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. Protect the integrity of the teaching, research and service mission of the university.
2. Continue to enhance the university’s standing as one of the top research and graduate education institutions in the nation.
3. Protect the financial integrity of the university.
4. Ensure the safety and security of students, employees and the campus.
5. Prepare for adverse financial consequences that result from lack of funding for enrollment growth, tuition vetoes, absence of technology fee, property tax reforms, declining State revenue projections and flat tuition revenues in the foreseeable future.

POTENTIAL ACADEMIC ACTIONS:

1. Freeze enrollment unless funding becomes available.
2. Apply stringent admission criteria for Spring 2008 new and transfer students.
3. Move acceptance dates for entering students.
4. Limit faculty and staff pay increases to those authorized by 2007 Legislature.
5. Reallocate enrollment funds and FTE from units that are under-enrolled.
6. Direct graduate enrollment growth to units of high priority within the state.
7. Reduce International Programs E&G budget. Adjust fees to be 95% self-supporting.
8. All newly hired non-tenure track faculty will teach 4 courses per semester.
9. Review summer contracts and report to the BOT at the January meeting on ways to reduce costs.
10. Extend Pathways from its 5 year goal to 7 year goal. Award 2 clusters for 2007-08 and reserve funds for the Seminole Tribe/History/Law/Education cluster depending upon Tribe approval of the proposal.
11. Reduce memberships and publications by 20%. Renew only those necessary to the vital academic mission of the University.
12. Shift faculty productivity by adding 7 students to each faculty’s workload.
13. Reduce hours for the student computing labs and help desk.
14. Reduce library hours.
15. Reduce directed studies that have not been coordinated through the Office of Undergraduate Research.
16. Sunset material and supply fees to ensure that full costs are recovered.
17. Review outsourcing student e-mail accounts and require students to pay the contractor the monthly charge.
18. Institute a charge for more than 5 drop/add transactions per semester.
19. Increase transcript and smart card fees to maximum allowed by law.
20. Eliminate no cost dial-up modem services.
21. Create an energy SWAT team to work with FSU’s energy conservation partners to identify legislation and rules at the state and local level that are contrary to effective/efficient energy management for institutions like FSU.
22. Create a SWAT team consisting of faculty, staff and experts to analyze the impact of the new property tax reforms on universities to ensure state and local expenses are not shifted to universities in lieu of property taxes; therefore, creating a disproportionate burden on already shrinking university budgets.

POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE/staff ACTIONS:

1. Freeze departmental budgets and freeze non-academic positions.
2. Reduce FSU’s contribution to Seven Days of Opening Nights by 10%.
3. Charge all budget entities the standard overhead fee.
4. Reduce administrative travel.
5. Increase grounds keeping productivity by 10%.
6. Defer facility maintenance and repairs where possible without creating even greater problems later on or delaying repairs related to life or safety issues.
7. Reduce athletic administration by $500,000.
8. Increase all DSO productivity goals by 10% immediately.
9. Transfer 10% interest revenue from auxiliaries and place in emergency reserve and review interest policy for subsequent years.

POTENTIAL PECO-CONSTRUCTION ACTIONS:

1. Reduce professional fees paid to architectural and construction firms for facility work by 20%.
2. Review all service contracts at FSU including Housing, Athletics, Technology and Continuing Education to determine if efficiencies can be made.
3. Ask the BOT to allow the university to fast track projects to reduce costs and expedite construction time.