Regents,

FYI, from President Geoffroy.

Sheila

FYI, attached is the content of an email that I will send to the campus community this morning.

...Greg

Sent using Blackberry
To: Iowa State Faculty and Staff

As I communicated last week, we are facing the challenging task of reducing our current year budget by another $24.5 million to comply with Governor Culver’s across-the-board 10% cut to all state appropriations. This is in addition to the $38.8 million reduction that occurred at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Yesterday, at a special meeting of the Board of Regents, we were directed to present to the Regents at their October 29 meeting our plan for managing the $24.5 million reduction. We were asked to consider each of the following strategies in developing that plan:

1. Temporary salary reductions.
2. Temporary lay-offs/furloughs.
3. Benefit revisions of a temporary or permanent nature.
5. Postponing non-essential deferred maintenance and repairs.
6. Refocusing efforts, including potential program eliminations.
7. Permanent lay-offs.
8. Selling non-essential assets to generate one-time funds.

We intend to distribute the $24.5 million budget reduction across the academic colleges and major budget units that are supported by state appropriations, allowing each budget leader to determine how best to accommodate the reduction amount for their unit. Any savings accrued or income generated through university-wide actions like those listed above will be credited toward each unit’s budget reduction target. Those targets, when finalized, will be available at:

http://www.public.iastate.edu/~budget/updates/

These are very trying times, and we truly need all your suggestions for accomplishing the Regents directives and other cost savings. I will be meeting with the leadership of our faculty and staff constituent groups to receive their input. I encourage you to send any suggestions you may have for cost savings or budget reduction strategies to your department chairs, college deans, and other unit leaders, including your thoughts on the Regents’ directives. Unit leaders will also be encouraged to consult broadly with faculty and staff as they develop their budget plans.

Please also consider providing input to me, Provost Hoffman, and the members of the University Budget Advisory Committee by sending your input to budgetcomments@iastate.edu. All those comments will be read and considered and will be valuable input for the difficult budget decisions that lie ahead.

The Regents yesterday also approved the temporary hiring freeze on general fund positions announced last week by Regent Miles, with the expectation that the freeze will be lifted once the Regents approve our plans for managing the budget reduction. That means we can continue searches for new employees but cannot make a hiring offer using general funds until after the October 29 Regents meeting. The Regents yesterday also lifted the moratorium on new building
construction that was announced last week, allowing us to continue with construction projects that are in progress or already approved by the Regents.

Thanks again, and I will keep you informed about any further developments as they occur.