

Dear Colleagues:

We hope to accomplish two things with our email today—to provide an update on the budget process and to let you know about how you can contribute the discussion of the February 15 draft budget recommendations.

### **Budget Update**

Planning units turned in their 5% and 10% budget reduction scenarios on February 1. We appreciate the effort that went into producing the scenarios. It was not an easy task.

What is contained in the submitted scenarios are possible ways that units proposed dealing with a 5% or a 10% base budget reduction. It is important to emphasize that no decisions have been made at this juncture on what elements of the scenarios will be part of the final budget recommendations or what level of cuts any planning unit might receive.

With President McDavis, we are reviewing the submitted material for the purpose of assembling a draft set of budget recommendations to be shared with the University community on February 15.

In conducting that review we are mindful of the commitment made at the outset of the strategic budget planning process to protect the university's academic quality and to ensure an exemplary experience for our students.

Another commitment that we made in building the budget process was to provide for substantive review and input by the university community. Consequently, the period from February 15 through March 12 has been set aside to allow for discussion of the draft recommendations by the university community. To facilitate this process, two approaches will be used to encourage the type of university-wide conversation envisioned.

### **Budget Forums**

Three focused forums have been scheduled. Constituent senates will sponsor these forums. We will participate in the forums along with Associate Provost for Academic Budget and Planning John Day and Assistant Vice President for Budget Planning and Analysis Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings as well as representatives from the constituent group(s). An individual selected by the constituent group(s) will moderate the panels.

While the focused forums will concentrate on the issues of greatest concern to the constituent groups, they will be open to participation by any member of the campus community. To encourage involvement by the regional campuses, the faculty and staff forums will be webcast.

Budget Forum for Students

February 23, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., Computer Services Center (CSC) 121B

Budget Forum for Faculty  
February 23, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m., Bentley 227

Budget Forum for Staff (Classified & Administrative)  
February 24, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., Walter 235

In addition to the focused forums there will be a general budget forum. It will feature a similar format.

General Budget Forum,  
February 25, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., 236 Bentley

**Budget Suggestion Website**

From February 15 – March 12, the budget suggestion website will be reopened to gather comments from the university community on the draft budget recommendations.

Responses collected during December and January from the budget suggestion website have been posted at <http://www.ohio.edu/provost/Budget-Process.cfm>. We are in the process of identifying the most promising suggestions and plan on sharing that information with the university community on March 10.

Sincerely,

Pam Benoit  
Executive Vice President and Provost

Mike Angelini  
Interim Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration