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Submitted By

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Distribution of FY 2015 Budget Cuts

Submitted by Rob Yarbrough
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11/7/2013

Question:

At the October Faculty Senate meeting, Provost Bartels notified faculty that Academic Deans would be asked to plan for a 5% budget cut for fiscal year 2015. Are other units also being asked to plan for a 5% cut in FY 2015 and if not, for how much are they being asked to plan? Other units would include those under the direct supervision of the President (e.g. Legal Affairs and Athletics) in addition to units directly under the supervision of the Vice Presidents of Government Relations and Community Engagement, Business and Finance, Information Technology, Research and Economic Development, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, and University Advancement.

Rationale:

Undoubtedly, the proposed 5% budget cut handed down from the Board of Regents would negatively impact the entire university. However, the university community deserves to know how these cuts are being planned across the institution and specifically whether or not Academic Affairs is being asked to bear a disproportionate share of them.

Submitted by: Rob Yarbrough

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Response:

Dr. Keel's Response: 11/15/2013: For the past four plus years, the State of Georgia, through the University System of Georgia (USG) has requested annual budget cuts. However, because of a healthy and robust increase in enrollment, Georgia Southern has been able to shield Academic Affairs from much of the burden of absorbing these cuts. In fact, because of increased enrollment we actually had "new money" to allocate, and Academic Affairs has received 5467% of the available new recurring funds during FY 11-14.

The USG has now requested Georgia Southern to prepare for a 5% cut in our State-derived budget for FY15. This is directly related to a decrease in enrollment. Because of the direct role that Academic Affairs plays in maintaining and increasing enrollment, the President has asked the Provost to submit plans for this budget reduction.

MINUTES: 11/20/2013: 6.3. Distribution of FY 2015 Budget Cuts (President Keel)
Robert Costomiris, Senate Moderator and Chair, Senate Executive Committee: The third one came in about the distribution of FY 2015 budget cuts, and whether a question asking if Academic Affairs or other units, whether this was a shared, whether the 5% cut was being shared across the University units. Okay. And the answer was from President Keel. And again I'm not going to speak for him, but this may prompt questions if you have any, please perhaps hold them off until he speaks or after he speaks. You can see his response here and you can may have it with you today. Okay.