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Vol. 18, No. 9 July 24, 1987

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM:

Earl Lazerson

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 1988

The reality of a "no-increase" budget for Fiscal Year 1988 is now before us. Gov. James Thompson this week announced \$363 million in state budget reductions, including \$66.7 million in reductions for higher education. He stated these cuts are necessary because revenues will not be sufficient to meet the budgets approved by the General Assembly. For SIUE, the bottom line is a reduction of \$1.84 million from the \$57 million appropriated by the Legislature. It may be of interest to detail the chronology of budget development for FY 1988.

The state-appropriated budget for SIUE for FY 1987, was \$56.5 million. Originally, the University requested \$64.5 million for FY 1988, based on salary increases of 12 percent, price increases of four percent, utility increases of five percent, and increases for library materials of 12 percent. The original request also included \$1.6 million for new and expanded programs.

In January, Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) recommendations, generally endorsed by Gov. Thompson in his February budget message, reduced SIUE's share to \$60.8 million, incorporating a four percent tuition increase and allocating six percent for salary increases, three percent for supplies and services, seven percent for library materials, and four percent for utilities. Support for new and expanded programs was maintained at \$1.6 million.

Following action by the Senate Appropriations II Committee, higher education was asked to prepare a budget allocation that assumed "no increase" in appropriations. On May 5, the IBHE approved two budget allocations: the Governor's Budget and the No Increase Budget. On June 30, the No Increase Budget was approved by the General Assembly and sent to Gov. Thompson.

For SIUE, the No Increase appropriation of \$57 million included \$498,400 in the University's Income Fund, provided from the approved four percent tuition increase for the current year. After applying the Governor's \$1.84 million reduction, the University's budget for this year is \$55.2 million. The funds required to comply with the reduction will come from position control, energy conservation, deferred maintenance, deferring the purchase of instructional equipment

and materials, and other operating efficiencies. No funds will be available for general salary increases or for new and expanded program initiatives. Reallocations will be necessary to provide for cost increases, additional payments required under the Medicare Program, and operation and maintenance of new buildings.

The University must continue to maintain flexibility to meet unforeseen circumstances. It is important that the University's commitment to teaching and learning be protected at all costs, and everything possible will be done to achieve the maximum benefit for the academic enterprise.