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Recommended Citation

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, "Edwardsville Bulletin: February 12, 1991" (1991). *SIUE "Bulletin"*. 457.

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Vol. 22, No. 4 February 12, 1991

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM:

Earl Lazerson

SUBJECT: Budget Recision

Yesterday, Governor James Edgar requested that the state universities cut spending by 1% of their annual appropriation for the current fiscal year (FY 91) as part of a statewide mid-year budget recision.

Our FY 91 Budget Planning Guidelines of August 2, 1989 noted that, "Uncertainty, then, will circumscribe the [budget] environment which we expect to encounter in FY 91." In the FY 92 Budget Planning Guidelines distributed on August 14, 1990, I reiterated my concern regarding this uncertainty and went on to state that as a result, "We have established an additional 1% contingency reserve [for FY 91] to maintain the flexibility we must have, given this uncertain state revenue picture and the possibility of a mid-year recision."

The situation we now face was, therefore, contemplated as we began expending FY 91 operating funds. Specifically, 1% of these funds amounting to approximately \$665,000 was set aside to meet a possible recision. These set aside funds were obtained by personnel reductions affecting physical plant operations including campus maintenance, by reducing administrative support lines, by deferring instructional equipment replacement and by not filling open staff positions.

All areas of the University have felt some pain because of these actions. I hope, however, that disruption to our academic programs has been minimized by planning for these circumstances well in advance of their occurrence.

I intend to discuss these matters, and others affecting the University, in my annual winter address. The date will be announced shortly.