

**[nkuall] (no subject)**

nkuall-bounces@listserv.nku.edu; on behalf of; James Votruba [VOTRUBA@nku.edu]

Sent: Thu 6/25/2009 4:59 PM

To: [nkuall@listserv.nku.edu](mailto:nkuall@listserv.nku.edu)

---

I'm writing to update you on recent developments that impact our campus. First, state revenue projections have now been established and it appears that Kentucky will have in the neighborhood of a one billion dollar shortfall. This is about what was anticipated when I last communicated. Second, the General Assembly gave Governor Beshear authority to reduce state budget expenditures in order to meet his statutory responsibility to balance the state budget. He will do this over the next two years through the use of non-recurring stimulus money. The result will be that the university will not be required to take any additional reductions next year. However, when the federal stimulus dollars are no longer available, other state revenues will need to take their place. The General Assembly did not deal with additional revenue during the special session so the matter of additional revenue remains unresolved. Absent some resolution in the upcoming legislative session, the university could be required to absorb additional reductions two years from now. Finally, our fall enrollment projections continue to look strong as I reported in my last communication. We will no doubt have a record number of new students. While we don't have solid data on returning students, there are no signs currently that suggest that returning student numbers are going to be significantly impacted by the recession. You may have seen recent media attention highlighting that, after July 1, we will be restricting any additional enrollments to those who meet the requirements for regular admission or who have only one deficiency. We're being forced to do this because of both space and personnel limitations. In summary, enrollments appear strong as we move closer to the beginning of the new academic year.

I am sorry to report that we have not budgeted salary increases for the upcoming fiscal year. We'll revisit this question in the fall after we have a clearer picture of our enrollments as well as state revenues. Most of the other state universities have not budgeted increases. Salaries are an important campus priority. Last year, NKU provided a three percent salary pool when the other universities were doing no increases because of severe budget constraints. Our faculty and staff work hard and produce extraordinary results. We are among the fastest growing universities in the commonwealth and this has placed additional pressure on our campus as we work to accommodate growth while at the same time managing budget reductions. I wish that I had better news to report regarding salaries but we'll have to wait until this fall when we have more information.

Finally, we have recently taken major steps to simplify and more narrowly focus our campus priorities for the next couple of years. Given the current fiscal constraints, this focusing was essential. Expect to hear more details from your divisional vice president.

I hope that you're having a good summer and that you've scheduled some time to get away. I'll be in touch when I have more information to report. These remain challenging times but, all things considered, I believe that we remain well positioned.

James C. Votruba  
President  
Northern Kentucky University  
Nunn Drive  
800 Lucas Administration Center  
Highland Heights, KY 41099  
Phone: 859-572-5123

Fax: 859-572-6696

\*\*\*\*\*

Please note that all e-mails directed to President James Votruba are subject to open records laws and may become public information.