

FROM THE OFFICE OF

Judy C. Miner, President

FOOTHILL COLLEGE

January 25, 2012

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for your outstanding work as we begin another quarter helping students advance their lives and achieve their dreams through higher education. I want to update you on our budget planning for the 2012-2013 academic year. Following the release of the Governor's budget proposal in January and our recent FTES estimates for 2011-2012, we are challenged to find good news. The Governor's proposal is based on the passage of a new set of taxes, which will go to the electorate in November. If the tax initiative fails, we face another devastating cut in 2012-2013. At last week's Planning and Resource Council (PaRC) meeting, there was a discussion of the timeline for cuts and the current economic realities that I will outline below.

As I reported in my message at the opening of Winter Quarter, Foothill enrollment is down. At this time, we anticipate being down by as much as nine percent when we submit our annual report to the state this July. This is due to changes in courses with TBA hours, stricter enforcement of repeatability limits, and loss of enrollment in lifelong learning areas. We still have the opportunity to recapture some enrollment in the Spring Quarter, and the Deans and Vice Presidents are working on a variety of approaches, including the possibility of adding courses which would begin in late May or early June. We will need everyone's creative thinking to bolster our enrollment prior to the year's end.

As our district struggles to close a \$10 million structural deficit, Foothill has been tasked with cutting its share of \$3.1 million by June 30, 2012. Thanks to your collective efforts in helping preserve one-time funds, I will be recommending to the Board a set of reductions that will defer between \$1.0-\$1.5 million to June 30, 2013. The reductions to be implemented as of June 30, 2012 will affect administrator, faculty, and classified positions. As was discussed at PaRC and Academic Senate meetings last quarter, the faculty cuts will come only from programs identified in 2010-2011. In the future, academic program elimination will follow the new process being developed in our shared governance groups.

Following district-wide processes in consultation with our bargaining units, individuals will be notified the week of February 6 if their position is to be eliminated effective June 30, 2012. As we do these notifications, we are aware that these are not simply budget decisions - these decisions impact individuals and their families in very dramatic ways. We avoided these decisions as long as possible, but the increased uncertainty surrounding our revenues compels us to take actions we have so desperately sought to avoid.

The full detail of the June 30, 2012 cuts will be shared at the February 15 PaRC meeting. We will also provide some context for our enrollment management challenges, i.e., how to recapture FTES while achieving budgeted productivity of 546. Restoration of FTES is essential but must be done in a manner that is strategic and fiscally sound. Cuts to be implemented June 30, 2013 will be announced at a date to be determined during 2012-2013. As agreed upon at PaRC, we will finalize the details of those reductions when the budget estimates for 2013-2014 are more refined.

Lest we lose sight of accomplishments in the midst of crisis, let me express my thanks to you for leveraging our limited resources in ways that still serve our students well. While this is the most painful and prolonged budget crisis in our history, I continue to be confident about the future because of the creativity and innovation that characterize Foothill's past and present.

Sincerely,

Judy