Funding for One-Time Budget Priority Requests – Spring 2012

After consideration of input from the budget hearing process, I have identified the following items as priorities among the one-time requests. This list includes almost all of the one-time priorities identified in the March 19 Chancellor’s Leadership Council and Budget Advisory Council joint budget meeting. Items are not listed in priority order but rather by division.

1. *Litigation and Claims Expenses (General Counsel) - $100,000.
2. Complete Nutrition Lab and IT for new HHS building (Academic Affairs) - $260,000.
3. Computers/Furniture/Fixtures for Asheville Space (Academic Affairs) - $100,000.
6. Wireless – Academic (IT) - $275,000.
7. Server/Storage/Digital Media/Backup Capacity (IT) - $210,586.
8. Second Internet Connection (IT) - $160,000.
10. *Fundraising Campaign-Audit and Feasibility Study (Advancement/External Affairs) - $75,000.
11. Siren System (Administration/Finance) - $20,000.
12. Emergency Management System (Administration/Finance) - $11,000.
13. Two Facilities Management Vehicles (Administration/Finance) - $40,000.
14. Affirmative Action Software Upgrade (Administration/Finance) - $6,600.
15. HHS Building Reserve (Administration/Finance) - $250,000.
16. *Campus Master Plan (Administration/Finance) - $400,000.

Total - $2,082,686

There is good news. WCU budgeted lapsed salary very conservatively this year because of the drastic cuts in recent years. As it turns out, WCU has actually accumulated $1.7M in non-budgeted lapsed salary. There is a caveat: this funding will not carry forward and we must thus spend this money by June 30.

Items denoted above by an asterisk are priority items the funding for which cannot be spent before June 30. Eliminating those items from the total above results in a new one-time priorities total of $1,475,186. All non-asterisked items above are thus funded.

Subtracting the new total of $1,475,186 from the $1.7M in available funding for one-time projects results in a balance of $224,814. I have designated that funding to the elevator replacement project in HFR. (An explanation: a recent elevator inspection has resulted in the shutting down of one of HFR’s elevators and the threat of shutting down the other if repair/replacement is not forthcoming.)

Budget Roll-Up
The annual budget roll-up process is designed to ensure the wise expenditure of allocated budgets. In this process, the direct reports to the various vice chancellors had the opportunity pre-April 1 to spend unencumbered funds on identified one-time unit priorities. Funds which were not spent by April 1 “rolled up” to the respective vice chancellor. The vice chancellors are currently spending those monies to fund items identified as one-time budget priorities in the budget process this winter/spring in their various divisions. After May 1, any remaining funds will revert to me to expend on identified one-time budget priorities at the university level. These funds do not carry forward into the 2013 fiscal year.