

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

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October 17, 2012

Presidents of the University System of Georgia 270 Washington Street Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Presidents,

As you begin preparing your fee requests for fiscal year 2014, remember that maintaining affordable tuition and fees remains one of the highest priorities of the University System of Georgia. This priority is based on the fact that the affordability of a college education is critical to ensuring that current and future generations of students continue to enjoy access to public higher education, acquire college degrees, and are not deterred from this pursuit due to cost. This is especially important given the current economic climate and the constraints to the HOPE scholarship program.

The University System of Georgia is committed to keeping tuition and fees low. As such, the System Office staff and the Board of Regents will continue to closely examine all mandatory fee requests for the upcoming year. Below are the overarching principles staff will consider in developing recommendations to the Board of Regents. Please follow these principles as you plan your mandatory fee requests for FY 2014.

- 1. New fees are strongly discouraged. An institution should not create a new fee unless there is a demonstrated business need with overwhelming student support.
- 2. An increase to an existing fee will not be recommended to the Board unless the institution presents a clear business case. The availability of current reserves will be considered.
- 3. Reallocations of the special institutional fee (SIF) will not be permitted.
- 4. Fee supported PPV projects whose revenues are falling or expected to fall below levels to sustain those projects should at a minimum: (1) review all project costs and processes to identify where efficiencies can be realized and expenses reduced in order to remain within actual or anticipated revenues; (2) evaluate the project plan to determine whether revisions to the plan to meet the lower revenues levels or estimates are feasible; and (3) explore other sources of revenue, besides fee revenue, to compensate for any actual or anticipated revenue shortage. Upon documenting that these and other measures have been taken along with their results, should revenue for the fee supported PPV project in question still be insufficient to sustain the project, only then will a request for a fee increase related to the PPV project be entertained.

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All templates and supporting documentation must be submitted by the established due date. Submissions, along with significant amendments thereto, received after the due date will not be considered. Detailed instructions and templates will be provided by the Office of Fiscal Affairs under separate cover.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership as we strive to create a more educated Georgia.

Sincerely,

Henry M. Huckoby

cc: Chief Business Officers
Chief Academic Officers