

President's Budget Development "Listening Tour"
Student Senate Meeting
February 13, 2018

1. Will tuition increase next year? If so, what percentage is being considered?
 - a. Dr. Postel responded by saying we are currently looking at options.
 - b. Most input from constituencies across campus tend to favor a tuition increase.
 - c. If we do decide to increase tuition and the increase is approved by our Board of Trustees it will be a modest increase. In the 3% range. There are many possibilities as to what these funds may be earmarked for. For example, we will need funds to support needed infrastructure associated with our enrollment growth plans.
 - d. All of this is of course dependent on what the Council on Postsecondary Education will set the "caps" for tuition increases. The CPE has statutory authority for increasing tuition. What they have done over the past 10 years is set upward increase caps that institutions cannot exceed.

2. Academic buildings are in need of maintenance and renovation. What is the University considering to address these needs?
 - a. Our deferred maintenance needs across campus total \$ 600 million
 - b. Governor Bevin included in his budget a \$300 million "Asset Preservation" pool, which UofL's portion totals around \$50 million.

- c. UofL's would need to raise approximately \$62 million to match the state dollars. These funds would go a long way to address many of our needs

3. Issues around Graduate Student population at UofL

- a. Our graduate program is way too small particularly relative to the size of our research program
- b. We simply do not have enough academic graduate programs
- c. We have a plan in place to also grow our non-resident graduate student population and develop new programs
- d. Also exploring ways to better compensate our graduate students.
- e. Recruiting good graduate programs helps our academic reputation as well as recruiting and retaining top faculty.

4. What is happening with the School of Public Health and the space downtown

- a. Public Health houses some of our important high demand graduate programs
- b. The School will lease space in the newly renovated building passport will own
- c. This will allow them to have a strong presence in West Louisville where many of our public health issues are.

5. Campus Housing Plans

- a. We must increase our campus housing in order to support our ambitious enrollment growth goals

6. Athletics

- a. The budget for our athletics program is around \$100 million. Which is a small portion of the University's overall budget

7. How will the University deal with additional state budget reductions?

- a. The governor's budget includes a \$8.3 million dollar cut in our appropriation. After the completion of this "Listening Tour", we will begin developing scenarios of how we might deal with this reduction.
- b. Given the size of our budget, you cannot simply look at this one line item in isolation but must look at the entire \$1.3 billion total University budget.
- c. The state's finances are in very bad shape. Driven by the problem with the state's pension program. Thankfully, UofL is not part of the state pension program. Those institutions that are part of the pension program will undergo even further cuts since they must redirect internal funds towards funding the pension program for their faculty and staff.
- d. Currently legislators are looking at not only appropriation reductions but also tax reform to generate additional revenue.