Proposed Tuition, University of Minnesota Health, Commencements, End of Legislative Session

**Tuition/Budget:** Access and affordability are among our top priorities. President Kaler proposes the following in his FY2017 budget (pending Board of Regents action in June):

- Freezing the resident undergraduate tuition rate at Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and Rochester.
- Offsetting the 2.5% tuition rate increase with financial aid for resident undergrads on the Twin Cities campus from households making $120,000 or less.
- Holding the tuition increase to 2.5% for other resident Twin Cities undergrads, and holding increases to a minimum for graduate and professional students.
- Increasing Twin Cities tuition 10%—1/3 less than originally proposed—for non-resident, non-reciprocity undergrads. Note: Students already enrolled will see no more than a 5.5% increase in their non-resident tuition due to a proposed increase in waivers.
- Investing in U employees via a 2.5% merit-based increase, support for core mission activities and student support, expanded student financial aid, and the first allocations for initiatives related to Driving Tomorrow, the Twin Cities strategic plan.

**University of Minnesota Health:** The Board of Regents will review proposed agreements May 12-13 to establish University of Minnesota Health (M Health) by combining Fairview Health Services and University of Minnesota Physicians into a new academic health system. Board action is expected in June. A fully integrated academic health system will strengthen our shared academic mission to:

- Improve the health of Minnesotans
- Discover new treatments and cures
- Educate Minnesota’s health care workforce
- Provide high-quality, integrated health care

**Commencements:** We have prepared students from across Minnesota and beyond to lead, think critically, contribute to their communities, and meet society’s grand challenges. This month we celebrate their successes and wish them well as we graduate about 15,000 students systemwide, who will become the state’s and nation’s talent and workforce.

**Legislative Session:** Our aging classrooms and labs must be renewed to prepare our students to become the next generation of state leaders and so our researchers can continue to discover and innovate. Renovating facilities across the system has been one of our top priorities during the legislative session. The standard construction rule of thumb is that $1 invested in renovation saves about $3 of new construction over time. The legislative session ends May 23.

More info: govrelations.umn.edu

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Key Facts

1. We combine the power of research, excellence in teaching, and a commitment to the common good to transform lives, fuel creativity, and strengthen MN’s economy.

- **ROI:** Every $1 invested in the U by the state generates about $13.20 in economic benefit; this totals about $9 billion in annual economic impact.
- **Scope:** We are one of only four universities in the nation with schools of engineering, human and veterinary medicine, law, and agriculture on one campus.
- **Workforce:** About 284,000 U of M alumni live in Minnesota, holding more than 360,000 U degrees; we graduate about 80% of the state’s medical school grads and all of Minnesota’s pharmacists, dentists, and veterinarians.

2. We are driven to address the Grand Challenges of a diverse and changing world—and we are uniquely positioned to do so.

- **Funding:** We are the 8th most active public research university in the nation, with more than $900 million in research funding.
- **Innovation:** In 2015, U research helped launch a record 16 startup companies for a total of 57 new companies over the last four years.
- **Community:** Liberal arts scholars study the identity and interaction of communities, and the relationship between individuals and their communities.
- **Teaching:** Many undergrads participate in research; our professors are working across disciplines to engage students in courses focused on Grand Challenges.

3. We ignite students’ drive to discover, preparing them to become tomorrow’s leaders and global citizens.

- **Students:** We have more than 60,000 students, mentored by some of the world’s leading scholars on five campuses and learning increasingly via interdisciplinary teaching.
- **Graduation-focused:** Twin Cities graduation rates more than doubled in the past 15 years (four-year rate: 63%; retention rate of first-year students: 93%).
- **Access:** Among the most affordable colleges in MN for students from families earning less than $75,000 per year. Students at lowest income levels receive grant aid—without loans—that exceeds tuition and fees. Forty percent of Twin Cities undergrads graduate with zero debt from U sources.

4. We engage with people across the state and globe to drive innovation, transform communities, and apply knowledge to improve lives.

- **Statewide:** Nearly 23,000 Minnesotans work at U of M campuses, research and outreach centers, and regional Extension offices across the state.
- **Reinvestment:** In 2013–14, the U invested about $253 million in public service.
- **Improving communities:** We work with an increasingly diverse region to enhance understanding, bridge disparities, and dismantle barriers to opportunity.