Budget and Tuition, Legislative Update, Athletics

Budget and Tuition: Access and affordability are among our top priorities and the FY2017 operating budget, approved by the Board of Regents June 10, maintains that commitment by:

- 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 7.5%—half of the original proposal—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- and market-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.

Legislative Update: The Minnesota Legislature adjourned May 22 without passing a bonding bill. However, the Legislature did pass a supplemental budget bill, including $3.4 million for the University’s Mining Innovation Minnesota and Health Training Restoration initiatives.

On June 1, Governor Dayton signed the supplemental budget bill and presented a list of projects that the Legislature must agree to in order for him to call a special session. The list includes the University’s requested Health Sciences Education Facility, as well as additional funding for the Health Training Restoration initiative.

Athletics: Gopher Athletics brings high visibility to the University; both in successes and challenges. Mark Coyle is off to a great start as the new Director of Athletics (as of May 31). His previous contributions and experience in Gopher Athletics, combined with his leadership credentials at major athletic departments, make him well-qualified to inspire excellence in competition, in the classroom, and as representatives of the U.

He will work to build on recent Gopher Athletics successes, including:

- 14 Gopher programs recognized by the NCAA with Academic Progress Rate (APR) Awards for placing among the top 10 percent of all programs nationally in their respective sport in the APR, 4th among all universities nationwide and first among public institutions
- 282 Gopher student-athletes were named Academic All-Big Ten following the 2015-16 academic year and 21 Gopher student-athletes have been recognized as Academic All-District by the College Sports Information Directors’ Association (CoSIDA) this year. The CoSIDA total is the highest number of student athletes earning academic all-district honors in the nation.
- Gopher Athletics also secured six team Big Ten Athletic championships this season, one Women’s Ice Hockey NCAA National Championship, one Volleyball NCAA Final Four appearance and 14 team NCAA tournament appearances.

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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.