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Bowling Green State University

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Foresight leaves University better prepared to absorb budget cuts

The University is bracing for another blow to its already tight budget following announcement by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management on Dec. 30 of a series of state spending cuts.

The cuts, part of Governor George Voinovich's goal to balance the state's fiscal year budget, will reduce the University's instructional subsidy by four percent and other higher education line items by six percent. Student financial aid will not be touched.

The OBM blamed the budget cuts on a state revenue shortfall of $314 million and higher-than-expected costs in Medicaid and Aid to Dependent Children.

Dr. Christopher Dalton, vice president for planning and budgeting, said the governor's action will result in an approximate $2.4 million reduction in state subsidies for the University's instructional subsidy by four percent.

The funds would have been used for a mid-year salary increase if there had been no budget cuts.

Dalton said that the remaining approximate $600,000 will be recovered by leaving positions vacant and through reductions in the current year's operating budgets.

Further clarifications of the state budget cuts are expected from the OBM and the Ohio Board of Regents in early January.

The six percent cut in higher education line items will affect the University's Canadian studies program and the Center for Governmental Research and Public Services.

In a Dec. 27 letter to faculty and staff, President Olscamp announced the reinstatement of a hiring freeze for vacant and new positions for all employee groups.

He said the "freeze is likely to stay in effect throughout the 1992-1993 fiscal year unless there is a restoration of budget funds or a raising of tuition caps" that would generate needed revenue for previous levels of operation and for salary increases.

He said that it has been the University's top priority to preserve full-time jobs but added that further reductions in state subsidies in 1992 may necessitate some layoffs.

Olscamp noted that there were other places and areas that are being hurt.

Continued on page 2

Regents' capital plan recommends more than $19 million for BGSU

The Ohio Board of Regents announced a $488 million capital plan for the next biennium at its Dec. 20 meeting.

The recommendations include $19.3 million for the main campus and $338,000 for Firelands. Also, the Regents suggested that $2.9 million be spent by Bowling Green, the University of Toledo and the Medical College of Ohio for a library warehouse to ease overcrowding of book storage facilities in the main libraries of those campuses.

The Regents' capital plan calls for the University to receive $2.5 million for basic renovations, $3.6 million for Phase II of the classroom building, $5.2 million for Phase II of Eppley Complex, $5.7 million to raze and rebuild South Hall and $1.9 million for renovations in the heating plant, including constructing a tunnel along Ridge Street adjacent to the future classroom building.

The amount recommended for the University is at or slightly above normal capital plan figures, Robert Martin, vice president for operations, said. He cautioned that the recommendations must be approved by both the governor and legislature and that the final capital budget is expected to be approved later this spring.

The first phase of the classroom building is scheduled to begin in late summer or early fall. The second phase funding will add technical laboratory and conferencing space to the building.

Martin said three factors may influence whether the capital budget is approved by the legislature. They include consideration of whether there are sufficient funds to support the operating budget for the current year, projections for the second half of the biennium and the political ramifications of cutting operating budgets while funding capital improvement budgets.

Now is a good time for capital improvement projects because bonds can be issued at lower rates and construction bids are low, Martin said.

Trustees approve changes with SLS, funds to complete Founders designs

The Board of Trustees approved changes in the University's relationship with Student Legal Services, took another step toward the renovation of Founders Quadrangle and recognized BGSU athletic teams for outstanding performances at its Dec. 20 meeting.

Two agreements with Student Legal Services which make its employees more clearly independent contractors, not employees of the University, were approved. The first agreement defines payment to the University for administrative costs and the lease of office space to SLS. The second agreement called for cooperative efforts on the part of SLS in ensuring that its present and former employees file amended tax returns.

The trustees also approved the expenditure of funds necessary to complete the design of a renovated Founders residence hall, including the preparation of construction documents and receipt of proposals from construction management consultants to provide services for a "fast track" construction management process. The renovations include a modernized dining facility and reconstructed living areas.

Personnel changes since the Oct. 18 meeting were approved, including tenure to Dr. Robert DeBard, dean of the Firelands College.

During the report of the finance committee, the following actions were taken:

— Approved the allocation of funds for

Continued on page 2
Faculty Senate debates salary recommendations

Discussion about faculty salaries dominated the Oct. 17 Council meeting of Faculty Senate. The motion passed in the budget committee, the central body for salary negotiations, contains a 3 percent increase in the current year and a 3 percent increase the following year.

The resolution was divined in three parts. First, the budget committee, through its report, proposed a 3 percent increase in the current year along with a 3 percent increase in the following year. Second, the committee recommended that the Senate pass a motion referring the 3 percent increase to the Council for further discussion and recommendation by the Senate. And third, the committee recommended that the Senate send the motion to the Senate for a vote. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Six faculty and an administrative staff member addressed the Senate, presenting their points of view on the motions. A majority of them were in favor of the recommendations presented by the budget committee.

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Seventy retiree with more than 179 years of experience

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Struggling with understanding which genome heredity and environmental factors were influencing their offspring's traits, Dr. Barbara Osmond decided to focus on a specific group of genes that were known to be involved in the development of intelligence. She hypothesized that by studying these genes, she could gain insights into the genetic basis of intelligence and potentially identify new targets for intervention. After several years of rigorous research, Dr. Osmond published her findings in a high-impact journal, earning widespread recognition and acclaim. Her work not only advanced the field of genetics but also opened new avenues for future research in cognitive sciences and personalized medicine.

Enabling students to connect with experts in various fields, the online forum has become a valuable resource for educators and learners worldwide. Through curated discussions, faculty from around the globe share their insights, foster collaborative projects, and promote interdisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning. This platform has transformed the way educators conduct their research, engage with the public, and inspire the next generation of innovators. With a growing user base and increasing participation, it is clear that this initiative has the potential to reshape the educational landscape and accelerate scientific progress.

The value of the online forum is further underscored by its role in promoting awareness and education around pressing global issues. From climate change to social justice, educators use this platform to initiate critical conversations, share multimedia content, and facilitate community-driven solutions. By bridging gaps between academia and society, the forum empowers individuals to become active participants in shaping the future of their communities. As technology continues to evolve, the online forum will undoubtedly continue to redefine the boundaries of knowledge sharing and community engagement.
Wilson book examines educating children with behavior disorders

Dr. Ruth Wilson, special education, and three colleague
university officials have written a book examining the
problems of educating children with behavior disorders.

"In general, a behavior problem is a misbehavior that interferes with educational performance," Wilson said. He noted that this attitude often leads to misinterpretation of behavior, which can be a serious problem. The book, "Addressing Behavior Disorders," is intended to help teachers understand and treat these problems.

The authors maintain that students with behavior disorders are among the most challenging to educate.

"The challenge is to help students who are often considered to be the least capable to achieve the most," Wilson said. "This book provides strategies for teaching these students, including interventions and strategies for improving academic and social behavior.

The authors hope that the book will be useful to teachers, administrators, and parents.

Kiple to study worldwide nutrition

Dr. Kenneth F. Kiple, history, has been awarded a $33,537 grant to support a project to identify the first worldwide reference work on nutrition.

"The project will be a major contribution to the field of nutrition," Kiple said. "It will provide a comprehensive history of nutrition from ancient times to the present day." The grant, awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will fund research for a multi-volume reference work on nutrition.

"Nutrition is a crucial issue in today's world," Kiple said. "This project will provide a valuable resource for researchers, educators, and the general public." The reference work will include a detailed history of nutrition, including its development, evolution, and impact on society.

"I am very excited about this project," Kiple said. "It will allow me to explore this important topic in depth and provide a valuable resource for future research and education."