



30 November, 2011

To: Vice-President, Dick Cannon and the Central Budget Committee
From: The UNH Graduate Student Senate
Re: Prioritizing Strategic Cuts to Address Projected UNH Structural Budget Deficits

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 15, the UNH Graduate Student Senate passed the attached resolution regarding graduate student budget priorities. The GSS understands the unprecedented budget constraints UNH faces in the next two years and the need for strategic vertical budget cuts. We believe that student values and the University's academic mission can, and should, help prioritize potential budget cuts. The attached resolution is the result of a discussion involving GSS Senators, their constituents throughout the campus and the GSS executive board.

We ask that the University Central administration and the Central Budget Committee take into account the input of the graduate student community when preparing the FY13 and FY14 UNH budgets.

Sincerely,

The UNH Graduate Student Senate

Bob Swarthout, President
Daniel Budak, Vice-president
John McClain, Treasurer
Ian Cohen, Representative to the USNH Board of Trustees
Emily Klein, Programs Coordinator
Michael Staley, Clerk



University of New Hampshire Graduate Student Senate
Referendum 2011:4
November 15, 2011

Strategic Cuts to Address UNH Structural Budget Deficits

Whereas, President Huddleston has emphasized the need for rapid action to address the University of New Hampshire's predicted FY13 and FY14 structural budget deficits before submission of the biennial budget to the University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees in December, and

Whereas, the University Administration has assured the UNH community that the budgets of all academic, administrative and auxiliary units are being considered for strategic vertical budget cuts, and

Whereas, total cost of attendance at UNH is approaching or has already reached a threshold where pursuing a UNH degree is not a financially attractive option for many prospective students, and

Whereas, mandatory student fees make up a substantial portion of the cost of attendance and continue to rise at an unsustainable rate relative to student incomes, and

Whereas, a portion of student tuition and fees is used to support auxiliary units which are not financially self-sufficient, and

Whereas, the primary mission of UNH is academic in nature, therefore

RESOLVED, that the UNH Graduate Student Senate advises the Central Budget Committee and the University Administration to consider reducing the budgets of ancillary service units including athletics, campus recreation, and the Memorial Union Building, prior to cutting services which are central to the academic mission of UNH, including, but not limited to the graduate school, graduate assistantships, information technology and the library.

UNH Graduate Student Senate

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