

Passed 5/4/2010

AR 10: In Support of Greater Student Involvement in the Budget Reduction Process

Authors: Representatives Natalie Butler, Philip Wiseman

Sponsors: Louis Armendariz, Natalie Butler, Ashley Carlisle, Chase Covington, Matt Daley, Madison Gardner, Marc Anthony Gonzalez, Alyssa Herring, Milam Miller, Phuoc Anne Nguyen, Laurel Pugliese, Philip Wiseman

WHEREAS, On January 15th, 2010, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House of the State of Texas requested that all State Agencies, including The University of Texas at Austin, submit plans to reduce the general revenue and general revenue-dedicated appropriations budgets for the 2010-2011 biennium by 5%¹; and,

WHEREAS, This request will total a reduction of approximately \$29 million in state funding for The University of Texas at Austin if implemented²; and,

WHEREAS, The payout from the Available University Fund is currently down due to the nationwide economic situation³, and the Available University Fund contributes 16% to the University's core budget⁴; and,

WHEREAS, The current economic situation at The University of Texas at Austin will likely result in reductions to budgets across academic units and other student services; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin believes that budget reductions and their resulting changes to the academic and non-academic environments at The University of Texas at Austin will ultimately affect students in varied and unanticipated ways; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin strongly encourages the faculty, staff, and administration at The University of Texas at Austin to seek student input throughout the entirety of the budget reduction process, either through already formed student advisory committees or by forming student committees for this purpose; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin strongly encourages the faculty, staff, and administration at the University of Texas at Austin to heed student advice in these matters, and prioritize budgets in order to best serve students as decided with great respect to student input; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Student Government at the University of Texas at Austin shall review areas across campus that pertain to student services and determine where greater student input is needed in relation to budget reductions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be delivered to The University of Texas at Austin Offices of the President, the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Student Affairs, the Vice President

and Associate Vice Presidents for Diversity and Community Engagement, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for University Operations, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Legal Affairs, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Information Technology, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Public Affairs, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Development, the Vice President and Associate Vice Presidents for Research, the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Deans of the School of Architecture, the Deans of the McCombs School of Business, the Deans of the College of Communication, the Deans of the Division of Continuing and Innovative Education, the Deans of the College of Communication, the Deans of the Cockrell School of Engineering, the Deans of the College of Fine Arts, the Deans of the Jackson School of Geosciences, the Deans of the Graduate School, the Deans of the School of Information, the Deans of the School of Law, the Deans of the College of Liberal Arts, the Deans of the College of Natural Sciences, the Deans of the School of Nursing, the Deans of the College of Pharmacy, the Deans of the LBJ School for Public Affairs, the Deans of the School of Social Work, and the Deans of the School of Undergraduate Studies.

- 1: http://governor.state.tx.us/files/press-office/budget_letter.pdf
- 2: <http://blogs.utexas.edu/towertalk/page/2/>
- 3: http://www.utexas.edu/news/2009/09/17/powers_2009address/
- 4: http://www.utexas.edu/president/speeches/tuition_funding_2009.pdf