



To: Faculty and Staff

From: Steve Kinslow

Date: July 8, 2009

Subject: INFORMATION UPDATES

FY 10 BUDGET APPROVED

The 2009-2010 academic year (FY10) budget was approved by a 9/0 vote of the ACC governing Board this past Monday evening. Highlights of the budget include the following:

- **\$226,331,254 Operating Budget**

Note that this is a significant increase over the current FY09 budget of \$198,702,044, and this increase primarily reflects the new Round Rock ISD property tax revenues that accrue to the ACC budget for the first time since our successful annexation election in May 2008. Note, too, that the Round Rock tax revenues are dedicated to retirement of the \$120 million ACC Round Rock Campus which is under construction. Message: the College is not “awash” in money.

State appropriations increased by 11.4% including an increase in group health appropriation which will be needed to cover additional health insurance costs. Tuition and fee revenues are also expected to increase due to an increase in the out-of-district tuition rate, and increased enrollment of at least 5%. However, these additional tuition and fee dollars will be needed to fund additional full-time and adjunct faculty to support the increased enrollments.

- **2% compensation increase for all staffing table employees, for the 12-month budget year.**

The administration had presented three scenarios that included the possibilities of a small 1.8% increase over 12 months, the small increase implemented for only the last 6 months of the year, or no increase based on the economic uncertainties and the expectation of decreased revenues in FY11. Employees will receive confirmation of their new salary on August 1st from the Office of Human Resources.

- **Classified/Prof-Tech Classification/Compensation Model**

From comments made by employee association officers during the budget process, it is clear that there is widespread confusion regarding the classification and compensation model. The President's Leadership Team will work with employee association officers to ensure that the system is understood, and that classified and prof-tech employees have a single web source that illustrates the model and which provides links to the appropriate data. This will be an on-going discussion process for the remainder of this summer, and information will be posted on the HR web site with links to the employee organizations' web sites (see url below).

- **Parking Fees** will be increased for the first time in ACC's history:

- Administrators \$50
- Full-Time Faculty \$40
- Staff: Prof-Tech \$35
- Staff: Classified \$30
- Adjunct Faculty/Hourly \$20
- Students \$15

Note that the increased revenues from parking, estimated to be \$250,000, will help to finance Capital Metro bus passes (see additional comments regarding Sustainability Fee) and other costs associated with parking and with promotion of alternative means of transportation to campuses. Note also that ACC's parking fees remain far lower than other local institutions (UT Austin's faculty staff costs for parking options range from \$138-\$464 per year, St. Edward's is \$175 for staffing table employees, and Texas State's cost ranges from \$85-\$550 per year).

- **Sustainability Fee**

ACC is also embarking on an ambitious initiative to increase alternative means of transportation to campuses. The concept arose from the Board's interest in its new Board Policy C-9, Sustainability, and moved quickly during the budget deliberations; many of the details of how the program will work are still being developed and will be shared through Student Government Association and employee organizations for their input. The basics of the initiative are:

- Will be implemented in Spring 2010
(new Sustainability Fee goes into effect with Spring 2010 registration)
- \$1 per student contact hour will be assessed
- The revenue generated, estimated to be \$750,000, will be used to purchase Capital Metro bus passes (can be issued for entire year, or by individual fall, spring, summer semesters). Some revenue from employee parking fee increases also apply toward institutional purchase of bus passes.

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- The bus passes are issued to students, faculty, and staff; we plan for a goal of between 15,000-20,000 passes in year 1.
- This is a pilot program that will be evaluated of course. If not successful in increasing alternative transportation usage, the Board will be asked to rescind the student fee (we do not anticipate any reduction, for any reason, in the new employee parking fees).

Other Budget Highlights

- In recognition of additional enrollments and demands for ACC programs and services, the new budget includes the addition of 20 new staff support positions and 30 new full-time faculty positions. The administration is proud of its record of growing the employee and technology infrastructure of the District.
- Technology and capital outlay budgets of \$6.5 million. Note that this represents a \$750,000 decrease from previous years' budgets; we think we can absorb this reduction given the large investments made over the past several years.
- **Student Success Initiative**
As a reminder, the Fall General Assembly will focus on student success and what Achieving the Dream means for the various success initiatives that are in place within ACC. I hope to see you on August 21st.

For More Information

- It will take a few days to post all materials on web sites, but by the end of this week you will be able to access more detailed budget information at the following sites:

FY10 Budget	http://www.austincc.edu/busdept/budget/budget.htm
Parking Fees	http://www.austincc.edu/police/services/ParkingRegs.htm
Sustainability Fee and FAQ	http://www.austincc.edu/busdept/index
Classification & Staff Compensation	http://www.austincc.edu/hr/compensation/mkt_par.php

I appreciate the manner in which the vast majority of faculty and staff have responded to the budget process and to the planning directives/assumptions which I shared last January in an effort to apprise everyone that the next couple of years will be challenging due to the economic recession and the wave of additional enrollments headed our way. I also appreciate the recognition that our core mission is more important than ever, and that by working together we best serve our students and our communities.

ACC Master Plan

At the 07-06-09 Board of Trustees Meeting, the governing board also unanimously approved the 2010-2012 Master Plan (recall that the Master Plan is updated annually,

readopted by the Board, and addressed in a rolling three-year cycle). The Master Plan has been significantly revised to improve readability, and we have expanded the Planning and Data Resources Appendix. The Executive Summary has been revised to better capture the major goal areas of ACC.

For more information: <http://irt.austincc.edu/masterplan/mp.htm>

FACILITIES UPDATES

- **RGC Parking Garage**

Can a garage be beautiful? Waaaaaay long in coming, the RGC Parking Garage is on target for opening in late August.

- **RGC Office Building**

The renovated Gymnasium Building (Building 3000) at Rio Grande will be ready for occupancy in May, 2010. It includes faculty offices, five classrooms, and a large computerized resource center for student use.

- **Round Rock Campus**

ACC's newest campus, Round Rock, is progressing rapidly (Fall 2010 is the target opening date), is on schedule and within budget.

- **Property Acquisition**

Part of ACC's Master Plan goals includes property acquisitions to enhance ACC's ability to respond to future growth and expansion of the District. The College is exploring land in the Leander, Bastrop/Elgin, and Buda/Kyle areas in addition to retaining our land donation (and option to purchase additional property) in San Marcos. This is referred to as "land banking" in the ACC Master.

For more information go to the ACC Homepage, click on Facilities & Operations, and click on Construction Updates to see pictures of the construction projects.

<http://www.austincc.edu/faoadmin/projects.php>

SBK/pws