Dear students, faculty and staff:

As we indicated during our May Budget Town Hall Meeting, we are closely monitoring state budget dynamics. While there are indications that state finances are slowly improving, we believe that there is reason to be concerned with the pace of recovery, as well as the impact of growing state expenditures for Medicaid, K-12, and corrections on the ability of the state to restore the $300 million non-recurring cut to the SUS in 2013-14.

Accordingly we are beginning to plan for an even more strained institutional budget for the 2013-2014 academic year. For further information, you may refer to the State of Florida’s most recent analysis.

I commend you for the manner in which we have been able to expand access for eligible students while maintaining quality. This has been done through a combination of innovative and cost-effective initiatives as well as your willingness to educate additional students and the willingness of our students to pay a greater portion of their educational costs. An expanded advising system and a new approach to managing majors have helped us immensely. We must redouble our commitment to ensure the timely graduation of our students to help minimize their growing financial indebtedness.

I look forward to seeing you at our next Budget Town Hall Meeting early in the fall semester. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely yours,

Mark B. Rosenberg
President