Realize. It starts with you.

2014-2015 University Budget

May, 2014
The 2014-15 budget challenge

- Operating grant increase of 2.07%: $2.2 million less than requested.
- Sustaining capital grant: half the purchasing power received in 2009-10
- Total operating budget grant increase: $2.1 million versus cost of salary increases: $3.7 million
- Need to invest in many areas: teaching staff and equipment; research support; graduate student financial assistance; undergraduate support, particularly counselling; building repairs and preventive maintenance.
- Cumulative impacts of budget challenges in the last two fiscal years
- Recognition of future funding constraints
The response: operating budget

- 20th consecutive balanced budget -- exceeds $200 million for the first time in University’s history
- No budget cuts to academic units
- Investments of $2.25 million in Faculties
- Budget cuts of $466,000 to administrative units plus the elimination of the funding for 3 senior admin positions
- Voluntary Incentive Program for Retirement: expected savings of $1.5 million factored into budget
Investments

- 21 new academic positions will be created; authority to fill 9 currently vacant faculty positions will be given to Deans
- On request of Deans, 4 new administrative positions in the Faculties have been created
- $200K each for teaching equipment in Faculties of Science and Engineering & Applied Science
- $458K increased support for research
- UR International increase of $160K & FGSR increase of $50K to better support international students
- Increased scholarship budgets
- 2 student counsellors, an IT security position, an institutional spokesperson in Communications
Research

- 5 research-related positions base-budgeted, 3 of them in ORIP (includes the new Director of ORIP)
- $100K reduction in budgeted recoveries
- $41K more for the University’s share of the top ups to salaries of our 10 Canada Research Chairs (to $386K)
- $129K one-time funding includes support for 2 research institutes
- $206K more for grad student scholarships and $25K for teaching assistantships
- PIMS membership funded centrally ($35K)
Some necessary increases

- Evergreen program: $300K
- Utilities: $266K
- Bank credit card charges: $180K
- Retirement allowances: $150K
- Institutional & professional fees: $125K
- Space rental costs (new space JSGS and SW): $86K
- IT licences and maintenance (centrally funded ArcGIS/Turnitin/NVivo): $53K
- Telephone exchange: $50K
- Employee tuition reimbursements: $53K
Voluntary Incentive Program for Retirement

- 74 employees (85 years combined age and service) invited
- Estimated base budget savings of $1.5M now built into budget and enabling investments outlined on previous slides
- A personal decision - University will not know how many employees chose to participate until May 30, 2014
- Faculty and administrative units will assess the impact of positions being vacated in the context of campus-wide needs
- Requests to re-staff vacated positions will be made through the Faculties and units to VPs and reviewed through normal budget review and approval processes
- 50% of the position funding will be available to refill
Tuition and other fees

- Undergraduate tuition rates and several fees increase by 3.8%
- Tuition rates for most graduate programs increase by 3.8%
- Tuition rates for most graduate programs in the Levene School increase by 5.0% and the JSGS by 3.0%
- No changes in international differential rates
- Tuition rates at the U of R remain among the lowest in the country
Student financial assistance

- Undergraduate financial assistance will increase by $1.0 million (includes Sask Advantage Scholarship increase of estimated $680K)
- The graduate student scholarship budget increases by $206K
- Graduate teaching assistantship funding is increased by $25,000
- In addition, 2 years of provincial funding for Sask Innovation and Opportunities Scholarships will be distributed in 2014-15: over $1 million to undergrads and a further $1 million to grad students
Scholarships as a Percentage of Tuition and Fees among Maclean’s Comprehensive Universities, 2011-12

One-time funding

- Research: bibliometric database and salary support for 2 research institutes ($129K)
- Education: computer lab upgrade ($70K)
- FGSR: paperless workflow project ($50K)
- Library: installment for next generation library system ($200K)
- UR International: immigration compliance reporting ($35K)
Sustaining capital: $4.5M

- Equipment funding for Science ($200k) and Engineering ($200k) from operating budget
- Equipment funding for Fine Arts ($40K), Information Services infrastructure ($450K) and classroom furnishings ($100K)
- Evergreen program funded from operating ($650K)
- Plant restoration and renovations projects budgeted at $3.0 million, up $0.5 million from 2013-14
- Debt repayment for past projects remains at $1.0 million
Residence to open fall 2015
Questions?

The comprehensive budget plan has been posted at
http://www.uregina.ca/orp/budget.shtml