**President’s Report to Faculty Senate – January 27, 2011**

My apologies for not being with you for the meeting-and so from a distance I wish you a great beginning to the Spring semester. By all reports, our colleagues have adapted well to the circumstances created by the winter wonderland at the scheduled beginning of the term.

* Budget discussions- We will be hosting an open meeting in Spivey Hall next Tuesday to provide the campus opportunities to review current strategies for the remainder of this fiscal year (2011) and for the next fiscal year. It's is our intention to follow the strategy for 2011 posted on the SWAN labeled "2011 budget reduction strategies."
The 2012 budget discussions begin the with Governor's budget, which includes no funds for new formula support (and at least some assumptions about a larger part of the budget being tuition driven-more on that next week). The board requested budget increases for formula to reflect a 19,000 student growth since the last adjustment. These reductions reflect a gap in current state budget demands over reeve of in excess of $1 billion. The board capital recommendations included construction dollars for the new science building. The governor's request did not include our proposal (and the bulk of system requests). The governor's intent is to keep new capital projects for the state small, to preserve the state bond rating. Again, more discussions on potential strategies beginning next week.
* Planning - We will be providing details about open meetings on strategic planning during the week of February 14. While progress has been slower than anticipated, I believe materials will be provided to help create a robust discussion and faculty and staff perspectives as the plan progresses.

Many thanks again for all you do.