DATE: August 16, 2012

TO: Colleagues

FROM: Eloy O. Oakley, Superintendent-President

SUBJECT: Budget Update

As you are well aware, Long Beach City College has had to make a number of very difficult decisions to cope with several years of budget reductions from the State of California and to prioritize our funds to meet the goals of the Board of Trustees and Educational Master Plan. Unfortunately, even more difficult decisions loom on the horizon as we enter the 2012-13 academic year.

In the coming year, LBCC will implement a minimum of $2 million in reductions to close our structural budget deficit. However, those reductions could grow to $8.4 million if Proposition 30 on the November General Election ballot fails. Reductions of this magnitude will have a significant impact on the college.

LBCC is considering discontinuing a number of instructional programs along with other measures that will change the structure and administration of the college. These measures will lead to a reduction in management, full-time faculty and other classified staff positions. The college will prioritize its available resources toward achieving the goals of the Education Master Plan and the Board of Trustees goals.

LBCC will carry out the process of program discontinuance throughout the fall semester. Final recommendations for reductions will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees in early 2013. College leaders will also be considering additional management and staffing reductions during the fall semester depending upon several factors including: program reduction recommendations, the outcome of the November election and state budget performance during the year.

I am painfully aware of the tremendous impacts these reductions will have on our students, faculty and staff and wish that declining support from the state was not forcing such wrenching decisions upon us. I, along with the Board of Trustees, will engage in aggressive advocacy and seek regulatory and legislative changes that will allow us to increase our revenue through traditional and non-traditional means.

LBCC will meet these challenges and as a result position our college to thrive in the changing future of our community colleges. The Board of Trustees and I will ensure that LBCC continues to serve our local community by providing an excellent and affordable college education to as many students as possible in spite of any reductions enacted. We are also committed to bringing additional resources to support our students.
The Executive Team and I will work to keep the college community informed as this process unfolds during the coming year. I know that I can count on every employee of this college to continue to support our students and each other as we work through what will be a challenging year.