

 Reply  Reply All  Forward




News



[Urgent Update] Update from VPFA - Must Read

2/15/2019

 This message was sent with High importance.



Greetings Campus Community:

Last week, the administration received NMHU's preliminary enrollment numbers from the Office of Institutional Research. Due to our unfortunate and continued declining enrollment in both this fall and spring semesters, we are now at a cross roads financially. This decline in enrollments continues to hinder our ability to build a solid, fund balance, which is one of several requirements for remaining off of probation. With declining enrollments, we face an eminent and significant tuition and revenue deficient. At this time and in consultation with President Minner and Provost Gonzales, we will be implementing a substantial tightening of all our budgets for the remainder of fiscal year 2019. These financial restrictions are **not** applicable to grants or restricted funding sources. If you are uncertain about your account, please check with the Grants office.

Effective immediately the following controls will be put into place and subject to review and approval by President Minner, Provost Gonzales, and VP Baca:

- All hires will be frozen and reviewed. Per current policy, employees are not allowed to make any financial commitments without approval. If an employee violates this policy, the employee could be subject to disciplinary action.
- All travel will be frozen and reviewed. Per current policy, employees are not allowed to make any financial travel arrangements without approval. If an employee violates this policy, the employee could be personally liable for covering any unauthorized expenses, as well as disciplinary action.
- Purchases greater than \$500 will be reviewed and approved by the VP of Finance and Administration Office. This will remain in effect until the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2019).

Please review current "encumbrances" or financial commitments and disencumber any purchase orders you can do without for the remainder of the fiscal year.

If we work together and tighten our fiscal belts, we should be able to postpone other cost cutting measures and get through the fiscal year without any further financial cuts. All the savings we can accumulate is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, there are rumors circulating that NMHU is looking to close programs, reduce its labor force (RIF), furloughs, close spring sports, and other cuts. There has been NO decision made to pursue any of the above; however, these options are not off the table given the financial uncertainty the institution is facing. We will be working with all the senates, campus budget planning committees, and executive team on other cost-saving approaches we can implement. We will be providing a much more detailed financial report when we present the 2020 fiscal year administrative priorities, and we will attempt to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Max Baca

Vice President for Finance and Administration