



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A Briefing for Faculty & Staff of the University System of Georgia No. 9, March 9, 2009

“Creating a More Educated Georgia”

Schedule Set for Rest of Session

The House and Senate have adopted the following schedule for the remainder of the 2009 Legislative Session:

Monday, March 9	Legislative Day 28
Tuesday, March 10	Legislative Day 29
Thursday, March 12	Legislative Day 30
Tuesday, March 17	Legislative Day 31
Wednesday, March 18	Legislative Day 32
Thursday, March 19	Legislative Day 33
Friday, March 20	Legislative Day 34
Monday, March 23	Legislative Day 35
Wednesday, March 25	Legislative Day 36
Thursday, March 26	Legislative Day 37
Monday, March 30	Legislative Day 38
Wednesday, April 1	Legislative Day 39
Friday, April 3	Legislative Day 40

More Legislation of Interest to the USG

Here are a few more pieces of legislation under consideration by the General Assembly that are of significance to the University System of Georgia (USG):

House Resolution 532 by Rep. Sharon Cooper of Marietta

This resolution would create a Joint Study Committee on Nursing Education in Georgia. The resolution was introduced on March 3 and passed out of the House Health and Human

Services Committee on March 6.

If approved by the General Assembly, the committee would consist of 15 members of the legislature, the nursing community and the general public, and would be staffed by the USG’s Center for Health Workforce Planning and Analysis. The chair of the House Human Services Committee and the chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee would serve as co

See “BILLS,” Page 2 ...

USG to Cut FY2010 Budget by an Additional 1 Percent

Last week, Gov. Sonny Perdue announced he is reducing his recommendations for nearly all state agencies for the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget in accordance with the fall-off in tax collections.

Faced with a 14 percent drop in net revenue collections in January and a nearly 35 percent drop in February, Perdue scaled back the state’s revenue estimate for the remainder of FY 2009 by \$450 million and the estimate for next year by \$1.62 billion.

The additional reduction in FY 2010 funding for the University System of Georgia amounts to 1 percent (\$21.8 million), bringing the cumulative cuts for the System to 11.5 percent, or \$265.6 million.

Georgia is eligible to receive approximately \$1.1 billion in federal stimulus funds, which helped to offset what would have been a much deeper cut. The stimulus money comes from “stabilization funding” designed to fill holes in state budgets. ☰

Chancellor, Linda Daniels Address House Subcommittee

Rep. Bob Smith’s House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee held separate budget hearings last week with Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. and Vice Chancellor for Facilities Linda Daniels.

The two officials answered numerous questions from legislators about the University System of Georgia’s Fiscal Year 2010 budget. Daniels’ appearance before the subcommittee focused on the System’s capital budget, while the Chancellor dealt with more wide-ranging legislative concerns regarding the System. ☰

Bills

Continued from Page 1...

chairpersons of the study committee.

If passed by both chambers and signed into law by the Governor, the study committee would meet during the interim between sessions.

Senate Bill 238 by Sen. **Seth Harp** of Midland

This bill would create a service-cancelable loan program for medical and dental

students of the Medical College of Georgia. The bill was introduced on March 3 and passed out of the Senate Higher Education committee on March 4.

House Bill 647 by Rep. **Bob Smith** of Watkinsonville

This legislation would require each USG institution and the University System Office to submit a report to the General Assembly and post on its website a report

containing information regarding the institutional profile, student and faculty engagement, student achievement, and institutional efficiency.

Senate Resolution 427 by Sen. **Dan Weber** of Dunwoody

This urging resolution is a byproduct of the Joint Study Committee on Teacher Training and Certification that met in 2008.

The resolution recognizes the value of partnerships between local school systems and postsecondary institutions and urges the University System, Georgia's private colleges and universities, the Department of Education, the Professional Standards Commission, and local school systems to continue to establish and enable such partnerships. 🏡