Advocating for Higher Education

March 16, 2012

Dear University of Maryland community:

The General Assembly in Annapolis is currently considering the University's FY13 budget. Governor O'Malley continues to make higher education a high priority and his current budget proposal promotes quality, access and affordability, as well as Maryland's competitiveness.

This week, the Senate passed the budget with a cut of $5.3 million to the University System of Maryland (USM). Now the House Appropriations Committee has proposed nearly $20 million in reductions to the university system, which would translate to approximately $8 million to our campus. The USM has activated its Capwiz electronic network, which was used successfully in 2010 in order to advocate for support of higher education in the State of Maryland's budget. This easy-to-use site enables you to contact your legislators in support of the University's budget and presents talking points you may use in your message. To express your views about the budget to your legislators, click on: [http://capwiz.com/usmd/home/](http://capwiz.com/usmd/home/)

As you know, these are challenging times for the state budget. All of us understand the impact of further budget cuts on our educational mission.

Your advocacy for the University in the budget process is a powerful force and will allow us to continue our excellent work on campus.

Sincerely,

Wallace D. Loh
President