




## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 25, 2011

**TO:** DCCC Trustees, Faculty, and Staff  
**FROM:** Mary E. Rittling   
**SUBJECT:** Community College Budget Update

Thank you for your continued interest and advocacy as the North Carolina General Assembly works to develop a 2011-12 budget. At this point, there is much discussion but no final answers about the various options for addressing our state budget deficit.

Despite the budget uncertainty, it appears that community colleges will be faced with a 10-14% cut. As you have heard me say many times, a cut above 10% will just compound the cuts we have already absorbed in the last few years. This amount is beyond what we can withstand without significant changes here on campus. It also appears very likely that all state employees on the State Health Plan will pay a monthly premium for health insurance and that co-pays and deductibles will rise due to an expected health plan shortfall of over \$500 million.

As always, we are working hard to stay on top of these matters, to make strategic budget decisions, and to find the right balance of efficiencies that best serve our students while ensuring fiscal stability. Our leadership team and those on campus who manage budgets are doing an outstanding job of keeping our mission and values in mind while we address this fiscal uncertainty.

I will travel to Raleigh next week to meet face-to-face with our legislators and continue to share the DCCC story. I hope you, too, will continue to tell our story and to be champions for the College. Please take a few minutes to become familiar with the attached talking points related to budget and our needs.

My next Open Forum is scheduled for April 19 at 10:00 a.m. in Mendenhall, Room 226. I hope there will be additional budget information to share with you at this time. Thank you for all you do for DCCC!