



**A Message from President David J. Ramsay to the UMB Community  
August 26, 2009**

Recent stories in the *Baltimore Sun* and other media outlets have described budget actions taken by Governor O'Malley and the Board of Public Works. Attached is a communication from Chancellor Kirwan that describes the effects of these budget actions on the University System of Maryland. As the Chancellor reports, the total state budget reduction to the University System now amounts to nearly \$94 million.

Included in that \$94 million state budget reduction is a temporary salary reduction, Systemwide, of \$26 million. This action will parallel, but is NOT identical to the salary reduction plan for state employees that has been described in the media. Campuses will have some flexibility to tailor plans to meet local needs.

As of this writing, we have not yet been informed of our proportionate share of this latest cut, but based on past experience, we normally are required to absorb about one-fifth of the total System cut. We are working to develop, for approval by the Chancellor and the Board of Regents, a tiered salary reduction plan that will be structured in a way that reflects differences in compensation levels and will provide our share of funds to be returned to the state.

Know that the Deans and I join with Chancellor Kirwan and the Board of Regents in being grateful to you for your dedication and commitment to this university. We have been through periods of adversity in the past, and that has not stopped us, or even delayed us in our march toward excellence. I thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued service. I will keep you informed.

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President  
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