April 30, 2013

Dear Budget/Finance Chairs:

As this academic year comes to a close, preparations are already underway for the start of the Fall 2013 term. A part of these preparations is consideration of new or increased local and miscellaneous fees, such as lab fees, material and supply fees, and other fees as authorized in Section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, and Board of Governors’ Regulation 7.003.

As you review the various proposed fees that come before your board, I ask that you pay special attention to lab, material, and supply fees to ensure that they are in compliance with existing statutes and regulations. It is important that each one is directly tied to the cost of the material or supply item consumed by the student and that such cost is justified and verifiable. If your board has delegated to university administration the discretion to increase existing fees that are statutorily authorized, I encourage you to at least review these fees since they will be incorporated in the operating budget that ultimately comes to your board for approval.

As you know, increases in local fees add to the students’ economic burden, which is a concern that is always at the center of discussion for the Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee. As is our practice every year, this committee will pay close attention to the potential impact on students when considering those fee requests that come to the Board of Governors.

Thank you for the hard work you do on behalf of our 335,000 students.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Kuntz, Chair
Budget & Finance Committee

cc: Board of Governors
    Boards of Trustees
    University Presidents
    University Provosts
    University CFOs