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UA President Says \$20.3 Million Budget Set by State Too Low









































FAIRBANKS—The state administration proposed 20.3 million dollar operating budget for the University of Alaska in the next fiscal year is far below what's needed to maintain the what's needed to maintain the statewide institution at the pre-sent level and consequently would require a reduction of personnel and prevent opening of buildings now under construc-tion throughout the state, Uni-versity president William R. versity president Wi Wood said today. "In these difficult

"In these difficult times, when the state is hampered in its efforts to develop its natural resources, austerity is clearly called for, and the university recognizes its programs as well as those of other state entities will be affected," said Wood.

"But the university's board of regents believe the public is entitled to know the likely impact of the state administration's budget proposal on the state.

budget proposal on the state-wide institution," he said.

The proposed operating budget is \$500,000 below the \$20.8 million preliminary allowance set for the university by the Office of the Governor, \$4.4 million below the estimate developed under state division of budget and management guidebudget and management guide-lines to maintain the university at the current level, and \$5.2 million below what the univer-sity itself estimated would be needed to maintain the institu-tion, Dr. Wood said. "The public should know," he said, "that the proposed state budget generally may be a hold-the-line budget but that part of it covering the university calls for a critical cutback from our current operating level."

The university is still attempting to determine the full impact ting to determine the full impact upon it of the governor's budget proposal but it appears at this time that at least 100 persons would have to be dropped by July 1 from the existing statewide staff, the president said.

A \$20.3 million operating budget would also copied the

budget would also compel the budget would also compet the university to increase fees and enrollment costs, he added. Such a budget would give the university only \$800,000 more next year than it received this year, which is insufficient to meet the normal annual increases in operating costs for works. ses in operating costs for such things as growth in enrollments, things as growth in enrollments, which the university has experienced nearly every year since statehood, and inflationary costs which are now running about 5 percent, the president said.

Dr. Lewis Haines, provost for the University's Southcentral Region, said that with an operating budget of the size proposed by the state administration it.

by the state administration it would not be possible to open community college buildings now or soon to be under connow or soon to be under construction at Kodiak, on the Kenai Peninsula, and in the Matanuska Valley area; the consortium library now going up in Anchorage for use by University of Alaska and Alaska Methodist University students and two University students, and two new buildings now under con-struction at Anchorage Commu-

struction at Anchorage Community College.

The university proposed a \$66 million, statewide capital construction program—to be financed by general obligation bonds—over the next several years and \$34,5 million of this total was to go for new construction in the Southcentral Region and the balance for the university regions.

university regions.

The governor proposed an \$11.5 million university construction of a high priority academic building for the upper university division in Anchorage.

The balance would permit safety. The balance would permit safety

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