Eye of the Storm: Governor Recommends 12.5 Percent Cut to Higher Education for FY13

Funding Loss Nears 25 Percent in Only Three Years

With a state budget shortfall estimated to exceed $500 million next year, Governor Jay Nixon recently recommended a 12.5 percent cut to higher education (while pledging to maintain funding levels for the Bright Flight, Access Missouri, and A+ programs) during his 2012 State of the State address.

The proposed cut would push higher education funding back to 1997 levels, costing Jefferson College about $800,000. If the reduction is approved by the legislature, public higher education state funding will have been cut nearly 25 percent over the last three years.

Although the previous restraints of a tuition increase are not included in the governor's proposal for FY13, the college will need to think carefully before enacting such knee-jerk measures. Any increase in tuition must be fully justified in the wake of continued hardship on students due to the economy's sluggish recovery.

In his State of the Union address on January 24, President Obama voiced his concern regarding higher education affordability by saying, "... it's not enough for us to increase student aid. We can't just keep subsidizing skyrocketing tuition; we'll run out of money. States also need to do their part, by making higher education a higher priority in their budgets. And colleges and universities have to do their part by working to keep costs down... So let me put colleges and universities on notice: If you can't stop tuition from going up, the funding you get from taxpayers will go down. Higher education can't be a luxury -- it's an economic imperative that every family in America should be able to afford."

The week following Governor Nixon's address, members of the college's administration were in Jefferson City in an effort to emphasize to local legislators the critical nature of such funding cuts and advocate for the critical role Jefferson College plays in the economic development and sustainability of our region. In addition to speaking directly with numerous legislators, the delegation prepared an information packet titled "Jefferson College 2.1 – An Investment in Missouri's Future" to underscore the economic impact of the college and other significant institutional facts.

In further advocacy efforts, Jefferson college faculty, staff, students, and administrators will also join other community college representatives from across the state to support higher education during the Missouri Community College Association's annual Rally Day at the capitol on February 22.
To highlight the importance of career and technical education in preparing residents for high-demand occupations in our region, over 2,600 students and hundreds of faculty/staff members at Jefferson College and the Area Technical School will join others across the U.S. in celebrating national Career and Technical Education Month during February.

Several activities are planned for CTE Month, including the annual Jefferson College Career Expo on February 23 where area high school students can explore numerous career paths, and an open house for the new Respiratory Therapy program on February 29 (see related story). The college will also honor CTE faculty/staff for their excellence.

“Given the uncertainty of state budget resources in the coming year, it’s important for everyone in our community to realize the significant benefit that Jefferson College provides to our local economy by training residents for the jobs of today—and tomorrow,” said College President Dr. Raymond Cummiskey.

Jefferson College helps train numerous workers throughout Jefferson County and the surrounding region through its career and technical education programs:

- Accounting Technology
- Applied Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Business Information Technology
- Business Management
- Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
- Child Care/Early Childhood Education
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts
- Electronics/Robotics and Automation Technology
- Emergency Medical Technology-Paramedic
- Fire Science Technology
- Health Information Technology (HIT)
- Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Technology
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Veterinary Technology
- Welding Technology

In an effort to expand career training opportunities for area residents, the college has responded by creating a series of new healthcare programs including Respiratory Therapy, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, and Radiologic Technology. The college also reopened its former Imperial location in order to accommodate expanded public safety programs in Law Enforcement, EMT-Paramedic, and Certified Nurse Assistant.

“The college’s business faculty believes that the way out of this recession is entrepreneurship and I agree,” said Dean of Career and Technical Education Elizabeth Check. “With this in mind, the college has increased its services to those who are starting small businesses and has made younger students aware of opportunities to start a business.”

Last fall, about 45 percent of the 6,089 students that attend Jefferson College enrolled in career and technical education programs. In most, students will earn either an Associate of Applied Science degree or a Career and Technical Certificate.
HVAC/Boiler/Electric Project Approved

Following last summer’s phase I completion of the Hillsboro campus HVAC/boiler decentralization and primary electrical loop, the Board authorized a contract with Brockmiller Construction for $3,248,400 to complete phase II of the project. The work will include replacement of cooling systems in the Technology Center, Arts and Sciences I and II, Fine Arts, Student Center, and CTE buildings, replacement of the electrical transformer near the Arts and Sciences I building, and completion of the primary electric upgrade.

Funding for the extensive construction/renovation project will come from a combination of Economic Recovery Zone bonds and institutional plant funds.

The total power savings of the entire project is estimated at $33,000-$50,000 per year to the institution’s unrestricted fund.

Reading Curriculum and Honors Program Courses Approved

At the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, the Board approved five new courses in relation to the Missouri Community College Readiness Standards, including “Introduction to Reading,” “Basic Reading,” “College Reading,” “Developmental Reading Program,” and “College Reading: Contextualized Studies.”

Also approved were two new courses as part of the Honors Program, “Honors General Chemistry I” and “Honors College Algebra.”

College Credit and CE Course Offerings/Teaching Assignments Approved

With the start of a new semester, the Trustees approved a finalized list of college credit and continuing education courses/teaching assignments for spring 2012.

Radiologic Technology Program Director Selected

To begin the process of creating the fourth in a series of new high-tech healthcare programs in connection with the statewide Training for Tomorrow and MoHealthWins grants, the Trustees approved the appointment of Stuart Frew as director of the Radiologic Technology program. College officials anticipate the new program to start in 2013.

February Meeting Date/Time Changed

Due to a conflict with the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit, the Board will hold its February meeting on Thursday, February 23, at 4:15 p.m. in the Administration building on the Hillsboro campus.
Women and men ages 12 and older throughout the region are invited to participate in the second annual self-defense workshop at Jefferson College on Saturday, February 25, to raise funds for a scholarship in memory of Jefferson County resident Mary Daniels (Colletta) who was stabbed to death in 2010 by her estranged husband.

The workshop will teach participants how to defend themselves against standing attacks, weapons, attacks from behind, and ground maneuvers using a high degree of repetition and hands-on practice. Instruction will also include the proper use of knees and elbows, creating “space” when attacked, and being aware of environment and surroundings.

The workshop will be led by Kevin Hahn who is a North American Grappling Association (NAGA) national champion and operates Hahn MMA Gym in Crystal City.

Participants may select from two workshop sessions. A morning session will last from 9-10:30 a.m. and an afternoon session will be held from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Field House. Each workshop will be taught using a variety of visual demonstrations and practice repetitions on a padded floor. All participants should wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes.

The fee for the workshop is $20 per person which includes instruction, a snack, a t-shirt, a tote bag, and other items.

“I have always felt safe in my community, but with unemployment high and people being desperate, unfortunately these are the uncertain times that we are living in,” said Eagle Bank Assistant-Vice President, Branch Manager Hillsboro Facility, Donna Kohl. “With the knowledge of self-defense, it becomes instinctive to protect yourself with the skills you have learned. The workshop is a training tool that can be used for the rest of your life. You may not need it tomorrow, but when you do you will be prepared to protect yourself.”

Proceeds from the workshop will go toward the Mary Daniels Memorial Scholarship to Jefferson College. The event is being sponsored by Eagle Bank, First State Community Bank, Hahn MMA, and the Jefferson College Athletics Department.

Registration is available online at www.jeffco.edu, by phone at (636) 481-3394, or in person at the Jefferson College Field House Athletics Department offices.
Foundation Recognizes HBA for Excellence in Giving

Interim Executive Director of Development Tom Burke, center, recently presented the Jefferson Cup to the Home Builders Association Jefferson County Board of Trustees in appreciation of their past support. The cup was awarded in conjunction with the Monticello Society, recognizing the top 35 benefactors whose combined contributions to the Foundation since its inception in 1991 totals over $3.4 million which has benefitted the college and/or deserving students who otherwise could not afford a higher education.

College Receives Bucket Truck Donation From Ameren

Ameren Missouri recently donated a 2003 bucket truck valued at $17,000 to Jefferson College for use in the Buildings and Grounds Department to replace parking lot lights, perform maintenance and repairs to building exteriors, and hang banners and signage. It marks the second vehicle donation of its kind by the electric company to the college.

The 34-foot truck will help provide a safe, well-lit campus for students, faculty/staff, and the community. It replaces the college’s existing bucket truck, donated by Ameren in 1992, that is over 30 years old and is no longer road worthy.

Founded in 1902, Union Electric—now known as Ameren Missouri—is the state's largest electric utility. Ameren Missouri provides electric service to approximately 1.2 million customers across central and eastern Missouri, including the greater St. Louis area. Ameren Missouri provides electric service to 63 counties and 508 towns. More than half (53 percent) of Ameren Missouri’s electric customers are located in the St. Louis metropolitan area.
Spring Play “On the Verge, or the Geography of Yearning”
March 1-3

The Jefferson College Speech and Drama Department will present “On the Verge, or the Geography of Yearning” by Eric Overmeyer on March 1-3 in the Fine Arts Theatre on the Hillsboro campus.

Brave, willing and yearning to see it all, three Victorian women explorers begin their trek to Terra Incognita in 1888, only to discover they are drifting in time. Overmeyer’s comedic adventure is filled with cultural references and wordplay as the heroines navigate through uncharted territory bursting with pop culture and possibilities. As one traveler says, “I have seen the future and it is slang.”

The play is being directed by Speech and Drama Assistant Professor Roger Tackette.

SHOW TIMES

Thursday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

Friday & Saturday, March 2 & 3, at 8 p.m.

Tickets are $2 for everyone at the Thursday matinee and $5 for adults, $2 for students/seniors/children for the evening shows. Tickets may be reserved by calling extension 3369 or emailing ladams2@jeffco.edu. Reserved tickets need to be picked up at least 15 minutes prior to show time. Those not picked up by that time will be sold to other patrons.
Discover Field of Respiratory Therapy at Open House Feb 29
New Program Part of Healthcare Training Expansion at College

Jefferson College will host a community-wide open house, in connection with the start of its new Respiratory Therapy program, on Wednesday, February 29, from 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. in Room 166 of the Career and Technical Education building on the Hillsboro campus.

The open house will provide an opportunity for attendees and prospective students to talk with respiratory therapy instructors and program personnel, view demonstrations, tour classroom/lab facilities, learn about employment projections, and discuss entry requirements and costs. There is no cost to attend. Reservations are not required.

The hands-on demonstrations performed at the open house will mirror the labs students do in class. Visitors will view an example of intubation, examine models used when training students to draw blood through arterial puncture, and see mechanical ventilators in use.

"Respiratory Therapy graduates from Jefferson College will enjoy job stability and a generous salary in the St. Louis and Jefferson County areas," said Respiratory Therapy Program Director Norma Cooper. "Students will have training in ICU and NICU settings. They can expect to earn an average starting salary at around $51,000 per year. Plus, the Jefferson College Employment Services office supports students by helping them find the right career fit!"

Applications for the new Respiratory Therapy program will be accepted starting in April with no waitlists, pending successful completion of prerequisite courses and entrance tests. Applications will be reviewed and candidates will be selected for the program in June.

The college's creation of the Respiratory Therapy program is possible largely due to funding awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

Philosophy Professor’s Interactive Textbook Published Nationally

In an era of rising costs for printed college textbooks, Jefferson College Philosophy Professor Dr. Michael Booker has sought to “go boldly where no college-based Logic textbook has ever gone,” with an interactive text that has been chosen for national publication/distribution by National Social Science Press.

Titled “The Way of Reason,” the digital book is used for the college’s Logic PHL101 classes and is the first of its kind in the country. He developed the interactive edition because no such textbook existed in a format deliberately designed for online delivery. With hard-cover textbooks routinely costing hundreds of dollars, Booker’s interactive text sells for less than $50 and includes the full interactive text on a CD or via online access.

Booker has taught at the college since 1999. He is also a Major in the U.S. Army Reserve and currently holds the position of Executive Officer for the 2nd Battalion, 334th Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 95th Division (Initial Entry Training) located in Granite City, Illinois. He is a member of the Institutional Ethics Committee at Jefferson Regional Medical Center and has appeared in a variety of roles within the college’s theatrical productions.
## February 2012

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- 3-5 P.M.
- JCNW-Room 115

**Stephen Page Classical Saxophone Recital**
- 7:30 P.M.
- Fine Arts Theatre

**Basketball vs. Shawnee**
- 6 P.M., Field House Gym

**“Peggy the Pint-Sized Pirate” Auditions**
- Wednesday & Thursday, 2 – 4 P.M.
- Fine Arts Theatre Lobby

**S-MNEA Book Fair**
- Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.
- SC, Viking Room

**Exploring Career Options Workshop**
- 2-3:30 P.M.
- CTE 139

**Transfer College Fair**
- 10 A.M.-1 P.M.
- SC, Viking Room

**Financial Aid Awareness Event – Learn About Federal, State & Institutional Financial Aid**
- 2 P.M., JCA 323
- 6 P.M., Viking Room

**Career Expo**
- 8 A.M.-12 P.M.
- Field House-Gym

**Family Movie Night “Puss in Boots”**
- 7 P.M.
- Fine Arts Theatre

**Basketball vs. Webster JV (DH)**
- 1 p.m., Baseball Field

**Basketball vs. Three Rivers**
- 3 p.m., Field House Gym

**Respiratory Therapy Open House**
- 9-11 A.M. & 2-4 P.M., CTE 166
- Baseball vs. Webster JV (DH)
- 1 p.m., Baseball Field
- Basketball vs. Three Rivers
- 3 p.m., Field House Gym

**Softball vs. Mineral Area (DH)**
- 2 P.M., Softball Field

**2nd Annual Mary Daniels Self Defense Workshop**
- 9-10:30 A.M., Gym
- 1-2:30 P.M., Mat Room

**Baseball vs. Southwestern IL (DH)**
- 12 p.m., Baseball Field

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It is the policy of Jefferson College that no person shall, on the basis of age, ancestry, color, creed, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, or veteran status, be subject to discrimination in employment or in admission to any educational program or activity of the College. If accommodations for a disability are needed, please contact Sundaye Harrison at (636) 481-3169 or 797-3000, ext. 3169; TDD (636)789-5772.