March 7, 2006

To: CSU Presidents

From: Dr. Gary W. Reichard

Subject: Additional Nursing FTES: Request for Proposals

Interest is high among policy makers in Sacramento in taking steps to produce more nurses. In response to that interest, and to the state's needs, CSU has provided to the governor's Department of Finance a Budget Change Proposal that would seek $3.6 million for support of Nursing FTES beyond the compact enrollment agreement. If funded, this would result in 340 FTES at the baccalaureate level at an attractive marginal cost rate. The FTES would be added permanently to the enrollment targets of selected campuses.

We recognize that expansion of Nursing programs is not simple, given constraints such as faculty availability, accreditation- and Board of Registered Nurses-driven SFR requirements, space and equipment, and clinical placements. Therefore, we seek input from campuses as to what is possible in the way of serving more undergraduate Nursing students.

This is to request by March 31, 2006 your expression of interest in receiving an additional enrollment allocation in order to accommodate new and additional Nursing students. Please reply,

- specifying the number of new and additional Nursing FTES requested, and
- via which program (see below items 7A and 7B); and
- describing needs / requesting support (see items 4 and 5 below).

In your reply please also briefly

- indicate your awareness of restrictions on the use of one-time funds (item 4 below) and
- downstream reports (item 5 below).

Please reply to Dr. Keith Boyum, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, preferably via e-mail at kboyum@calstate.edu. You may reach Dr. Boyum at (562) 951-4712 [voice] or via fax at (562) 951-4981.
Here are details. *If the Budget Change Proposal were to be funded:*

1. The new FTES would constitute a permanent addition to the campus enrollment base. Thus, if a campus had a final enrollment target of 1,000 and took 50 additional FTES in the distribution we envision at the conclusion of this process, the new target would be 1,050.

2. Undergraduate students would be supported, with 15 units = one FTES. "Rebenching" calculations are not involved, although, as noted, the new allocation would constitute a permanent addition to the "rebenched" campus targets.

3. Because the Budget Act is due by June 30th, CSU anticipates forging an agreement with the Department of Finance to add this enrollment target as of College Year 2007-08.

4. However, an initial allocation would be made in College Year 2006-07. CSU anticipates forging an agreement with the Department of Finance that the funds that otherwise would be provided for instruction and related needs and services will be used as one-time funds by campuses in 2006-07 for academic infrastructure related to Nursing. This may include space renovation, equipment purchases, supplies, and similar needs, but may not include recruitment of students, or hiring faculty or staff.

5. Campuses that agree to take FTES for College Year 2007-08 will thus receive funds in 2006-07 for this academic infrastructure. Campuses are invited to describe their needs and to make a request for support in categories described in item 4 above. Allocations will be made in a context of (a) needs as described, and (b) pro-rata considerations. Please note that we anticipate a statutory mandate for a report on the expenditure of these funds, and campuses are therefore advised that the funds must be used for the identified purposes.

6. Because of the state's need for new and additional nurses, these FTES would be available only to programs designed to take students who presently do not have an RN license through to the BSN degree (collecting the RN license along the way). In other words, programs designed to take students who already have an RN to the BSN degree do not qualify for this FTES distribution.

7. Programs may include either or both of the following. (A) A basic / generic BSN program, open to undergraduates who begin their collegiate careers either at a CSU or at a California Community College. These allocations would therefore support an expansion of familiar 4-year BSN programs. (B) An accelerated baccalaureate program for students who already possess a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in fields other than Nursing. Envisioned is a full-time, probably cohort-based, four-semester, year-round program with course work to begin in the summer (when faculty and in some cases clinical placements may be available). At the conclusion of the accelerated program, students will take the RN licensure exam, will in addition receive the BSN degree, and will be available to enter the workforce full-time as baccalaureate-prepared Registered Nurses.
8. Campuses are advised that reports will be required to show that new and additional RN’s are being produced in this way, over and above the number that the campus would otherwise have produced. Analytic Studies at the Chancellor’s Office will work with campuses on the formats, specifications and due dates for such reports.

cc: Charles B. Reed, Chancellor  
Richard P. West, Executive Vice Chancellor / CFO  
Keith Boyum, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs  
Patrick Lenz, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Budget Development  
Campus Provosts / Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs