Creation of a Committee to Create Additional Funding Opportunities for UAlbany

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Dear Members of the University Community,

We are all aware of the serious financial challenges UAlbany faces over the coming years. As part of the overall response to this situation, the University Senate is considering creating an "ad hoc" committee" to explore alternate methods for increasing overall funding. This committee will focus on enlarging the financial resource base, not redistributing it. Examples could include revenue generation through specifically targeted courses for non-traditional students or other courses that may be required for certification in various areas. Another approach could be through expanding our effort to obtain license revenue from intellectual property. These are, however, only a few examples. What we need are both suggestions and volunteers for the "ad hoc" committee once approved. This committee could not only help develop a list of opportunities based on suggestions and consider their implementation, but could also look at how other universities, faced with the same issues, are responding to them. In addition, it will be necessary to establish which options are in full compliance with any legal restrictions involving the use of University resources. Finally, it is important to recognize that the implementation of many of the proposed opportunities may require significant time and effort of the faculty and staff. We have to ensure that such effort does not dilute our role as teachers and researchers and that those involved are both recognized and, if appropriate, compensated for their efforts.

Please send your ideas and/or self nomination for the committee to Senate Secretary Tom Bessette at tbessette@uamail.albany.edu
Eric Lifshin

Chair of the UAlbany Senate