

*e-Bulletin20081210*

## **Governor cuts less than Temple projected No response yet to TAUP's package proposal**

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**Budget News:** Yesterday, December 9, 2008, Governor Rendell announced cuts in the 2008-09 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania budget. While they supplemented the cuts made in October, the additional amount was less than Temple had anticipated.

The overall effect on Temple is a 6% loss in enacted appropriations from the state. The original appropriation of \$175.5 million has been lowered to \$165.0 million, or a \$10.5 million reduction. Other state-related universities (Pitt, Penn State, and Lincoln) also received 6% cuts. The data comes directly from the website of the Pennsylvania Governor's Budget Office under "[Current and Proposed Commonwealth Budgets.](#)"

Temple was more than prepared to take this hit to its revenues. In September, the Governor instructed the University to prepare for a 4.25% reduction to its appropriation, that is, \$7.5 million. Temple later decided to increase its reserve to a total of over \$11.6 million, in anticipation of increased cuts from the state, about \$1.1 million more than needed. (See [http://www.temple.edu/newsroom/2008\\_2009/10/stories/budget.html](http://www.temple.edu/newsroom/2008_2009/10/stories/budget.html).)

**Negotiations Update:** A spirited group of over 100 faculty, staff and students conducted informational picketing on Tuesday outside Sullivan Hall as the Board of Trustees met inside. The picketers called for a "fair contract now" for both TAUP and AFSCME. Their chants could be heard inside Sullivan Hall during the meeting. Faculty and staff in the TAUP bargaining unit are now working without a contract. AFSCME has been without a contract for over 13 months.

TAUP gave Temple management a comprehensive package proposal last Friday, December 4. As of today, Temple management had not responded, but they told the state mediator that they are preparing a response. TAUP will keep you informed of further developments.