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Temple's Appropriations Stay Steady: No Further Cuts

Governor Ed Rendell proposes no further cuts in Temple's appropriations, he said in his budget address yesterday. The governor cut \$11 million from the \$175.5 million of Temple's original 2008-2009 funding this past December.

For next year, 2009-2010, Rendell's budget request calls for flat-funding, based on the already-reduced amount. In the new budget Temple is slated to receive the same \$165 million as it has this year. (Further information can be obtained at the Governor's web site <http://www.governor.state.pa.us>).

Temple administration already accounted for the reduction to \$165 million through a travel freeze and hiring freeze early in the fall semester.

The governor's announcement yesterday means no more cuts for Temple's appropriation this year -- good news, indeed. And next year, there will be no further reduction -- again, good news.

More promising news is also on the horizon. Governor Rendell's budget proposal does not take into account any of the federal stimulus funds that would restore education cuts to the states. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which passed the US House last week and is before the Senate this week, includes \$39 billion to restore cuts in basic and higher education; Pennsylvania may be in for \$1.5 billion for this purpose. The bill has not passed Congress yet and when it does, there should be adjustments made to the funds available for Temple.

The truth is, that in this recession, Temple will continue to receive a reasonable appropriation from the Commonwealth. TAUP is also confident that funds will be coming through the Federal stimulus plan to supplement this appropriation, and TAUP's proposal reflects this optimism.