UC Davis Budget Planning Principles

*Adopted by Budget Advisory Committee March 17, 2009*

1. Reduce budgets strategically in a manner that puts our mission first – i.e., reductions that allow the campus to continue to work toward:

   - Promote the success of the highest academic priorities that emerge from the campus’ current academic planning process.

   - Support faculty in efforts to strengthen their research and outreach programs and provide outstanding training opportunities and competitive financial support for graduate students.

   - Maintain the excellence of our undergraduate programs while supporting access—including affordability and timely progress to degree—for our students.

2. Balance budget reductions in a way that recognizes the fundamental contributions of both faculty and staff to the mission.

   Seek real reductions in effort and expense—avoid cost and effort transfers between campus units or among faculty, staff, and students unless there is a real net gain in efficiency or effectiveness.

3. Communicate openly, honestly, and frequently about the budget process and budget reduction plans or proposals at all levels of the campus. Consult broadly about reductions to determine the best routes we can take.

4. Seek new resources.

5. Streamline administrative and academic processes and procedures to help reduce expenditures and mitigate staff workload.

6. Maintain an appropriate balance between operational efficiency and risk exposure associated with compliance and controls.

Campus leadership recognizes that everyone is already working under the strains created by the multiple rounds of budget cuts, higher fees for students and increased workload for faculty and staff. Meeting the ongoing challenges will require that we work together with patience and mutual respect to ensure that UC Davis continues to build on its recent successes in instruction, research and service.