MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. John Freitas, President
Los Angeles City College Academic Senate

FROM: Jamillah Moore, President
Los Angeles City College

RE: LAC C Budget

I am writing this memorandum in response to your March 29th letter. For the last four years Los Angeles City College (LACe) has dealt with budgetary deficits and while we have managed to balance our budget we have and will continue to make sacrifices to remain fiscally solvent.

The tone of your letter seems to imply that I have taken, or suggested, unilateral budgetary action. You have mischaracterized my comments from the March 5th Shared Governance meeting on the issue of Program Sustainment. The Board rules are not in question in this process. In our continued commitment to sustain quality educational programs for our students, what I have and will continue to advocate is engagement in participatory decision making through shared governance in the need to balance our budget. It is vital that we continue to work together to ensure programs are salvaged; hence the need for a sustainment plan. It would be inappropriate, and a violation of our shared governance process, for the Administration to make assumptions or decisions without full engagement of the campus budget committee.

Since release of the Governor's state budget the Chancellor has charged all campuses in the district with the directive to curtail spending. For example, last year, at the directive of the Chancellor, all campuses submitted budgets with percentage cuts at 5, 10 and 15 percent. This year all campuses were instructed to submit a budget which showed a contingency plan to address deficits. As you know, the state is in a budget crisis and if the Governor's November Tax Initiative does not pass, community colleges throughout the state will experience unprecedented cuts. According to the Chancellor's budget update, "Of primary concern is that the colleges maintain the appropriate number of classes in order to maintain the District's base funding from the state. Also of concern is the District's need to maintain its obligation with regard to the hiring of full-time faculty. Furthermore, the college's recent submittal of their preliminary budgets for next year indicates that certain measures will need to be taken now to address these commitments." This is the main reason we are seeking a plan for program sustainment to continue to support programs like that of child development.

LAC C has an estimated $4 million dollar deficit and we are working to close the gap. You are requesting clarification on a budgetary matter and for the last four years the Administration has
worked diligently in keeping the campus and leadership informed on the budget and its impact to the college.

Attached per your request please find the following information:

- LACe's 2012-2013 Budget Category Chart Breakdown
- LACCD Economic Factors
- Chancellor's January Budget update
- Chancellor's March Budget Update

Thank you for your letter. We look forward to continuing this discussion at the campus budget committee. It is imperative we continue to work together to ensure sustainment of quality educational programs for our students.

JM

Attachment

cc: LACC Senior Staff