To ABA Staff Professionals:

This month promises to be a busy one, as preparations for the upcoming academic year begin. I hope you had an enjoyable summer and are ready to welcome our students and faculty back to the campus.

Last week, President Gonzalez presented to the campus community the University’s Operating Fund budget for 2013/14. The budget is based on state funding increases made possible by the passage of Proposition 30, including a $125.1 million increase in the appropriation to the California State University. With an updated surplus of $9.2 million projected for Sac State, the University Budget Advisory Committee has recommended and the president has approved budget augmentations for all divisions. The allocations consider the impact levels of previous budget cuts, and University priorities such as enrollment increases and the graduation initiative. The president’s message is available at -
http://www.csus.edu/President/fromthedeskofthepresident.html.

The budget for the upcoming year is encouraging and, we hope representative of an ongoing upward trend in the California and national economies. For ABA, a six percent budget increase will add $692,106 to the baseline, for an adjusted 2013/14 total budget of $12,934,231. This does not signify a return to staffing and operational levels of past years. It means that we will continue on our path to find efficiencies and innovations that address the current environment and provide optimum levels of service and support to Sac State.

Sac State has been bustling all summer, with visitors, sports camps, orientations, and other events and activities. This means corresponding workload behind the scenes for many ABA units. Year-end close and planning activities that are so critical to the financial health of the University are less visible but among ABA’s most important contributions.

Other seasonal activities include landscape beautification and facilities upgrades across the campus. And, soon to be completed, the state-of-the-art Smart Grid energy management system will stand ready to demonstrate the University’s commitment to efficiency and sustainability. The master plan, which will define changes to the campus physical environment over the next ten to fifteen years, is taking shape, and feedback will be gathered at campus community forums by
University architect, AC Martin, beginning in September.

I am excited to hear about learning and improvements that continue to occur as a result of Lean/process improvement and customer service projects. ABA has truly embraced a culture of continual improvement. In 2013/14, ABA will continue its commitment to Redefine the Possible. Departments and units have been at work developing goals in which each and every one of you will play a part. These goals represent the thoughts and ideas of each of you who participated in division-wide discussions. I look forward to working with you in 2013/14 to Redefine the Possible for Sacramento State’s current and future students.

Sincerely,

Ming-Tung “Mike” Lee, Ph.D.
Vice President for Administration/CFO