

# UCEDD Directors Meeting

January 27th 4-6pm ET

Breakout Room Notes

**Breakout Room Topic:** State and Federal Budgetary Challenges in Current Economic Climate

## What You're Seeing:

- HI: Biggest challenge is that the budget has not been allocated from the state; no one has the budget to work with and from; Are we in danger to have our Center dissolved, even with matching UCEDD funds?
- WY: Not a diverse economy, looking at 3–5-million-dollar reduction, university already had 120 million in cuts and have more coming; we have more demand from the state to help sometimes with and without funding; Director is part of President Task Force to provide input
- NV: Fortunate that not a lot of staff on state funding; NV no state income tax; running issues with furloughs - everyone was cut 4.6% but we have to spend that in certain amount of time
- TN: Furloughs – even if you can prove you have funding, its unliteral; callback of salary increases; increase number of folks retiring – allowed us to creatively re-organize ourselves, including more part-time positions and helps diversify our pool
  - Not a lot of hiring happening, but starting to ease
  - Good relationship with HR re: trainees
  - Everyone is 25% less responsive online
- AK: has not been hit too badly compared to the rest of the university; freeze salary increases; soft funded exclusively; diversification of funding sources years ago and is now mix of federal and contracts
- KS: massive cut to higher education; KU more protective because of broader research center and not dependent on state funding; loss of \$75 million; cut is happening to state budget by \$11 million per year; staff is stretched so thin
- OK: negotiating strong projects within University, more attention to diversity issues during the pandemic
- IN – beginning budget session. State had made cuts mid-session, including cuts to university, was uncertainty where budget would be now at beginning of new budget season.

- OK –budget cuts in state for some years, budget planning at university finds
  - budget eaten by covid response and clinical practices, impacting funds for teaching and research
  - Sports revenue decreased is millions of dollars.
  - University looking at all sources of available and unrestricted funds to claw back.
  - UCEDD pays for faculty time to deliver instruction, work on projects, everything tied to core grant goals. Federal grant money is now more secure at the moment than state contract money.
- Now is the good moment to be NOT degree-granting.
- RI - School started negotiating with unions before knowing what cuts would be. Having a friend in the provost office is helpful for protection. Concerned that major cuts to state contracts will result in lots of staff layoffs.
- AK – university huge cuts over past 3 years. Changed faculty workloads leading faculty unavailable to be bought out for UCEDD. Cuts expected in each college – get some general funds from university for match and required university support. Very worried about that university support of UCEDD will be tested. UCEDD indirect rate is low so don't bring much in to university

#### **What You're Doing:**

- RI - Opportunity to bring new staff in.
- IN – working hard to lock in commitments from state – appropriations dollars, contracts, continue to maintain excellent relationships and reputation with legislators, make UCEDD useful to funders and decisionmakers so legislators would be less willing to cut, continue to put efforts into relationships
- RI – extend out and do things we wouldn't have done before to help state agencies get through this, show value and worth, so when funding does become available the relationships and strength of UCEDD is already well-known

#### **What Next?**

- Good time to highlight all the additional ways that UCEDD is positive contribution to quality of life, safety, underserved and underrepresented communities – advocates and families can speak out and speak up to help universities see value of UCEDD
- Keep on keeping on. Be steady.
- Prioritize interdisciplinary to help meet accreditation standards that are increasing value of interdisciplinary – good way to make self valuable