



Dear SDSU faculty and staff,

In our summer [budget update](#), sent on July 9, we detailed the outcome of the 2025-26 California state budget process, and its effect on SDSU's plans and operations. We shared how the state's 3% cut to the funding for the California State University (CSU) system was being exacerbated by increases in costs that were not funded or covered in prior years. We also shared the challenges created by further deferrals of the state compact funding, and the absence of funding for enrollment growth coupled with expectations that campuses grow enrollment anyway. As a result of each of these budget pressures, we announced that SDSU would undertake a \$10 million base budget reduction for fiscal year 2025-26. This is the second year of our multi-year plan to meet the total shortfall.

SDSU entered the current fiscal year operating at a budgetary deficit but with a clear plan to close the gap. In the 11 weeks since our last update, very little has changed. Some uncertainties and risks have increased at the national level, which may be further affected by the length of the current federal government shutdown, while some new budget projections at the state level for next year are more optimistic.

While this is an extremely challenging time, what members of our campus community most need to know is this: SDSU remains on very solid footing thanks in large part to the excellent work of our faculty and staff – each of you – who are working thoughtfully to meet our budget targets in ways that prioritize our students and their success. Those efforts are noticed, are making a difference, and are greatly appreciated. They provide the university with a runway, and not with a series of cliffs.

As we look ahead, the current uncertainties dictate that we continue with our prudent planning. We will stay the course with the plans and

actions shared in July, including maintaining our hiring chill and continuing to direct our limited resources toward essential activities that best serve our students and core mission. We will also continue to advocate, vigorously, for stable and sufficient funding for SDSU at the national, state and CSU system levels.

Our university's impact remains strong. In our classrooms, laboratories and outreach programs, we continue to provide students with tools, experiences and opportunities that change lives and strengthen communities. And as we navigate uncharted waters, our continued strength and resilience is a direct reflection of your work and your commitment.

Thank you, as always, for your dedication to our students and to one another.

Adela de la Torre, Ph.D.

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