TO: KSU Students
FROM: Daniel S. Papp, President
DATE: February 26, 2010
RE: Town Hall Meeting on Possible Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Reductions

On Wednesday, February 24, University System of Georgia (USG) Chancellor Erroll Davis met with the Joint House-Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee and was presented with a troubling, and even bleak, picture for the USG's FY11 (July 1, 2010 to June 20, 2011) budget. At the meeting, Chancellor Davis was directed to submit plans for as much as a $300 million reduction in the USG's FY11 budget, as compared to its FY10 budget. Chancellor Davis informed the legislators that such a reduction could only be offset with a 77% tuition increase.

Kennesaw State's share of a $300 million budget reduction would be $14.1 million. A reduction of this magnitude would be an immense setback, even a disaster, for the university. It would require some combination of a cap and even a cutback in student enrollment, a reduction in the number of faculty and staff, program elimination, the reduction and probable elimination of faculty and staff development programs and travel, and other draconian measures.

Given these realities, we have scheduled a Town Hall open meeting for next Tuesday, March 2, at 10 AM for students, faculty, and staff to discuss the situation. The meeting will be held in the University Rooms of the Carmichael Student Center.

While a $14.1 million reduction for Kennesaw State is not definite, it is without doubt on the table. Thus, I cannot emphasize enough the seriousness of the situation. To reiterate, a reduction of this dimension would be an immense setback, even a disaster, for KSU.