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From the Dean

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The University also needs to plan for a $6 million unbalanced budget in 15 years.

The Commonwealth's appropriation process begins with the Governor's proposals and continues over the next several months. Legislative committees take testimony, consider their own preferences, negotiate compromises, and eventually agree on amounts acceptable to both the Senate and House. Given the Commonwealth's grim financial picture and Governor Casey's stark proposal, the process may not be completed until late fall, after the first semester of the 1992-93 academic year is well under way.

Our alumni, friends, and clients will hear from the School shortly. We will ask that they contact their state legislators to point out how devastating the proposed cuts are to the Veterinary School. Since the state appropriation for FY 91 is $15 million, the proposed $7 million cut for FY 92 from an operating budget of $45 million is catastrophic. We need your help. We will help you as we write our state representatives in Harrisburg and tell them how important the School is, not only to you, but also to the Commonwealth.

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**From the Dean**

A better understanding of how we use animals heightens our sensitivity and sharpens our moral perception.

If the only group addressing this issue is composed of those we consider animal rights extremists, clearly our view will be influenced, if not abjectly biased, in one direction. One need only look at the untruths and distortions which have been printed by PETA and other groups regarding Dr. Adrian Morrison and his colleagues in other schools here at Penn. Despite the activists' allegations, Dr. Morrison has been chosen as the recipient for the Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This prestigious honor recognizes Dr. Morrison's courage and determination, in the face of personal risk, to defend the use of animals in research.

The Bellwether provides us with a format to explore with you our constituents, friends and clients, the many aspects and issues involving animal use in the School.

Over the next year we will provide a series of articles to begin this process of probing, education and challenge. We welcome your response to this concept and the specific issues raised. The School's newly instituted Bioethics Committee will value your input as we deal with our institutional perception and position on these complex and important issues. Thank you.

Edwin J. Andrews, V.M.D., Ph.D.

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**Proposed State Funding Cuts**

Governor Casey's proposed reduction in the University's state appropriation has forced Penn to plan adjustments in its FY '92 budget. University President Hackney said, "Our first priority is to maintain the educational and research programs that define Penn."

The governor proposed a 49 percent cut—$18.6 million—in Penn's FY '92 appropriation, which was to have been $37.6 million. "The risk to the University is real and it requires importation programmatic and financial choices. But above all, the academic mission and quality of the University must be preserved." Hackney pledged.

Governor Casey proposed that Penn's 107-year-old Veterinary School—"the one in the Commonwealth that loses nearly $7 million of its appropriation." For one year, the University will "underwrite the vet school" by absorbing nearly $6 million of the shortfall, Hackney pledged. "But if the appropriation is not restored, we will have to decide whether we can afford to continue the school's operations and programs.

"We will aggressively seek restoration of the full appropriation to the University, which is to have matched the FY '91 level," Hackney said. However, "we must address, head-on and squarely, the difficult issues."

The proposed cuts to the University's state appropriation would force Penn to make adjustments that "would, in time, be accepted by our constituents, friends and clients."

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