

# University of Iowa Strategic Initiatives

## Budget Task Force

### Executive Summary

The Budget Task Force charge was to, “Recommend principles and a process for the distribution of new and reallocated General Education Funds (GEF) that enable the pursuit of the University’s aspirations, new strategic initiatives, and more entrepreneurial activities while preserving and enhancing the University of Iowa’s (UI) reputation as an internationally recognized public research university and health sciences center.” The task force focused its effort on identifying, vetting, and describing innovative budget strategies that could be applied to recommendations that emerge from the other task forces.

The task force considered different types and levels of budget strategies. Types of strategies included: creating incentives with existing dollars, methods of distributing incremental dollars, and new fiscal models. In addition, the task force considered three levels at which budget strategies may be implemented: at the local unit level, at the centralized shared resources level, and distributed funds at the local level through uniform centralized policy.

In response to its charge, the task force recommends 10 potential strategies for the distribution of new and reallocated GEF. Although each of these strategies was endorsed by a majority of task force members, not every strategy was supported by each committee member. The strategies encompass four main approaches: revenue generating; expense reducing; local initiatives; and redistributions. The 10 strategies are:

1. Dual sharing of revenue producing activities (e.g., new educational programs)
2. Strategic fund for new initiatives
3. 24/7/12 delivery of education
4. Defined salary obligations plus productivity based incentives for all faculty
5. Energy incentives coupled to conservation
6. Investment for innovative graduate and professional educational programs that link to undergraduate education
7. Minimum enrollment standards for receiving credit for teaching
8. F&A return to units
9. Productivity-based research/teaching space allocation
10. Reallocation based on defined strategic metrics.