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Faculty Council City Colleges of Chicago

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Address to the CCC Board of Trustees – August 8, 2002

Chairman Tyree, Chancellor Watson, Trustees, Officers of the District, and All Others,
Good Morning!

For the past three months, you have heard various people speaking “from the trenches” (college presidents included) about the human costs associated with the budget cuts and how they directly affect educational quality. You listen politely, but that is not enough. Now is the time for action; to start the chain of command that tells those preparing the budget that they must review the numbers and find more money for such things as libraries and tutors.

When the budget is presented next month, feel free to tell me what project was deferred or cancelled, or what fund was dipped into, in order to give the colleges more money for instructional uses. In my business experience, budgets were based on priorities spelled out by upper management. The quality of the product was nearly always paramount, but the quality of our product is guaranteed to decline unless something is done. What are your priorities, and are they being communicated and followed as the budget goes forward? The answer will come next month.

Respectfully Submitted

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