Hi Everyone

I am following up on the Financial Administrator’s Forum of April 7 to report back to you on the results of your feedback from the conference.

We have been busy on several fronts processing and analyzing your feedback. Overwhelmingly, you said that the conference was successful in informing you, keeping you up to date and outlining the big picture for the University. You indicated clearly that you want to be engaged and have input into the administrative process changes happening at the University. Based on that feedback, we will be making this an annual event. The second annual Financial Administrator’s Forum is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2012. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help at the next conference can contact Jan Nicholson at nichojr@mcmaster.ca.

Your evaluations indicated that change management was a key issue and that you wanted to see more focus in that direction with support for personal growth. We will absolutely include more on change management in the next Forum and I believe that you will notice our attention to change taking many forms over the coming year. As you may know, we have engaged change management professionals to assist us as we begin our ERP journey.

Many people asked for reference material from the presentations at the conference. Here is a link to the slides that are available and the contact information for the speakers.

http://www.mcmaster.ca/bms/pdf/finadminforum.ppt

Some of you suggested the inclusion of appropriate HR and UTS topics, particularly where these areas intersect with Finance, and based on that we will look at expanding the focus and audience for the next conference. You asked for feedback into the agenda. While not every suggestion can be accommodated, we will examine them within the framework of the conference theme. Please send agenda suggestions to Jan Nicholson at nichojr@mcmaster.ca.

There were a number of helpful individual comments that are being integrated into the planning process for the next conference or are being brought to the attention of the appropriate person for action.

You also indicated that the breakout sessions offered you an opportunity to have input into the processes and discuss topics that have relevance to you. I promised that we would act on that feedback and we are in the process of doing that. The CALM group has analyzed the survey you completed and have taken the recommendations from the brainstorming sessions and prepared a report. They presented their findings and recommendations on June 23rd to the senior management team. As a result of your “golden eggs”, two new initiatives are underway. One is the implementation of “Ask McMaster” on the website to improve access to financial information and the other is the
creation of a Lunch and Learn series, many of which will also be recorded and added to
the website. You will see more detail on these initiatives shortly.

We are committed to improving communication within McMaster and the Financial
Administrator’s Forum is one important way we are able to honour that promise. I will
keep you posted on further developments. Thank you for your willingness to engage
and participate, your feedback and creative ideas, and your commitment to McMaster.

Roger