Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

The 2017 Washington state legislature has yet to pass an operating or capital budget for the 2017–19 biennium, which begins July 1. Lawmakers are now convened in Olympia for a third special legislative session.

We fully expect the legislature to enact a 2017–19 biennial budget prior to June 30. However, in the unlikely event this does not happen, the University of Washington will continue operations as normal until further notice and will not face a shutdown. However, some functional areas, like state-funded capital projects or projects funded under state contracts, could be more directly affected, and we are working with our campus partners to ensure compliance in such an eventuality. Except for these areas, the University will be open and functioning as normal regardless of what may transpire in the coming days in Olympia.

If you would like more information, contingency plans for each state agency, including the UW, can be viewed at the Governor’s Office of Financial Management (OFM) contingency planning website. Employees in our partner state agencies are likely to be more affected by a potential shutdown, so please be mindful that those staff may be unavailable and that response times will be slower than usual.

Sincerely,

Gerald J. Baldasty
Provost & Executive Vice President
Professor of Communication