

# OU, UM-D are winners in budget war

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

Two commuter universities found they did fairly well when the dust settled on the 1990 legislative budget battle.

"Relative to the others, we did OK," said Oakland University president Joseph Champagne. OU got an overall increase of 4.6 percent, and its per-student aid will rise to \$3,712 compared to \$3,600 in the current year.

"The mood here is almost glee," said Steve Wasako, news service chief at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. UM-D was boosted 5.1 percent overall, and per-student aid will reach the "floor" of \$3,300.

Jacobetti held out for not penalizing U-M, Northern Michigan and Eastern Michigan. In the end, they got the lowest increases, 4.5 percent, while Saginaw Valley got the most, 8.9 percent.

A POLITICAL problem was Sederburg's desire to bring Central Michigan to a floor of \$3,300 per student in state aid.

Central is in the district of Senate majority leader John Engler, R-Mount Pleasant, Blanchard's probable 1990 Republican opponent.

"In previous years, it was known

as John Engler's school," said Sederburg. "No way would the House go along with an 8 percent increase for John Engler's school."

But the House this year agreed to a larger dose of aid for Central.

CHAMPAGNE praised Sederburg's "wholeheartedly positive" effort toward formula funding, but added, "Absolutely, the state has to put more money into higher education."

He said higher education got less than a 5 percent increase, hardly equal to the consumer price index

and 1-2 percent below the higher education price index, a measure of the things colleges buy. The university presidents asked for 5.5 percent plus more for problem spots.

"The lower schools only are being brought up. We (OU) are achieving our success by holding back on enrollment."

Champagne hoped Blanchard would police OU had increased tuition only 7.2 percent for residents and 8.2 for non-residents.

In contrast, UM and Wayne State raised tuition 9.6 percent, Michigan Tech 9.48 percent, and Ferris State

9.55 percent.

Blanchard has threatened to veto the appropriations of universities whose tuition increases he considers excessive but wasn't specific.

Wasako said UM-D was "very pleased with what Sederburg was able to do, he was very supportive of Chancellor (Blenda) Wilson's effort."

UM campuses in Dearborn and Flint receive separate appropriations from the Ann Arbor campus. UM-Flint got a hefty 6.7 percent boost.

HERE IS WHAT selected univer-

sities will receive in the budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1: **Blanchard uses his veto:**

- OU — \$33.8 million, up 4.6 percent; per student aid \$3,712.
- UM-Dearborn — \$16.6 million, up 5.1 percent; per student aid at \$3,300 floor.
- UM-Ann Arbor — \$253 million, up 4.5 percent; per student aid \$7,931.
- Wayne State — \$174 million, up 5 percent; per student aid \$7,931.
- Michigan State — \$214 million, up 4.7 percent; per student aid \$5,682.

THE STATE Senate had sought to adopt an enrollment-driven formula for aiding the 15 public universities.

Politically, it was Sen. William Sederburg, R-East Lansing, chair of the appropriations subcommittee on higher education, versus House appropriations chair Dominic Jacobetti, D-Negaunee, and Gov. James J. Blanchard, who had favored flat percentage increases for everyone, regardless of enrollment growth or shrinkage.

"We made tremendous strides in breaking a decade-long mindset," said Sederburg, who favored a formula based on several student factors.

Blanchard had recommended a flat 3.5 percent increase in his \$1.18 billion college budget. The House raised the numbers but retained the flat-rate method.

"We came out in-between," said Sederburg. "We kept the Senate philosophy — we wanted to bring the five lowest schools up to \$3,300 per student."

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