

## KEY MESSAGE POINTS: PROPOSED FY2007 STATE BUDGET

- Rutgers recognizes that New Jersey's significant budget deficit must be addressed and wants to work with the governor and legislature to meet this challenge, but higher education is being asked to bear more than its share of the reductions.
- Rutgers cannot absorb the proposed \$114 million budget shortfall without resorting to many painful choices, including layoffs, canceled classes, and increased tuition. This will hurt our students, the majority of whom rely on financial aid and hold jobs to cover their expenses.
- Rutgers is looking very carefully to reduce its own costs, but the university already runs an efficient administration compared with its peer institutions.
- Higher education is more than an expense—it is a serious investment in the state's future. Rutgers trains the sophisticated, technology-literate workforce crucial to New Jersey's economy, and Rutgers research and outreach activities drive economic growth.