Hi. Michael Crow here.

I wanted to get out as quickly as I could a message to everyone regarding where we’re headed with tuition, but I want to contextualize that a little bit ahead of time.

ASU is a major public research university. Our public support has been greatly reduced the last couple of years and unfortunately, we’ve had to go through a wide range of maneuvers to replace the $200 million dollars in reduced investment from the State of Arizona. To replace that investment we have taken cost cutting steps. We have generated new revenue from new enrollment and from a new program such as ASU Online. We have also raised tuition dramatically the last couple of years and we understand that in the present economic circumstance that we have, and also within the present model that we have for the operation of this institution, we have to think very carefully about tuition going forward.

So I’m presenting a proposal to the Board of Regents, as we speak, that will call for next year’s tuition levels to not increase. That is a zero percent increase for in-state undergraduate residents in Arizona. For out-of-state residents, we’ll have a very modest increase at the cost of the Higher Education Price Index of three percent. For graduate students, in-state and out-of-state, we will also increase at that Higher Education Price Index of three percent. There are a couple of exceptions that we have with the law school and a couple of other places within the institution relative to differential tuition within those schools, but I think it is very good news that we’ve been able to derive a financial model that greatly limits our tuition increase this year between zero percent in-state undergraduates and three percent for all other students coming to ASU.

Now, I have to tell you that this is not an easy decision. We still sit at the end of working our way through the financial difficulties that have been placed upon us as a result of the state budget reduction, but we believe that we can continue to advance the university to higher levels of academic success and higher levels of student success within this model. It does call on all of us to understand that this is a very modest increase, so there won’t be a large amount of resources for new investments. In fact, very limited if any resources, because we’re basically just keeping up with our higher costs that we’re receiving from others outside of us in the base economy itself.

I wanted to get you this message right away so that you could understand the logic.

I also want to remind students that are listening to this – and prospective students and families that are listening to this – that if your family circumstances change, please be in contact with our financial aid office. If you have any interest in ASU as a prospective student coming in or a family looking at ASU, understand that we are moving into an era of tuition moderation and so we are going to have what we believe to be predictable tuition expenditures and tuition costs going forward. I just wanted to give you a sense of where we are.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at michael.crow@asu.edu. Best of luck to those of you who are students now in the final weeks of the spring semester. Also, to families that are considering ASU, best of luck and let us know how we can be helpful.

Thanks.