The Office of University Relations is sending this message on behalf of Miles Lackey, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and Lori Preiss, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources.

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As you may have seen in recent news reports, N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper signed the state budget previously approved by the General Assembly. The budget addresses several areas of interest to UNCW, including:
- Additional compensation for most state employees and a labor market salary reserve for special retention or recruitment needs.
- Reserves of $1 billion for general inflationary costs and/or a recession and $250 million for inflationary pressures on new construction projects.
- UNC System enrollment increases based on a new formula recently adopted by the Board of Governors. The enrollment increases include funding for face-to-face summer courses, which will be helpful to UNCW.
- A special provision to increase enrollment and graduation rates within nursing programs, an area in which UNCW already excels.

More Guidance Needed to Implement Pay Increases

Last year, the state budget included a 5% salary increase for eligible employees across the next two fiscal years (2.5% per year for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23). The university processed the first 2.5% round of these legislative salary increases in the January 2022 payroll, retroactive to July 1, 2021. The recently signed state budget increases the second 2.5% legislative salary increase to 3.5%, retroactive to July 1, 2022.

We are awaiting UNC System Office instructions and eligibility criteria to implement the 3.5% legislative salary increase. Once the instructions are received, we will send an update and move as quickly as possible to implement the legislative salary increase.