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To: Faculty, Department Chairpersons, and Administrators

From: John Morrison, Ph.D.
Dean of Basic Sciences and Graduate School of Biological Sciences

Stephen Harvey
Senior Vice President for Finance

Date: June 2008

Subject: Graduate Student Compensation

The Graduate School continues to make a concerted effort to keep the stipends of its graduate students competitive with those of other institutions in the city. For AY 2008-09 we plan to raise their yearly stipend by \$1K to a total of \$28K effective July 1, 2008. Please notify your departmental administrators that the Graduate School office will contact them to discuss salary source changes.

In view of the fact that several of you have voiced concern that perhaps some of our top candidates may be joining other institutions which offer more attractive benefits package, the Graduate School is preparing a report identifying our average cost for student housing, health benefits and stipends as compared to key research institutions in the city. I am confident that the report will show that the overall package that we offer students is competitive with other institutions in the city, but we will continue to monitor the situation and are prepared to adjust the stipend again in the near future if necessary.

Lastly I wanted to let you know that at the recommendation of GCO and with Finance's approval, MSSM plans to allocate student support on NIH research project grants (e.g., R01s, P01s, P50s) as follows:

For AY 2008-09 the student cap is \$36,699 of which:

Graduate Student Direct Compensation \$28K

Health Insurance
Single: \$3,079.80 or
Plus 1: \$5,946.48 or

Family: \$9,322.20

Tuition: To be determined based on available funds after deducting the stipend and the health benefits. Any tuition charges that push the total beyond \$36,699 will be waived for students that are on research project grants. In cases where a student has family health insurance, the direct compensation plus health insurance slightly exceeds \$36,699. In these cases all tuition will be waived and the Graduate School will provide the funds for health insurance in excess of \$36,699.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.