TO: Senior Leadership Team, Academic Administrators and Faculty

FROM: Debbie Grupp-Patrutz, Associate Vice Provost for Research Administration
         Tim Leshan, Vice President for Government Relations

DATE: October 17, 2013

RE: Federal Shutdown Update

Dear Colleagues,

Last night Congress passed and the President signed a temporary budget deal funding the federal government through January 15th and lifting the debt ceiling through February 7th. The re-opening of the federal government is positive for Northeastern both for our students and faculty who rely on federal funding for financial aid and research.

Research - Northeastern researchers should be advised that agency operations will slowly begin to return to normal. This includes agency personnel accepting faculty meeting requests, processing new proposal submissions, and making new research awards. Federal funds are now available for drawdown. Some of the science funding agencies plan to release guidance in the next few days on how they are gearing back up after the shutdown.

Student Aid - As a result of the reopening, the uniformed services' approval of Military Tuition Assistance payments to active duty service members will resume. In addition, while Northeastern had sufficient flexibility to manage its campus-based federal financial aid programs (Federal Work-Study, SEOG, and Perkins Loans) without impact to students during the shutdown, the reopening will ensure additional disbursements for these programs will be made on schedule.

In the coming weeks, we will remain in close touch with Members of Congress, as well as federal officials across the Administration, and will provide further updates as developments warrant.

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