A Closer Look at UT’s Financial Picture

There is a perception among some that UT Austin is a wealthy institution that does not need private financial support, but the facts tell a different story.

**SHARED PUF ASSETS**

Some misconceptions may stem from the existence of the $10.47 billion Permanent University Fund, or PUF. PUF assets include more than 2 million oil- and mineral-producing acres in West Texas, and some of the investment return goes to the University. The revenue, however, does not go exclusively to UT Austin but to 18 institutions and six agencies in the Texas A&M and University of Texas Systems. UT Austin’s share (the Available University Fund, or AUF) for fiscal 2009-10 is $160.7 million out of the University’s $2.14 billion budget. That’s 7.5 percent, compared with 12.2 percent in 1984-85.

**A SMALLER STATE SHARE**

The University receives other state money as well. Two decades ago state appropriations provided 47 percent of the University’s budget. Today that share is only 16.2 percent.

**LOW TUITION AND FEES**

At the same time, the University continues to offer tuition and fees that are lower than many of its peers. Resident tuition and fees at UT Austin rank third-lowest in a peer group of nine state universities. Tuition and fees account for less than one-fourth (23.7 percent) of the University’s 2009-10 budget.

**SOURCES:** UT Austin Office of Information Management and Analysis, UT Budget Office, University of Texas System