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Dr. Ken Kitts
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Colleagues: I hope this message that we have just two months left in this spring semester. Please see below for my summary of current issues and developments at UNA.

Capital Campaign

Floyd Hall / Nursing: Our recent acquisition of the Keystone Business Centre means that we can begin planning for the move of the HES Department from Floyd Hall at the end of the Fall 2016 semester. Demolition of Floyd Hall and work on the new nursing building will begin soon thereafter. Funding for this new building is made possible by private gifts and a special state appropriation. In addition to those sources, we are pursuing a major federal grant that could assist with this project.

Legislative Update: The Alabama House of Representatives approved the education budget last week, and attention now moves to the Senate. There are still many steps in this process before the budget will be finalized. Changes will occur. Currently, we are sitting on a 4% increase in our base appropriation but would like to see that percentage move up as deliberations continue. We are also looking for opportunities to secure or increase earmarks that could further enhance our overall level of state funding. Our best chances for earmarks appear to be with nursing (a possible increase to an existing appropriation for the new building) and forensics (a possible new earmark to enhance educational opportunities for our students and to provide continuing education for professionals working in this field). The proposal to cre

