

*Traina's Announcement to the Community Explained by Knowledgeable Alumni!***Official Letter by Richard Traina
to the Community:**

To: Clark University Students and Parents
From: Richard P. Traina

On March 2, the Board of Trustees approved a University budget that includes a 3.9 percent increase in the total undergraduate bill at Clark University. The total charges will be \$24,070, which includes a \$900 increase in tuition to \$19,600. Health fees and room and board costs will remain the same. The health fee will be \$220, a standard double room will be \$2,250 and the standard 19-meal plan will be \$2,000.

The University budget is the result of extensive planning and intense scrutiny of spending. Our decision making continues to be informed by an Academic and Financial Plan that invests in Clark University's ability to provide an education anticipating the needs of citizens of the 21st century.

—The Academic and Financial Plan's vision of the future—

Many of the key challenges of the 21st century are knowable: We must reconcile economic development and environmental sustainability, we must ameliorate international and intercultural strife, we must ensure that our science and our communications technology serve humanity, and we must develop a new definition of citizenship based on personal and collective responsibility. For those challenges and others that we cannot predict, we must create courageous leaders capable of both appreciating and challenging conventional wisdom. Our Academic and Financial Plan, begun in 1993 and continuously updated by our faculty, gives substance to vision by addressing such issues.

By now, I hope Clark University's Academic and Financial Plan initiatives are common knowledge to you. They include the new Environmental School, the International Studies Stream, the Communication, Culture and Society major, and the BA/MA program with the fifth-year tuition free still the most aggressive response nationwide to concerns about cost and value. I hope all students take advantage of these initiatives. They are there to ensure that Clark University graduates are capable of making a difference in the world.

—Competing for the best scholar/teachers—

Responding to this vision of the future requires the continuity of a committed and accomplished faculty. Over the past five years, faculty and staff at Clark University have either foregone salary increases or accepted very small increases in recognition of the enormous economic challenges our students and their families face. We have adopted a three-year plan that begins in the next fiscal year to invest in our people. We recognize that the low student-to-faculty ratio of Clark, the small classes, and the opportunities for undergraduates to pursue research one-on-one with outstanding faculty are essential for Clark's approach to education. Clark University will continue to compete successfully for the finest scholar/teachers in academia.

The budget approved by the Trustees also selectively invests in educational technology and in resources for the Goddard Library. These investments directly benefit students, helping them to develop skills expected in today's workforce. The budget also supports the University Park Partnership, which is committed to revitalizing the immediate Main South neighborhood in which we are located, in partnership with government, business, nonprofit organizations and our neighbors. Our initial investments in UPP are beginning to take root and have been rewarded with considerable funding from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, along with city and state assistance and foundation grants.

—Responsibly marshaling our resources—

All colleges and universities throughout the nation are trying to stabilize costs. Forward-thinking institutions like Clark University are, at the same time, ensuring that their education offers the highest possible return on investment for students who will face a world of exceptional challenge and opportunity. Managing our resources to benefit our students is both a practical and a moral issue.

The most strategic way to increase value while controlling cost is to focus on institutional strengths, to capitalize on what the institution does well that students need for the 21st century, to reshape the University in keeping with such objectives, and then to pursue that path as efficiently as a concern for quality permits. That is the path we are following. We have worked very hard to ensure that this total bill is below the median of comparable institutions, and have managed to keep the increase below four percent.

Tuition represents a considerable investment in each student's future, and we believe the investments we are making in the education offered at Clark University are a conscientious, responsible and effective response to the needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Richard P. Traina, President

P.S. If you would like a summary of Clark University's Academic and Financial Plan, please call my office at (508) 793-7320.

A b o u t t h e A u t h o r s :
Christopher Hagelstein is the author of many amazing VAX posts which should be compiled into a book or something. VAX's Bulletin contains many recent examples. Richard Traina is actually the President of Clark University. He is not yet on email.

March 1996

**Line-by-Line Translation
by Christopher Hagelstein ('87):**

[Letter on Standardized ASCII Institutional Educational Letterhead]

On March 2, the Standard Trustees writ on their Stones a University budget that includes a 3.9 percent increase in total undergraduate bill at Clark University, Incorporated. The total charges will be \$24,979, which includes a \$900 increase in tuition to \$19,600. Financial health fees and room for bearing additional costs will remain the same. Including the following litany:

The university budget is the result of extensive financial analysis and latent capitalism, and avoiding ultimately the intense scrutiny behind it. Our judgement masks the oxymoron of an "Academic and Financial Plan" that invests in Clark University ability to leverage its educational mantra to patronize the needs of the Citizen Kanes for the 21st Century.

—The Academic and Financial Plan Tabloid Journalistic Versatility—

Many of the keys to knowledge are unknowable unless they are challenged. We must aggressively develop educational economies to sustain their environmental visibility, we must institutionalize international and intercultural strife, we must ensure that our science and our communications linguistic systems are of service to humanoids, and we must develop a new definition of history based on personal and collective arrogance. For those keys to unlock the doors and others that we cannot get through, we must manufacture courageous propaganda capable of both depreciating and insulting human beingness. Our Academic and Financial Plan, constructed in 1993 and continuously maintained by our faculty, gives subsistence to their positions as tenured representatives of vision.

By now, I hope Clark University's Academic and Financial indoctrination has justified the following expenses: They include the new Environmentally Necessary School, the International Sterilization Stream, the Surgical Communication, Culture and Cosmetic major and the BA/MA program with fifth-year tuition still free from current charges. I hope all students seriously consider these marketing enhancements. They are there to ensure that Clark University graduates successfully produce income to fund our future marketing initiatives.

—Comprehending the best scholar/teachers—

Responding to this vision of the future requires the continuity of university rhetoric and a survivalist faculty. Over the past five years, faculty and staff at Clark University have either maintained relatively high salaries than average or accepted very small increases in recognition of the enormous needs of university funding. We have adopted a three-year vision that clone financial investments into efficient, lower fee-based professors. We recognize that the low student-to-faculty ratio of Clark, the small classes, and the appropriate institutional setting is essential for Clark's approach to education. Clark University, Incorporated will continue to compete for the finest scholar/teachers in academia no matter what the cost.

The budget dubbed by the Trustees also selects investments appropriate for high rates of return, including educational technology, using the machines located in the Goddard Library. These machines directly benefit students, helping them to develop data-entry skills expected in today's workforce. The budget must also recognize the University Park Partnership, which is atypical of our long-term goals, yet reinforces our presence as a viable economic entity in the otherwise non-profitable Main South neighborhood. Our initial investments in UPP are beginning to germinate in laboratories, and have been rewarded with considerable funding from the Central Intelligence Agency.

—Responsibly Marshaling our Didactic—

All colleges and universities throughout the nation are true stabilizers in marketing cost increases. Among forward-thinking institutions, Clark University ranks itself #1 in ensuring that their education offers the highest possible return on investment for students with little or no humanistic risk. Managing our determination of the moral issues is both practical and beneficial to preoccupied undergraduates.

The most strategic way to increase costs while promoting value is to focus on institutional strengths, leverage what the institution does well that students can apply for in the 21st century, to institutionalize the University for such objectives, and then to defile quality communication as efficiently as a concern for quantitative permits. That is the path we are following. We admit our hard efforts to keep the increase below four hundred basis points, thanks to the excessiveness of comparable institutions.

Tuition represents a considerable problem in ascertaining its value relative to each student's future, nonetheless, we believe these investments students are making to shape Clark University are consistent, lawful and effective to achieve the needs of our Institution.

Sincerely,

John Stuart Mill, Historical Chieftain of Institutional Education
Adam Smith, Ecocidal Administration Hand
Frolly Goatwinkle, King of Cerebral Saturnalia

P.S. If you would like a summary of Clark University Gingerbread Mediatric House Proslavery, Advertising Sap Prostitution and Cultural Elitism Rerun Prayer, Ideologically AngloCentric Speechoid, please call my Razor Kitty Fax Detergent: office (1-800-Deicide) telepathy (508-799-2918)