

How Much Does President Saunders' Plane Really Cost?

At the [Faculty Senate Meeting of December 5, 2008](#), Provost Lyman told the Senators: "total cost is approximately **\$200,000** per year." Let's take a look at what the plane really costs based on documents provided by the University in response to an Open Records Act request.

During the first seventeen (17) months the total costs of Dr. Saunders' airplane was a cash outflow of **\$591,231.71**. That averages **\$34,778.34** per month.

$$\mathbf{\$34,778.34 \times 12 = \$417,340.08}$$

In short, the costs of Dr. Saunders' plane are more than double Provost Lyman's public relations pitch. Keep in mind that the costs provided in this report are cash outflows and do not include the final balloon payment of **\$907,053.85** due as the sixtieth payment at the end of the lease.

Is your job worth the convenience, "responsiveness and flexibility"—the characterization offered by Provost Lyman—for Dr. Saunders and a few chosen colleagues? Dr. Saunders thinks so.