Dear Belmont Graduate Student:

Continuing your education beyond the undergraduate level is not an easy decision, and the faculty, staff and administration at Belmont University are honored you have chosen to pursue your graduate studies with us. We admire your dedication and accomplishments, and your presence is a valuable asset to the university.

As another academic year winds down, it's good to reflect on what 2009-10 brought to Belmont University. Belmont received its highest ranking yet, landing at No. 7 in the U.S. News & World Report’s Master’s South division of America’s Best Colleges. In addition, Belmont was lauded for the second year in a row by U.S. News as a “Top School to Watch” in the nation, proving that Belmont continues to cement its image as a leader among teaching universities. But even with all the exciting things going on at Belmont, nothing supersedes our mission to be "a student-centered Christian community providing an academically challenging education."

Like public and private higher education institutions everywhere, we are facing the reality of rising costs. And even though the total price of attendance at Belmont ranks near the bottom of our peer institutions, we recognize that the cost can still be a challenge to you and your family. We will continue our efforts to control costs while at the same time adding value to your Belmont education.

Because of the unique nature of the graduate programs at Belmont, tuition increases for 2010-2011 will vary per department, with the average increase for all graduate programs being 5.7 percent. One of the primary uses of the funds generated by these increases will be to provide raises for our valuable faculty and staff. The revenue generated by student fees support important areas on campus that enrich the lives of all of our students – health services, campus safety, parking, building maintenance, career services, library services, environmental initiatives and technology.

You will receive a guide explaining Belmont’s financial policies as well as cost and payment options in the next few weeks. A complete list of tuition fees is also available on the Belmont Web site on the Cost Estimator Link found on the Student Financial Services page.

I believe Belmont University’s graduate programs successfully provide a superior educational experience at a price that adds up to real value for you as you invest your time and resources here. Thank you for entrusting us to provide you with your continued educational needs. We are honored to have you on campus.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Fisher
President