



May 8, 2019

To: Dr. Cheryl Beaver, Co-Chair
Richard Kavanagh, Co-Chair
University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAC)

From: Rex Fuller, President

RE: Final Recommendations for FY2020

The Cabinet has concluded its deliberations regarding the Phase 2 proposals. As a group, we benefited greatly from the joint UBAC/Cabinet presentations. The shared dialog provided key insights to our work. As we discussed at this meeting, our recommendations are subject to final budget deliberations for FY20 by the Board of Trustees.

As you may know, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to raise resident UG tuition by 2.33% (i.e., \$4 per credit). This decision is based, in part, on a recommendation from the Tuition and Fee Advisory Committee (TFAC), which recommended an increase of no more than 2.5% in resident UG tuition. With tuition set, we are now building the budget with an assumption of flat enrollment and no less than \$40.5M in Public University Support Fund (PUSF) funding from the Legislature as per the Ways & Means Co-Chairs budget. WOU continues to work with the other public universities to reach a PUSF increase of \$120M. If the final PUSF budget increase remains \$40.5M, WOU will have a deficit budget for FY20 and we will use reserves to balance the budget at year-end.

In these challenging times in higher education, Western must continue to make strategic investments to grow enrollment, improve retention and graduation, and ensure affordability. For these reasons, the Cabinet identified about \$650,000 in investments.

A summary of the initiatives identified for funding in FY20 based on UBAC recommendations and final review by Cabinet follows:

Proposal	Recommendation	Estimated Budget
New Program Support: Salem Presence (156)	Primarily fund from NTT budgets in Academic Affairs, but provide funding to support supplies and services	\$100,000
New Program: MA in Organizational Leadership (161)		
STEM Cohort (166)	Fund	\$20,000

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Proposal	Recommendation	Estimated Budget
Textbook Affordability Initiative and Course Textbooks on Reserve (101)	Fund: \$35,000 in year one and \$15,000 on-going	\$35,000
Asst. Sports Performance Coach (157)	Partial Funding for FTE Increase:	\$6,000
Athletic Scholarships (158)	Partial funding to provide additional support combined with expanded use of existing remission dollars to support student-athletes	\$100,000
WOU CASA Program (185)	Fund to support upon conclusion of grant	\$103,000
Experiential Learning Initiative (168)	Partially fund to expand high-impact practices	\$12,000
IR Analyst (181) & (189)	Fund	\$102,000
Paralegal (180)	Fund	\$90,000
Web Marketing (188)	Focus on accessibility of website through outside contract or limited duration employee	\$80,000
Total		\$648,000

I believe these investments are transformational and will enable Western to continue to make strategic budget decisions that support our mission and strategic plan.

In closing, I want to extend my appreciation to all members of the University Budget Advisory Committee and I look forward to our efforts to assess the process as we finalize the budget for FY20.

C: Cabinet