

WESTERN

Washington University

2008 Supplemental Operating Budget Request

October 17, 2007



Karen W. Morse
President

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October 17, 2007

The Honorable Christine Gregoire
Governor of the State of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire:

I am pleased to submit to you Western's 2008 supplemental operating budget request. It is my objective to continue to serve to accomplish your objectives in the final year of my presidency. Western's request is driven by several factors. First, Western joins the Council of Presidents in two state-wide efforts: 1) a request for funds for intensive emergency preparedness efforts in order to ensure the on-campus safety and security of our university students, faculty and staff; and 2) funds to establish both faculty and exempt professional staff recruitment and retention salary pools. Second, Western requests funds that will further your higher education initiatives as further explained as follows:

Western is requesting an investment that will meet your goals of making college possible for underserved populations through three innovative new programs: ***Student Teachers Enhancing Possibilities (STEP program)***; ***Investing in Transfer Access and Transition (INTACT)***, and ***Targeted Leadership Advantage***.

Western is positioned to play a leadership role in addressing the state-wide need for more highly qualified teachers of math and science with a timely new opportunity: the ***TeachWashington program***. ***TeachWashington*** is designed to increase the quantity, quality and diversity of mathematics and science teachers throughout the state by utilizing Western's teacher preparation and strong undergraduate science and education programs.

Western is also positioned to play a key role in responding to the state-wide priority of cleaning up Puget Sound. The ***Red Tide Mitigation*** project, where we are seeking funds to establish a Research Institute on Harmful Algal Blooms (RIHAB()) within Huxley Colleges, will direct and provide resources for work on the development, testing, and implementation of red tide bloom forecasting and mitigation strategies, for the Puget Sound and the Georgia Basin.

Western is also requesting funds to address the emergency situation of relocating the theatre arts scenic laboratory due to the failing condition of the Bellingham Armory Building. We have identified a rental space that would accommodate this important part of our College of Fine and Performing Arts programming and we are asking for costs associated with this lease.

Finally, Western is also requesting additional funds to expand student, faculty and staff access to early childhood learning and childcare. Western has long waiting lists for access to early childhood learning opportunities and must address this for students, faculty and staff.

We are also requesting several technical adjustments to the 2007-2009 biennial appropriation.

The attached document summarizes Western's proposed 2008 supplemental General Fund-State operating budget request, and the attached request document includes a full justification narrative for each decision package, as required by the Office of Financial Management.

Thank you for your continuing and strong commitment to public higher education and your support for Western Washington University. We stand ready to answer your questions and to help you however possible.

Sincerely,



Karen W. Morse
President

KWM/ee
Enclosures

