



**Central Washington University  
Tuition Waiver Budget Subcommittee**

**May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
11am – 12pm**

**Present**

Josh Hibbard, Teena Chase, Dennis Francois, Jeff Stinson, Duane Dowd, Adrian Naranjo, Gregg Schlanger, David Pena-Alfaro, Kevin Archer, Paul Ballard, Jill Hernandez

**Approve Prior Meeting Minutes**

Dennis motioned to approve the minutes from the 4/21/20 meeting; Jeff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Review Waiver Requests**

1. COB Graduate Tuition Waiver

- Informational only; got permission from the President and PBAC earlier this year to charge a differential for graduate-level tuition. Will not impact anybody revenue-wise outside of the College of Business. Does not need to be brought back to this committee for discussion/approval at the 5/21/20 meeting.

2. Transfer Center

- Question: Request doesn't address the state need grant; over 90% of students that are Pell-eligible are also eligible for the Washington College Grant. That grant covers the tuition gap for the students, so it would be helpful to understand how that works into the formula of need. Also need to look at which other grants these students would be eligible for. Josh noted that the first paragraph does note that if you are coming from one of our partner institutions and you are Pell-eligible, tuition will be covered after all other funding (including grants) by this waiver.
- Question: If this is a waiver that makes sense for recruiting, why is it only associated with the transfer center (and the partner institutions), not for everybody that is recruiting transfer students? Josh reported that this was put together as a pilot, so they were focusing

on the main transfer pipelines (e.g. our partner institutions) first. It also limits our liability if the pilot is not successful in that we wouldn't have to rescind the waiver option from all community/technical colleges, only from the partner institutions.

- Clarification on the GPA requirement (cumulative CWU GPA?)
- Is this set up to be a two-year waiver option? What if they take longer than that to complete?
- If there are 30 students that apply this year, how do you determine which 20 students are awarded the waiver?
- How do they intend to document that these are students who would not have been coming to CWU if the waiver hadn't been available?
  - Next task for this group – how can we do this for *all* waivers?
  - Add to New Business for the next meeting
- We will forward these questions to Aaron and Megan, and invite them to attend the meeting on 5/21

### **Old Business**

- Current waivers that haven't been awarded in some time or have had name changes and are no longer being used
  - We've gone through and identified a list of waivers that we believe can be eliminated as they have not been awarded in over two years
  - The next step will be to go through and identify who/what department is the owner of each of those waivers and obtain more details to ensure the waiver is definitely not still being offered/awarded
  - Will have information available for this committee to review/discuss at the June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - Adrian suggested that we need to create a process to review all waivers every two years or so in order to maintain a more current list of available waivers

### **New Business**

- Merit Waiver vs. Need Waiver
  - What would it take for us to be able to commit or make some type of promise to students that if they fall within a certain income range, their tuition will be covered?
  - The Washington State Need Grant would cover a significant portion of these students' tuitions, so a CWU Need Waiver would just cover the gap. The gap would fluctuate from student to student, depending on what other grants and at what amounts they qualify for.
  - The potential lack of funding for the Washington State Need Grant does present a liability to CWU, which is a larger risk for us than we originally anticipated when this discussion first began a month ago.
  - If we're not giving Merit Waivers, are we losing high-achieving students?
    - Not sure if the Merit Waivers are setting us apart or not competition-wise with other schools

- Currently 3 tiers of Merit Waiver qualification; maybe we maintain the highest tier, and then shift the rest of the available funds to cover need-based waivers?
- Jill requested a distinction between the merit levels at the university-level and those at the college/department level, so that the colleges can continue to attract the specific students they are interested in for specific departments/programs
- Josh clarified that his conversation was not related to the college-level waivers; those will still absolutely remain with the colleges
- Ways to limit liability:
  - Set a deadline (confirm or commit to CWU by a certain date)
- Suggested that this should be a 4-year offer, contingent on continued meeting of qualifications (parental income level and good academic standing)
- Ultimate goal: to simplify the process of understanding and feeling comfortable with funding for college by making the waiver criteria minimal

**Next Meeting: May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 from 10am – 11am**