President’s Cabinet  
Re: Graduate Tuition Fellowships  

Graduate Fellowships Rationale:
The goal of Graduate Studies and Research is to seek enrollment growth and tuition revenue through marketing of non-assistantship opportunities for graduate study at CWU. A key component of the marketing plan is the introduction of four new Graduate Fellowships. Each fellowship category is designed to attract well qualified resident and non-resident students who will then compete for these tuition waiver awards.

When high-quality students apply into a program but are not given assistantships, these fellowships provide programs with a recruiting tool. These fellowships also provide a mechanism for recruiting nontraditional students, who may add to the diversity of the campus and programs. Although applicants will be ranked according to the quality of their credentials, the Graduate School will specifically encourage directors of programs with small enrollments to recommend applicants.

Proposed CWU Partial-Tuition-Waiver Fellowships:
Fellowships would be provided to exceptional graduate students without assistantships who show promise in scholarship (academic merit), meritorious leadership or service, meritorious diversity experiences that contribute significantly to the quality of CWU's graduate programs, and McNair Scholars. The fellowships would be awarded to incoming full-time students who have been admitted into a CWU graduate program. These awards qualify under the CWU waiver policy Section 915 (West) Waivers that permit merit waivers and waivers for non-resident graduate students.

CWUP 2-20-090 Waiver of Tuition and Fees Policy regarding graduate student waivers:
RCW Section 915 (West Waivers) D.1.b. (Graduate Student Merit Awards) permits the dean of graduate studies to create merit-based waivers for recruitment for resident and non-resident graduate students without assistantships.

RCW Section 915(West Waivers) D. 5. b (Non-Resident Graduate Waiver Program) permits waiving tuition for new and continuing non-resident graduate students without assistantships sufficient to reduce non-resident tuition up to 1.25 times resident tuition. This proposal would modify that policy for this program only to read (up to 1.12 times resident tuition).

Proposed Waiver Criteria and Amount of Awards:
The Graduate School will provide up to 16 non-resident fellowships per annum. These are competitive fellowships for the 9-month academic term. There is no stipend provided. The fellowships are awarded to incoming full-time students who have been admitted into a CWU graduate program.
Proposed CWUR3-90-100 Waiver of Tuition and Fees Table 1 Procedure Changes to FY 15 E. Section 915(West) waivers, B. Institutional Merit:

We propose the addition of the following waiver categories to Table 1 (see attached).

6. Graduate Fellowships

**Non-Resident Fellowships** - 16 non-resident 50% tuition awards (approximately equivalent to 112% of resident tuition) per annum
   a. Academic Fellowship
   b. Service / Leadership Fellowship
   c. Diversity Fellowship
   d. McNair Fellowship

**Limiting Fellowships to New Students:** A question was raised as to whether we should open these to all students or limit them to new admits. Given that the focus of the program is for recruiting, the most direct benefit comes by restricting awards to new students. However, we will make the fellowships renewable (at the level originally funded). By permitting renewals at the level originally funded we expect fewer non-resident students will seek to gain residency for their second year in order to qualify for the in-state discount. However, we understand that there may be cases where these tuition reductions will assist with matriculation of existing students. We will therefore emphasize that new admits (and renewals) are given “preference” for awards.

**Financial Analysis:** These awards will waive 50% of nonresident tuition (operating fee portion of tuition). Based on 2014/15 tuition of $20,705 non-residents would pay $10,353. At this discount rate, nonresident students would pay $1,097 ($10,353-$9,256) or 12% more than resident students. The Tuition Waiver Council recommends leaving the number of potential nonresident awards open in the future but we will limit to 16 for the first year of the program. Total anticipated FY15 revenue $165,648.

**Information to be Listed on the Graduate School’s Web Page:**

Central Washington University 50% Tuition Waiver Fellowships

   CWU Graduate Fellowships are open to U.S. non-residents, and are awarded to exceptional graduate students who show promise in scholarship, academics, leadership or meritorious service. Fellowships are also available for students with diversity experiences that contribute significantly to the quality of CWU’s graduate programs. The fellowships typically include a 50% tuition waiver for the 9-month academic term. There is no stipend provided. Fellowships are only awarded to full-time students who have been admitted into a CWU graduate program. Preference is given to newly admitted candidates; however fellowships are renewable at the level and type originally funded.

**What does a 50% Tuition Waiver Mean?**

   These awards will waive 50% of non-resident graduate student tuition annually, and may not be used for campus fees, housing, books or supplies. **For the 2014-2015 academic year, the non-resident fellowship waiver value is approximately $10,353.**
How to apply:
To be considered for a university fellowship, applicants must be recommended by your program director. (A recommendation form will be posted on the Graduate School’s webpage.) Central Washington University Fellowships are awarded on March 1st (and subsequently as funds are available).

Award Process:
A Graduate School committee will distribute the awards. Students from all colleges may apply, but the committee will rank proposals by college and attempt to distribute funds equally.

Eligibility Requirements:
These awards are available on a competitive basis to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are admitted to a CWU graduate program. Candidates granted probationary admission are not eligible. Preference is given to newly admitted candidates.

Types of awards:

**Academic Fellowship.** These awards are determined based on your GPA (minimum 3.25).

**Leadership / Meritorious Service Fellowship.** These awards are granted to students who have served in leadership roles within their community, college, or professional organizations.

**Diversity Fellowship:** These awards are available to first-generation college students or applicants who have a history of overcoming disadvantage. Awards are also available for those nominated by diversity-focused organization outside of Central Washington University.

**McNair Fellowship:** These awards are available to students who were McNair Scholars at their undergraduate institutions and intend to pursue master's level preparation for doctoral work.

**Notification:** Admitted graduate students will be notified of any fellowship awards by March 15th or within two weeks of the Graduate School’s decision.