

2008 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS

Central Washington University seeks funding for the following priority items in the 2008 state supplemental budget:

OPERATING BUDGET

Salary Technical Correction - \$913,000

CWU's highest priority for the supplemental budget is to correct an error that excluded about 300 employees from the 2007-09 budget. The budget inadvertently omitted non-represented classified staff from salary calculations and appropriations in the budget, including:

- the continuation of the one-time 1.6% salary increase during fiscal 2007,
- the 3.2% and 2.0% cost of living adjustments for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 respectively,
- implementation of the salary survey, and
- an additional step on the classified staff pay scale.

Unanticipated Increase in Fire Protection Costs - \$100,000

Another important request will cover an unanticipated increase in the cost of fire protection services for CWU in Ellensburg. For decades the university has had an agreement with the City of Ellensburg for various services, including fire protection. CWU paid for the services through a combination of cash and a reciprocal resource sharing agreement.

However, that agreement ended early this year when the city fire department merged with Kittitas County Fire District 2 on January 1, 2007. This merger was well after CWU submitted the budget request for 2007-09. As a result of the merger, CWU lost the benefit of reciprocal resource use *and* the cost for fire protection rose. This request will cover the unanticipated increase in the cost of fire protection services.

CAPITAL BUDGET

Construction Inflation - \$1.3 million

CWU seeks \$1.3 million in the supplemental Capital Budget to address inflation in the cost of materials, labor, and other factors associated with the remodeling of Dean Hall. The 2007-09 state capital budget included funds to mitigate continuing inflation in building construction costs; this request is consistent with that provision.

Even after drastic value engineering and cost cutting exercises throughout the design and construction document phases, CWU was forced to drive nearly all of the funds earmarked for the project toward the actual renovation of the building, eroding funding originally intended for equipment. *The university is left with a third of what is needed* for the furnishings, fixtures and equipment needed to use the building. CWU seeks \$1.3 million in supplemental funds to equip the building in time for occupancy in fall 2008.

Emergent Life & Safety for Deconstruction of Dorms - \$2 million placeholder

In spring 2008 CWU will take down two residence halls constructed in the 1960s. A recent architectural assessment of the high-rise structures, unused since fall 2005, concluded that leaving the buildings standing may represent a health and safety risk to the community.

It is not clear whether the buildings can be demolished safely or whether they will have to be "deconstructed." Until that determination is made clear through the bid process, the actual cost of bringing down the buildings is not known.

Therefore, CWU requests that a "placeholder" in the amount of \$2 million go forward in the budget process until the real cost for this project is known later this year.

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CWU also requests three supplemental operating budget items shared by the Council of Presidents:

Faculty Recruitment & Retention Pool

CWU seeks \$1 million to fund recruitment and retention pool will allow the university to match competitive offers for top-notch faculty who are being aggressively recruited by other universities and colleges. A faculty recruitment and retention pool would allow CWU to package competitive offers to attract top faculty in their fields, and to provide incentives for faculty to stay in Washington.

Salary Compression and Inequity

In 2007-09 budget funds special salary increases for some state bargaining units and civil service employees. The increases addressed

disparities in compensation between the public and private sectors. Now the state should correct similar disparities for exempt and professional employees who did not receive these special increases. CWU seeks \$380,000 to correct this imbalance. Funding will help the university retain highly qualified and experienced administrative and professional staff.

Enhancing Emergency Preparedness

CWU seeks \$225,000 to enhance the capacity of the university to respond rapidly and effectively to a broad range of emergency situations. Funding will enable the university to create an emergency management division within its Department of Public Safety and purchase specialized equipment and technology necessary to protect students, faculty and staff.

About Central Washington University

Our residential campus is located just 150 miles from Olympia in Ellensburg. Central's six University Centers are co-located with community colleges around the state. More than 70 percent of CWU students and 68 percent of transfer students hail from western Washington.

With a centrally located residential campus and six University Centers, CWU is uniquely positioned to deliver efficient, high-quality upper-division programs to transfer students. CWU specializes in serving the needs of time- and place-bound students in the Puget Sound area at Lynnwood, Des Moines, and Pierce County, and at eastern Washington locations in Yakima, Moses Lake, and Wenatchee.

CWU also is one of the most diverse public universities in the state. People of color comprise nearly 20 percent of the student body. About 8 percent of CWU students are Hispanic. Our location and welcoming campus climate make CWU a university of choice for Hispanic students.

Since 2001 CWU has been one of the fastest growing state universities. Between 2001 and 2006 enrollment climbed by nearly 27 percent – far faster than state funding. In order to preserve the quality of education, Central has been working to manage our rate of growth *down* to match the much more modest rate of increase in state funding. This year we are pleased that our projected annual enrollment of about 9,000 FTE students matches state funding for the first time in many years. At 1472, this year's freshman enrollment matches last year's record-setting level.