Title: Advancement Support for Graduate School

Initiative Description, including statement of purpose and anticipated outcomes:
We seek support from a major gift officer (and related services) from University Advancement because several initiatives within the Graduate School’s six-year plan will require additional resources that could be obtained from external resources. These resources are not for the Graduate School itself, but for Western programs and students. While the other colleges do have Foundation support, their focus, is of course, spread over a number of departments and rightfully centers mostly upon our undergraduate students and our undergraduate mission. Fund raising has become an integral part of the Graduate Deans work nationally as we have found out by attending several sessions at the Council of Graduate School meetings. This role is relatively new, especially at comprehensive universities, but it has become necessary as the states withdrew and reduced resources. Now we find ourselves in the same position. In order to fulfill our six-year plans, external resources must be considered as part of the funding picture. The Graduate Dean and the Associate Dean are committed to doing the work necessary for external fund raising. But, we simply cannot do fund raising without support from University Advancement. Without support from University Advancement we remain isolated from important advancement opportunities. External resources raised would support programs and students in departments and colleges and expand the funding “pie”, while keeping in mind the strategic directions for the Graduate School as a whole. There are similar needs within Research and Sponsored Programs for external funds, but the focus would include undergraduate research/creative activities and undergraduate travel to research/creative venues. The same Gift Officer naturally would be supporting both and would coordinate any activities with the other gift officers in the university. We recognize that University Advancement is thinly staffed and are supportive of them. But, as we move into the future horizon in our strategic planning, it seems that Advancement support is crucial.

What University units (depts., colleges, etc.) will be involved?
All departments with a Graduate program may be impacted: Accounting, Anthropology, Biology, Business Administration, Chemistry, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Computer Science, Educational Leadership, Elementary Education, English, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geology, History, Human Services and Rehabilitation, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Music, Psychology, and Secondary Education”.

How does the initiative support the University Mission and Strategic Plan?
Student services, recruitment, and retention would be enhanced thus expanding access to a rigorous graduate education, would serve as a model for institutional effectiveness, and would assist in meeting the needs of the citizens of the State of Washington.

Are there potential partnerships with external organizations/institutions?
University Advancement

Anticipated new positions needed to implement the initiative:
Faculty: N/A
Staff: Part of a Major Gift Officer Position  
Graduate Students (supported): N/A  

Space needs (boldface one; attach note from Space Administration):  
- Existing space is sufficient  
- Existing space will be sufficient after modification  
- New space may be required  

New equipment or other one-time costs: Possibly minor one-time costs. Travel/entertainment costs could also be funded with one-time dollars.  

Recurring operating costs: Gift Officers need travel and entertainment funds.  

Estimated timeline for implementation: FY 2017 or as soon as possible before that as the need is immediate.  

Potential funding sources (boldface all that apply; attach notes from University Advancement and University Relations):  
- State operating budget (decision package)  
- New enrollments (tuition-based)  
- External Education (fee-based)  
- Reallocation  
- Federal Support (agency: ______)  
- Grants  
- Partnerships (organizations/institutions: University Advancement)  
- Private Funds  
- Other (please specify)