Title: Expand Graduate Assistant Positions

Initiative Description, including statement of purpose and anticipated outcomes:
It was clear in the appraisals completed by individual programs that the number of funded Graduate Assistant positions is inadequate at Western. To illustrate, some departments and programs respond to the shortfall by splitting their full-time Teaching Assistant position into two, creating two half-time Teaching Assistant Positions. The negative consequences for all are obvious. As our planning processes continue, specific proposals will be brought forth. The Graduate Council recommends that new decision packages address the need for an adequate number of graduate assistant positions for our graduate students.

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?
Supporting our graduate infrastructure expands access to a rigorous graduate education, builds upon our strengths, and meets the needs of the State of Washington.

Are there potential partnerships with external organizations/institutions?
To Be Determined (TBD)

Anticipated new positions needed to implement the initiative:
- Faculty: TBD
- Staff: TBD
- Graduate Students (supported): TBD

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 TBD**

New equipment or other one-time costs: TBD

Recurring operating costs: TBD

Estimated timeline for implementation: TBD
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: ______ ) TBD
- Grants
- Partnerships (organizations/institutions: ______ ) TBD
- Private Funds
- Other (please specify)