2017 Legislative Session Report

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WWU Government Relations works to pursue and promote Western’s budget and policy objectives to the Washington State Legislature and Congress, working closely with state and federal officials, Western administrators, faculty, students and staff. WWU Government Relations also helps keep the campus community informed about Western’s legislative priorities and higher education-related news from Olympia.
Introduction

The 2017 third special session adjourned sine die on July 20, following the conclusion of the 105-day regular session on April 23 and three 30-day special sessions. Governor Inslee signed the 2017-19 operating budget on June 30 after the Senate and House of Representatives approved the budget earlier that day, averting a partial shutdown of state government that would have begun July 1. The Legislature adjourned on July 20 without passing a new 2017-19 capital budget.

This report provides a summary of the budgets as they impact Western and summarizes key policy bills impacting higher education that passed the Legislature or were enacted as part of the new operating budget and have been signed into law.

Operating Budget

The 2017-19 operating budget that was signed into law on June 30, 2017 maintains current tuition policy for resident undergraduate students as specified under RCW 28B.15.067, permitting a 2.2% increase in resident undergraduate tuition for the 2017-18 academic year and a 2% increase for the 2018-19 academic year at four-year public higher education institutions. These permitted increases follow decreases in resident undergraduate tuition over the past two years. Services and Activities (S&A) fee increases are also limited to 2.2% in 2017-18 academic year and 2% in the 2018-19 academic year.

At Western and other public institutions, the budget maintains current levels of the State Need Grant, a need-based financial aid program. The budget increases award amounts for students attending private non-profit four-year institutions. In 2017, approximately 23,500 students in Washington were eligible for the State Need Grant but did not receive it due to lack of funding. The new budget will decrease the number of unserved, eligible students by approximately 875 students annually.

The biennial budget also approves compensation and benefit adjustments for all public higher education employees that are roughly equivalent to a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2017, a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2018, and 2% general wage increase effective January 1, 2019. Actual amounts to each Western employee will be subject to the various contracts and salary guidelines.

Western received $1 million in funding for student success initiatives, a top legislative priority for the university. The new funds will be used for student support programs that improve retention and graduation rates, such as academic advising, tutoring services and mental health support. Western was the only four-year institution to receive student success funds in this year’s budget.

* Bill likely requires WWU action
A major challenge legislators faced in crafting the two-year, $43.7 billion budget was increasing funding for K-12 education as required under the State Supreme Court’s 2012 *McCleary* decision. Under the new budget, spending on public K-12 schools will grow by approximately $7.3 billion over the next four years to increase educator salaries and make other improvements. The new K-12 funding will come largely from a state property tax increase, an expansion of the online sales tax, and an elimination of tax exemptions on fuel extraction and the sale of bottled water.

**Capital Budget**

For the first time in state history, the Legislature adjourned without passage of a biennial capital budget with new appropriations, despite the House of Representatives and Senate each introducing new 2017-19 capital budget proposals since July 1. The most recent House proposal (EHB 1075) and Senate proposal (SB 5981) as of July 30 each include funding for many of Western’s capital budget priorities, including:

- $6.65 million for Classroom and Lab Upgrades;
- $6.179 million for Minor Works Preservation Projects;
- $6 million in partial design funding for the Sciences Building Addition and Renovation;
- $1.5 million for Access Control Security Upgrades; and
- $3.188 million for Elevator Preservation Safety and ADA Upgrades.

It is still unclear when the Legislature will pass the final compromise 2017-19 capital budget, but until then, Western is only authorized to continue on-going projects included in the 2015-17 capital budget, per the Legislature’s passage of ESSB 5965 on June 30, 2017.

**Policy Bills Enacted in the 2017 Legislative Session**

**Academic Affairs**

* Senate Bill 5234, sponsored by Senator Mark Mullet, requires institutions of higher education to create a coordinated, evidence-based policy for granting undergraduate credit for Advanced Placement (AP) exams, to post the policy on campus websites effective for the fall 2017 academic term, and to conduct a biennial review of the policy and report to the Legislature. Under SB 5234, colleges and universities are directed to establish a policy for granting as many undergraduate college credits to students who have earned minimum scores of three on AP exams as possible and appropriate.

• Section 603 of the budget requires public baccalaureate institutions to accept the transfer of college-level courses taken by students participating in the College in the High School and Running Start programs if the student has been admitted to the higher education institution and if the college-level courses are recognized as transferable by the admitting institution of higher education.

• Section 611 of the budget requires Western to continue work with the Education Research and Data Center (ERDC) to demonstrate progress in computer science and engineering enrollments. By September 1 of each year, Western must provide a report including but not limited to the cost per student, student completion rates, and the number of low-income students enrolled in each program, any process changes or best-practices implemented by the university, and how many students are enrolled in computer science and engineering programs above the prior academic year.

• Section 611 also requires Western to enroll 30 students in the Computer and Information Systems Security program located at Olympic College - Poulsbo each academic year beginning in FY 2017 and identify these students separately when providing data to the ERDC.

Capital Projects and Public Works

* **House Bill 1538**, sponsored by Representative Melanie Stambaugh, requires the prime contractor in public work projects to provide a bond for the subcontractor's portion of retainage, if requested.

* **Senate Bill 5631**, sponsored by Senator Randi Becker, requires the University of Washington (UW) to consult with and include the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises in the alternative contracting process for construction projects on critical patient care or specialized medical research facilities, and repeals the expiration date on the UW alternative contracting process.


Financial Aid and Student Services

* **House Bill 2037**, sponsored by Representative Noel Frame, extends until August 2018 the Disabilities Services Transfer Workgroup, which was established during the 2016 legislative session to develop a plan for removing obstacles for students with disabilities when they are transferring between institutions of higher education. The Workgroup is convened by the Council of Presidents and includes representation from David Brunner, WWU Registrar and Director of disAbility Resources for Students. Under HB 2037, the Workgroup will continue developing a plan that includes addressing the changing methods of delivering course content,

* Bill likely requires WWU action
the availability of course materials in an accessible manner, and the supplemental course material provided by third parties.

* **Senate Bill 5022**, sponsored by Senator Barbara Bailey, requires higher education institutions to provide borrowers of student loans a detailed notification about their loans each time the institution certifies a new financial aid package that includes loans. The notification must include estimates regarding the total amount of education loans taken out by the student, the potential total payoff amount of the loans incurred including principal and interest amounts, potential monthly repayment amounts, and the percentage of the aggregate federal direct loan borrowing limit applicable to the student’s program of study that the student has reached. Higher education institutions are required to begin providing notifications by July 1, 2018.

* **Senate Bill 5100**, sponsored by Senator Barbara Bailey, requires higher education institutions to take reasonable steps to ensure that each incoming student participates in a financial education workshop. The scope of the workshop must include, but is not limited to information that is currently provided to State Need Grant recipients, as well as recommendations by the Financial Education Public-Private Partnership. Institutions are encouraged to present these workshops during student orientation or as early as possible in the academic year.

* **Senate Bill 5778**, sponsored by Senator Lynda Wilson, modifies the definition of “resident student” to include a student who is entitled to transferred federal post-9/11 G.I. Bill benefits based on the student’s relationship as a spouse, former spouse, or child to an individual who is on active duty in the uniformed services. This bill also removes certain requirements regarding when a student entitled to the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship may qualify as a resident student for in-state tuition purposes.

* **Senate Bill 5826**, sponsored by Senator Steve Hobbs, modifies the definition of “eligible veteran or National Guard member” used for the purpose of tuition waivers to include military, Navy, or National Guard members who served in active federal service in support of those serving on foreign soil or in international waters, without requiring the support service to have been provided in another location.

* **Senate Bill 5883**, sponsored by Senator John Braun, makes operating appropriations for the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 fiscal biennia. Section 603 of the operating budget requires each institution of higher education to employ at least one full-time licensed mental health counselor with experience working with active members of the military or military veterans to work with student, faculty, and staff veterans and their families. This enactment is similar to **Senate Bill 5525** and **House Bill 1737**, although those bills did not pass through the Legislature.

**Human Resources and Employee Protections**

* **House Bill 1521**, sponsored by Representative Laurie Dolan, specifies that six months of continuous employment are not required for a state employee to take vacation leave, but are
required for a state employee to be paid for vacation leave upon termination and provides for vacation leave in hours instead of working days.

* **House Bill 1802**, sponsored by Representative Kristine Reeves, establishes the Veterans’ In-State Service Shared Leave Pool and allows state employees to donate leave to be used as shared leave for state veteran employees or their spouses caring for them. Under the leave sharing program, agency heads can permit employees to receive shared leave if the employee is a veteran or active member of uniformed service and is attending medical appointments for a service-related injury, or a spouse of a veteran or active member of uniformed service that requires assistance while attending appointments for a service-related injury or disability.

**Senate Bill 5374**, sponsored by Senator Randi Becker, modifies state whistleblower protections by including protection for reporting on prohibited ex-parte communication between a state employee and a presiding officer or judge in a matter involving the employee’s agency. This legislation also ensures that the confidentiality of an employee who reports improper governmental conduct is protected regardless of whether an investigation is initiated.

* **Senate Bill 5969**, sponsored by Senator Karen Keiser, requires the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to maintain a website to post copies of all collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) that require funding by the Legislature. OFM must post a searchable copy of tentative CBAs to the website and post a detailed summary of each CBA. In regards to Western and other institutions of higher educations that negotiate CBAs, each institution must provide OFM with a searchable version of agreed-to CBAs within 40 days of submitting the agreements to OFM, submit revisions and modifications to OFM within ten days of the agreement being signed by both parties, and submit a summary of each agreement to OFM by December 10 of the year in which a master agreement is negotiated or within fifteen days of a contract revision. This bill also adds a nonvoting member representing OFM to the Joint Committee on Employment Relations, which consists of eight legislators and consults with the Governor regarding collective bargaining issues, and requires the Governor or a designee to convene at least six meetings of the Committee each year.

* **Senate Bill 5975**, sponsored by Senator Joe Fain, creates and implements a paid family and medical leave insurance program, funded by premiums paid by employers and employees and administered by the Employment Security Department. Under the new program, paid family leave benefits are provided when an employee is bonding after the birth or adoption of a child, because of a family member's serious health condition, or for a military exigency. Employees are eligible for family and medical leave benefits after working for at least 820 hours in employment, and the program offers eligible employees 12 weeks to 16 weeks off beginning in 2020. Employee benefit amounts are based upon a percentage of the individual's average weekly wage. The maximum weekly benefit amount is $1,000 and is adjusted annually to 90 percent of the average weekly wage in the state. With this measure, Washington became the fifth state in the country to enact a paid family leave program.

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Public Records and Information Technology

* **House Bill 1594**, sponsored by Representative Joan McBride, requires all agencies to maintain a log of public records requests submitted and processed. Any agency with at least $100,000 in annual staff and legal costs associated with fulfilling public records requests must report to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) by July 1 on certain metrics measured over the preceding year.

* **House Bill 1595**, sponsored by Representative Terry Nealey, authorizes state agencies to charge for providing copies of electronically produced public records, and permits agencies to deny frequent automatically generated (“bot”) requests for public records that would interfere with other essential functions of the agency. The bill also provides that a public records request for all or substantially all agency records is not a valid request under the Public Records Act.

**House Bill 1829**, sponsored by Representative Zack Hudgins, modifies exemptions under the Public Records Act so that information regarding public and private computer and telecommunications networks are exempt. Such information includes security passwords, access codes, recovery plans, risk assessments, and other information that, if released, may increase risk to agency security, information technology infrastructure, or assets.

**Senate Bill 5207**, sponsored by Senator Patty Kuderer, exempts Global Positioning System (GPS) data from public disclosure to the extent that it indicates the residence of the public employee or volunteer using the global positioning system device.

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

**House Bill 1109**, sponsored by Representative Tina Orwall, creates the Washington Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Pilot Project to fund the creation of locally-based multidisciplinary community response teams to conduct cold case investigations tied to previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits. HB 1109 also requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission to incorporate into existing training and develop new training with a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach.

**Senate Bill 5618**, sponsored by Senator Jeannie Darneille, removes the requirement that police officers arrest sixteen and seventeen year olds for domestic violence assault that occurred in the last four hours when the arrest is requested by a parent or guardian. SB 5618 also removes the requirement that a juvenile detention facility must book into detention any person under age eighteen brought to that detention facility pursuant to a domestic violence assault arrest.

**Senate Bill 5764**, sponsored by Senator Lisa Wellman, adopts a recommendation regarding public records from the Campus Sexual Violence Taskforce, which was established during the 2015 legislative session and included participation from Dr. Sue Guenter-Schlesinger, WWU Vice Provost for Equal Opportunity and Employment Diversity. SB 5764 incorporates the recommendation to ensure that survivor communications with, and records maintained by,
campus-affiliated advocates are confidential and exempt from the Public Records Act, except under certain circumstances. A survivor is any student faculty, staff, or administrator at a public institution of higher educations that believes they were a victim of a sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking.

Teacher Preparation

**House Bill 1115**, sponsored by Representative Steve Bergquist, creates a nine-member Paraeducator Board to establish requirements and policies regarding paraeducators and to address related issues. The Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) will administer the Paraeducator Board. This bill also establishes a general paraeducator certificate, creates optional paraeducator subject matter certificates in various subjects, requires teacher preparation programs to include content on working with paraeducators, and expands scholarship eligibility for paraeducators to become teachers.

**House Bill 1341**, sponsored by Representative Steve Bergquist, relates to professional certification for teachers and school administrators and makes professional certification optional by allowing teachers and principals to renew their residency certificates in five-year intervals by completing 100-clock hours. HB 1341 also establishes the Professional Educator Collaborative (which includes teacher prep programs) to review the integration of, and smooth the transitions between, educator certificates, and to make recommendations on how to improve and strengthen the pathways that lead to highly-effective educators at each level of the public school system.

**House Bill 1445**, sponsored by Representative Lillian Ortiz-Self, directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to develop and administer a K-12 grant program to grow capacity for high quality dual language programs in the common schools and state-tribal compact schools. The legislation specifies that the OSPI is to provide assistance to school districts establishing or expanding dual language programs, and directs the Professional Educator Standards Board to administer a bilingual educator initiative to recruit, prepare, and mentor bilingual high school students to become future bilingual teachers and counselors. HB 1445 also requires the Department of Early Learning to work with community partners to support outreach and education for parents and families around the benefits of native language development and retention, as well as the benefits of dual language learning. A source of inspiration for the bill is WWU’s partnership with Skagit Valley College, embodied in the “Maestros para el Pueblo” initiative.

**House Bill 1654**, sponsored by Representative Bob McCaslin, repeals the statute describing in detail each alternative route program for teacher certification, and instead provides the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) with rulemaking authority with respect to the design of alternative route programs, and specifies expected outcomes for the program. HB 1654 also requires a report from the PESB with respect to the alternative route programs beginning December 1, 2017, and every two years thereafter, and specifies the data that the report must include.

* Bill likely requires WWU action
* **House Bill 1741**, sponsored by Representative Vandana Slatter, requires state-approved educator preparation programs to collect, provide data to, and enter into data-sharing agreements with the Education Research and Data Center (ERDC). HB 1741 also requires the ERDC to hold, analyze, and make the data on educator preparation available for research and monitoring by the Professional Educator Standards Board, state-approved educator preparation programs, and other researchers with appropriate data-sharing agreements.

**Senate Bill 5662**, sponsored by Senator Hans Zeiger, authorizes a designee of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to serve in place of the Superintendent on the state’s Professional Educator Standards Board.

**Workforce Training and Community and Technical Colleges**

**House Bill 1130**, sponsored by Representative Larry Haler, repeals the expiration date of the Washington Customized Employment Training Program. The program is administered by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and awards training allowances to eligible employers that contract with qualified community and technical colleges or private vocational schools to provide customized training to individuals.

**House Bill 1375**, sponsored by Representative Luanne Van Werven, requires community and technical colleges to provide students with information during registration, for courses where faculty members have been assigned, about the cost of textbooks and course materials and whether courses use open educational resources. This bill also requires community and technical colleges to report on the percentage of classes, and which courses, provide the costs of textbooks and course materials during registration.

**Senate Bill 5069**, sponsored by Senator Maureen Walsh, permits the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to authorize any board of trustees within the SBCTC system to conduct associate degree education and training of incarcerated adults through new or expanded partnerships with the Washington State Department of Corrections. This legislation directs priority for participation in associate degree programs to be provided to inmates that are within five years of release, do not already have a postsecondary degree, and whose individual reentry plans include participation in an associate workforce degree program.

**Senate Bill 5285**, sponsored by Senator Lynda Wilson, requires the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board to conduct a workforce assessment to determine projected employment and hiring demands for skilled mid-level workers in the agriculture, natural resources, outdoor recreation, and environment sectors.

**Senate Bill 5640**, sponsored by Senator Steve Conway, permits students who complete their associate degrees at a technical college to be awarded their high school diplomas.

**Senate Bill 5924**, sponsored by Senator Joe Fain, directs the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to exchange State Trust Land with Community and Technical College Forest Reserve land.

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(Reserve land) and directs the DNR to transfer ownership of the exchanged Reserve land to the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. The affected colleges are Highline, Green River, Grays Harbor, and South Seattle.

**Additional Legislation**

**House Bill 1107**, sponsored by Representative Larry Haler, strikes the term “branch” from state statute referencing the satellite campuses of public institutions of higher education. Satellite campuses previously identified as “branch campuses” in statute include UW-Tacoma, UW-Bothell, WSU-Tri-Cities, WSU-Vancouver, and WSU-Spokane.

**House Bill 2163**, sponsored by Representative Timm Ormsby, relates to state taxes. Specifically, the bill repeals the bottled water retail sales tax preference, repeals the state tax preference for self-produced fuels, requires marketplace facilitators, referrers, and their sellers to collect and remit sales or use tax, or comply with notice and reporting requirements. HB 2163 also modifies the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Mitigation Account and payments and expands the economic nexus for the Business and Occupation (B&O) tax.

**House Bill 2213**, sponsored by Representative Norma Smith, modifies provisions regulating state agency collection, use, and retention of biometric identifiers.

**House Bill 2224**, sponsored by Representative Drew MacEwen, provides additional flexibility in high school graduation requirements during the transition to a federal every student succeeds act-compliant accountability system.

**Senate Bill 5107**, sponsored by Senator Andy Billig, adds institutions of higher education, school districts, and nonprofits as organizations that may contribute funds to the Early Start Account in order to expand access and eligibility in the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).

**Senate Bill 5372**, sponsored by Senator Randi Becker, requires state agencies receiving a State Auditor's Office post-audit finding of noncompliance with state law to submit a remediation plan to the Governor, relevant legislative committees, and other entities. SB 5372 also requires the Auditor’s Office to notify the Governor, relevant legislative committees, and other entities if substantial progress in remediation is not made at the subsequent audit, and allows specified legislative committees to refer a failure to make substantial progress in remediation to the Attorney General.

**Senate Resolution 8657**, sponsored by Senator Kevin Ranker, honored the accomplishments of Western’s Women’s Soccer team. The team achieved an undefeated record and won the 2016 NCAA Division II National Championship, marking the tenth national championship in WWU history. Players and coaches were in attendance in Olympia on April 20 as the resolution recognizing the team was read into the record and senators expressed congratulatory remarks.

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Looking ahead to the 2018 Legislative Session

The 2018 Legislative Session will convene January 8, 2018. During the 60-day 2018 Session, the Legislature will consider supplemental changes to the 2017-19 biennial budget and policy bills that make their way through legislative committees. Western will continue to work with the Legislature regarding policy and budget proposals to build on the university’s strengths and serve the needs of the state.

Appendix: WWU’s 2017 Operating and Capital Budget Priorities

* Bill likely requires WWU action
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
2017 Legislative Priorities

As a publicly purposed university, Western’s mission is to serve the people of the state of Washington. Western, along with Washington’s other colleges and universities, strongly supports “Washington Competes,” a proposal to maintain the state’s competitive edge by bolstering degree production, student success and educational quality.

Support the Success of All Western Students ($5.8 million)
Western requests funding to strengthen core support programs that help ensure student success and provide an equitable, inclusive learning environment.

Student Success and Achievement ($3.4 million)
Significant increases in student demand have limited Western’s ability to offer key support services such as academic advising, tutoring, mental health services and support for students with disabilities. Specifically, Western will invest in:

- Proactive Advising, Tutoring and Peer Mentoring
- Mental Health Support
- Support Services for Students with Disabilities
- Destination Graduation: College Completion for Returning Adults
- Targeted Support for Entry-Level Math Courses

Enhancing Equity, Inclusion and Diversity ($2.4 million)
Western also requests funding to increase support staff for the Multicultural and Ethnic Student Center and to increase the number of student peer mentors for underrepresented students, following WWU’s successful Compass 2 Campus program.

Reduce Bottlenecks in STEM Degree Programs ($2.7 million)
Western requests $2.7 million per biennium to address bottlenecks in STEM degree programs. This plan will increase capacity in entry-level courses in Math, Physics and Chemistry that are required for STEM majors, and accommodate an additional 100 STEM students per year. This investment will reduce time to degree by an average of two academic quarters—saving students and families thousands in tuition costs.

Address the State’s Teacher Shortage ($6.4 million)
Western requests $6.4 million per biennium to address the state’s teacher shortage by preparing an additional 225 teachers each year in the areas of greatest need: STEM Secondary Education, Special Education, Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education. These new enrollments would be distributed across Western’s existing locations in Bellingham, Everett and Seattle. Western’s proposal also includes a retention plan for beginning teachers in the region, as well as a “second-chance” option to reintroduce and support teachers who are returning to the profession.

Marine, Coastal and Watershed Sciences Degree Program ($2.9 million and $1.2 million in one-time costs)
Western requests funding to establish a new interdisciplinary STEM degree program designed to meet student and employer demand and help address Washington’s emerging challenges associated with climate change, resource management, and the growing fields of coastal science and policy. The focus of the Marine, Coastal, and Watershed Sciences program would be unique in its coastal sea-and-land emphasis, which requires a multidisciplinary approach to solving problems arising in coastal and estuary pollution, such as erosion, flooding, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, ocean acidification, sustainable energy, and changing hydrologic cycles. The new degree program would leverage Western’s existing areas of expertise in oceanographic, aquatic, and environmental sciences, and expand student access to Western’s existing Shannon Point Marine Center in Anacortes.
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
2017 Capital Project Priorities

Priority #1: Sciences Building Pre-design/Design ($7.24 million)
This project will address the growing interest in STEM degrees at Western, which have more than doubled since 2005, and help accommodate space limitations across a broad range of science disciplines. The university can no longer continue to perform at current levels without new space devoted to science instruction. With funding, Western will revisit the current Sciences Building pre-design report and proceed with the design phase of the project in order to ensure that the project is "shovel ready" for a construction phase in the 2019-21 biennium. These studies will allow Western to measure the feasibility of a new interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary STEM facility instead of an addition to Western’s existing structures and to assess how to best serve the growth in STEM demand and the evolving needs of students to become career-ready. This request includes $500 thousand in pre-design costs and $6.74 million in design costs.

Priority #2: Classroom and Lab Upgrades ($6.65 million) Renovate 27 classrooms and labs in 7 university buildings to meet current program needs and address Western’s surge in STEM and other high-demand course enrollments.

Priority #3: Access Control/Security Upgrades ($7.2 million) Provide centralized lock-down capability, expand electronic control to all exterior doors of major academic buildings and enable full functionality of Western’s fire alarm system.

Priority #4: Disability Resource Services at Haggard Hall ($2.7 million) Move the Disability Resource Services office from the Old Main administrative building to Western’s library, located at the center of campus.

Other Capital Priorities:

- **Support Services Facility – Phase 1 ($9.95 million):** Create new space for administrative functions that do not require being located on campus, where space is extremely limited.
- **Elevator Preservation Safety/ADA Upgrades ($6.7 million):** Bring 29 of Western’s oldest and least safe elevators up to code and meet ADA requirements.
- **Waterfront Land Acquisition ($4.5 million):** Purchase six acres to address campus capacity constraints and enable community partnerships.
- **Southcentral Campus Roadway Revisions ($2 million):** Create a safer area for pedestrians and bicyclists coming to campus from the south.
- **Heating System, Carbon Reduction and Energy Efficiency Improvements Pre-design ($415,000):** Explore the feasibility of adopting a hot water distribution system for central campus heat, a project that may save costs and reduce energy consumption.