WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
OperatingBudget Request Summary

Student Success ($2.4 million)
Western Washington University has a proven track record in the retention and graduation of our students and as a result is well positioned to serve the incoming first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented students who are the state’s future. Western is requesting an investment that is proven to work and is committed to measuring the success of these students. At the core of Western’s concerns and priorities is the ability to provide quality academic advising, tutoring and retention services – services that are now overwhelmed by the increased demand. Specifically, Western intends to invest in:

- Student Advising, Outreach and Mentoring
- Academic Tutoring Support
- Mental Health Support
- disAbility Support for Students
- Destination Graduation: College completion for returning adults

Critical Compensation Adjustments ($13.1 million)
Higher education is a mission-driven and talent-based enterprise competing in a national marketplace. Consequently, the ability to fulfill our mission to provide the highest quality instruction, research and services to students and other stakeholders requires competitive compensation to attract and retain the diverse talent necessary to maintain Western’s excellence. Competitive compensation remains a top priority to meet our obligations to effectively serve Washington students. This request includes funding an amount equivalent to a 4 percent per year increase for all employees.

Vehicle Engineering ($1.3 million)
This interdisciplinary engineering program would be the first in the state of Washington and would prepare graduates for critical state industries such as aerospace, automotive, commercial trucking, marine and the supporting composites industry. The proposal builds upon Western’s strengths in Manufacturing Engineering, Plastics and Composites Engineering, and Electrical Engineering, as well as Western’s highly successful Vehicle Research Institute and Industrial Technology-Vehicle Design program. The Vehicle Engineering Program would increase the number of accredited engineering graduates at Western by 30 percent. It has the unanimous support of the Industrial Advisory Committee of the Industrial Technology-Vehicle Design program.

Engineering Geology ($1.2 million)
These new Engineering Geology BS and MS programs would be the first in the state of Washington and would address state and national priorities to protect people and property from geological hazards. The programs will include significant components of policy, planning and service to work with local, state and regional agencies on issues related to engineering geology.

Clinical Doctorate in Audiology ($1.4 million)
As of 2007 the entry-level degree in audiology has been a clinical doctorate, so in 2005 Western placed most of the graduate-level audiology curriculum in moratorium. This proposal is for a clinical doctorate program in audiology that meets the 2014 Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. Western’s clinical doctorate program in audiology would help meet student demand by producing 12 highly qualified audiologists per year, matching the number of audiologists produced by the University of Washington, and doubling the number of graduates in the state.

LEARN MORE:
Becca Kenna-Schenk • Director of Government Relations
becca.kenna-schenk@wwu.edu • (360) 951-3733

Joe Timmons • Assistant Director
joe.timmons@wwu.edu • (206) 351-3756