

WSU 2016 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Washington State University is the State of Washington's land-grant research university. Through its four campuses and the online global campus, four research centers and WSU extension, and a new and growing presence in Everett WSU is in all 39 counties where it delivers a public mission of research, education, and core services that benefit Washingtonians in their communities every day. As a Tier One federal research university, rated in the top 11% of research institutions nationally, WSU's mission is to drive practical research and education into our communities to support and grow the state's economy.

WSU's 2016 federal agenda is committed to supporting policies, funding, and sponsor collaboration and partnership that will help the University deliver translational research and quality undergraduate and graduate education in support of:

- Driving long-term economic growth for the Pacific Northwest by collaborating with research sponsors and providing a return on investment from our federal partners
- Existing and new industries and workforce needs
- Services for the changing face of Washington's student body

WSU BY THE NUMBERS

RESEARCH

- One of 108 preeminent universities ranked as a Tier 1 Research University signifying "very high research activity" by the Carnegie Foundation for Advancement Teaching.
- Ranks in the top 11% of public universities for research funding, and reported \$326.4 million in research expenditures (FY 2014)
- Delivered \$3.4 billion in economic impact to the state of Washington (FY 2014)
- Created 13 private sector start up companies and 192 cumulative invention disclosures (FY 2014)
- Six federal sponsors who awarded \$10 million or more in research grants to WSU: Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Health & Human Services, Nat. Science Foundation, Dept. of Energy, Dept. of Education, and Dept. of Defense (FY 2014)
- Identified five trans-disciplinary research themes capturing research expertise that can help solve complex societal challenges:
 - » Sustaining Health: the uncompromising pursuit of healthier people and communities
 - » Sustaining Resources: food, energy, and water
 - » Advancing Opportunity and Equity
 - » Improving Quality of Life through Smart Systems
 - » Fundamental research in support of National Security

EDUCATION

- Enrollment: 27,062 full time equivalents
- Tuition and fees: \$11,967 for resident undergraduate
- Average undergraduate debt for those with debt: \$25,809
- 60.3 percent of undergraduates graduate with debt
- 21.4 percent of undergraduates pay no tuition
- 42.9 percent of undergraduates pay full tuition
- 85.5 percent of undergraduates are Washington residents
- 27.8 percent are students of color including 35.7 percent of freshmen
- 35 percent of undergraduates are Pell Grant eligible
- 41.1 percent of freshmen are first generation students
- 75.6 percent of transfer applicants are offered admission
- Average time to degree: 4.19 years for first-time full-time freshmen
- One of 108 preeminent universities ranked as a Tier 1 Research University by the Carnegie Foundation for Advancement Teaching
- Ranked in the top 11 percent of public universities for research activity in FY14
- Delivered \$3.4 billion in economic impact to the state of Washington in FY14
- Created 13 private sector start-up companies and 192 cumulative invention disclosures in FY14

2016 Research Priorities for Federal Engagement

INVEST IN SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE EFFORTS AS OUTLINED IN THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT BACTERIA.

The Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health (“Allen School”) provides innovative solutions through research, education, global outreach and application of disease control through the animal and human interaction. One of the many challenges motivating the Allen School’s vision is eliminating antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Antibiotic resistance is a complex national and international problem which has recently garnered the highest level of attention with the President’s National Strategy, in part due to CDC reporting that approximately two million illnesses and 23,000 deaths are caused annually by antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the United States alone.

WSU’s Allen School is engaged in this issue, and in collaboration with the Federal Government and the state’s Congressional Delegation supports funding in fiscal year 2017 for surveillance and science operations that help implement activities consistent with the federal goals outlined in the President’s National Strategy. This includes goals to strengthen national One-Health surveillance efforts to combat resistance and improve international collaboration, and increase capacities for antibiotic resistance prevention, surveillance, control, and antibiotic research and development.

Additionally, WSU is positioning itself as the leader of a new Washington State Global Health Consortium. The consortium, initially made up of other higher education institutions, thought leaders and global health groups will work collectively to positively impact federal policies addressing the global health risks associated with antibiotic resistance. The group will also cultivate support from key members of the Washington Congressional delegation to create a federal program supporting the consortium’s expertise in this area.

INVEST IN IMPROVING WATER QUALITY, ENHANCING AQUATIC HABITAT RESILIENCY, AND SUPPORTING SALMON AND AQUATIC SPECIES HEALTH IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

WSU’s Puyallup Research and Extension Center is a leader in storm water research and home to the Washington Stormwater Center (WSC). The WSC is funded through the State Department of Ecology with grant funds going directly to the City of Puyallup and its two primary associates: Washington State University and the University of Washington.

Since its inception in 2009, the WSC has secured \$7.5 million in total federal grant funding. WSU will work to build on the legacy of strong federal partnerships to assist entities like the WSC in attracting new

sources of funding to help restore and protect our nation’s public water resources, including vital estuaries.

Continued research is needed given the continued human population growth in the greater Puget Sound region, and addressing the sometimes competing demands for food production, water resources, and energy production that can impact estuary ecosystems, aquatic health, and communities. Through collaborative efforts like the WSC, we will help support opportunities to advance community partnerships to meet the needs of protecting the Puget Sound, strengthening community engagement and tackling translational research-based solutions and evaluating policy options to address local issues.

To further address the nexus between managing resources and addressing federal and state laws and tribal treaties, we support WSU Puyallup Research & Extension Center being a part of a regional Center of Excellence on effective implementation of federal environmental law. This includes further development and promotion of the use of innovative technology and best management practices (BMPs) to mitigate the harmful impacts of polluted non-point source stormwater on water quality and its deleterious effects on Endangered Species Act-listed aquatic species.

WSU will work with the Congressional Delegation to find the appropriate legislative vehicle to move this concept forward. In addition, we will work with appropriate federal agencies to ensure that WSU’s stormwater program receives official federal government recognition as a center of excellence and positions itself for eligibility for receipt of federal funds.

INVEST IN “SMART GRID” TECHNOLOGY AND INCREASE RESEARCH FUNDING FOR FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

Smart Grid refers to a class of technology used to bring utility electricity delivery systems into the 21st century, including computer-based remote control and automation. Given the importance of the electric grid to every facet of American life, grid modernization is essential to ensure sustainable and secure energy supply for our nation, and is a top federal priority.

The Department of Energy (DOE), through the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE), leads the Administration’s efforts on grid modernization and enhance the security around the grid. WSU will collaborate with its Congressional Delegation and other federal, higher education, and industry partners to continue to support fully funding the DOE’s Office of Electricity and Energy Reliability to support the ongoing development of the region’s first Smart Grid demonstration project in Pullman.

EXPAND COLLABORATION BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION AND WSU IN PROJECTS TO ADVANCE NATIONAL SECURITY

The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) is supporting the establishment of the Dynamic Compression Sector (DCS) at the Advanced Photon Source (APS), located at Argonne National Laboratory. This first-of-a-kind experimental facility is engaging a broad scientific user community in the field of dynamic compression science and address a core need for the DOE/NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship Mission. It is a visionary undertaking that integrates expertise across the DOE to address long standing scientific challenges while closing a key capability gap for understanding materials at extreme conditions.

WSU is leading a consortium of key institutions (e.g. NNSA National Laboratories, Department of Defense Laboratories, and national and international academic institutions) to ensure that the DCS facility, infrastructure, and research activities achieve the Department's national security mission, including discovery class scientific breakthroughs and the training of the next-generation of scientists. The development and operations of DCS will be an integral element of the DOE/NNSA's Stewardship Science Academic Program (SSAP). This national and international user facility is expected to dramatically increase scientific innovation and productivity in the field of dynamic compression science, and engage a very broad range of scientists throughout the world. The DCS located at Argonne National Lab is a unique national resource for scientific collaborations and will provide excellent national and international visibility to WSU.

WSU Education Priorities: Ensuring college access, affordability, and safety

WSU, as the state's land grant university, serves the people of Washington State by providing educational experiences that are open, accessible, and affordable as a part of our service to all people in Washington.

WSU is facing a permanently higher percentage of students with some level of financial need growing from 58 percent in 2009 to 79 percent of its student population receiving financial aid in 2014; an increase of nearly 6,000 of students in a five-year period. At WSU, more than \$280 million in various forms of financial aid is provided to nearly 23,000 undergraduate students and upon graduation, more than 58 percent of students graduate with some loan debt to repay.

The federal government's continued partnership and commitment in providing financial aid dollars to students is an essential element of ensuring an educated populace in this country and WSU meeting its educational and service mission.

EXTEND THE TEACHING HEALTH CENTER GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM WITH ADEQUATE FUNDING TO TRAIN RESIDENTS

WSU Spokane and the Elson S. Floyd College of Medical Science are partnering with Providence Health Care and Empire Health Foundation to support expanding graduate medical education slots through the permanent reauthorization of the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education program, which is included in the Affordable Care Act.

WSU is building a \$16 million clinic on its health sciences campus in Spokane to house the Spokane Teaching Health Center (STHC) residents as well as students on its inter-professional, multi-institutional campus. The residents who provide clinical services to community members will train students. The campus expansion and will provide health services to some of the most underserved people in the state.

Extension of the THC program and its continued funding will help meet the needs of the medically underserved in the Pacific Northwest in three ways:

- Address the growth of newly insured patients
- Address the aging physician workforce and help provide the 4,200 new physicians needed to close the gap in the state's health care needs
- Address the regional shortage of residency positions in eastern Washington and encourage more doctors to provide care in an underserved area of the state

MAINTAIN THE FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN PROGRAM

The institutional flexibility of the Perkins Loan Program, serving the nation since 1958, allows WSU to tailor aid based on a variety of changing factors throughout the year. In 2014, more than 3,700 WSU students received \$5.17 million in financial support from the Perkins Loan Program.

The elimination of the Perkins Loan Program will result in enrollment losses of our lowest income students. Currently at WSU, one in

five parents lack the credit to access the Federal Parent Loan. This number will continue to grow as the Department of Education further tightens the creditworthiness standards. WSU does not have equivalent institutional resources to offset funding to these families who are denied the Federal Parent Loan. This has caused students to become more dependent on private lending market to address their financial needs.

EXTEND AND REAUTHORIZE THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM IN ITS CURRENT FUNDING STRUCTURE, AND PROVIDE FLEXIBLE USAGE FOR YEAR ROUND ENROLLMENT.

The Federal Pell Grant Program is the largest federal source of college aid, helping provide the access and affordability that WSU strives to offer its more than 23,000 undergraduate students on five campuses across the state of Washington and through its online Global campus.

The Federal Pell Grant program provides need-based grants to financially disadvantaged students from diverse backgrounds. Currently, 35.8 percent of enrolled students (10,382) at WSU are Pell Grant eligible. Maintaining the total maximum Pell Grant yearly award at \$5,775 per student is critical in supporting student success and maintaining access to higher education for thousands of students across Washington State. This will provide our students the opportunity to attain the education and experience required to meet our nation's workforce demands.

Pell Grants provide stable, consistent funding for our high need and non-traditional students (i.e. delayed enrollment into postsecondary education; attends college part-time; works full time; is financially independent for financial aid purposes; has dependents other than a spouse; is a single parent).

IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE CAMPUS POLICIES, FUND SAFETY PROGRAMS, REDUCE REGULATORY CONFLICT TO ADDRESS CAMPUS SAFETY AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

WSU is committed to enhancing the safety of the students, faculty, staff, and visitors. As part of this commitment, the university has prepared and made available, university policies, procedures, statistics and information relating to campus safety, emergency management and the health and welfare of the campus community. This includes student standards and conduct policies, mental health and counseling services, safety and security policies/procedures for University housing, harassment policies, and sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking policies.

Sexual violence, in particular, requires a redoubling of effort in order to reduce the incidences on college campuses. At WSU, student survey data produced by the National College Health Assessment from the 2012-2013 school year indicates that nearly 13 percent of

undergraduate students (17 percent of females and 6 percent of males) had experienced some form of interpersonal violence (sexual assault, dating violence, stalking) in the previous 12 months. This is unacceptable.

To increase campus safety, WSU is engaged in focused effort across four main areas to further improve our efforts to reduce sexual violence, including: 1) improved education and communication regarding acceptable standards and conduct, 2) increased focus on prevention and intervention, 3) an enhanced reporting and response infrastructure that will provide victims with safe and reliable options for ensuring their needs are met, and 4) deeper collaboration with area non-profits and law enforcement to ensure the university is engaging in best practices in confronting and reducing sexual violence on our campuses.

WSU recognizes that the best way to increase safety on our campuses is to engage directly with our students and community stakeholders in this process. Our study body has created a program called "It's on Cougs" led by students to encourage bystander intervention. The program includes trainings, workshops, and social media campaigns around ways to engage in campus safety.

WSU will continue to collaborate with our federal delegation to ensure that our efforts are included in any legislative vehicle that is considered. In addition, WSU will work with the delegation to lay out the steps we have taken to successfully be removed from the Department of Education's list of Higher Education with open Title IV Sexual Violence Investigations.

WSU will continue to work with policy makers so that higher education institutions can ensure both effective and practical implementation of sexual assault policies on campus. This includes providing the Department of Education the resources necessary to implement the programs and streamline conflicting regulations including the Violence Against Women Act, Clery Act and Title IX of the Higher Education Act.