MEMO TO: Dr. Thomas Schuman, Faculty Senate President Pro Tempore  
FROM: Graduate Student Funding Policy Committee  
DATE: May 2, 2016  
SUBJECT: Final Recommendation

Dear Dr. Shuman:

The Graduate Student Funding Policy Committee has met several times to discuss this issue. In addition, the Committee has met several times with Walter Branson, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, as well as Chancellor Schrader, the Graduate Council, and the Faculty Senate. Given our discussions the committee is recommending the following graduate student funding proposal be implemented starting in the Summer 2016 semester:

1) **Tuition and Fees** The university will remit all tuition and fees for all current and future PhD students on appointments (i.e., GRA, GTA, GA) of 37.5% Full Time Equivalent (FTE) or greater.

2) **Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship (CDF)** The university will provide six (6) new CDFs in the amount of $10,000/year starting in Fiscal Year 2017. These fellowships will be available for highly qualified domestic PhD students supported by their department with a 50% FTE appointment or greater (any combination of GRA/GTA/GA). At least half of these fellowships will be given to underrepresented students.

3) **PhD Recruitment** The university will provide $50,000/year to match departments, faculty, and research centers 1:1 to recruit PhD students (e.g., bringing students to campus, visiting other universities, developing and distributing advertising materials).

The **vision** of this proposed plan is to create the mechanisms by which we can **retain** and **recruit** outstanding PhD students (Strategic Plan Lever 4.5). Coupling university funds with existing grant and contract funds, beginning in Summer 2016 all current PhD students with a 37.5% or greater FTE appointments will be guaranteed to be funded at competitive levels, helping to **retain** them and further develop a culture of excellence in research, scholarship, and creativity on this campus (Strategic Plan Lever 2.3). Coupling this level of funding with CDFs, we will be in a much improved position to **recruit** the best students. As can be seen in Table 1 below, this program is more than financially sustainable using the SI funding obtained in Fall 2014. It is believed that the outcomes of implementing the proposed plan will substantially enhance the university’s reputation and raise national visibility (Strategic Plan Lever 2).
Table 1: Funding and Costs for FY17-23 for Graduate Student Funding Proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY17</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY22</th>
<th>FY23</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
<td>Fall 2017</td>
<td>Fall 2018</td>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Funds(^1)</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant and Contract Funds(^2)</td>
<td>$1,195,621</td>
<td>$797,081</td>
<td>$398,540</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$4,931,683</td>
<td>$4,533,143</td>
<td>$4,134,602</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
<td>$3,736,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing Costs(^3)</td>
<td>$1,761,193</td>
<td>$1,343,300</td>
<td>$1,172,878</td>
<td>$797,612</td>
<td>$101,182</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Costs(^4)</td>
<td>$2,580,065</td>
<td>$2,836,475</td>
<td>$3,029,004</td>
<td>$3,137,984</td>
<td>$3,266,606</td>
<td>$3,396,109</td>
<td>$3,409,107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$4,341,258</td>
<td>$4,179,775</td>
<td>$4,201,882</td>
<td>$3,935,596</td>
<td>$3,367,788</td>
<td>$3,396,109</td>
<td>$3,409,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>$590,425</td>
<td>$353,368</td>
<td>($67,279)</td>
<td>($199,534)</td>
<td>$368,274</td>
<td>$339,953</td>
<td>$326,955</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) SI funds and funds from previous Chancellor’s Fellowship (CF) program  
\(^2\) tuition and fees paid from existing grants and contracts  
\(^3\) current CDF program and previous CF program  
\(^4\) new CDF program, recruiting funds, five staff positions, tuition, and fees

Sincerely,
Dr. Robert G. Landers, Professor of Mechanical Engineering  
Chair, Graduate Student Funding Policy Committee

cc:  Dr. Al-Dahhan, Chair of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering  
Dr. Beetner, Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dr. Burken, Interim Chair of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering  
Dr. Clark, Chair of Mathematics and Statistics  
Dr. Das, Chair of Computer Science  
Dr. Drallmeier, Chair of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
Dr. Flori, Interim Chair of Mining and Nuclear Engineering  
Dr. Fogg, Chair of History and Political Science  
Dr. Gelles, Chair of Economics  
Dr. Huang, Interim Chair of Biological Sciences  
Dr. Long, Interim Chair of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering  
Dr. Merfield-Langston, Interim Chair of Arts, Languages, and Philosophy  
Dr. Murray, Interim Chair of Psychological Science  
Dr. Oboh-Ikuenobe, Interim Chair of Geosciences and Geological and Petroleum Engineering  
Dr. O’Keefe, Chair of Materials Science and Engineering  
Dr. Siau, Chair of Business and Information Technology  
Dr. Swenson, Chair of English and Technical Communications  
Dr. Waddill, Chair of Physics  
Dr. Whitefield, Chair of Chemistry