



**MEMO TO:** Dr. Thomas Shuman, 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.**

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

<sup>1</sup> SI funds and funds from previous Chancellor’s Fellowship (CF) program

<sup>2</sup> tuition and fees paid from existing grants and contracts

<sup>3</sup> current CDF program and previous CF program

<sup>4</sup> new CDF program, recruiting funds, five staff positions, tuition, and fees



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. Merfeld-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