

## Faculty Senate Budget Resolution

Since a budget reduction has been mandated by the state for the 1992-93 fiscal year and since an even larger reduction may be necessary, the Senate proposes the following guidelines for the new budget:

1. That the funds required for increased fixed expenses as well as the decrease from the current budget required by the state be taken from areas which do not impinge directly on the classroom or library.

Rationale: The focus on instruction is the fundamental commitment in *Western XXI*. The first of the "fundamental values" cited is that "the University maintains an uncompromising commitment to providing high-quality undergraduate education through on-going assessment and improvement of all programs in this fundamental instructional area" (p.1). All other goals cited by *Western XXI* serve this fundamental goal: "Inasmuch as the promotion of learning is the main reason for the University's existence, teaching must be viewed as its central mission" (p. 7). "First and last, Western Kentucky University is a center of excellence in teaching and learning. The primary mission, the institution's reason for existence, will broadly inform the University's priorities and imperatives" (p. 11).

2. That there be no cuts in areas which directly affect the classroom.

Clarification: It is recognized that because of changes in demand, there may be need for shifting some positions from one department or college to another.

Rationale: In the past seven years there has already been a major relative decline in Western's support of the classroom. While the number of students has increased by more than 30% (FTE) the number of full-time faculty has remained essentially unchanged. Any reduction of full-time faculty or increase in part-time faculty will significantly harm the quality of the academic programs at Western.

3. That the Administration and the Board of Regents examine and re-evaluate the various support areas of the university, both with an eye to possible efficiencies and with regard to evaluating the contribution of each to the mission of the university.

Rationale: There has been a gradual but persistent decline in the percentage of Western's budget which is devoted to instruction. In 1980-81 47.1% of Western's budget was devoted to Instruction, Research, and Academic support. In 1991-92 only 40.6% is devoted