

REPORT ON PART-TIME FACULTY STIPENDS

Report Prepared by Faculty Welfare Committee
March 15, 2001

The history of WKU's part-time faculty stipend for a three-hour course is summarized below:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Average</u>
Prior to 1/1/99	\$ 990-1,360	\$1,175
Effective 1/1/99	1,100-1,500	1,300
Effective 8/16/00	1,210-1,650	1,430

According to the provost's office, the increase on 1/1/99 was "the first in a long, long time." The two increases were approximately 10 percent each.

WKU conducted a survey of the benchmark universities in Fall 1996 to assess the level of stipends. The \$1,799 median stipend of our benchmark universities was 153 percent of WKU's \$1,175 average.

How has WKU fared in the period from 1996 to 2001 and relative to the new group of benchmark universities? We did a survey of our listed benchmark universities to make a current comparison. We received 14 responses; no responses were received from Northern Michigan University, Western Carolina University, and Youngstown University. The table below lists the respondents in the order of their average stipend amount for a three-hour course.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Average of Range</u>	<u>% of WKU Average</u>
1	West Chester U. (PA)	N/A	\$4,848	339%
2	Western Illinois U.	\$3,500-5,000	4,250	297%
3	Bowling Green St. U.	3,000-5,000	4,000	278%
4	Cal. St. U., Fresno	N/A	3,720	259%
5	Illinois St. U.	3,000-3,600	3,300	231%
6	U. Northern Iowa	2,800-3,400	3,100	217%
7	Eastern Michigan U.	N/A	3,000	210%
	MEDIAN	N/A	2,800	196%
8	Appalachian St. U.	2,448-2,754	2,601	182%
9	Central MO St. U.	2,100-2,700	2,400	168%
10	Eastern Illinois U.	N/A	2,400	168%
11	Southeast MO St. U.	1,993-2,410	2,202	154%
12	Western Carolina U.	N/A	2,100	147%
13	Ball St. U.	1,800-2,400	2,100	147%
14	Indiana St. U.	N/A	1,800	126%
	Western Kentucky U.	1,210-1,650	1,430	100%

WKU ranks last among our benchmarks. The median stipend of our benchmarks is almost twice that of WKU's stipend. In 1996, the median stipend of our benchmarks was 153 percent of WKU's stipend. In 2001,

the median stipend of our benchmarks is 196% of WKU's stipend. In a five-year period, WKU has fallen farther behind.

The approximate number of courses taught by part-time faculty (but not including optional retirees) is summarized below by college and academic year.

College	Academic Year					
	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00
Education	156	155	175	206	190	242
Business	1	4	2	36	34	43
Science	114	96	87	119	150	106
Potter Arts	<u>241</u>	<u>277</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>301</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>285</u>
Subtotal	512	532	536	662	677	676
Community	196	162	172	167	159	225
Extend./Nontrad.	<u>457</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>535</u>
Total	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>1,196</u>	<u>1,341</u>	<u>1,364</u>	<u>1,436</u>

Note: This table was prepared from data of total part-time salaries paid (data supplied by the provost's office). Those total salaries were divided by the WKU average stipend for each year to estimate the number of courses.

The number of courses taught by part-time faculty has increased by 23 percent over the five years shown. Although the stipend paid by WKU has lost ground to our benchmarks, WKU has been successful in offering more courses that are taught by part-time faculty.