


2-2-2006

## UA3/9/5 House & Senate Budget Subcommittees

WKU President's Office

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records)

 Part of the [American Politics Commons](#), [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), [Leadership Studies Commons](#), [Organizational Communication Commons](#), and the [Social Influence and Political Communication Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

WKU President's Office, "UA3/9/5 House & Senate Budget Subcommittees" (2006). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 4168.  
[http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records/4168](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/4168)

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact [topscholar@wku.edu](mailto:topscholar@wku.edu).



**House and Senate Budget Subcommittees  
February 2, 2006  
Gary A. Ransdell**

We need your help.

- I. Since 1998, WKU has 4,000 more students. Retention has grown from 67 percent to 76 percent. Graduation rates have improved from 39 percent to 46 percent. We have nearly doubled the applicant pool to 14,000. We have kept our in-state / out-of-state ratios in check (81 percent to 19 percent). We have improved our KCTCS transfers from 288 to 320. Our PRAXIS pass rate has risen from 92 percent to 100 percent, and WKU has the highest number of new teachers taking the exam. Our African-American enrollment has grown from 971 to 1,591, a 64 percent increase. Sponsored research has grown from \$15 million to \$28 million. Annual gift deposits have grown from \$4 million to \$13 million, and the WKU endowment has grown from \$24 million to \$82 million.

WKU is performing and is completely accountable. We've become very efficient. We have cut and redirected resources. We cannot, however, fund 4,000 more students with the Executive Budget. WKU would receive a combined \$2.6 million over both years of the 06-08 biennium. We cannot cover fixed cost increases with that, let alone the volume of new students we have brought to WKU. The CPE budget formula calls for \$13.7 million over the biennium for WKU. We need your help. Focus your higher education funding on our base budgets. Please fund the CPE base funding request.

- II. Higher Education Reform in 1997 called for each university to build at least one "nationally recognized" program. Since then, the WKU School of Journalism and Broadcasting has achieved three number-one rankings in the annual rankings of schools of journalism and broadcasting in 2000, 2001, and 2005, by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. WKU is the only university in the Commonwealth to offer an academic program ranked number one in America by an independent national authority.
- III. Higher education is being asked to do much—grow enrollment, retain and graduate more, discover new knowledge, apply existing knowledge to the identification and solving of problems across our regions, and drive regional economies. We cannot expect students and private donors to bear all of these costs.
- IV. Two years ago, WKU made a commitment to hold tuition increases in Fall 07 and Fall 08 to single digit percentages, but we did not imagine the challenge which the 2006 Executive Budget suggests. Without your help, we will have no choice but to revisit that decision.
- V. WKU has had a very specific plan of progress since 1998. You will be receiving from me an accountability report on progress toward achieving things we said we would do, and a plan of action through 2008. With your help, we can achieve the outcomes listed in this plan. The help we need from you is on the attached card.
- VI. We have earned your investment. We are completely accountable. We are achieving the things you have asked of us, but we must cover the added cost of our performance. Join our students and our private benefactors. They are doing their part. This has to be a partnership with you.

Thank you.