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## UA3/6/7 Update - July

WKU President's Office

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# Update

July 16, 1982

From the Office of the President

\$200 for single coverage and from \$200 to \$400 for family coverage.

The Major Medical benefits period will conform to a calendar year schedule, ending December 31. During the transition, the current benefit period will cover 18 months (from July 1, 1982 to December 31, 1983).

Increasing coverage from single to family status under Blue Cross-Blue Shield health insurance is restricted to "Opening Periods" designated by the insurance company. Those who wish to make this change (effective August 1) may do so in the Office of Personnel Services. The next period for increasing coverage will be January 1, 1983.

# Update

## • OPENING MEETINGS - 1982-83 SCHOOL YEAR

The following meetings are scheduled as a part of the opening of the 1982 fall semester:

August 20 - 3 p.m., Van Meter Auditorium, Faculty and Administrative Staff

September 2 - 3 p.m., Van Meter Auditorium, Secretarial/Clerical Staff

September 3 - 3 p.m., Van Meter Auditorium, Employees of the Physical Plant/Food Services/Public Safety

## • COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION HEARING

The Council on Higher Education is conducting hearings on formula funding on each campus. The first hearings were held at Morehead State University and Northern Kentucky University. The hearing at Western is scheduled for 2 p.m. on July 21 in the Regents Room of Wetherby Administration Building. The Council will conduct the hearing, and anyone may speak. Individuals wishing to speak are requested to sign in at the beginning of the meeting. President Zacharias will make a statement on behalf

of Western at the beginning of the forum.

## • GRANT ACTIVITY

The University received grants exceeding \$3 million dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1982. This is especially noteworthy in light of the reduction in external funds. The efforts that have been made in order for us to receive this level of funding result from a spirit of cooperation and professionalism by numerous people.

We are attempting to provide additional support for this type activity. Western now subscribes to the services offered by AASCU through its Office of Federal Programs. Information on AASCU services will be distributed through the deans and department heads. Specific questions about the service can be directed to the Office of Grant and Contract Services.

## • RECAP OF BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING

The WKU Board of Regents took many significant actions during a special meeting June 26 in the Regents Conference Room. The Board:

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•Approved the President's recommendation to solicit proposals for the granting of exclusive rights and the establishment of an official radio network for WKU athletics. The proposed contract will run for three years and will offer the university increased exposure and revenue from football and basketball radio broadcasts. Invitations to bid have been mailed to interested parties throughout Kentucky and bids will be opened on August 11. Negotiations will be held with each party submitting a bid proposal. This action is designed to make the broadcasts available to the maximum listening audience, to promote athletic programs of WKU by developing broader exposure of Western varsity athletic events to an expanded listening audience, and to share in the revenues derived from the market potential of such broadcasts.

•Established an Academic Excellence Fund under the provisions of House Bill No. 622 enacted by the 1982 session of the General Assembly. This trust fund is intended for the deposit of gifts, grants, and special

appropriations by the General Assembly for such purposes. The Board of Regents may also deposit into this fund the proceeds from the sale of surplus property. Investment income from the account shall be used only to enhance academic programs at WKU.

•Approved a plan for the distribution of unrestricted funds contributed to Western Kentucky University through the Development Office. Each July 1 the President will deposit a minimum of 15 percent of the unrestricted development funds into the Academic Excellence Fund. The funds will remain there until the corpus of the fund reaches a total of \$250,000. The remainder of the funds will be distributed at the discretion of the President for the purpose of building academic quality and student leadership. The funds will also be used to support activities related to recognition of contributors. Guidelines have been developed to fund written proposals for small projects from faculty, students, and staff. The maximum sum available for one project in any fiscal year will be \$2,000. Funds for supporting projects will be provided following the recommendation of department or unit heads, deans, and vice presidents. The presidential advisory committee will review all proposals. Information on guidelines and deadlines will be available from heads of departments by August 15.

•Approved the budget for the WKU Educational Program in Owensboro. Efforts are continuing to provide the Owensboro area with a quality undergraduate program in cooperation with Kentucky Wesleyan College and Brescia College. The purpose of this arrangement is to make available a low-cost and direct-access undergraduate program for the Owensboro area.

•Approved the application to the Federal Communications Commission for an FM radio repeater station near Somerset. The proposed transmitter would rebroadcast WKYU-FM with some programs developed specifically for the Somerset area. WKU is currently exploring cooperative arrangements with Somerset Community College. The funding proposal includes federal and matching funds, with the matching funds being raised from private sources. This application was filed in cooperation with Eastern Kentucky University and KET. EKU has filed for a repeater station in Hazard.

•Approved the razing of the Industrial Education Annex Building. Western received no financial support for facilities renovation or remodeling in the 1982-84 executive budget. The estimate for renovating the annex exceeds \$600,000, and the square foot cost of renovation is approaching the cost of constructing new space. The site will be developed into a parking area with appropriate landscaping.

•Administered the oath of office to James A. "Tony" Page of Paducah and Ronald Clark of Franklin. Both members will serve six-year terms on the Board.

•Set Saturday, August 28, as the date for the next regular meeting of the Board of Regents.

## • CHANGES IN HEALTH CARE INSURANCE

During the past few months University officials have worked closely with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kentucky to review WKU's medical claims payments and projected premium costs. During the last accounting period, WKU's claims and operating costs exceeded the premium payments by \$121,300. To reduce the increase in premium payments for single and family rates, the Insurance Committee has approved the following changes:

•The basic Blue Cross plan will not pay for hospital admission and stay for diagnostic purposes. The plan will continue to pay for outpatient tests and laboratory procedures. Hospital admission and stay for diagnostic purposes will be paid by the Major Medical provision following the proper deduction schedule.

•There will be a 60-day waiting period for membership for new classified employees.

•There will be a nine-months waiting period for pre-existing conditions for all new members.

•The Major Medical deductible will be increased from \$100 to