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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SR-07-08-(14) 45 LAC

Recommends that the Marshall University Faculty Senate, President Kopp, and the University Board of Governors jointly express our appreciation to Governor Manchin, Senate President Tomblin, House Speaker Thompson, and the State legislators for their support of higher education legislation and many of the funding requests for Marshall University in the 2007 Legislative Session. We applaud their efforts in increasing appropriations to the need-based financial aid program, the Promise scholarship, and various grant-matching programs. Senator Robert Plymale of the Education Committee should be commended on his leadership, vision, and guidance. Our area legislators, especially in the Cabell, Kanawha, Wayne, Putnam, Mason, Raleigh, and the southwestern counties, should be commended for their continuing strong support. Furthermore, we respectfully urge their continued support of the 2008 legislative agendas submitted by the HEPC's Advisory Council of Faculty and by Marshall University.

RATIONALE

Marshall University has long been committed toward achieving academic excellency and academic accountability for the Institution and for the State. An increase in the institutional base budget has enabled its faculty and staff to better serve the students and better prepare the students to acquire critical knowledge and essential skills for the job markets. The increase in budgetary appropriation to the need-based financial aid program has significantly enhanced the affordability of a college education for our State's citizens. The increase in the Promise Scholarships has further helped attract thousands of bright students to remain in the State for higher education each year. The varieties of grant-matching programs have prepared faculty and students to achieve national competitiveness in their fields. Furthermore, additional special appropriations have helped the University to establish a new health care program and to recruit eminent scholars for education and research. However, faculty salaries and benefits at Marshall University have consistently and continuously lagged behind those at peer institutions in the SREB and at other selected peer institutions; and, more legislative support is needed.

FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:

APPROVED BY THE	1 1 1 1
FACULTY SENATE: Land Luckler	DATE: 12/13/2007
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DISAPPROVED BY THE	
FACULTY SENATE:	DATE:

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:	
APPROVED:	DATE: <u>/2/17/0</u>)
DISAPPROVED:	DATE:
COMMENTS:	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,