



# Resident Faculty Organization

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
TRI-CITIES

## Fall 2021 Visit by the President and Provost

**Location:** East 266/Zoom

**Date:** 10/27/2021

**Time:** 10:45 am

Recording Available: [https://wsu.zoom.us/rec/share/SpCvoe70t\\_vVk9uhKXeQb9kl-QcYKtBjnNIR4FDw9MX7wabV6FXUFpq0bS8n51fP.F2ywT\\_ez\\_Wd\\_nf3](https://wsu.zoom.us/rec/share/SpCvoe70t_vVk9uhKXeQb9kl-QcYKtBjnNIR4FDw9MX7wabV6FXUFpq0bS8n51fP.F2ywT_ez_Wd_nf3)

### Agenda Items:

- I. Welcome and Opening Remarks
  - a. KRF -> Welcome President Kirk Schulz and Provost and Executive Vice President and WSU Pullman Chancellor – Designate Elizabeth Chilton
  - b. Schulz/Chilton -> Brief comments on vision for future of WSUTC, if desired  
Chilton  
Goal: Elevate Vision for Each Campus  
Distinct Communities require unique campuses.  
Schulz  
Donor Visits  
Million dollar possible support in faculty excellence  
Kadlec support  
Improved Relationship with Community donors  
Updates on Budget Process  
Important to support this campus with centralized resources
  - c. KRF -> explain format: Members will be allowed to ask questions interspersed with anonymous questions at roughly a ratio of 1:1
- II. Q&A
  - a. KRF -> Ask anonymous questions from Qualtrics survey, allow for follow-up or clarification from audience, see question list below  
Q1: Tri-Cities faculty are among lowest paid employees in the area.

Number 1 priority for the legislative priority is extra money for a large salary pool for increases systemwide. Too early to tell what the actual fund timing or amount, cost of living vs merit. Large number of considerations regarding equity, merit, longevity.

Will work toward more regularized salary bumps.

Human Resources is investigating comparisons

Schulz: Richland is one of the higher cost of living areas in the state.

Q2: How does Global work in WSU

Some of this is still being worked out. Trying to avoid duplicating systems.

Q2.2 Hybrid degree programs give much greater flexibility and offerings.

OneWSU's work and budget model will allow students greater flexibility in students taking class from all different classes.

Q3: Tri-Cities could qualify as a Minority Serving Institution, but cannot as part of OneWSU

Breaking up the system to allow that Minority Serving Institution would not be in anyone's best interest; this is a necessary trade off. Alternative recognition schemes (seal of excelencia) are being explored.

Q4: OneWSU's impact on accreditations?

None

Q5: Going forward will all trainings be systemwide still after Covid?

Yes; this is a good example of one of the upsides to the covid pandemic, and we should be mindful to look out for more of these to maintain.

### III. Closing Remarks

- a. KRF -> Thank audience and visitors for attendance, invite President and Provost to return soon

### Question List:

- What are the next steps for ONEWSU as it pertains to the Tri-Cities campus?  
Consultations with other statewide university systems on best practices.

Trick is to convert philosophical claims into actual concrete policies/procedures.

OneWSU is an attempt to regularize administrative processes around campus.

Sandra pushing a Social Work major that will be a test case for autonomous campus degrees.

- What is the progress on the new budget model and how will this impact the various campuses?

Moving away from an incremental budget process.

15 Person New Budget Model Committee

Consultations of Peer Institution

Moving to a Responsibility Centered Hybrid

Transparent tracking of revenue flow of cost.

Current Budget does not allow for easy forward planning.

Move all campuses to the same budgeting system/process.

Campuses will be provided a spreadsheet.

July 1 2022 will be implemented as a shadow system or soft launch.

Will then be tinkered with for 3 years.

- Raises for faculty in the past five years have not kept up with inflation and in 2021 there was no increase whatsoever. The proposed salary increase to the legislature for this upcoming cycle is also lagging behind the inflation of the past 6 months (>5%), so what are plans to make up this lost ground now that the university is in better shape financially? **Asked by the audience.**

- With the dual role of Provost and Pullman Chancellor, what are the policies and procedures for how will conflicts of interest be resolved? For example, consider a program where it would be best interest of the Tri-Cities to offer it, but it is best for the Pullman campus to keep all the students in Pullman. As Chancellor of Pullman, acting in the best interest of Pullman might not be in the best interest of the system, as the Provost should do.

Conflicts of Interest are Inevitable, this option was taken to avoid allegations of administrative bloat regarding hiring of systemwide officers.

Relying on Faculty to let leadership know in the event of a conflict of interest.

Placing the Chancellor of Pullman in a systemwide position forces them to take rest of the system into consideration for decision making.

- There was concern coming into this semester that students would be less prepared than in other semesters due to the disruption of online learning during the pandemic. What steps has

the University done to measure this impact and if it exists, what are the plans to address it? **Not addressed due to time.**

- How do you see investment in the research administration on the Tri-Cities campus proceeding in the future? The person in charge of grants support has left for another position and that is currently unfilled. Even with that position it was inadequate for full support.

Previous Chancellors had large administrative overhead. Chancellor Haynes has reduced this administrative overhead. We should use centralized resources to support research administration until a certain threshold is reaching requiring a specific on-campus person.

Research administration is a shared service across campuses.

- The presence of the COVID holds on registration has caused some to speculate that students would transfer to Global and cause a large enrollment decline for the physical campuses. Can you speak about how the University is projecting this situation and what it plans to do?

Not always helpful to create negative hypotheticals that have historically not transpired.

Reasons to be optimistic due to vaccination rates.

Covid students *may* have a covid hold. Needs further investigation.

- How are the recent changes to the way public engagement and scholarship are reviewed in the faculty manual being implemented across the different colleges? **Not addressed due to time.**
- Why does the athletics department not have the same budgeting restrictions as the academic departments? **Not addressed due to time.**