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LETTER

\$1,700,000 ADDITIONAL FUNDS NEEDED

Budget Plans for 10,300 Students in Fall, 1962

Western Michigan University is asking the Legislature for authority to spend \$1.9 million more in 1962-63 than was allotted in 1961-62. On the basis of our projections, we would anticipate having additional revenue from 755 more students which means that the total number of dollars requested from the Legislature would in round figures be \$1.7 million.

\$.9 Million. This is the amount of money needed to hire additional staff in order to bring Western to a 1-20 ratio of teachers to students.

.4 million. This is the amount needed to provide Western with a salary schedule more nearly in line with the schedules now in effect in comparable institutions.

.2 million. This is the additional money needed in the area of

supplies, materials and utility costs.

.3 million. This increase is required for the replacement of worn and obsolete equipment as well as the purchase of new equipment.

.1 million. Most of this money would be to implement the State Board of Education's approved program for the payment of accrued sick leave at the time of retirement.

\$1.9 million. Total requested gross increase.

-.2 million. Anticipated tuition and fee payments from the additional 755 students.

\$1.7 million. Total net requested additional monies.

Additional Staff

Of the 152 new positions request-

ed, we are asking for 110 in the area of instruction. During the last five years we have gone from a 1-21.6 faculty student ratio to a ratio of 1-23.9. The hard headed, practical, and down-to-earth business approach is that we should be at a 1-20 ratio. Western has been over this level for years. To get to a 1-20.2 faculty student ratio, we need 110 new positions in the instructional area.

Western's teaching load is one of, if not the heaviest, to be found anywhere in the country. This is true not only in terms of the ratio but also in terms of number of preparations required of each instructor. The normal number of preparations is two and on occasion three. Western has many of its instructors with four and five preparations. This is the type of load which reduces an institution rapidly to mediocrity.

Five years ago we had a salary schedule which, on a comparable basis with other institutions in our class, was relatively favorable. This is no longer the case. We are already being told by department heads of the large graduate schools that they can no longer in good conscience recommend their graduate students for positions at Western. In brief, then, our situation can be best described as one in which our salary schedule is subnormal and our teaching load is inordinately heavy. Western has grown at an annual rate of over 650 students for the last four years. We can expect then neither to be able to keep good faculty nor to recruit good faculty without improving both our salary and reducing our teaching load. This is the price we must pay to get quality instruction.

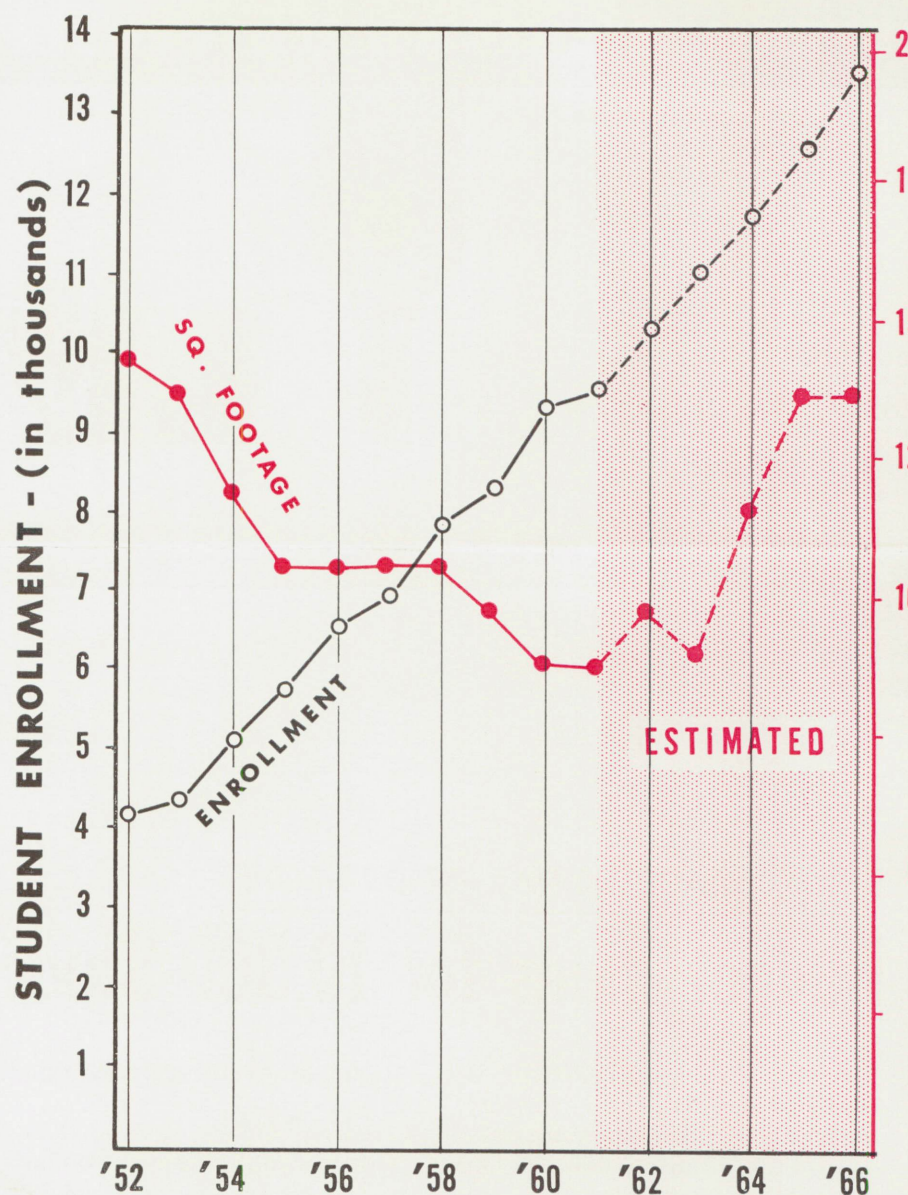
Salaries

Salary schedules are important in two respects. They must be adequate to hold good personnel and sufficient to attract capable faculty. Western is still far below the State Board of Education schedule established several years ago. We are losing present faculty and potential faculty members to institutions which five years ago could not compete with us salary-wise. An inadequate salary schedule coupled with an increasingly heavy teaching load is Western's problem in a nutshell.

We are asking and desperately need as a minimal amount our specific requests for salary increases.

Supplies, Materials, and Utilities

Almost 25 per cent of the increase in this area is for the increased cost of utilities to serve the expansion, notably in the full operation of the Natural Science Building. Additional supplies and materials will clearly be needed for the increased enrollment involving 755 new students. Instructional and departmental research particularly in the sciences, accounts for a considerable amount of the increase. In this area it is significant to note that we will be placing into operation a computer center to serve the areas of instruction and departmental research. Part of the increase will be needed to



make rather modest additions to our library collection which must over the next ten years be systematically built up to a respectable level. We are so far behind in this area that it will take at least ten years of steady improvement if we are to attain university status in the important area of library facilities.

Modest increases are involved in the request for money to begin improvement of the grounds on both the east and west campuses. We are losing annually from twenty to thirty elm trees and it makes good sense to begin now a minimal program of replacement for these great losses. As

the student population increases, the wear and tear on the campus, particularly on its walks and lawns, require additional attention and constant repair.

Equipment

Western Michigan University has had very limited funds for the replacement of worn and obsolete equipment and the acquisition of new equipment. In the Industrial Education Department alone, we have \$¼ million worth of equipment. Much of this equipment is obsolete and should be replaced. A single machine in many instances will cost from \$5,000 to \$10,000. If we

are to train the teachers and technicians required in business and industry in Michigan, there is no alternative to modernizing our equipment. Calculators in mathematics and complicated, expensive equipment particularly in chemistry and physics are a "must" if we are to produce qualified students for responsible positions in teaching, research, and industry.

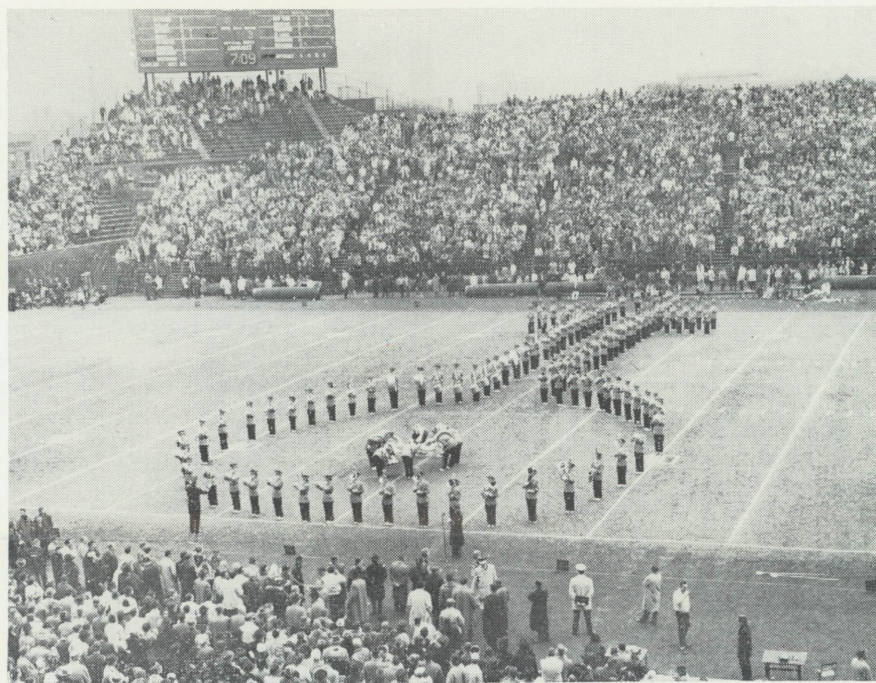
No one can escape the fact that Western Michigan University is and has been operating with a per capita appropriation far less than that appropriated to any of our other sister institutions in Michigan. We would not expect to receive a per capita appropriation as large as that granted to the University of Michigan, Michigan State, or Wayne University, but we do feel that it is a very reasonable request to ask that our per capita appropriation be moved up to a level comparable with the other five four-year institutions of higher education in Michigan.

Capital Needs

We are requesting \$5,653,750 for 1962-63. The first four items requested for 1962-63 are desperately needed: \$200,000 for completion of the extension of utilities; \$578,750 for completion of the Natural Science Building; Education and General Classroom Building is a "must" if we are to be in any sort of reasonable shape to continue taking additional students beyond 1962-63; extension of storm and sanitary sewers in the North Valley is imperative because the entire development of this area waits on these projects.

Industrial and Engineering Technology Building, Liberal Arts and Classroom Building and Auditorium-Classroom Building, respectively represent the type of additional building which we need if Western is to keep pace qualitatively and in terms of handling the hordes of students who will be seeking higher education from 1964 and onward.

In 1952 we had 143 square feet of academic space per student. Today we have 86 square feet per student, the lowest per square foot per student in the State. With the completion



The Western Michigan marching band again was privileged to present a December halftime show for the Chicago Bears, as they faced the Detroit Lions at Chicago's Wrigley field. All expenses for the trip were covered by the Bears, plus an addition to the band uniform fund.

—Photo courtesy Kalamazoo Gazette and United Press International

Accelerated German

Accelerated German, comprising one year's academic work, will be offered by the Department of Language, Western Michigan University, during the summer of 1962.

Emphasizing the oral approach, German 110 and 111 will be presented as an integrated, eight-week program of intensification carrying eight hours of credit. Because the size of the group must be limited, interested students should contact Dr. Wayne Wonderley, head, Department of Language, concerning registration.

of the Natural Science Building, we will have 96 square feet per student, still keeping us low on the totem pole in this respect.

For special maintenance we are asking \$58,656 which is no fantastic figure when one considers the size of the plant and grounds we are trying to maintain in a reasonable state of repair. Additionally, we are seeking five remodeling and addition projects at a total cost of \$91,500. Each of these projects is designed to give us more economical and efficient use of present physical plant.

\$78,560 Grant for Mathematics Given by Science Foundation

The University has received \$78,560 from the National Science Foundation in support of a combined summer institute and academic year in-service institute in mathematics.

Of the total, \$70,600 will support the summer program for 75 students, this marking the third consecutive year for the program. Some teachers will have participated in all three institutes, and if money is granted, a fourth institute will be held in 1963.

The six weeks of summer work is designed to upgrade high school mathematics teachers and to acquaint them with new methods of teaching mathematics.

Dr. James H. Powell, head of the mathematics department, will head the institute working with Dr. Joseph C. McCully, Dr. Robert Seber, Jack Meagher, Dr. John Petro, Robert Sechler and John Vollmer of the WMU faculty, and Dr. H. T. Muhly, State University of Iowa.

Macrorie New Editor Of English Journal

Dr. Ken Macrorie, a newcomer to the English faculty this last fall, has been elected editor of *College Composition and Communication*, the magazine of the National Council of Teachers of English. This is a three-year term.

Dr. Macrorie came to Western from San Francisco State College where he had taught for one year, following 12 years on the Michigan State University faculty.

Two Chemists Receive Research Grants

Dr. Robert Harmon and Dr. Don Iffland, members of the University chemistry faculty, are recipients of research grants from the National Institute of Health.

Dr. Harmon was given \$10,078 for a study of better anti-cancer agents.

Dr. Iffland has received \$7,360 for research on the preparation of biologically active compounds related to the semicarbazones. This will assist research in anti-tumor and anti-tubercular agents.

New Parasite Found

The discovery of a new species of flatworm parasite of ducks in the vicinity of Kalamazoo is revealed in the fourth issue of the *Occasional Papers of the Charles C. Adams Center for Ecological Studies* of the University.

John Shoemaker, a graduate student with Dr. Edwin B. Steen in biology, made the discovery of "leucochloridimorphe pappillate" while working on his thesis.

Copies of the report may be obtained from Dr. Thane Robinson, director of the Adams Center.

Graduate Schools Council Accepts WMU

Western Michigan University has been accepted for a basic membership in the new Council of Graduate Schools in the United States.

Dean George G. Mallinson of the School of Graduate Studies will represent the University in the Council's deliberations.

Membership for Western was made possible on the basis of its accreditation for offering advanced degree work and having exceeded the minimal number of master's degrees awarded during the past three years.

High School Students Need Reading Help

Research at Western Michigan shows that high school students in Michigan need instruction in reading, but that few secondary teachers feel that they are adequately prepared to provide it.

An investigation conducted by Miss Dorothy J. McGinnis, associate director of the Psycho-Educational Clinic, shows that there is a marked need for reading instruction at the high school level and that teachers should be trained to do this job.

Information from 1,029 college freshmen at Western substantiates the findings, which are based upon 570 completed responses of 1,000 high school teachers selected from 8,863 teachers in the state at random.

Robert B. Trader of the School of Business faculty has received his doctor of education degree from Michigan State University.

Roy H. Rodgers, assistant professor of sociology, is the new president of the Michigan Council on Family Relations.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

News

LETTER

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