Washington’s Tuition Policy History

start something big
Tuition Policy History

• 1977-1995 legislature establishes tuition as a percentage of the cost of instruction

• 1995-1997 HECB recommends tuition ceilings and removes direct link between tuition and cost of instruction

• 1997-2000 Tuition increases based on state per capita personal income increase

• 2002-2009 HE’s receive full tuition setting authority for graduate and nonresident students, tuition rates set on budgetary needs rather than policy
EWU Annual Tuition Increases

- Percent Change:
  - FY03: 0.0%
  - FY04: 2.0%
  - FY05: 4.0%
  - FY06: 6.0%
  - FY07: 8.0%
  - FY08: 10.0%
  - FY09: 12.0%
  - FY10: 14.0%
  - FY11: 16.0%

- RU Tuition Rate:
  - FY03: $0
  - FY04: $1,000
  - FY05: $2,000
  - FY06: $3,000
  - FY07: $4,000
  - FY08: $5,000
  - FY09: $6,000
  - FY10: $7,000
  - FY11: $7,000

- Years:
  - FY03, FY04, FY05, FY06, FY07, FY08, FY09, FY10, FY11
Current Environment

• Permanent authority to establish tuition rates for non-resident and graduate students
• Thru 2015 statutory authority to increase tuition rates up to 7% annually for Washington undergraduates
• Continuing pressure from the HE community to request delegation of full tuition setting authority to each governing board
• HECB 2009 study on tuition policy (Tuition Policy Report, December 2009)
Alternative Approaches To Tuition Setting

- **Mission based**
  - Tuition rates set by university type - research v comprehensive v community college

- **Campus based**
  - Branch campuses and university centers will adopt different rate structures to adapt to unique regional economies

- **Program based**
  - Variable tuition rates for high cost programs

- **Upper/ lower division based**
  - Higher tuition charged for upper division due to higher cost of delivery, lower tuition for lower division due to economies of scale
Alternative Approaches To Tuition Setting

- Student/family income based (Jarrett proposal)
  - Tuition is assessed on a sliding scale based on family income

- High tuition high financial aid
  - Tuition is increased to cover rising costs, financial aid is increased commensurately

- University of Washington proposal 2010
  - Full tuition authority for all categories of tuition vested with board of regents
  - Institutional funding of financial aid
  - Committed to a tuition cap at negotiable level (to be defined later)
  - Tuition authority linked to performance agreements
Alternative Approaches To Tuition Setting

- Per credit tuition rate for all students
  - Eliminates tuition plateau
Washington’s Tuition Policy History

1981: Revenue Shortfall
$284M, higher tuition share to student

Ceiling: 16% increase for research, 14% for comp, 12% for ctc

Shared Cost based on cost at research institutions
Shared Cost based on sector-specific cost of instruction and increased student share
Tuition Ceilings set by Legislative Proviso
Tuition Increase Ceiling Stable Period

Percent Change Tuition for Research
Percent Change Tuition for Comprehensive
Percent Change Tuition for Community College
Eastern’s tuition philosophy

- Tuition
- Financial aid
- State support

*Add graphic to link three concepts*
2011 Legislative Session

- Continuing decline in higher ed funding
- Expectation of legislation to modify tuition setting authority
- System Design
- 2008 Higher Ed Master Plan
- Potential tuition increases in excess of current authority authorized at 7%