WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
ITEM SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: President Bruce Shepard on behalf of Vice President Eileen V. Coughlin

DATE: August 14, 2009

SUBJECT: **Admissions and Enrollment Planning Report**

PURPOSE: Information Item

Purpose of Submittal:

To provide a general update on enrollment and admissions

Supporting Information:

See attached

General Enrollment and Admissions Update
Prepared by Karen Copetas, Director of Admissions and Enrollment Planning
August 2009

Freshmen

- Enrollment projection has increased to 2,725 from initial estimate of 2,700 (compared with 2,697 actual Fall 2008 freshmen)
    - This will be a record freshman enrollment
    - 93% of projected enrollment have registered for Summertart, our orientation, advising and advance registration program for incoming freshmen
        - 547 freshmen of color are registered for Summerstart compared with 545 in Fall 2008
        - 219 non-residents are registered for Summerstart compared with 205 in Fall 2008
    - The freshmen overall admit rate is 72.6% compared with 70.93% in Fall 2008; the is the third lowest admit rate in 15 years
    - 60.8% of Fall 2009 admits were female compared with 61% in Fall 2008.

Transfers

- Enrollment projection is 780 - 800 compared with 884 actual Fall 2008 transfers. This one-time reduction in transfer enrollment was planned to help manage lower/upper division institutional enrollment goals during an unpredictable time. With a traditionally large transfer applicant pool in winter quarter, Western is positioned to admit additional transfer students as needed based on actual Fall FTE.
    - 600 (approximately 75%) of our projected transfer enrollment attended and registered for classes at Transitions, our orientation, advising and advance registration program for incoming transfers. This is the first year that new transfers were able to register in the summer rather than during the week before fall classes begin.
    - 114 transfers of color attended Transitions compared with 94 in Fall 2008; however, we anticipate a slight drop in overall transfers-of-color enrollment due to the smaller size of the transfer class
    - The overall transfer admit rate was 57.8% compared with 69.4% in Fall 2008; this is the second lowest admit rate in 15 years.
- Transfer applications increased 11% over the Fall 2008 total, in large part due to an increase in interest among from resident four-year transfers – a possible result of economic uncertainty. However, we continue to honor our commitment to and partnership with Washington community colleges as their students will still comprise nearly 75% of the incoming transfer class. After three years of stagnant transfer enrollment at Washington community colleges, Western is beginning to see a rebound as community college enrollments re-enter a period of growth.

2009 – 2010 Enrollment Update

- As of July 30, the Registrar's Office reports that 9,871 students have registered for Fall Quarter classes

- The early registration team, led by Susanna Yunker, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Registrar, has done an exceptional job of course planning to accommodate a projected fall headcount of 13,750 – 13,900 students compared with 13,777 students enrolled Fall 2008.