

More on Faculty Compensation and the University Budget

In September 2016, we attempted to highlight the skewed priorities reflected in Wright State's budgeting and spending by comparing the cost of salary increases for faculty, which were considered unthinkable in the escalating budget crisis, and the allocations to other things that were considered completely justifiable by both the administration and the Board:

1% BUFM Salary Increase, including Associated Benefit Costs: \$619,355

3.25% BUFM Salary Increase, including Associated Benefit Costs: \$2,012,903

President Hopkins' "Bonus": \$354,560

President Hopkins' Total Taxable Compensation: \$803,320—making him the tenth highest public university president in the U.S., ahead of the leaders of such institutions as Penn State University, the University of Michigan, the University of Illinois System, and Rutgers University--and the University of Alabama System and Clemson University

Compensation to Current and Former Basketball Coaches: \$725,000

"Branding" Consultants: \$2.3 million

Cost of Hosting the Presidential Debate That We Are Not Hosting: \$4.2 million

Budgeted Subsidy to Intercollegiate Athletics: \$9-\$10 million

Budget Deficit Nonetheless Accrued by Intercollegiate Athletics: \$900,000+

Road-Salt Barn: \$4-\$7 million

Starting in January 2016, there has been a net loss of 92 full-time faculty positions. By the fall of 2017, when about 70 of those 92 positions had been lost, the cost of a 1% BUFM salary increase, including associated benefit costs, had dropped to about \$560,000. So, given that there has been a net loss of 20+ additional positions since that time, the cost is now even lower.

In the current contract impasse, faculty have been much less concerned about seeking salary increases than about forestalling the substantial losses in compensation in the administration's proposals—and now in the articles within their imposed contract—on healthcare, summer teaching, and furloughs.

But the numbers presented here do serve to suggest that for a long time, academics at this university have very often been a budgetary after-thought. Before faculty unionized, salary increases were intermittent and determined largely by how much revenue was

left after all sorts of other non-academic initiatives and enterprises had been fully, and often lavishly, funded.

President Schrader's current taxable compensation has been reported as more than \$650,000.