

WICHE Student Exchange Programs



**WICHE Commission Meeting
Programs & Services Committee
Tuesday, May 17, 2011**



Share, Play Nice, and Everybody Wins!

WICHE's Student Access Programs



Western
Undergraduate
Exchange
(WUE)

Western
Regional
Graduate
Program
(WRGP)

Professional
Student
Exchange
Program
(PSEP)

WICHE's
Internet
Course
Exchange
(ICE)



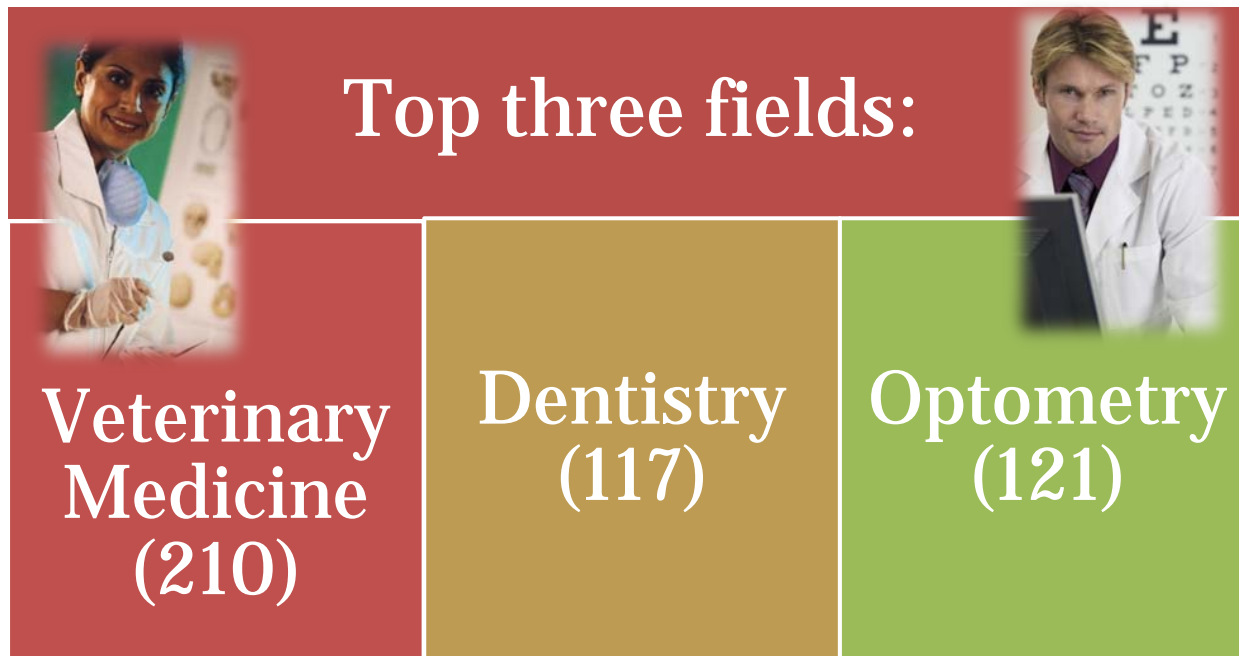
New Ways to Apply PSEP Support Fees

Discussion Item

**Pages 8-10 to 8-16
in Agenda Book**

Professional Student Exchange Program

- Operating since 1953
- Expands access in **10 healthcare fields**
- State investment of \$14.25 million (12 sending states)
- **~700 students** in AY 2010



PSEP (continued)

- Fields of **study not available at public institutions** in the home state
- Student's home state pays a **support fee** to the admitting school
- Student pays **reduced tuition**

How Support Fees Are Applied (Currently)

All fields (except pharmacy):

- Public institution receives support fee to cover differential; **student pays resident tuition.**
- Private institution credits support fee; **student pays the balance.**

Pharmacy (lower support):

- **Support fee is credited** at both public and private institutions; student assumes balance.

PSEP Support Fees & Supporting States

FIELD	2011-12 Fee	Sending States
Dentistry	\$23,000	AK, AZ, HI, MT, NM, ND, WY
Medicine	29,700	MT, WY
Occup. Therapy	12,100	AK, AZ, HI, MT, WY
Optometry	15,800	AK, CO, AZ, HI, (ID), MT, NV, ND, UT, (WA), WY
Osteopathic Med.	19,700	AZ, MT, (WA), WY
Pharmacy	7,000	AK, (HI), NV
Phys. Therapy	10,900	AK, HI, WY
Physician Asst.	11,900	AK, AZ, NV, WY
Podiatry	13,700	AK, MT, UT, WY
Veterinary Med.	29,500	AZ, HI, MT, NV, NM, ND, UT, WY

Houston, We Have a Problem



**TUITION DIFFERENTIAL
GAPS** are growing;
INCENTIVES are
shrinking when we don't
meet the differential.

STATE BUDGETS
are shrinking;
states **can't afford to**
pay more for seats



Seeking the best solution for students,
states, and enrolling institutions

Priority considerations

- **Protect the student:**
 - Preferential access to healthcare education
 - Affordability
 - Program choice
- **Help the states:**
 - Minimize fiscal impact
 - Maximize number of healthcare professionals
- **Recognize that our public schools:**
 - Need for some incentive to reserve seats for WICHE candidates
 - An increasing number have been forced to write off unmet differentials for years

Exploring options that allow....

- Public institutions which are currently compensated for differentials to maintain their incentive; and,
- Public institutions which are not receiving compensation for the full differential to at least collect what they would with a regular nonresident student.

NOTE: No change proposed for private institutions' programs in any field

- **All privates in optometry, osteopathic medicine and podiatry**

Option 1: REQUIRE all publics to credit support fee against full nonresident tuition; student pays balance.

Pros (a mixed bag)

- Institutions currently losing money where differential gap is greater than support fee will finally recuperate loss and “break even”.
- **BUT THE DOWN SIDE** is that those students will pay more.
- See Chart 1 on page 8-12.
- Total recuperated loss (paid for by students) in AY 2010 terms = ~\$176K.

Cons

- Erodes all incentives to enroll WICHE students in high demand programs (esp. In medicine and vet med).
- See Chart 2 on page 8-13.
- Total lost incentives in AY 2010 terms = ~\$670K.
- Fewer publics will want to participate.
- Student admissions offers will decrease; student choice will diminish; some will have no opportunity for enrollment.

Option 2: **ALLOW** public institutions whose differential we are not meeting to credit support fee against full nonresident tuition, student pays balance; others keep their incentive.

Pros

- Institutions currently losing will finally recuperate loss and “break even”.
- Institutions currently receiving some level of incentive will keep it.

WICHE candidates will **maintain some level of preference** in a competitive admissions environment.

Cons

- Students will pay more at institutions that used to be losing money.

Important considerations



- Key consideration:
Maintain preferential admission.
- Must be simple to administer and budget.
- Need to give advanced warning to students and schools.
- Determine an implementation timeline.

DISCUSSION

WICHE Student Exchange Update



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Western Undergraduate Exchange



- 147 institutions
- ~26,711 students @ **150% resident tuition**
- ~\$210.8 M in tuition savings in AY 2010
- **No money exchanged** between states
- Helps to balance enrollment demand by utilizing available capacity
- AY 2009: 24,670 students saved \$173.5 M

Fill excess
enrollment



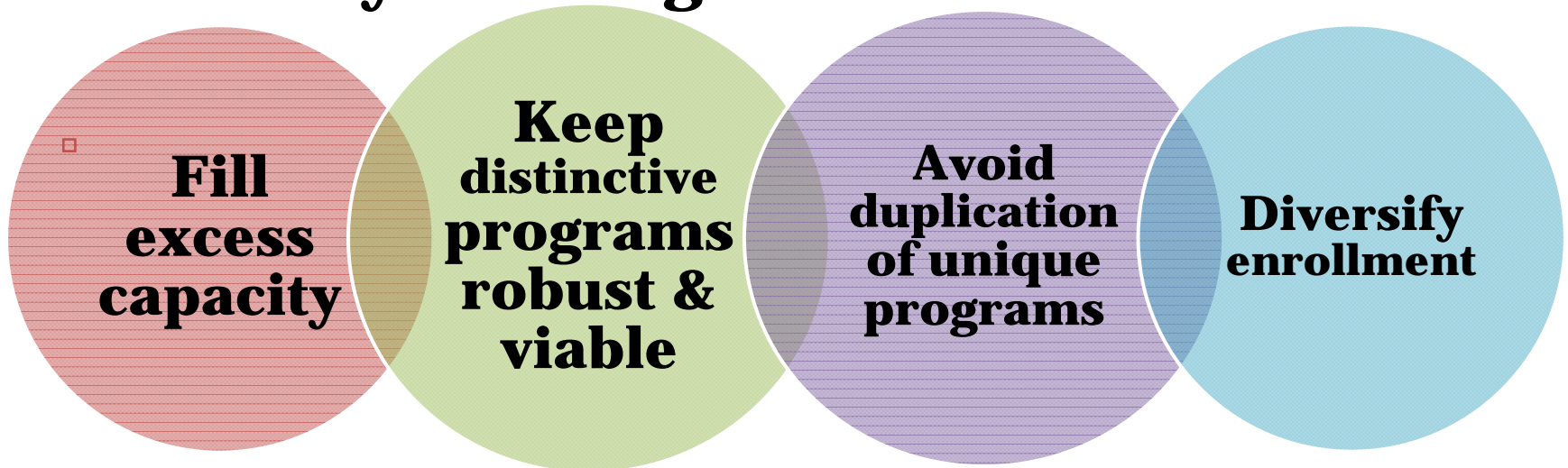
Diversify
student body



Build local
workforce

Western Regional Graduate Program

- 250+ **master's, PhDs and grad certificates** programs at 47 institutions
- 700 grad students paid **resident tuition**
- **Savings estimated at \$7.2 M (+\$10K/student)**
- Students **apply directly** to enrolling department
- **No money exchanged** across states



WRGP: A Growing Resource for Affordable Healthcare Education



70+
options!



Some WRGP Healthcare Programs

**Audiology/
Speech
Language
Pathology (10)**

Nursing
(DNP, PhD) (25)

**Mental Health
& Psychology**
(14)

Biomedical Informatics

Public Health
(8)

**Dental
Hygiene
Master's**

**Physical
Therapy**
Post-professional
DPT

**Health
Information
Technology**

**Occupational
Therapy (DOT)**

Promoting Cooperation Through Regional Student Exchange

- New “testimonial” submission portal
 - Collecting student, counselor, HEI administrator and legislator testimonials



- <http://www.wiche.edu/studentTestimonials>
- <http://www.wiche.edu/adminTestimonials>

"Without WUE, I would not have been able to attend Colorado State University as an Equine Science major; I'm thankful for this, as the program provides outstanding preparation for vet school.

WUE also makes it affordable for students move out of their home state "comfort zone" and gain more diverse perspectives. WUE's opened many opportunities for me, and is playing a critical role in shaping my professional future."

- Melanie, California resident, Class of 2014,
Colorado State University, Equine Sciences and Pre-Vet



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“The WUE program has been a wonderful boon to Cal State East Bay. It has allowed us to attract a very talented and diverse group of students from other western states to our campus in California.

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This not only offers opportunities at a very affordable rate to those students who are joining us, but it also enriches the experience of our California residents studying here, by exposing them to perspectives and experiences different from their own.”

- Greg Smith, Associate Vice President, Planning, Enrollment Management, and Student Affairs, California State University, East Bay

“WRGP has allowed us to successfully recruit some of our best graduate students. These students are highly desired by research labs because the cost of in-state tuition and fees is not as prohibitive as the out-of-state rate.

WRGP helps students from states within the Western region compete for graduate slots and obtain advanced degrees more affordably.”

**- Mark Quinn, Professor and Department Head,
Veterinary Molecular Biology, Montana State University**

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P “Western University of Health Sciences, its students, and its community are grateful for a program like WICHE's PSEP. It's allowed students to pursue their educational goals even though their chosen field of study is not readily available in their home state.

S The amount of support students receive dramatically reduces their total indebtedness! We are thankful for the
E WICHE program, and hope eligible students can
P continue to receive support.”

- Najia Siddiqui, Financial Aid Counselor, Scholarship Coordinator,
Western University of Health Sciences

“Once upon an
index card...”



Information Item:

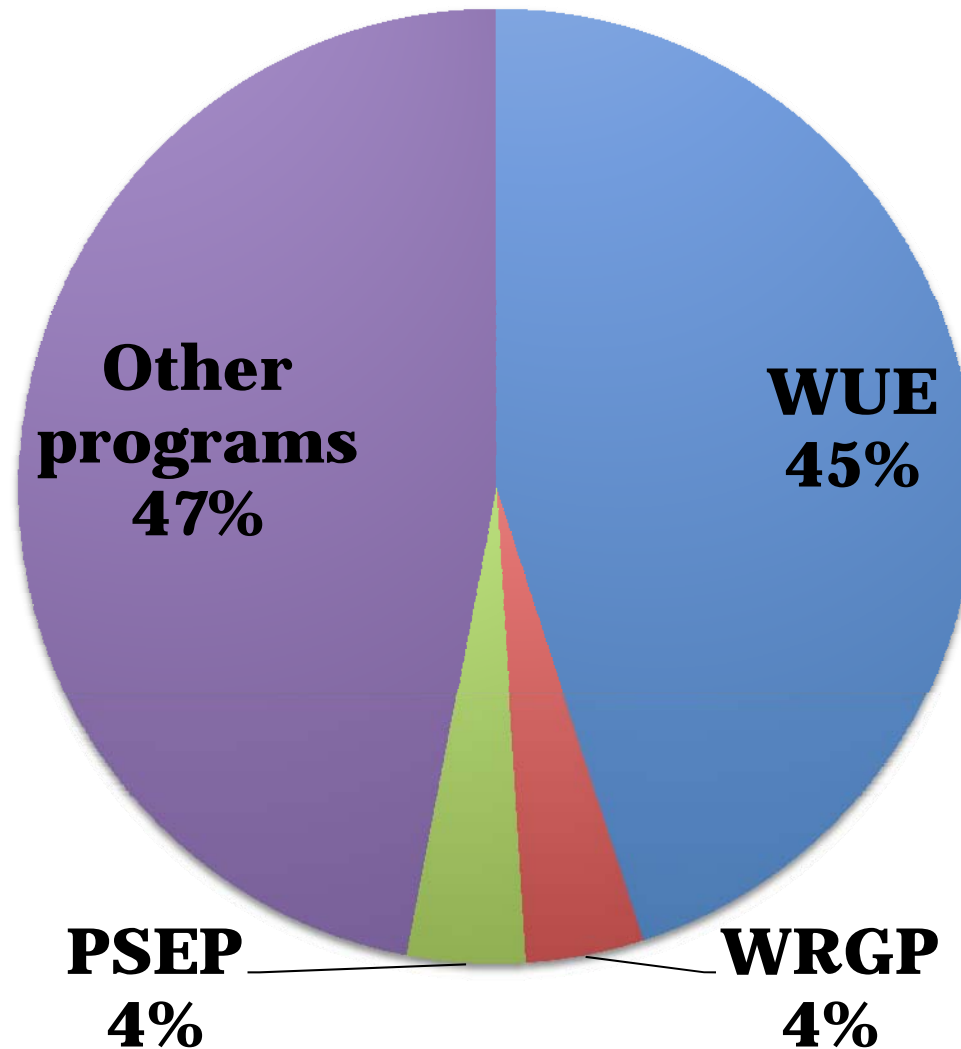
**Proposal to Upgrade Databases and
Web Interfaces for the Student Exchange Programs**

Challenges with Current Databases

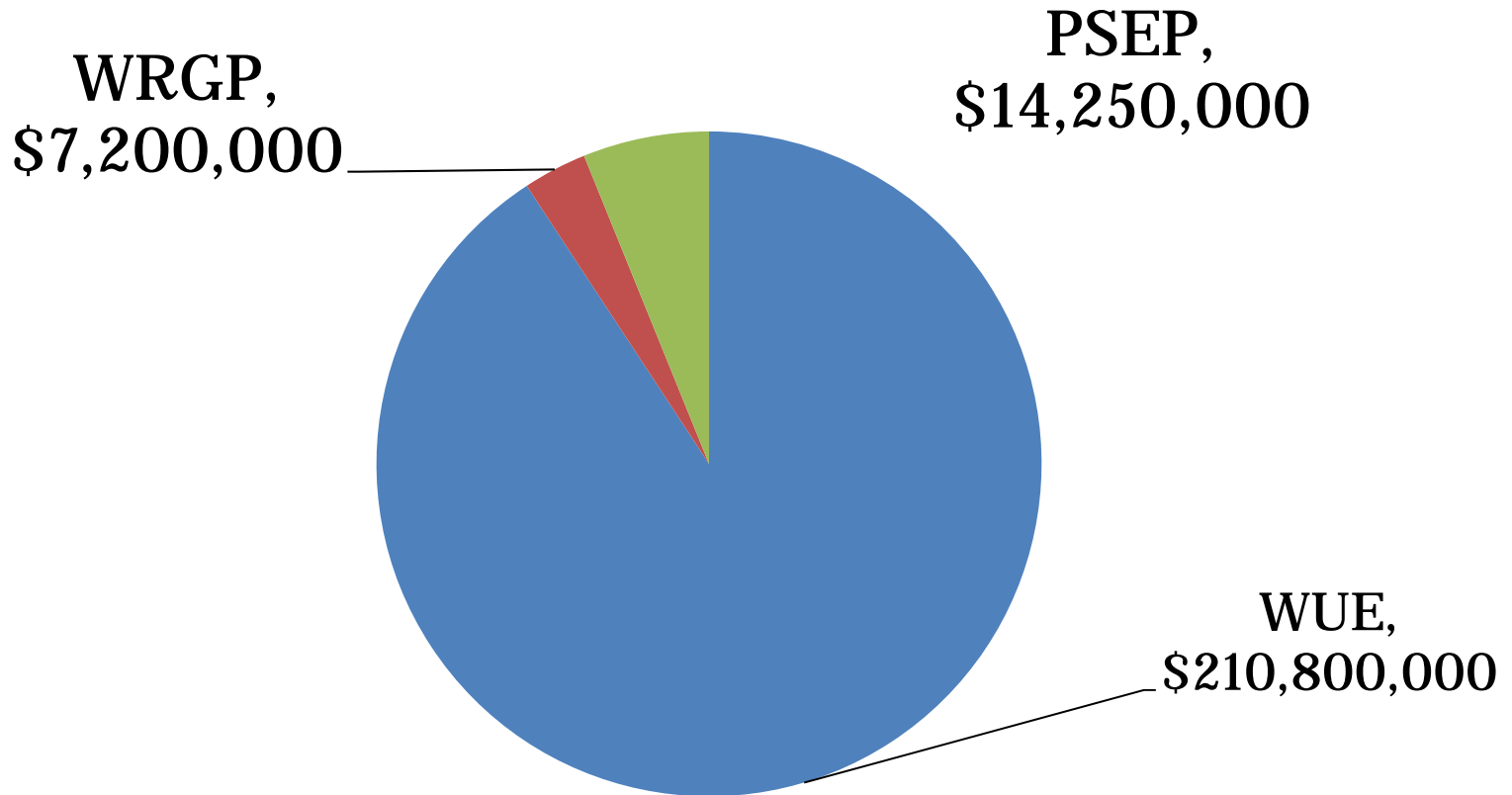
- Legacy systems; impossible to maintain over LT.
- Painfully slow databases, especially for enrollment reporting.
- Unfriendly interface and design.
- Inefficient for staff and HEI administrators.
- Limited reporting capability, requiring time-intensive work-arounds.
- Some states don't have databases for PSEP administration and could benefit from full access to ours.



WICHE Web Traffic



SEP Financial Impact (AY 2010) = \$232.3 million





Proposed Improvements & Cost and Time

- Sleeker and user-friendly interface
- Speedier performance
- Improved search results & reporting capability
- Better coordination with state PSEP databases
- Increased access to PSEP student information for certifying officers
- Estimated cost and time:
 - WUE/WRGP: 8 weeks @ \$20K
 - PSEP: 20 weeks @ \$40K; begin July 2011

Is It Necessary?

What we're using now...



What would make us more efficient and accessible to our constituents...



<http://www.wiche.edu/SEP>

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

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STUDENT EXCHANGE

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This not only offers opportunities at a very affordable rate to those students who are joining us, but it also enriches the experience of our California residents studying here, by exposing them to perspectives and experiences different from their own.”

- Greg Smith, PhD

Associate Vice President, Planning, Enrollment Management,
and Student Affairs, California State University, East Bay

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“As a husband and father of three children, the challenge of funding my professional optometry education has been overwhelming. PSEP has reduced my financial stress allowed me to dedicate myself to my family and maintain a healthy work-life balance, which ultimately contributes to my success as a student.”



**- Dylan Hatfield
Class of 2013, Pacific University,
College of Optometry**



“Ever since I was five, I knew that I wanted to be a veterinarian, but never thought about the cost! Without WICHE support, I would have had to let my dream die and been forced to pursue a second-choice career.

I encourage our legislators to continue to support WICHE’s PSEP, as it is often the only way for many low income students raised in rural agricultural areas to pursue higher education. It will allow me to return to Montana and serve the state’s shortage of food animal veterinarians. It’s a “win-win” for both student and the state.”

**Thanks Montana!
- Kelsey Gabrian, Class of 2012
Washington State University,
College of Veterinary Medicine**

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“My “Aunt WICHE” from Nevada has made going to optometry school possible. Without her help, I'd be on a restricted diet of Top Ramen! My peers who don't receive assistance from family (like my Aunt WICHE) must go on food stamps to offset their meager loans. Thanks to WICHE's PSEP, I can pay my rent and buy required optometric equipment.

I am proud to be a Nevadan: my state government supports me and values my future profession! I believe I'll be a valuable part of Nevada's healthcare system and I look forward to serving my state.”



**- Nicki Holihan
Class of 2012, Pacific University,
College of Optometry**

“I recently graduated from Pacific University’s optometry program and returned to practice in a small community in my home state of North Dakota.

Many of my peers who didn’t receive WICHE support were forced to stay in urban areas where salaries are higher, so that they can afford to pay off their student loans; some owe staggering amounts of almost \$200,000!

I am deeply grateful to WICHE and North Dakota. PSEP gave me the luxury of establishing my rural practice.”

- Dr. Candace Paul Hoff

Class of 2008, Pacific University, College of Optometry

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“The average optometry graduate owes around \$130,000 in student loans! WICHE support absolutely makes a difference.

It has allowed me the opportunity to pursue a one-year residency program in Oklahoma. With the advanced skills I’m learning, I’ll be qualified to treat more complex ocular conditions when I establish my practice in a rural area in Wyoming.”



**- Dr. Kaila Osmotherly, OD
Class of 2010, Pacific University,
College of Optometry**

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“Without WICHE support, I wouldn’t have been able to attend optometry school. PSEP has allowed me to keep my loan debt to a minimum despite ever increasing tuition costs (more than \$30,000 for the 2010-11 academic year), not to mention an additional \$6,000 for equipment, books, and travel.

I want to return to Montana and practice in the state that has given me this great opportunity.”

- Kris Sherrill

Class of 2011, Pacific University, College of Optometry