October 17, 2005

The Honorable Christine Gregoire  
Governor of the State of Washington  
Legislative Building  
Olympia, WA  98504

Dear Governor Gregoire:

This letter transmits the 2006 supplemental capital budget request for Eastern Washington University. Developed within the guidelines set by the Office of Financial Management, this request represents Eastern’s continued university-wide efforts to focus on its mission to prepare broadly educated, technologically proficient, and highly productive citizens.

Eastern’s proposal requests pre-design and design funding for Patterson Hall and Martin-Williamson Hall. These core academic buildings are a high priority in support of a flexible learning environment needed for implementation of Eastern’s academic strategic plan.

Eastern Washington University remains focused on its mission and is diligently working to fulfill its obligation to serve the educational needs of its region. Your support for and recognition of the role of higher education in a successful state economy is critical to our institution, our citizens and our state.

I urge you to carefully consider and support this request, and I look forward to discussing Eastern’s plans with you and your staff. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Brian Levin-Stankevich, Ph.D.  
Interim President
Patterson Hall Renovation (Pre Design/Design)

Patterson Hall, constructed in 1969, does not meet the operational, technology or capacity shifts that are an essential part of Eastern's academic strategic plan. Patterson Hall is the largest of Eastern’s academic facilities at 103,000 gross square feet and houses classroom seating for 1,478 students and laboratory seating for 80. The design requested for the renovation of Patterson Hall on the Eastern Washington University Cheney campus was the highest ranking unfunded priority for capital funding in the 2005-07 Capital Request.

The principal issue in this capital request is to respond to our urgent student needs in the largest and most used academic spaces on campus. Patterson Hall has significant critical infrastructure barriers to providing quality program instruction and administration in core academic areas such as English, Government, History, Social Sciences and Economics. Major systems including electrical, HVAC, plumbing and fire safety are out-of-date and in urgent need of upgrade.

In addition, the spaces within the current facility do not lend themselves to either the flexibility or enrollment capacity that Eastern needs to serve its students. Eastern’s intention is to take clear, accurate and specific understanding of the facility needs and address them through a process that determines options and applies the best options to address the problems.

This project would totally renovate the interior and exterior of Patterson Hall. Programming emphasis will be on creating safe and comfortable facilities for quality and flexible instructional, administrative support and student gathering spaces. This project will increase the sustainability and efficiency of Patterson Hall for many future years.

The restoration of Patterson Hall’s major building systems will reduce costly deferred maintenance, preserve a valuable state asset and address critical life safety issues such as fire detection, suppression, indoor air quality and ADA accessibility items. These essential needs address the Priorities of Government, HECB capital priorities and that of the EWU Strategic Master Plan.

If this project is unfunded, Patterson Hall will continue to be less efficient in its operations, the project will be more expensive in future years, and Eastern’s capacity efficiency goal as outlined by the HECB will be more difficult to achieve.

The Patterson Hall project is closely linked to the programmatic needs of Eastern and to the OFM priorities of protection of people, protection of assets and cost savings.

The requested predesign and design budget for the Patterson Hall project is $2,000,000. The estimated budget to complete the project in future biennia is $24,278,216.
Martin-Williamson Hall Remodel (Pre Design/Design)

Martin Hall was originally built in 1947, with its annex Williamson Hall constructed in 1977. At 91,483 gross square feet the Martin-Williamson facility is one of Eastern’s largest academic buildings and has an instructional seating capacity of 1,280 seats and laboratory seating capacity of 172. The design requested for the renovation of Martin-Williamson Hall on the Eastern Washington University Cheney Campus was included in Eastern’s 2005-07 Capital Request.

The Martin-Williamson facility is rapidly emerging as an obstacle to providing effective quality program instruction and administration in core academic areas including Education, Human Development and Psychology. Changing enrollments, variable section sizes and the need to respond to changing needs of our future student population have moved the renovation of Martin and Williamson Hall to a high level priority. The current spaces within the facility do not lend themselves to either the flexibility or capacity that Eastern needs for implementation of its strategic plan. In addition, major infrastructure systems in Martin-Williamson Hall are out-of-date and in urgent need of upgrade.

Renovation of Martin/Williamson includes both interior and exterior restoration of the facility. Programming emphasis will be on creating quality and flexible instructional, administrative support and student gathering spaces. Increasing capacity, reducing operational costs and responding to technology shifts will bring the facility in line with Eastern strategic planning initiatives. The total restoration of major building systems in Martin-Williamson Hall will address costly deferred maintenance issues, substantially preserve the life of a valuable state asset and address critical life safety issues such as fire detection and suppression, indoor air quality and ADA upgrades.

This project recognizes the potential for renewal of existing academic and program facilities in lieu of construction of new facilities, a critical link to required statewide results for capital budget strategy.

If the Martin-Williamson project is unfunded, this major academic facility will continue to be less efficient in its operations and will proportionally reduce Eastern’s capacity efficiency goal as outlined by the HECB.

The requested predesign and design budget for the Martin-Williamson Hall project is $2,000,000. The estimated budget to complete the project in future biennia is $22,437,695.