TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Joe Dacca
Director
State Relations
YES, YOU CAN

> Engage in the political process as a private individual using private resources

> Educate elected officials and state government leaders on a policy issue or serve as an “expert” on a policy

> Respond to direct legislative requests for information

> Directly lobby a legislator (or executive) as a UW employee using UW resources as long as you report it with the PDC
  – Direct lobbying typically means asking for something (policy, funding, etc.) or asking them not to specifically do something

> Lobby a legislator on a personal topic using your UW affiliation as long as you lobby on your own time and explicitly state you are speaking for yourself and not the University

> **Please coordinate UW advocacy with the State Relations Office**
NO, YOU CAN’T

> Engage in grassroots lobbying as a UW employee using UW resources
  - Grassroots lobbying typically includes a “call to action” in support of specific funding or policy change
> Participate in political campaigns during work hours or donate to campaigns using public funds
> Work to pass or defeat a ballot initiative using UW time or resources
MEETING WITH A LEGISLATOR OR TESTIFYING BEFORE A COMMITTEE

> Be early – things move quickly during session
> Be concise – time in session is precious
> Be flexible – schedules often change
> Be gracious – do not disparage other institutions, programs, legislators, or political parties
> Use concrete examples that connect policy & funding to the needs of the state and its residents
> If you don’t know the answer, that’s ok, we’ll find it together and follow up
2019 UW STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Joe Dacca
Director
State Relations
2019 SESSION AT A GLANCE

> A “Democratic Trifecta” exists in Olympia, with Democrats controlling the House, Senate, and Governor’s Mansion
> In the 2018 Election, Democrats picked up seats in both the House (57-41) and Senate (28-21)
> Sen. Andy Billig (LD 3) will serve as the new Senate Majority Leader, Rep. JT Wilcox (LD 2) will serve as new Minority House Leader Speaker Chopp & Leader Schoesler will continue in their leadership roles
> 105 Day (long) session, the 2019-21 budget will be decided
> Big legislative topics will include mental health, affordable housing, homelessness, climate, and taxes
> Uncertainty in Washington DC may spur action in Olympia
Operating Budget Priorities:

- **Compensation:** We request two 4% raises for faculty and pro staff, that our CBAs are approved in full, and that state funding be increased to cover 50% of employee compensation and central service expenses (aka. the “fund-split”).

- **STEM Degrees & Programs:** We request state support to produce more STEM degrees for WA students and employers.
  - **Bothell:** $1.5M to add degree capacity to support the biomedical Innovation Partnership Zone (IPZ) near campus;
  - **Seattle:** $8M to add enrollments to and increase graduates from the College of Engineering & maintain the STARS program;
  - **Tacoma:** $1.81M to establish B.S. programs in mechanical and civil engineering.
Operating Budget Priorities (Continued):

> Data Science Education for Non-STEM Majors: $4M to teach data science and analytics to 1,200 non-STEM students each year starting FY21;

> UW Center for Human Rights: $375K to support the center, which is working in collaboration with advocates and policymakers to improve human rights outcomes in WA state;

> Center for Advanced Materials and Clean Energy Technology (CAMCET): $2M to support operations of the nation’s premier open-access facility for sharing academic and industry-relevant clean energy research instrumentation and technology.
UW Health Care Safety Net Support:

> UW Medicine and the UW School of Dentistry play major roles as “safety-net” health-care providers for low-income Washingtonians at Harborview Medical Center, UW Medical Center, and UW Dentistry Clinics.

> We requested state support to help continue our mission of caring for a disproportionate share of Medicaid, Medicare and uninsured patients from across the state and region.
UW 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA – PART 4

Capital Budget Priorities:

> $70M to construct a health sciences education building in Seattle;

> $35M to construct a STEM education facility at UWB in partnership with Cascadia College;

> $4M to design an academic innovation building at UWT;

> $5M to design an interdisciplinary teaching and research facility for the College of Engineering in Seattle;

> $1M in pre-design funds to plan replacement needs for the Magnuson Health Sciences Center in Seattle.
> Fill out legislative analysis in BillTracker when asked
> Get your fiscal notes in on time
> Be a problem solver – remember we’re all on one team
> If you are lead on a major bill or issue, provide day and evening contact information so we can get a hold of you
> If you plan to visit Olympia, please give us a heads up
> If you need me and can’t get in touch with me, don’t panic – call Morgan or Maggie!
QUESTIONS?

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