

Proposed University Budget

The state legislature in late January and early February was pondering a budget proposal for higher education. O.U.'s financial vice president explains the budget request.

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A request for \$21,245,948 in state funds for higher education in each year of the 1953-55 biennium was under consideration by the State Legislature in January.

In addition, the State Regents for Higher Education submitted a request for \$3,150,000 as a capital appropriation for modernization and repair and for equipment.

The amount of state funds requested to operate the 18 institutions in the state system each year represents an increase of slightly more than fifty percent over the average appropriation for each year of the present biennium.

Reasons for requesting substantially greater support from the state include:

a) Serious need for a substantial upward adjustment of faculty salary scales.

b) Continued decline in income from veterans' fees.

c) Demand for more public services through extension and research.

Exclusive of specialized functions such as University Hospitals, Geological Survey, Agricultural Experiment Station and Agricultural Extension, the trend in the state system's income from sources other than state appropriations is as follows:

Annual average 1951-53 \$5,260,117

Annual average 1953-55 \$4,328,678

The State Regents' legislative request for the University is itemized in the table below.

The financial program for University Hospitals is based on the assumption that the Legislature will implement recommendations of the Governor's special committee on financing the hospitals. The plan is to make legislative provision for the hospital to receive 80% of the amount needed for its operations through welfare agencies and 20% through the State Regents Board.

STATE REGENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANNUAL OPERATIONS 1953-55 FOR STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

	University ¹	A. and M. ²	Nine Four-Year Colleges	Seven Junior Colleges
General administration and general expense	\$ 751,793	\$ 773,409	\$ 684,800	\$ 211,780
Resident instruction	5,051,764 ³	4,619,601	3,424,000	962,640
Research	375,155	2,006,658	102,720	28,880
Extension	600,088	2,466,386	342,400	96,264
Library	334,835	325,212	273,920	77,012
Operation and Maintenance of physical plant	1,092,833	1,172,793	924,480	259,912
Medical care of indigent	2,514,720			
	<u>\$10,721,188</u>	<u>\$11,364,059</u>	<u>\$5,752,320</u>	<u>\$1,636,488</u>

¹ Includes Norman Campus, School of Medicine, University Hospitals and Geological Survey.

² Includes Stillwater Campus, Veterinary Medicine, Experiment Station, Agricultural Extension and Okmulgee Technical School.

³ Includes 20% of cost of operating teaching hospitals (\$628,680).

The total operating budget recommended for the Norman Campus is approximately the same as was recommended two years ago. It calls for an increase of about fifty percent in state funds, but only thirty percent in total operating budget.

Although the state appropriation for the Norman Campus for the present fiscal year is about \$700,000 more than it was four years ago, the operating budget is a million dollars *less*—because of the decline in veterans' fee income.

For the 1953-55 biennium, with fees from veterans no longer a significant factor, the University must rely upon state appropriations for 80% of its operating budget.

Following is a brief substantiation of the State Regents' request for the Norman Campus for each year of 1953-55 as compared to this fiscal year:

Instruction, and Organized Activities Related to Instruction. Increase of \$800,000 requested in order to

a) Bring the faculty salary average closer to \$5,600, at a cost of \$275,000 (an increase of about 13%).

b) Provide 48 new faculty positions at cost of \$217,000, to restore the most essential positions of those eliminated in budget reductions of last three years.

c) Restore full salaries for faculty either on leave or on part-time this year, at cost of \$137,000.

d) Add service staff positions and Graduate Assistants where needed to prevent faculty members dissipating their energies on non-professional work, at cost of \$80,000.

e) Make modest increases in maintenance budgets for supplies and equipment.

Organized Research. Increase from \$59,000 to \$190,000, in order to enlarge faculty research, and to render greater service to public by undertaking investigations important to the economic development of the state.

Libraries. Increase from \$265,000 to \$303,147 in order to

a) Increase fund for books and periodicals from present level of only \$80,000.

STATE REGENTS' LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR O.U.

	Total Operations Budget	From State Funds	From Other Funds
Norman Campus	\$ 6,555,548	\$ 5,244,438	\$ 1,311,110
School of Medicine	868,240	720,640	147,000
University Hospitals	3,143,400	628,680	147,600
Geological Survey	154,000	154,000	—
	<u>\$10,721,188</u>	<u>\$6,747,758</u>	<u>\$3,973,430</u>

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born December 21, 1952. Mrs. Schisler is the former Edith Hume Long, '52ba. The Schislars are serving as missionaries of the Methodist church in Sao Paule, Brazil. Schisler is editor of the Methodist Youth paper and director of Methodist Youth activities. They left for Brazil in June, 1952. Mrs. Schisler received the Dads' Day and Religious Leadership awards while a student at the University.

Lt. Sam Perrine, '52bus, is stationed at an air base in Greenville, Mississippi. He is taking advanced flying training.

Lt. Joe S. Nicholson, '52ba, Stroud, recently completed an associate infantry company officers' course at Fort Benning, Georgia.

2nd. Lt. Harrison L. Hays III, '52bus, Bartlesville, was recently sent to Korea where he is now serving with the 25th Infantry Division.

James I. Monroe, '52journal, has resigned as *Norman Transcript* sports editor to accept a job as general news reporter on the *Enid Morning News*.

Basketball and Wrestling . . .

game, O.U.'s overall record was 6 wins and 5 losses. Conference standings found O.U. on top with a 3-0 record. All other teams in the conference had been beaten at least once.

Even the most partisan O.U. fan was not thinking in terms of a Big Seven championship, however. O.U.'s wins were on

the friendly home court and Kansas, Missouri and Colorado had demonstrated that they would be hard to beat at the next meeting. Kansas State looked hard to beat under any conditions.

However, Drake had already proved himself a good prophet. He was right apparently when he said, "If we are playing well, we can cope with any team. . ."

A conference championship in wrestling looked like something more than a remote possibility as the wrestling season opened. Port Robertson, '37ba, and his wrestlers have taken the conference title four out of the last five years and have won the last two national championships. Five of Oklahoma's six Big Seven champions of last year are members of this year's team and a sixth, Don Hearon, unlimited weight division, was conference runner-up last year.

Leading the individual performers this year is Tommy Evans. Evans won the NCAA 147-pound championship last year and was voted by the tournament coaches as the outstanding wrestler in the tournament. He was later selected for the Olympic squad and lost in the finals at Helsinki on a split decision. His collegiate wrestling record is 30 wins and 1 loss.

The Reece brothers, Don and Harold,

both Big Seven champs at 130- and 137-pounds respectively, move into a lower weight bracket this year (123 and 130). They were moved up a notch last year because Robertson had NCAA champ Billy Borders as 123-pound representative.

Bryan Rayburn, 157-pound Big Seven champ, and Frank Marks, 167-pound conference winner for the past two years, help give Robertson's squad a good deal of experience.

Among the folks who know, the feeling is that Oklahoma is in line to repeat as national champions. It's far too early to tell what other challengers will develop, but Oklahoma is going to be a strong contender.

The swimming team opened its season in mid-January against Kansas with a victory and the track team sent it's mile relay squad to the Sugar Bowl track meet in late December. For the third year in a row, the O.U. quartet won the first place trophy.

O.U.'s winter sports program, like Oklahoma's weather, offers a change of pace to the strangle hold football maintains on sports interest in the fall.

Explanation of State Regents' Request for '53-'55 Budget . . .

b) Catch up on 5,000 arrearage in binding of periodicals.

c) Adjust salary rates, particularly in professional librarian positions.

d) Restore regular hours of operation which had to be reduced this year.

e) Meet urgent equipment needs totaling \$18,065.

Extension. Increase total operating budget \$225,000 in order to do a more adequate job of carrying the University's educational resources to 900 communities in Oklahoma. The University believes it should receive, to make its educational resources available to the general public of Oklahoma, as much in state funds as any other institution receives for extension activities.

Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant. Increase budget from \$838,000 to 1,023,120. Actual needs, as reported by the Director of Physical Plant, total \$125,000 more than that and include:

a) \$177,000 increase annually to meet need for current repairs to buildings.

b) \$6,000 increase for repairs to utilities, equipment, streets and walks.

c) \$8,300 increase for grounds upkeep.

d) \$11,000 increase for janitor service.

e) \$29,000 increase for heat, light, power and water.

f) \$25,000 increase for equipment replacements.

Capital. Following is a summary of capital needs for the Norman Campus:

New buildings	\$6,360,000
Minor Construction	241,800
Modernization and Repair	756,359
Capital equipment	296,336
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	\$7,654,495

(1) *New Buildings.* The following are needed in the near future

Library Addition	\$2,000,000
Journalism	475,000
Fine Arts (Music, Drama)	800,000
Biological Sciences Wing	650,000
Chemistry Addition	1,350,000
Women's Physical Education	1,085,000
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	\$6,360,000

(2) Other Construction Items

Connect Kaufman and	
Gittinger Halls	\$152,000
Biological Station	90,000
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	\$242,000

The state Regents have recommended a 37% increase in state funds for the School of Medicine, and 26% increase in the total operating budget.

The increase is justified by need for increasing the staff to take care of the increase in enrolment, starting two years ago, which will result in 100 students in each of the four classes by the second year of 1953-55.

	STATE REGENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS	
	Percentage Increase	Amount of Increase
For Increases in State Funds for Institutions of Higher Education For 1953-54 as Compared to 1952-53		
Okmulgee Technical School	99.8	\$ 174,694
Nine Four-Year Colleges	95.3	2,414,145
A.&M. Experiment Station	75.2	557,332
Geological Survey	64.8	60,538
A.&M. College	63.4	1,977,543
University of Oklahoma	56.7	1,897,527
Seven Junior Colleges	51.3	477,914
Agricultural Extension	51.1	403,573
Veterinary Medicine	50.9	69,827
University School of Medicine	37.2	195,381
University Hospitals	(-44.7)	(-508,204)*
Total increase in state funds		\$7,720,270

*Assuming legislation will be adopted to provide 80% of Hospitals' budget from other sources.