

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL DIFFERENTIAL TUITION
FOR ALL GRADUATE DEGREES IN THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES
MASTER OF CITY AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING
MASTER OF REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
PH.D. IN METROPOLITAN PLANNING, POLICY AND DESIGN**

The University of Utah continues to examine tuition levels for various graduate programs. It is proposed, here, to augment the current differential tuition for all graduate degrees in the College of Architecture + Planning, beginning in academic year 2017-2018. If this request is granted, all degree programs will continue to offer the next to least expensive resident graduate tuition of any comparable program in the PAC-12.

Background Information

The College of Architecture and Planning offers the only professionally-accredited degree programs in the state of Utah, and the Master of City and Metropolitan Planning is the only-accredited degree program in a five state region. The College is seeing growing interest in our degrees, with over 300 freshmen applying for direct admission, and the demand for our graduates is high as reflected in our 97 percent of students employed at graduate rate. Our spring 2016 job fair was standing room only and prospective employers are increasingly coming from across the nation, reflecting our growing national reputation.

The professional education required is highly specialized, increasingly at the leading edge of digital technology and advanced manufacturing techniques, and with accreditation criteria requiring low student:faculty ratios. In 2001, Dean William Miller instituted Differential Tuition in order to support ancillary educational needs such as a material fabrication shop and digital technology. In 2009, Dean Brenda Scheer secured a small increase to help offset the cost associated with the student:faculty ratios highlighted above.

Proposal

Beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year, differential tuition is proposed to include the current per Student Credit Hour (SCH) rate (\$164.42/SCH in 2016-2017) along with an additional \$600/Semester "Zero-hour" differential tuition. These changes would shift the average tuition and fees for full-time CA+P graduate students from \$7070.25/semester to \$7670.25/semester (based upon FY17 rates and 14 credits per semester). Both the current per-credit-hour differential tuition and the new "zero-hour" differential tuition would

then subsequently increase in alignment with approved general tuition increases for the university.

Rationale

The current differential tuition assessed is insufficient to maintain already promised ancillary support and the small class size. As illustration, in FY16, differential tuition generated \$521,104, but expenditures related to the above initiatives were \$640,589, resulting in a shortfall of (\$119,485). At a rate of \$600/semester, this would have generated approximately \$147,600 in FY17. However, with the renewed growth evident in our undergraduate programs, we can reasonably project growth to where this should produce \$210,000 annually by FY21.

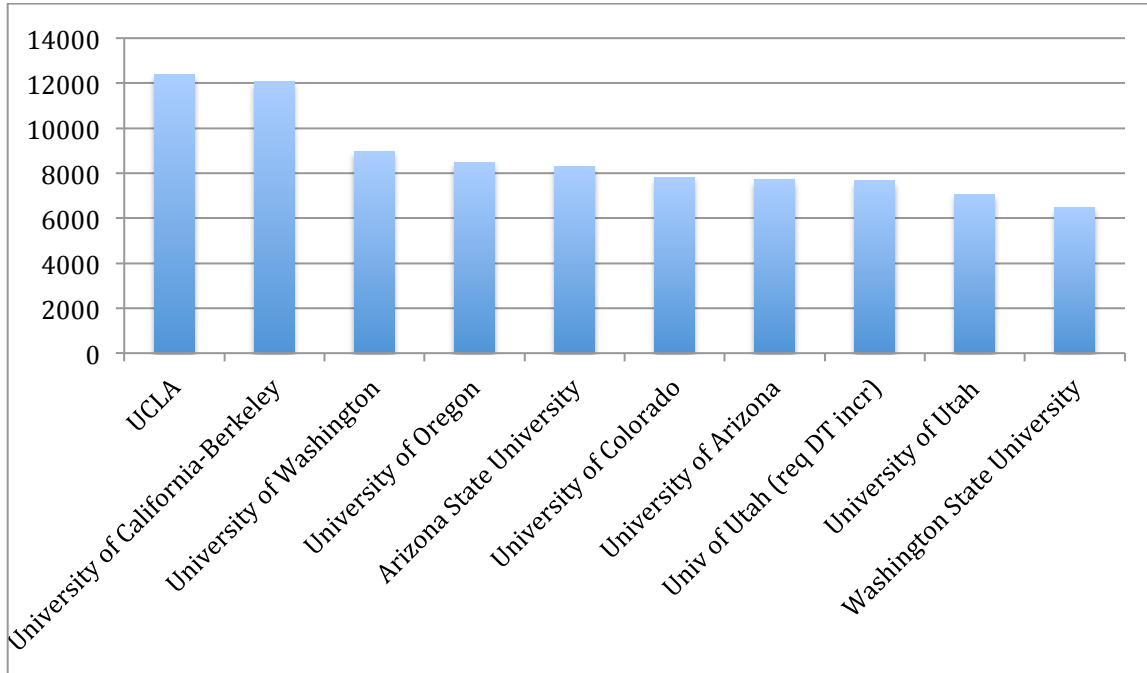
In discussing this increase with students, the first priority is to adequately resource the above-mentioned support services solely through differential tuition, freeing other dollars for the instructional mission. These freed-up dollars along with any additional dollars would be targeted for expenditure in two areas: high-impact learning experiences (such as study away, community engagement, and internship programs), and graduate student success (e.g. advising, career counseling, mentoring program). Each of these are a value-add to the employability of graduates and sets them on a more rapid path for advancement in the workplace.

Competitive Position

The following chart (Figure 1) compares FY17 resident tuition and fees (including differential tuition) per semester at our PAC-12 Peers that have both architecture and planning and are public universities. The University of Utah offers one of the most cost-effective programs for students in the PAC-12.

This proposal seeks simultaneously to increase necessary revenue to the College while not altering its comparative position in cost effectiveness. As demonstrated, adding a \$600 per semester zero-hour differential tuition to our current differential tuition will maintain the University of Utah's position as offering a lower cost-entry point to graduate education in these fields than all of our peers except Washington State. It is interesting to note that regional rankings of these program tends to roughly follow the tuition and fees charged (the 2015 *Design Intelligence* rankings has UC-Berkeley (1), UCLA (2) and the University of Oregon (3) as the top ranked public architecture schools in the west).

Figure 1: FY17 Residential Tuition and Fees (incl. DT) per semester



It is also interesting to compare existing differential tuitions across the University of Utah and expected earnings in the associated career paths. Table A illustrates the various FY17 differential tuitions charged on campus in comparison to their 2015 median salary (as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Table A: FY17 Differential Tuition at U of U

UNIT/PROGRAM	Per Credit	median \$ (BL
Pharmacy	\$ 594.43	121500
Gaming	\$ 557.16	69410
Eccles Business	\$ 536.07	86,110
MIAGE	\$ 506.68	63530
Genetic Counseling	\$ 348.38	72090
Law	\$ 316.75	115,820
Public Policy	\$ 291.25	102000
OT	\$ 290.80	80150
Bio. Informatics	\$ 287.18	82,240
PT	\$ 283.88	84020
Nutrition	\$ 277.78	55240
Communications	\$ 275.68	45860
Occupational Health	\$ 245.52	70210
Public Health	\$ 245.52	43840
Arch + Planning (proposed)	\$ 207.28	73090
Nursing	\$ 181.33	104740
Arch + Planning (cur)	\$ 164.42	73090
Social Work	\$ 122.23	44200
Public Administration	\$ 109.20	86110
Engineering	\$ 74.74	79340

This Table illustrates that even with the requested additional “zero-hour” differential tuition (calculated as \$600/14 credit hours=\$42.86 additional), the graduate programs in the College of Architecture + Planning will maintain a differential tuition well below the average for those approved at the university (\$289.13 w/o CA+P) and therefore a request certainly aligned with previous approvals.

Both our Master of City and Metropolitan Planning (MCMP) and Master of Architecture (M.Arch.) programs are the only professionally-accredited degree programs in the state, the former accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) and the later by the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB). Our M.Arch. program has recently been ranked in the Top 6 programs nationally by graduateprograms.com, and our CMP program was recently ranked as high as 15th nationally.