

## **U. Washington president declines pay increases**

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The cash is flowing in Pullman, Wash.

As the second-highest-paid president among Washington state public colleges, Washington State University President V. Lane Rawlins is paid \$254,065 annually.

Karen Morse, President of Western Washington University, earns \$190,890 annually, while Jerilyn McIntyre, President of Central Washington University, makes \$175,000 with an additional \$10,000 in annuity.

Eastern Washington University President Stephen Jordon recently received a raise, which increased his salary from \$151,419 to \$176,419, and Thomas Purce, Evergreen State College President, earns \$155,556.

In the past few years Rawlins has been at WSU, salaries for presidents in similar institutions outside of Washington state have gone up, said William Marler, WSU Board of Regents president.

In comparison to other university presidents, Rawlins is underpaid. He has declined salary increases for the past two years, however.

"I feel that leadership requires that you share the conditions of all in the organization, and I did not feel it would be appropriate for me to take an increase when most people are not getting them," Rawlins said. "We have made several special increases in the past two years, but I think my effectiveness would be diminished if I accepted an increase while we are making budget reductions." The Board of Regents is attempting to keep the president's salary competitive with that of other universities.

"The university as a whole is grossly underpaid," said Robert Rosenman, chair of the Department of Economics. "It is laudable that Dr. Rawlins has turned down raises when the university staff and faculty are not getting raises." When the University of Washington hires a new president, salaries will most likely be compared around the state.

University of Washington interim President Lee Huntsman currently receives \$296,400. A newly employed president could earn considerably more.

But for now, Rawlins is maintaining his current pay scale. "He's making sure he's treated the same as every other employee in terms of raises," Rosenman said. "He puts himself in the same light as the rest of the faculty." When more funding is allotted to the faculty as a whole, Rawlins may be more open to a pay increase.

"I would accept a raise when more general raises are available," Rawlins said. "One thing is important: When a raise occurs, I need to be very open about it and about the reasons for it." ((Distributed via M2 Communications Ltd - <http://www.m2.com>))