

# MEETING THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE

The Future of the State of Washington and the University of Washington

## W vs. Ucla : COMPARING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

One way to look at the \$4,000-per-student funding gap that exists between resources invested in the UW and those invested at comparable public universities is to compare the UW freshman experience with that of a typical UCLA freshman. The two schools are a lot alike — both are major research universities with top faculty and diverse student bodies that include a good number of low-income undergraduates. But the UW and UCLA are very different in how much each spends per student. Total resources available per student at UCLA are about \$6,500 more than at the UW, and that results in:

- UCLA has a widely-hailed Freshman Cluster program — a year long course that introduces students to a number of interdisciplinary perspectives on a topic, and allows them to develop close relationships with faculty.
- UCLA freshmen can choose from 200 freshman seminars of no more than 20 students.
- UCLA freshmen get advice from professors, counselors and peers through academic advising and the “Academics in the Commons” program run by students for students.
- UCLA faculty salaries are, on average, 25% higher than faculty at the UW.
- UCLA faculty are given the time, resources and support they need to teach and advise these students.
- UCLA faculty are provided incentives to teach specialized first-year courses and to closely advise students from freshman year on.

That’s the difference that the funding gap makes — serving the many, or serving just a few.

### WHERE WE RANK

#### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN UW AND UCLA

*Global Challenge Peer Institutions and their funding per full-time-equivalent student in fiscal year 2004-2005.*

INSTITUTION	FUNDING PER STUDENT
Rutgers University	\$27,608
<b>UCLA</b>	<b>\$24,067</b>
University of Connecticut	\$23,704
UC, Davis	\$21,803
University of Maryland	\$21,134
University of Massachusetts	\$20,648
UC, San Diego	\$18,563
University of Virginia	\$18,044
<b>UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON</b>	<b>\$17,709</b>
UC, Irvine	\$16,554
University of Colorado	\$13,287

THE \$6,358 DIFFERENCE

For more information, contact the UW Office of State Relations at 206-543-7604.