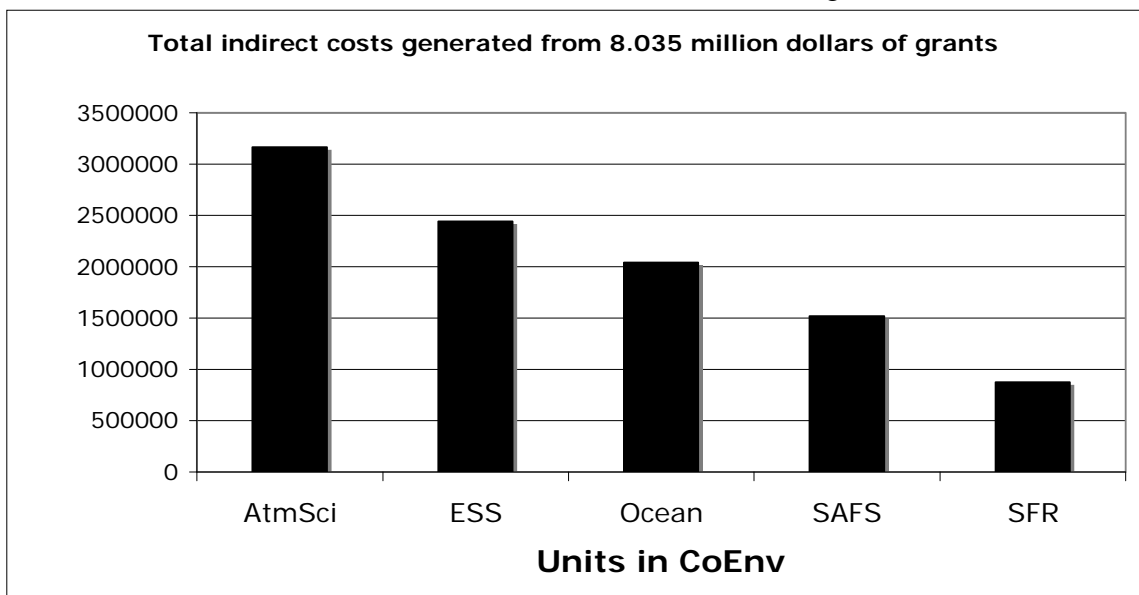


## Policy Statement with Regard to Proposal Approvals within the School of Forest Resources

The following foundation is necessary to understand why I am announcing a closer examination of proposals by the School of Forest Resources. Many of these points are already well known, but it is important to reiterate them and to have them as the framing reasons for these changes.

1. Associated with the core mission of teaching and research is the critical need to support our graduate and undergraduate students and to fund the institutional support of these functions.
2. Resources are down
  - a. State budget cuts have resulted in substantial cuts within the School. These include reductions in the number of teaching assistantships.
  - b. Our endowments are producing far less revenue (for example, if one received \$10,000 from an endowment for the quarter ending June 2008, this June that same endowment paid \$4560). The Long Fund, the Rachel Woods, the Lockwood, all of these College resources, especially those that underpin our scholarship program, are down.
3. Tuition costs have risen and will continue to rise.
4. We are now part of a College where our grant generation ability is competitive (8 plus million dollars). However, our indirect cost generation is not. This is due to the requirements of our historical funding sources and, in some cases, the agreements we have made with them. Other units in the new College have fewer of these arrangements. The graph below illustrates, assuming each unit generated 8 plus million dollars of grants per year, how we compare to the other units that are now (or in the immediate future will be) in the new College.



- a. The contrast is powerful
- b. The amount that we receive will decrease in steps, by agreement with the Interim Dean, over the next five years (0 decrease year 1, etc.).

5. We are in a University where
  - a. Tuition revenues exceed state support.
  - b. The total percentage of the University's budget from the state takes the UW closer and closer to a private University model.

Through the western and national NAUFRP (National Association of University Forest Resource Programs), I have initiated a discussion of the 0% IC on USFS budgets (as well as the way USFS Coop Agreements treat the payment of graduate students; i.e., schedule 3). This began with a call to Dean Salwasser at Oregon State and then a discussion with NAUFRP representatives (including those from the USFS) around the west. These issues will be discussed further at the September SAF meetings.

We need to think about indirect costs in positive light; these resources are critical for the financial health of both the School and the University.

In the first three weeks of my tenure as Interim Director, I have approved \$500,000 in grant applications where over \$400,000 had no indirect cost recoveries. Even more disturbing several had little or no clear, direct intellectual or programmatic linkages to the UW and most had no support of either undergraduate or graduate students. This pattern is unacceptable. As a consequence, I am initiating the following policy regarding grant proposals:

In order for Interim Director Hinckley or his designee to approve a proposal it must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. It must have standard indirect costs OR
2. It must have a significant support of graduate and/or undergraduate students OR
3. IT must be clearly linked to UW programs and their associated educational, research or outreach missions.

Any grant not meeting at least one of these will require an extensive discussion with me. It is critically important that we continue to increase our support of students and our capture of indirect costs as we move into the future.

Tom