

February 5, 2024

Dear Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the faculty and staff hires for the Social Work program at Washington State University. As can be seen in the proposal, 7.3 FTE will be hired over the next four years to support the new Social Work Programs at Washington State University. All positions are new and funded by the Washington State Legislature in 2023. The number of full-time faculty to be hired is 5 along with 1.3 administrative professional and 1 civil service positions.

At least 4 faculty are required by CSWE accreditation to meet the minimum number of faculty needed according to their accreditation standards. Two directors are needed, one as director for the BSW program and one for field education. Two more career-track faculty are needed to meet the 1:25 faculty/student ratio. Additional faculty hires will likely follow as we expand the Social Work Program with the addition of an MSW degree and explore course offerings at additional campuses. Starting the SW program in Tri-Cities will allow WSU to establish a base for social work in rural areas of the state. Expanding the program as it grows to other campuses will allow WSU to help to fill the need for mental health professionals across the state as described in the proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Such a review is time consuming, and I appreciate your service to the institution in this way.

Sincerely,



Sandra Haynes,  
Chancellor