

TUITION

From Page 1A

justifications for the increases. Should the proposals be approved when the regents meet June 20-21 in Topeka, the tuition and fee increases would go into affect this fall.

University of Kansas

Jeffrey Vitter, provost and executive vice chancellor at the University of Kansas, said KU walks a "fine line" to make education accessible to students, even as state support for public education lags.

Compared to other Big 12 schools, KU is "much lower in terms of tuition income per student and what the state provides," Vitter said. "We have to work much harder to do more with less."

KU plans to raise tuition 5.1 percent for graduate and undergraduate students from Kansas and nonresident graduate students. Nonresident undergraduates could see their tuition increase by 6.9 percent. All students at the KU Medical Center campus could see a 6 percent tuition increase.

In addition to raising tuition, KU has also proposed increases to school-specific course fees and some campus privilege fees. Undergraduates previously participating in KU's Four-Year Tuition Compact will not be affected, but new students entering the compact for the first time this fall would have the 5.1 percent tuition increase.

According to the proposal, the increased tuition will generate \$14.42 million for the Lawrence campus. KU plans to use the money to expand its Honors Program, experiential learning opportunities and study abroad programs, as well as provide additional support to doctoral students, retention efforts and boost recruitment of out-of-state students.

KU has also earmarked \$1.1 million for the KU Tuition Grant program, bringing the amount of money for eligible students to \$10.1 million. The remaining portion of the \$14.42 million would be used to cover other needs, such as rising health insurance costs, faculty and staff retention, and technology improvements.

WSU

At Wichita State University, the tuition for in-state graduate and undergraduate students could rise 4 percent, pending approval by the Regents. Nonresident graduate and undergraduate students

TUITION AND FEES, PER SEMESTER

Resident undergrad, full-time enrollment

	KU Lawrence	KU Lawrence compact*	KSU	KSU-Salina	WSU	ESU	PSU	FHSU
FY 2012 approved tuition and fees	\$4,234.45	\$4,610.95	\$3,828.60	\$3,617.16	\$3,095.00	\$2,476.00	\$2,581.00	\$2,041.05
FY 2013 proposed tuition and fees	\$4,443.75	\$4,839.00	\$4,023.30	\$3,798.66	\$3,203.75	\$2,636.00	\$2,747.00	\$2,116.50
Proposed \$ increase	\$209.30	\$228.05	\$194.70	\$181.50	\$108.75	\$160.00	\$166.00	\$75.45
Proposed percent increase	4.9%	4.9%	5.1%	5%	3.5%	6.5%	6.4%	3.7%

* fixed for four years

may have a lower increase of 1.5 percent, but it is a dollar amount equivalent to their in-state peers, said Mary Herrin, vice president for Administration and Finance at WSU.

To determine the tuition increase, Herrin said WSU made a list of all required expenditures. The list included an increase in group health insurance, longevity pay and projected utility costs. The basic expenses totaled \$2.1 million, which is what WSU requested for its tuition increase.

"These are required things," said Herrin, who was involved in the tuition increase process. "It's not like we're adding new programs."

Olivia Sullivan, a junior at WSU and the Student Government Association vice president, said student government members meet one-on-one with department officials to determine need and scrutinize line-by-line the school's \$10.8 million budget every year. In addition to tuition, WSU has proposed a minor fee increase.

"This year, we were lucky because we only increased fees to match inflation," Sullivan said. The proposed fee increase is 1.73 percent, or 60 cents per credit hour.

"I think it's important that people know that tuition increases are mostly due to the economy," she said.

K-State

Courtney Taylor, a 23-year-old junior majoring in interior design at Kansas State University, said she is concerned about even the slightest tuition increase.

Before enrolling at K-State, Taylor said she attended other schools, including KU and Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Because she took out student loans at the other colleges, Taylor said she isn't eligible for as much aid as other students at K-State.

"I don't have any family support," Taylor said. "Anything I receive from financial aid, I live off the rest of it. So, it's just that much less to live off of."

At K-State, the proposed tuition increase is 5.5 percent

for all students at the Manhattan and Salina campuses, and 3 percent for nonresident graduate students attending K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine. According to the proposal, revenue generated from K-State's tuition increase would go to required expenditures similar to WSU, as well as toward retaining faculty, increasing retention programs and distance education courses.

Bruce Shubert, vice president for Administration and Finance at K-State, said the school's process involved identifying the most "basic needs" and then figuring out how to maintain quality with the increased costs.

"We certainly are aware of the pressures on our students and their families, but we have to balance that with the need to maintain the quality of a K-State degree," Shubert said.

Other changes

All Kansas schools submitted requests for tuition and fee increases, but some schools are asking for a few more changes.

At Emporia State University, proposed changes to the tuition structure make the tuition increase seem extremely high.

"It looks like a really big increase, but (tuition struc-

ture change) ends up saving 90 percent of our on-campus graduates money," said Gwen Larson, assistant director of marketing and media relations for the school.

Pending the regents' approval, the school will charge flat-rate tuition for all on-campus, full-time undergraduates, as well as charge all graduate students on a per-credit hour basis. If campus privilege fees are included with the 6.1 percent tuition increase, in-state graduate students could see a 15.2 percent increase in their tuition and fees. That includes a previous student-approved \$25 increase for renovations to Memorial Union.

Although its requested percentage increase is higher than most of the other Kansas schools, Emporia State's dollar increase is the fifth-lowest, with Fort Hays State University being the lowest, Larson said.

"We're very conscious (of increases) because a lot of our students are first-generation college students, so we try and keep it as affordable as we can," she said.

A full breakdown of each school's proposed tuition and fee increases can be found at www.kansasregents.org.

Reach Sarah Tucker at 316-268-6514 or stucker@wichitaeagle.com.

**Our Customers Always Work Directly With Us,
The Local Owner... No Sub-Contractors**

HAIL DAMAGE?

**WE WORK WITH ALL INSURANCE
Let Our Family Help Yours...
30 Years Experience
Cameron Family: Kansans Serving Kansans
For Over 30 Years**

**CALL
TODAY FOR
FREE
ESTIMATE!**

VOTED



**UP TO
\$500
OFF**

Any Roofing, Siding and Guttering Job

Not valid with any other offer. Valid only if payment is made within 10 days of job completion. Max. discount 5%.



**PREFERRED
CONTRACTOR**

**LICENSED &
FULLY INSURED
LICENSE #6226**

**Our Customers Always Work Directly With Us,
The Local Owner... No Sub-Contractors**

**CAMERON
ROOFING
CONSTRUCTION**

Your Storm Specialist

**Roofing • Siding • Guttering
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • INDUSTRIAL**

CALL NOW (316) 524-3030

Pena Nieto holds lead in issueless race in Mexico

BY TIM JOHNSON
McClatchy Newspapers

MEXICO CITY — Gangsters have regions of Mexico in their grip and joblessness corrodes the social fabric. But curiously, such pressing issues do not dominate the final lap before Mexicans elect a new president July 1.

"It is an election less about ideas and issues than about personalities," said Jorge Buendia of the Buendia & Laredo polling firm.

Buendia and executives from three other polling firms said Thursday that Mexican voters have not seized on a defining theme — hope vs. fear, say, or change vs. continuity — but were judging the candidates at a gut level on credibility.

The four pollsters concurred that the front-runner, Enrique Pena Nieto, enjoys such a margin in at least 10 major polls that the trend is unlikely to change in the three weeks that remain. Pena Nieto is from the Institutional Revolutionary Party, the PRI, which ruled Mexico for much of the 20th century.

In elections since 2000, polls have differed, sometimes radically, in the run-up to voting, said Francisco Abundis of the Parametria polling firm. "This is the first time that we've all agreed," Abundis said.

Pena Nieto's lead has fallen from an average of 48 percent when the campaign kicked off at the end of March to about 43 percent in the most recent polls, said Marcelo Ortega of Consulta Mitofsky, another

polling firm.

But he retains a commanding margin in the multi-candidate race. The No. 2 candidate, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, a white-haired leftist who led protests for months in 2006 after he lost the presidency by a mere 0.56 percent of the 41 million votes cast, polls an average of 29 percent. Only one recent poll, conducted for the Reforma newspaper and published May 31, showed Lopez Obrador climbing to within 4 points of Pena Nieto. Competing pollsters described that survey as an "outlier."

The No. 3 candidate is Josefina Vazquez Mota, Mexico's first woman presidential candidate and the standard-bearer of President Felipe Calderon's National Action Party, the PAN. She's the preference currently of just 24.6 percent. Pollsters said she has failed to frame herself effectively, ensuring the departure from the presidency for her party, which has held the office for the past 12 years.

"She's never defined herself as to whether she is 'change' or 'continuity,'" Abundis said.

Four candidates — Pena Nieto, Lopez Obrador, Vazquez Mota and Gabriel Quadri, who's drawing in the single digits as a representative of a small party linked to the country's teachers union — will square off Sunday night in the second televised debate of the campaign. Unlike the first on May 6, this one will be carried by both major television networks, giving Mexicans a chance to size them up.