Graduate Student Stipends at UNC-Chapel Hill

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GPSF Reported Stipends

• GPSF does a yearly survey on what our representatives from each department receive in their financial packages.

• Given that the most commonly-reported concerns from our students are financial, this allows us to keep an eye on our students’ financial well-being.
**Neurobiology
**Biomedical Engineering
**Microbiology/Immunology
**Cell Biology and Physiology
*Maternal Child Health
Pharmacology
Toxicology
*Speech and Hearing
*Exercise and Sports Science
Epidemiology
**Biochemistry and Biophysics

* indicates a Master’s program stipend          **indicates a 12-month stipend, not a 9-month stipend
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The bar chart shows the stipend comparison for various humanities fields between TA and Fellowship.

- Romance Languages: TA > Fellowship
- Communication Studies: TA > Fellowship
- English and Comparative Literature: TA > Fellowship
- Philosophy: TA > Fellowship
- Religious Studies: TA > Fellowship
- Classics: TA > Fellowship
- Music: TA > Fellowship
- Germanic/Slavic: TA > Fellowship
- History: TA > Fellowship

The stipend values are on the x-axis, with TA and Fellowship represented by different colors.
Stipends matter with regards to:

(1) Student success
(2) Competitiveness in recruitment

How do we compare with peer public institutions?
$5,600 short of the living wage in Orange County, when fees are considered
Increases to the Minimum?

How much would it take to hit various targets?

• $500 increase, to a target stipend of $15,700
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- Competitiveness:
  - Either nominal or real 4th place
Increases to the Minimum?

How much would it take to hit various targets?

• $500 increase, to a target stipend of $15,700

• Competitiveness:
  – Either nominal or real 4th place

• Meet a living wage:
  – Either nominal or real match
## Results of Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Stipend</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Total Revenue Necessary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15,700</td>
<td>$500 increase</td>
<td>$440k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$18,600</td>
<td>Beat University of Michigan (nominal 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; place; real 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; place)</td>
<td>$2.1m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,600</td>
<td>Beat University of Michigan (real 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; place)</td>
<td>$3.2m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$18,800</td>
<td>At Orange County Living Wage (fees not considered)</td>
<td>$2.2m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,800</td>
<td>At Orange County Living Wage (fees considered)</td>
<td>$3.3m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GPSF recommends that the University aim to increase the minimum stipend

We ask the University to consider moving to $20,800 to put UNC-Chapel Hill at a more competitive position, to meet the living wage, and to do neither only superficially

- We’ve calculated approximate funding for an instructional increase ($3.3m)
- A similar analysis would need to be done to consider how an increased minimum would change budgeting from research funding