



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Richard L. McCormick, President

November 12, 1999

Mr. Marcus S. Gaspard
Executive Director
Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way
P.O. Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430

Dear Marc,

Enclosed you will find the University of Washington's report on progress toward state-mandated accountability targets. You will find that the UW has reached target for most of its measures and sub-measures. Please convey this information to the Office of Financial Management.

We look forward to working with you, your staff and the Board to improve the State's approach to higher education accountability during the upcoming legislative session.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. McCormick
President

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Lee Huntsman
Dr. Fred Campbell
Dr. Debra Friedman
Dr. David Thorud
Mr. Tom Wego
Mr. Dick Thompson
Dr. Gerry Philipsen

bc: ~~Mr. Gary Quarfoth~~

**University of Washington
1998-99 Accountability Report**

Accountability Measure	Baseline	1997-98		1998-99	
		Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual
(1) Graduation Efficiency Index					
Freshman	89.1	89.51	89.4	89.99	90.3
Transfer	80.4	81.07	81.4	81.84	83.3
(2) Undergraduate Retention	86.7%	87.28%	87.4%	87.95%	87.4%
(3) 5 Year Graduation Rate	61.7%	61.9%	63.9%	62.2%	65.8%
(4) Faculty Productivity					
a. % Offered Enrollment Space Used	71.4%	72.3%	70.2%	73.41%	76.9%
b. Quality of Instruction	94.5%	94.8%	93.7%	95.0%	92.9%
c. Funding for Research Per Faculty FTE	\$ 197,948	\$ 201,927	\$ 213,530	\$ 203,946	\$ 238,845
d. SCH Instructed/FTE	202.47	203.20	202.8	204.0	203.5
(5) Institution Specific Measures					
a. # of Undergraduates Involved in Research	300	321	653	345	2,412
b. % of Undergraduate Credits Taken As Individualized Instruction	3.8%	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%
c. # of Undergraduates Involved With Public Service Internships	500	605	696	725	1,330
d. % of Undergraduates Reporting A Research Experience with Faculty	20.7%	21.0%	22.4%	21.3%	24.0%

Bold indicates a measure on which the UW has met or exceeded 1998-99 goal.

Notes to and Discussion of the 1998-99 University of Washington Accountability Report

Of the twelve 1998-99 accountability measures, the University of Washington not only met, but improved on ten, held steady on one, and did not reach goal on two.

(1) *Graduation Efficiency Index (GEI)*. Improved advising has resulted in better transfer articulation and student course-taking choices. Advising improvements have been focused on transfer students, especially those who wish to study science and engineering. The much more rapid GEI increase for transfer students compared to students entering as Freshman reflects this focus.

(2) *Undergraduate Retention*. Overall retention remains stable. Retention did not increase, due to a drop in Junior class retention (down 1.1 percentage points to 86.1%). Sophomore and Senior class retention (88.0% and 88.9% respectively) increased, compensating for reduced Junior class retention, while Freshman class retention remained steady at 86.4%.

(3) *5 Year Graduation Rate*. There has been a long-term increase in the five-year graduation rate beginning in 1981 at 49.9% and increasing to today's 65.8%. This long-term trend is due to a number of factors, including improved course access and higher admission standards. The 5-Year Graduation rate has probably reached its peak.

(4) Faculty Productivity

(a) *Percent Offered Enrollment Spaced Used*. The proportion of offered enrollment space used increased. This indicates improved efficiency. This improved efficiency is due to adding enrollment space only where significant student demand exists and reducing course offerings as indicated. The satisfaction of student enrollment demand, a measure of effectiveness, also increased. In 1998-99, the Percent of Student Enrollment Demand Satisfied rose 1 percentage point to 87.1%.

(b) *Quality of Instruction*. There was a reduction (92.9% from 93.7%) of the percent of students evaluating Quality of Instruction as good or better. Efforts are now underway to better understand why student evaluation of the quality of instruction has fallen and what actions should be taken to reverse this trend.

(c) *Funding for Research Per Faculty FTE*. Research funding per faculty FTE increased by nearly 12% in 1998-99 over the prior year. All areas of the University competed successfully to expand their research programs funded by external sources.

(d) *Student Credit Hours Instructed Per FTE*. This measure rose modestly. With a reduction in average class size for the year falling at the undergraduate level (from 39.6 at the lower division to 39.4 and an average of 26.0 at the upper division to 25.4) this indicates that faculty undertook relatively greater teaching loads in 1998-99 compared to earlier years. This greater teaching load comes from, in part, additional

non-classroom oriented individualized instruction (see below *% Undergraduate Credits Taken as Individualized Instruction*).

(5) Institution-Specific Measures

(a) *Number of Undergraduates Involved in Research.* The number of undergraduates involved in research projects has sky-rocketed. Major initiatives were undertaken to promote the contributions of undergraduates to research programs. These efforts have shown substantial dividends. Significant efforts were made to develop private sources of funding to support students through study grants and additional financial aid so that students might involve themselves in research projects. With additional private resources recently received by the University and the continuing institutional emphasis on this priority, the number of undergraduates involved in research is expected to increase further.

(b) *Percent Undergraduate Credits Taken as Individualized Instruction.* This measure reflects increased 'one-on-one' mentoring opportunities for undergraduates offered by University faculty.

(c) *Number of Undergraduates Involved with Public Service Internships.* This measure, like its research counterpart, has shown significant increases. It provides evidence of the University's emphasis upon service learning, internships and public service in relation to education.

(d) *Percent of Undergraduates Reporting a Research Experience with Faculty.* This measure comes from an annual survey of graduating students and seeks to measure the cumulative experience over all undergraduate years. Today almost one-fourth of our University graduates have a research experience. Efforts will continue to increase that proportion in the years to come.

For 1999-2000 the University is committed to reaching or exceeding its goals on all accountability measures. Efforts continue to improve the undergraduate educational experience through additional research and public service internship opportunities and increased individualized instruction. Advising, improved course access and strides in curriculum management will continue.