VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Reorganizations Within the College of the Environment

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the following academic program consolidations be effective July 1, 2009:

Consolidation of the College of Forest Resources, as the School of Forest Resources, into the College of the Environment;

Reorganization of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, with its relocation from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of the Environment;

Reorganization of the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, with its relocation from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of the Environment;

Reorganization of the School of Marine Affairs, with its relocation from the College of Ocean and Fishery Sciences to the College of the Environment;

Reorganization of the Program on the Environment, with its relocation from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of the Environment.

REVIEW PROCESS:

During the 2008-09 academic year the processes prescribed in the Faculty Code (Section 26-41: Procedures for Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination of Programs) were completed to effect these proposed reorganization actions. These processes provided for extensive review and consultation across the institution and effected constituencies. Each of the proceedings resulted in a recommendation that the proposed reorganizations be implemented.

RATIONALE FOR REORGANIZATION:

The reorganization of the units into the College of the Environment is the first step in establishing a solid foundation from which the University of Washington will endeavor to build the strongest and most capable environmental research and teaching institution in the world.

ATTACHMENT

Letter from President Emmert, dated June 3, 2009, “Final decision regarding the proposed transition of the College of Forest Resources into a School of Forest Resources within the College of the Environment”
TO:           Board of Regents  
               Phyllis Wise, Provost  
               B. Bruce Bare, Dean, College of Forest Resources  
               Gordon Bradley, Faculty Chair, College of Forest Resources  
               Dennis L. Hartmann, Interim Dean, College of the Environment  
               David Lovell, Chair, Faculty Senate  

FROM:        Mark A. Emmert  
               President  

RE:           Final decision regarding the proposed transition of the College of Forest  
               Resources into a School of Forest Resources within the College of the  
               Environment  

At its February 9, 2009, meeting, the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting  
concurred with Provost Wise’s recommendation to initiate a review for consolidation of the  
College of Forest Resources into the College of the Environment. As prescribed in the Faculty  
Code (Section 26-41: Reorganization, Consolidation & Elimination of Programs), the  
Secretary of the Faculty then published the detailed proposal for this reorganization in a Class  
C bulletin on April 2, 2009, and the Chair of the Faculty Senate appointed a Review  
Committee to conduct an open review of the Provost’s proposal. The Review Committee  
delivered its written recommendations to me on May 4, 2009.

After review of the Provost’s proposal and the Review Committee’s recommendations,  
and having conferred with the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting on May 18, 2009,  
I have decided to move forward on the Provost’s proposal to transition the College of Forest  
Resources into a School of Forest Resources within the College of the Environment.

The College of Forest Resources will be joining four other academic units that have  
already undergone the review process outlined in the Faculty Code to join the College of the  
Environment on July 1, 2009. These units include the Department of Atmospheric Sciences,  
the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, the School of Marine Affairs, and the Program on  
the Environment. In addition, the Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean  
(JISAO) has already been transferred from the Office of Research into the College of the  

June 3, 2009
Environment. This is a solid foundation from which the University of Washington will endeavor to build the strongest and most capable environmental research and teaching institution in the world.

For more than 100 years, the University of Washington’s College of Forest Resources has been our state’s premier educational program for training and educating professionals to manage critical natural resources for industry, public agencies, non-profit organizations, and private landowners. It also has been a vibrant research enterprise, providing answers and leadership on a multitude of environmental and natural resource issues of regional and global importance. With this strong tradition of excellence and a mission dedicated to generating and disseminating knowledge for the stewardship of natural and managed environments and the sustainable use of their products and services through teaching, research, and outreach, I expect the School of Forest Resources to flourish in its new role as a cornerstone of the UW’s new College of the Environment.