

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Impact of ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) on Faculty, Staff,  
and Students

For information only.

*Attachment*

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update

## **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update**

UW is among the top recipients of ARRA funds so far, with over \$90,000,000 awarded as of the end of September, mainly from NIH and NSF. A total of over 1100 new proposals have been submitted, joining about 300 previously submitted proposals for consideration by federal sponsors.

Highlights so far include 11 NIH awards for over \$600,000 to support 23 undergraduate student researchers for the past summer, 3 NIH awards of \$1,500,000 each to help recruit new faculty, a \$25,000,000 NIH award for research to explore the genetic origins of disease, and \$35,000,000 as part of the NSF-Funded Ocean Observing Initiative.

UW may also be leading its peers in internal preparations for the unprecedented detailed reporting requirements for ARRA awards. The federal requirements are extensive, with 99 data elements for each funded project to be reported quarterly. Given the expected several hundred awards at the UW, it was necessary to develop an electronic system for gathering and reporting the data. This effort was complicated by the short time frame and the lack of timely information from the Recovery.gov group regarding reporting details.

A highly collaborative effort involving the Office of Research (ORIS, Office of Sponsored Programs), Finance and Facilities (Grant and Contract Accounting, Financial Accounting, Procurement Services), and Human Resources has developed a “data mart” to simplify compliance with federal reporting. The data mart, hosted by Human Resources, draws data from a variety of existing UW systems. It reduces the number of data elements that Principal Investigators must provide to only 2 out of the total of 99 required elements: Project activity/milestones and Percent of project completed.

Every ARRA award will also have considerable reporting requirements to the State of Washington, details of which are still being discussed. Team ARRA is working with the State to provide all key information as efficiently as possible.

Due to the requirement for timely spending of ARRA funds, it is essential that funded positions be filled as quickly as possible. Human Resources has established a team of HR staff dedicated to quickly filling ARRA-funded positions, who will implement expedited processes both for potential candidates and potential supervisors.