VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

<u>Establish Certificate Program:</u> *Graduate Certificate in Software Design and Development*, UW Bothell Computing & Software Systems

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the UW Bothell Computing and Software Systems Program to offer the Graduate Certificate in Software Design and Development program, effective Autumn Quarter 2011. This is a self-sustaining program offered in coordination with UW Educational Outreach (UWEO). The program will have provisional status with a review to be scheduled in the 2016-2017 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND

In March 2011, the Graduate School received a proposal from the graduate faculty of the Computing and Software Systems Program at UW Bothell requesting authority to offer the self-sustaining Graduate Certificate in Software Design and Development program. The proposal was circulated to stakeholders across campus for open comment; no comments were submitted. Implementation is planned for Autumn Quarter 2011, with the program anticipating 30 students enrolled in any given quarter.

The graduate certificate program is designed to 1) be a formal recognition of advanced academic achievement that will assist with a student's employment goals; 2) serve as a stepping stone to prepare students to compete for admission into a full master's degree program; and 3) serve as an opportunity for graduate non-matriculated (GNM) students to strengthen their computing knowledge within a high quality, graduate environment. This certificate represents the completion of six courses -- three programming/systems courses and three software design courses -- culminating in a series of linked assignments and a final project with presentation. Industry demand for advanced computer science graduates is very strong, and the graduate certificate program is designed to attract students from diverse disciplines such as business, humanities, and arts & sciences, as well as from other engineering disciplines. The program will provide a meaningful and important graduate experience, either as a way to further students' career goals, or alternately as a stepping stone towards admission to a master's degree program.

The Graduate School Council met on May 5, 2011, to discuss the graduate certificate proposal. The Council recommended unanimously that the proposal be

VII.   STANDING COMMITTEES

A.   Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Establish Certificate Program: *Graduate Certificate in Software Design and Development*, UW Bothell Computing & Software Systems (continued p. 2)

forwarded to the Regents for review and approval after slight clarifications regarding its relationship to the existing Computing & Software Systems master's degree program. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with this recommendation.

        The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Chancellor at UW Bothell, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation.