

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## C. Capital Assets Committee

## ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Reported to the Capital Assets Committee  
November 18, 2004

## I.

Pursuant to the Standing Orders of the Board of Regents, Delegation of Authority, and to the delegation of authority from the President of the University to the Executive Vice President in Executive Order No. 1, to take action for projects or contracts that exceed \$1,000,000 in value or cost but are less than \$5,000,000, the Administration may approve and execute all instruments.

Purchase - Internet Services

The University of Washington executed a master agreement for an academic strategic partnership with Pacific Northwest Gigapop (PNWGP) in July 2003. PNWGP is a non-profit organization established by and in collaboration with educational and research institutions and organizations throughout the Northwest.

PNWGP provides cost effective regional connections to national high speed research and education, as well as other internet network providers. Its members work together on initiatives to research new internet technology and applications, teaching and learning tools, innovations in multimedia, and telemedicine applications, and to secure contracts and grants.

PNWGP offers several service options and pricing structures, some of which are, as is the network industry practice, based on monthly usage, and others based on annual fees. As the University's network traffic has grown so has the University's use of PNWGP's services since the agreement was executed. In addition, the University needs to access the national LambdaRail infrastructure, as well as other important federal research networks (like the new Department of Energy UltraScience Network), through PNWGP, to support research and academic activities. The University's fee for the current fiscal year for internet and the LambdaRail access is \$1,100,000, paid in September 2004.

The ultimate aggregate cost to the University for its ongoing participation in PNWGP is not known, since the University's volume of use varies from year to year and PNWGP offers necessary new internet services from time to time. Having exceeded the delegation limit of \$1 million in payments made in any given month for the first time in September, this agreement is being reported in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Board of Regents. Subsequent

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payments will vary, but there will be no further reporting on this agreement unless it is necessary to make payments totalling \$5 million in any one month.

Funding for PNWGP services is available from campus computing operations.

#### Purchase - Oceanographic Buoys

The UW School of Oceanography uses oceanographic buoys as part of a global ocean observing system similar to the atmospheric observing system used to predict weather. The buoys drift and collect profiles of temperature, salinity, and other parameters, then transmit their data to a satellite.

The data are transmitted from the satellite to our laboratory and are made publicly available in real-time. These data are being used by a number of groups in the world to improve ocean models, and to begin to do ocean prediction.

A sole source contract was issued to Webb Research based on continuity of research and compatibility with numerous other buoys previously purchased for this project. The price for the buoys has been determined to be fair and reasonable. The total contract price is not to exceed \$1,750,000.

Funding for this purchase is available from a federal grant from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.