

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES**B. Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee**UW Tacoma Assembly Hall - Architect AppointmentRECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee that the President be delegated authority to award a design contract for the UW Tacoma Assembly Hall project to the firm of Thomas Hacker Architects, subject to successful negotiation of an architectural agreement. It is intended that this project will be brought back to the Board of Regents at the completion of the pre-design phase in early 2006 to present the project and request the additional project approvals.

BACKGROUND:

The scope of this project includes replacing the existing UW Tacoma facility known as “the Dawg Shed” with a new 20,250 gross square foot Assembly/ Commons Hall to meet the need for a large multi-purpose gathering space on campus. The site is located in the heart of the central campus east of the Library, flanked on the south by the Cherry Parkes Building to the north by the Walsh Gardner building and to the east by Pacific Avenue. This project will fill an essential need of the campus to provide a student gathering space (commons) for study, interaction, and relaxation, as well as provide space for 350-500 persons for larger academic lectures, student activities, conference gatherings, banquets, social activities and many other uses to occur on campus. The project will also provide the City-required pedestrian oriented retail frontage along Pacific Avenue and a series of informal student group education rooms, referred to as collaboration rooms.

In July 2005, the Capital Projects Office advertised for firms interested in providing pre-design and design services. Twelve firms responded to the Request for Qualifications for this project, and three firms were interviewed by the Architectural Commission on September 12, 2005. It is the Commission’s recommendation that Thomas Hacker Architects be appointed design architect for this project.

Thomas Hacker Architects is currently designing the University of Washington Architecture Hall Renovation and has successfully completed the Reid Campus Center at Whitman College, Miller Pavilion for the Oregon Historical Society, Signature Project at Lewis & Clark College, Portland State University’s Urban Center, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s New Theatre.

The total project budget for the development of the Assembly Hall project is estimated at \$10,000,000, of which \$7,500,000 is state funded in the 2005 – 2007 biennium. The remaining \$2,500,000 is intended to be donor funds raised by UWT to provide enhancements to the project.