

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Establishment of the Master of Science in Business Administration Degree in the Foster School of BusinessRECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Foster School of Business to offer the Master of Science (M.S.) in Business Administration degree program, effective immediately. The degree program will have provisional status with a review to be scheduled in the 2012-2013 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2007, the Graduate School received a proposal from the graduate faculty in the Foster School of Business requesting authority to offer the Master of Science in Business Administration degree program within the existing Doctor of Philosophy degree program. Implementation is planned for Winter Quarter 2008.

The proposed Master of Science degree in Business Administration would be awarded to students enrolled in the Foster School of Business Ph.D. degree program. Students apply to and are admitted only to the Ph.D. program. The degree would be earned by all students who successfully complete the first two years of course work required for the Ph.D. program and who sit the Major Area Field Exam, a capstone exam. Upon successfully completing the course work and the Field Exam some students may determine that the Ph.D. program is not suited to their objectives and then decide not to enter the dissertation stage. Awarding of the M.S. in Business Administration degree will acknowledge students' successful completion of the required course work and the Field Exam, and provide them with a credential more easily recognized by employers as a qualification to perform higher level applied analytical work.

The M.S. in Business Administration degree will not be in competition with any of the other graduate degree programs offered by the Foster School of Business. The new degree will not require expansion of the Ph.D. program, nor will it entail any changes to the program admission and recruitment process, curriculum or faculty. The new degree will not require any additional resources.

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### A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

#### Establishment of the Master of Science in Business Administration Degree in the Foster School of Business (continued p. 2)

On November 26, 2007, the Higher Education Coordinating Board Education Committee discussed the proposal for the new degree program and recommended that it be considered by the full membership of the Higher Education Coordinating Board on December 13, 2007. The Board approved the proposal by the Foster School of Business at the University of Washington to offer the Master of Science in Business Administration degree program.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Dean of the Foster School of Business, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation. The Higher Education Coordinating Board will be informed of the Board of Regents' action on the Master of Science in Business Administration degree program.