

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES**B. Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee**SEIU Local 1199NW – Airlift Northwest Collective Bargaining Agreement – UW RatificationRECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration of Harborview Medical Center that the Board of Regents approve this initial collective bargaining agreement between the University of Washington and SEIU Local 1199NW. The agreement covers approximately fifty (50) Registered Nurses employed by Harborview Medical Center who work on emergency flights for Airlift Northwest (ALNW). The duration of this initial agreement is from the date of Regents' approval through June 30, 2009. The Registered Nurses covered by this agreement work at bases in Seattle (Boeing Field), Bellingham and Juneau. Boeing Field based nurses also cover facilities in Arlington and Olympia.

BACKGROUND

This is the initial Agreement for this bargaining unit. The Public Employment Relations Commission certified SEIU Local 1199NW as the employees' bargaining representative in the spring of 2007. The University has negotiated multiple agreements with SEIU Local 1199NW for other bargaining units including a large unit of Registered Nurses at Harborview Medical Center. The parties used that existing master agreement as a template for development of an agreement covering the Registered Nurses at Airlift Northwest.

Following is a summary of the major elements of the agreement for the bargaining unit of Airlift Northwest Registered Nurses:

- The economic package is identical to the inpatient Registered Nurses at Harborview Medical Center:
 - July 1, 2008 – RN 2 scale increased by 2.0 percent
 - June 16, 2009 – Addition of new step at year 26 to be 2.0 percent more than the previous step
 - June 16, 2009 – Sick leave paid for will not count toward the calculation of overtime
- The expiration date, June 30, 2009, is identical to the Master Agreement.

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- The parties agreed that the Airlift Northwest unit will be folded into the Master Agreement for a successor contract which currently covers the other five bargaining units represented by SEIU Local 1199NW at Harborview Medical Center.
- The mutually beneficial changes are designed to set standards for specific pay practices and base coverage requirements, primarily for the Bellingham-based nurses who are required to do occasional shifts at the Boeing Field base and Juneau-based nurses who routinely fly long hours. The change for the Bellingham-based nurses is that they will be eligible for mileage reimbursement (for miles driven above 50) when reporting to the Boeing Field base for regularly scheduled shifts. The primary change for the Juneau-based nurses is that fewer hours will be flexed for purposes of calculating overtime when nurses work the night before their next regularly scheduled shift and are unable to get adequate rest.