

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

### A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

#### Honorary Degree for Mr. Quincy Jones

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents approve the granting of an Honorary Doctor of Arts degree to Mr. Quincy Jones, distinguished musician, composer, and advocate for humanitarian causes.

#### BACKGROUND:

RCW 28B.20.130(3) grants to the Board of Regents, upon recommendation of the faculty, the authority to confer honorary degrees upon persons other than graduates “in recognition of their learning or devotion to literature, arts, or sciences.” The Faculty Council on University Relations is responsible for recommending candidates for honorary degrees. On February 8, 2008, the Council recommended to President Emmert that Mr. Jones be awarded an Honorary Doctor of Arts degree at the University’s June commencement ceremony. President Emmert concurs with the recommendation and brings it to the Board of Regents on behalf of the faculty.

Mr. Jones was born in Bremerton and attended Seattle’s Garfield High School. He has gone on to a career of international accomplishment and acclaim as a performing musician, composer, educator, recording executive, philanthropist and humanitarian. He has written scores for 33 motion pictures, including “The Color Purple” and “in Cold Blood,” recorded dozens of jazz albums and received 76 Grammy nominations, winning 26 Grammy awards. In addition to his major accomplishments in the music world, Mr. Jones has been active in social and human rights causes. He established the Quincy Jones Listen Up Foundation in 2001, and worked with Nelson Mandela to build 100 new homes in South Africa for the Mandela Foundation. His “We Are the World” recording project raised money and awareness for famine victims in Ethiopia. In 1995, he became the first African American to win the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award and in 2005 received a special award from the United Negro College Fund for his contributions to African American culture.

For his brilliant globe-spanning career in musical creation and performance, and for his tireless efforts in addressing worldwide humanitarian causes, it would be an honor to confer upon Seattle’s own Quincy Jones an Honorary Doctor of Arts degree at the June commencement.