VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Recommendations Made by 2003 Decennial Accreditation Visiting Committee

RECOMMENDATION 1

The Committee notes some inconsistencies in perceptions of future relationships among the three campuses. The self-study describes the continuing "transformation from a university with three campuses to a coordinated multi-campus university," but these words appear to have little meaning on any of the three campuses. There is no apparent reconciliation of the clear diversity of the three campus missions and the concept of "one university." The consequences of the resulting confusion may become serious if not addressed carefully and thoroughly, as the Committee now recommends (Standard 1.A.1).

RECOMMENDATION 2

The Committee commends the University's multiple strategies for academic assessment, but still it must be noted that the University of Washington remains far from the goal of setting learning objectives for all students and measuring progress toward those objectives to facilitate continuous improvement. The Committee recommends continuing accelerated efforts toward these ends (Standards 2.B.1, 2.B.2, and 2.B.3; and Policy 2.2).

RECOMMENDATION 3

The Committee recognizes the impressive success of the University of Washington thus far in managing scarce resources without perceptible loss of quality in its core mission, but recommends considering the broadest possible range of strategies to achieve this critical objective, even including the elimination of academic programs of diminishing priority (Standard 2.A.1).

RECOMMENDATION 4

The Committee observed a pervasive concern about the need to maintain (or restore) competitive compensation, even if this action requires the reallocation of resources with locally adverse consequences. The Committee recommends that the University persist in its current plans to set a modest minimum goal for compensation increases to be achieved even in the face of revenue shortfalls that require budget cuts (Standard 4.A.4).

RECOMMENDATION 5

The recommends that the concerns of the campus information technologists regarding network security be addressed (Standard 5.E.3; Standard 8.B.2).

RECOMMENDATION 6

The Committee recognizes the sincere efforts to advance the diversity agenda at the university of Washington, but no one should be satisfied with the results. The Committee recommends that the UW undertake additional efforts to increase the number of faculty and students from underrepresented groups (Standard 3.D.2; Standard 6.1).