

MINUTES  
Washington State University Board of Regents  
September 19, 2025

The Board of Regents of Washington State University (WSU or University) met pursuant to call on the WSU Spokane campus, Spokane Academic Center, room 241-245.

**I. OPENING AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Jenette Ramos called the meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 8:32 a.m.

Regents present included Chair Jenette Ramos, Brett Blankenship, Enrique Cerna, Marty Dickinson, Sam Hunt, Amina Hussein, Judi McDonald, Doug Picha, Lura Powell, Lisa Keohokalole Schauer, Howard Wright, and President Elizabeth Cantwell.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Regents heard from those who requested to provided public comment to the Board:

- WSU faculty member Williams Engels, fossil fuel divestment
- WSU emeritus faculty member Ken Keller, fossil fuel divestment

**III. REPORTS FROM LEADERSHIP**

**A. Report from the Chair, Board of Regents.** Chair Ramos welcomed Student Regent Amina Hussein to the board. She shared that for this fiscal year, Regents Wright, Picha, and Cerna were appointed as chairs of the Finance and Administration, Academic and Student Affairs, and Strategic and Operational Excellence Committees, respectively; and Regent Dickinson would serve as the regent representative on the WSU Foundation Board of Directors and Investment Committee.

Additionally, Chair Ramos reported on the Regents' participation in WSU activities across the system since April, including but not limited to participation in many of the campus's spring commencement ceremonies; the Foley Institute's Distinguished Award presentation, A Night with Cougar Athletics, the annual Advisory Council Summit, the Carson College of Business Seattle-area event introducing President Cantwell, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wine Science Center, the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine White Coat ceremony, and the ribbon cutting of WSU's exhibit at the state fair.

Chair Ramos shared that today's meeting marked a special occasion, noting that Regent Powell's second term would end on September 30, concluding 11 years of service as a Regent. To honor the occasion, a commendation was read for Regent Powell, resolution #250919-740.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents adopt resolution #250919-740. Carried.

#### **B. Report from the President, WSU System**

President Cantwell noted that a written report was provided in regents' meeting packet that provided updates enterprise areas and their top key initiatives or highlights:

- Academic Enterprise – increased retention and enrollment, Academic Affairs Program Optimization, workload policy development
- Finance and Administration – strategic and operational highlights, internal process improvements, financial metrics and dashboard development
- Cougar athletics enterprise – economic impact and brand visibility, student-athlete success, fan experience
- External Affairs and Government Relations – fostering collaborative partnerships, influencing public policy, connecting with communities
- University Marketing and Communications – brand visibility and engagement, strategic campaigns and outreach
- Highlights for the Office of Tribal Relations, Research, and the WSU Foundation were also included.

#### **IV. REPORTS FROM SHARED GOVERNANCE GROUPS**

The following representatives from the University Shared Governance Groups provided an update on their respective areas:

- Associated Students of WSU Health Sciences President Gillian Freeby
- Faculty Senate Chair Ken Roberts
- Graduate and Professional Student Association President Desmond Aboagye
- WSU Advancement
  - WSU Alumni Association President Tracey Kohler
  - Vice President for Advancement and CEO Mike Connell

The Administrative Professional Advisory Council President Amy Robbins will provide the council's first report of the academic year in November.

#### **V. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Ramos reported that there were two items on the consent agenda:

- April 18, 2025, meeting minutes
- June 5, 2025, special meeting minutes

Chair Ramos asked if any Regent wished to remove any item from the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately. Hearing no requests, it was moved and seconded that the consent agenda be approved as submitted. Carried.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Ramos reported that the committee reviewed and discussed three information items:

- Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- WSU System redesign
- President's FY26 key performance indicators

Chair Ramos further reported that the committee reviewed and discussed three action items and submitted the following for Board consideration:

### **President's FY26 Key Performance Indicators**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents accepts the President's FY26 key performance indicators as presented and that these key performance indicators will serve as the basis for the president's 2025 – 2026 annual evaluation. Carried. (Exhibit A)

### **Proposed Changes to Board of Regents Policy 2 – Delegation of Authority**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve proposed revisions to the Board of Regents Policy on Delegation of Authority (BOR2). Carried. (Exhibit B)

### **Proposed Changes to Board of Regents Policy 3 – Policy on Committee**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve proposed revisions to the Board of Regents Policy on Delegation of Authority (BOR3). Carried. (Exhibit C)

## **VII. FINANCE AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Finance and Administration Committee reviewed and discussed seven information items:

- Internal Audit Update presented by Chief Audit Executive Heather Lopez;
- Finance and Administration Update presented by Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer Leslie Brunelli;
- FY26 Board of Regent Finance and Administration Committee Work Plan presented by Brunelli;
- FY26 Budget Document presented by Brunelli and Vice President of Finance and Business Services Matt Skinner;
- Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Execution – Financial Performance Update presented by Brunelli and Skinner;
- Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Execution and FY27 Budget Development – Government Relations State and Federal Budget Update presented by Vice President for External Affairs and Government Relations Glynda Becker-Fenter and Vice President for Research Kim Christen;
- Cougar Athletics Budget Performance Update presented by Brunelli, Assistant Vice President for Business and Financial Services and Athletics CFO Jon Haarlow, and Athletics Director Anne McCoy;

The committee reviewed two future action items:

- WSU Pullman – Southside Dining and Market Renovation presented by Brunelli, Provost and Executive Vice President Chris Riley-Tillman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities and Operations and Dining and Housing Sean Greene, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Romando Nash, and Associate Vice President for Facilities Services Olivia Yang;
- Academic Year 2026-2027 Tuition Rates for Undergraduate and Graduate Programs presented by Brunelli and Skinner.

Committee Chair Regent Wright reported that the committee reviewed and discussed one action item and submitted the following for Board consideration:

**Purchase of Ignite Facility at WSU Spokane Health Sciences Campus**

Chair Ramos noted for the record that it was decided that this item would be presented as an Action Item rather than a Future Action Item in accordance with the Board of Regents Bylaw II.12.c.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents authorize and delegate authority to the President or her designee to execute a purchase agreement to acquire the Ignite building at the Spokane campus, for a purchase price not to exceed \$8,250,000; plus applicable inspection and closing costs, and excluding annual taxes, utilities, or operating maintenance costs (resolution 250919-741). Carried. (Exhibit D)

**VIII. ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair Regent Picha reported that the committee reviewed and discussed four information items:

- Fall 2025 Fall Enrollment Update presented by Riley-Tillman and Vice President of Enrollment Management Saichi Oba;
- Mission Moment: College of Arts and Sciences presented by Dean Courney Meehan;
- National Hazing Prevention Consortium presented by Riley-Tillman and Nash;
- Renewed TRIO Student Support Services Program presented by Riley-Tillman and Nash.

Regent Picha further reported that the committee reviewed two action items and submitted the following for Board consideration:

**Establish Bachelor of Arts in Economic Sciences for WSU Pullman and Global**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents establish a Bachelor of Arts in Economic Sciences degree for the WSU Pullman and WSU Global campuses. Carried.

**Revisions to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 504-26 – Standards of Conduct**

**for Students**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents adopts revisions to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 504-26 Standards for Conduct for Students. Carried. (Exhibit E)

**IX. STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair Regent Cerna reported that the committee reviewed and discussed two information items:

- Chief Compliance and Risk Officer Update presented by Associate Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer Sharyl Kammerzell;
- Native American Education Opportunity Gap Study in Washington State presented by Vice Provost for Native American Relations and Programs Zoe Higheagle Strong.

Regent Cerna further reported that the committee reviewed one future action item, the selection of the Regents Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

Regent Cerna further reported that the committee reviewed one action item and submitted the following for Board consideration:

**Building Naming**

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approves the proposed naming of the WSU Spokane, Spokane Academic Center to the Kirk H. Schulz Academic Center.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Ramos reported that on Thursday, September 18, 2025, and Friday, September 19, 2025, the Regents met in Executive Session with legal counsel to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation, per RCW 42.30.110. The Board would not be taking action as a result of those discussions.

**XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

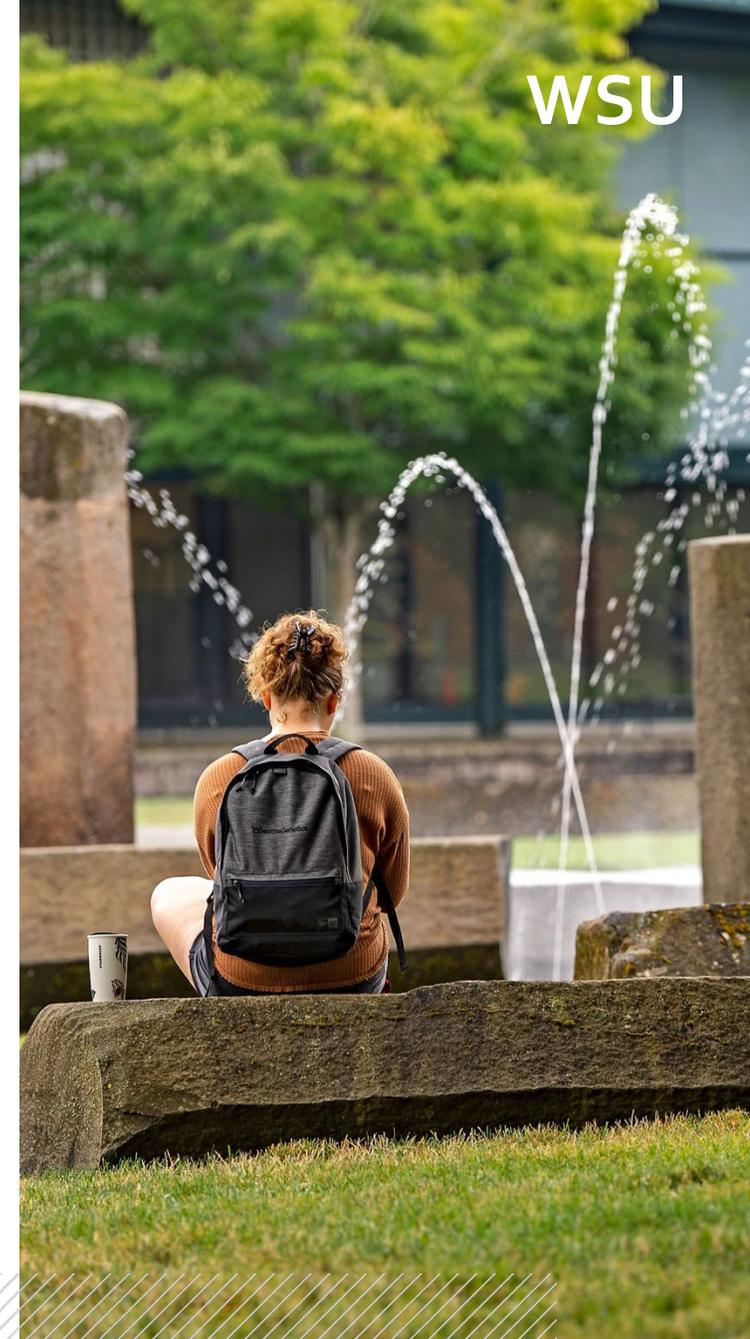
Approved by the Board of Regents at its meeting held on November 14, 2025.

*Signed Copies Available in the Office of the System President*



# Strategic Pillars

1. Access and Student Success
2. Academic Excellence and Modernization
3. Innovation and Use-Inspired Research
4. Systemwide Integration and Institutional Agility
5. WSU as the 21st Century Land Grant
6. Elevate the Cougar Identity and Brand



# | WSU System Enterprises



Academic  
Enterprise  
(AcE)



Advancement  
Enterprise  
(AvE)



Athletic  
Enterprise  
(AtE)



Operational  
Enterprise  
(OE)



Research  
Enterprise  
(RE)



# Structure, Key Elements & Responsible Enterprise

## Access & Student Success

- Enabling student success (AcE)

## Academic Excellence & Modernization

- Growing student enrollment (AcE)
- Investing in and enhancing the excellence of WSU and its faculty (AcE)
- Scaling degree attainment through technology and new offerings (AcE)

## Innovation and Use-Inspired Research

- Driving research innovation, productivity and Impact at WSU (RE)

## Systemwide Integration and Institutional Agility

- Assembling a high-performing leadership team (OE)

- WSU's commitment to fiscal health (OE)
- Take a systemwide approach to operational effectiveness and innovation (OE)

## WSU as the 21st Century Land Grant

- Designing and launching college transformation plans for real-world impact (AcE)
- Advancing WSU through philanthropy (AvE)

## Elevate the Cougar Identity and Brand

- Engage at a national and global level to enhance reputational strength (OE)
- Champion the future of WSU Athletics (AtE)





Access & Student Success:

# Enabling Student Success (AcE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Evaluate and improve undergraduate (UG) data to support student progression/retention (grades, repeated classes, etc.) for comparison of foundational and prerequisite courses.
- Assess time to degree and graduation factors to enhance student success.
- Gain insights into UG retention within the first two years and graduate/professional retention by program/cohort.
- Deploy strategies to improve post-graduation employment and/or continuing education placement one-year post-graduation.
- Track graduate/professional placement data.
- Bolster network of student support services: academic advising, supplemental instruction, and success coaching to help students navigate their academic journey and stay on track for graduation [and to improve student retention and achievement through earlier intervention].
- **STRETCH:** Continue to expand college affordability and increased access for students.





Academic Excellence & Modernization:

# Growing Student Enrollment (AcE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Consistently employ strategies for strategic enrollment management and growth: 1) retention efforts for stopped out, non-registered and former students, 2) personalized outreach leveraging Slate, Tableau and AI, 3) focused strategies to improve yield, and 4) increased staff training to support increased conversion rates.
- Assess the viability of a cohesive enrollment marketing strategy focused on WSU brand while supporting campus-specific recruitment goals.
- **STRETCH:** Design and deploy a system-wide dashboard to visualize the digital student journey from awareness to enrollment.
- **STRETCH:** Employ technology enriched enrollment management strategies at events and staff trainings to stabilize and grow WA resident student enrollments, especially for first generation attendees.





Academic Excellence & Modernization:

# Investing in and Enhancing the Excellence of WSU and its Faculty (AcE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Develop dashboard to identify trends and understand patterns critical for comprehensive systemwide strategic, financial and operational planning to support decision-making and funding allocations.
- Internal Service: Assess and improve the ratio of faculty serving on governance committees and task forces at the college level and beyond.
- External Service: Assess and improve the ratio of faculty who serve as journal editors, national grant panel chairs, or officers of national-level professional organizations.
- Meritorious Performance: Improve the percentage of faculty receiving an "especially meritorious performance" annual review rating for service.





Academic Excellence & Modernization:

# Scaling Degree Attainment Through Technology and New Offerings (AcE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Develop task force to explore best-in-class partnership and academic collaboration opportunities with universities nationwide, including national leader, Arizona State University, and others.
- Explore opportunities for WSU deployment of AR/VR technologies in the sciences, including biology and chemistry.
- Launch WSU Global Summit to convene local and national thought leaders in digital education, virtual learning models, and technology inspired applications.
- Provide modest seed funding for WSU student-led WSU pilot projects with real-world application.
- **STRETCH:** Create technology focused strategy as part of the WSU systemwide redesign, launching Fall 2025.
- **STRETCH:** Scale degree attainment through technology by developing a dedicated strategy focused on digital education and virtual learning models.





## Innovation & Use-Inspired Research:

# Driving Innovation, Productivity and Impact at WSU (RE)

### Key Performance Indicators:

- External Funding: Increase sustained and significant external grants, fellowships, and other financial investments that support research.
- Research Collaborations: Develop joint research initiatives and partnerships with other institutions, industries, and national labs.
- Peer Benchmarks: Establish a system to measure research intensity using metrics such as books, peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings, and citations.
- Societal Impact: Measure how research and creative activities lead to real-world outcomes, such as improvements in local policies or public health.
- Improve WSU's ranking in national publications and maintain a positive social media sentiment score.
- Elevate WSU's research profile through a strategic, system-wide approach to research communications and aligns with the goals of Research and Government Relations.
- **STRETCH:** Research and Creative Activities: Improve the number of clinical trials, exhibitions, artistic installations, and media productions.
- **STRETCH:** Grow the number of peer-reviewed publications and the average citation rate of WSU research, directly contributing to academic reputation and prestige.
- **STRETCH:** Elevate WSU Research with sharp focus on health, agriculture, data science, energy, and climate solutions, with particular emphasis on climate, ag-tech, and wildfire mitigation, alongside cutting-edge AI-infrastructure development for research and economic development.





Systemwide Integration and Institutional Agility:

# Assembling a High-Performing Leadership Team (PRES)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Build a capable and aligned leadership team to modernize operations and empower faculty and staff with a “yes” mentality.
- Establish strategic presidential meetings with core stakeholders across the WSU system to improve information dissemination and transparency.
- Continue internal council work with University Leadership, Academic Strategy & Futures Thinking, and Governance & Policy Action Council meetings, as well as Director+ and University Forums to advance institutional effectiveness, provide timely communications enterprise-wide and strategically position the university for future-forward endeavors.
- Use team dynamics assessments to improve communication and collaboration.
- Capture documented increase in the President's availability for high-level strategic engagement.
- Cultivate shared understanding of WSU mission, vision and strategic pillars across the system.
- **STRETCH:** Grow a world-class team able to run a revenue-generating, market-driven, technology-enabled enterprise in a research university setting.
- **STRETCH:** Develop leadership in health sciences focused on the next generation of healthcare professionals in rural and urban settings.





# Commitment to Financial Model (OE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Advance the financial health and administrative operations of the entire WSU system, including all campuses, by providing stewardship and support in a wide range of areas: finance, public safety, business services, facilities, compliance and risk management, human resources, and information technology services.
- Financial Reporting: Deliver timely, transparent, and accurate financial information to support data-driven, strategic decision-making. Information also includes routine reporting and analysis to understand budget-to-actual variances.
- Budgeting: Engage in the planning, development, implementation, and reporting on the annual budget process to ensure financial alignment with institutional goals.
- Financial Management: Take responsibility for managing the university's credit ratings and monitoring its overall financial health.
- Performance Metrics: Measure and report on key financial benchmarks, including operating margin, cash management, net tuition revenue, and the composite financial index (CFI). The CFI is a critical measure that combines the primary reserve ratio, return on net assets ratio, viability ratio, and net operating revenues ratio.





## Systemwide Integration and Institutional Agility:

# Taking a Systemwide Approach to Operational Effectiveness & Innovation (OE)

### Key Performance Indicators:

- Annual Departmental Evaluation Process: Develop new process by the Provost's Office to evaluate systemwide unit alignment with priorities.
- University Dashboard: Create a new dashboard in partnership with Institutional Research to identify trends, understand patterns, and aid in systemwide strategic and financial planning.
- Ensure Board of Regents approves WSU budget annually.
- Engage faculty in assessing program viability to support decision-making on program recalibration systemwide.
- Develop and implement a unified internal communications strategy that fosters transparency, engagement, and alignment across all WSU campuses and departments.
- Develop a system wide legislative strategy to foster collaboration and transparency with university campuses, colleges and other units and sub-units, reinforcing the role of External Affairs and Government Relations as a service unit to the institution.
- **STRETCH:** Disciplinary-Responsive Peer Benchmarks: Develop a tailored system for assessing and comparing research productivity that accounts for disciplinary differences, using both quantitative and qualitative measures.
- **STRETCH:** Instructional Efficiency: Evaluate and improve the ratio of student credit hours (SCH) completed to total SCH offered per unit, and the ratio of credits earned to credits attempted.
- **STRETCH:** Complete a comprehensive systemwide financial review to secure a sustainable fiscal future. Identify operational strengths and "funding cliffs." Develop and adopt a model for determining each campus's equitable share of central administrative subsidies to promote system-wide equity and transparency.





WSU as the 21st Century Land Grant:

# Designing and Launching College Transformation Plans for Real-World Impact (PRES)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Strategic Framework: Develop an innovative and forward-thinking strategic framework and systemwide redesign to align WSU with its land-grant mission and future direction for long-term, sustainable growth.
- Present strategic pillars and draft framework to the Board of Regents.
- Convene bi-annual systemwide strategic leadership engagements to ensure sustained alignment to WSU mission and leadership growth.
- **STRETCH:** Develop a comprehensive communication strategy to support transformational realignment and growth.
- **STRETCH:** Assess and update academic programs to meet current industry and societal demands.
- **STRETCH:** Increase experiential learning opportunities by integrating opportunities for hands-on learning, such as internships, co-ops, research projects, and community-based learning into curriculum.





WSU as the 21st Century Land Grant:

# Advancing WSU Through Philanthropy (AvE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Broaden WSU's impact on society and the state of Washington by showcasing WSU successes for long-term meaningful donor impact in the state of Washington – for WSU students, our community, and the world.
- Stay actively engaged in donor and community relations.
- Meet routinely with Foundation leadership.
- Actively engage professional and personal networks to advance and explore philanthropic and business development prospects at every opportunity.
- Collaborate with University Marketing and Communications to amplify philanthropic success stories and integrate donor relations into broader university-wide messaging.
- Host and attend targeted philanthropic events that align with university priorities, focusing on key industries and donor demographics to maximize return on engagement.





Elevate the Cougar Identity and Brand:

# Engage at a National and Global Level to Enhance Reputational Strength (ALL)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Societal and Community Impact: Identify quantitative and qualitative measures of research impact, including patents, media coverage, changes in public policy, and community narratives of positive change.
- Outreach & Engagement: Identify and improve the number of community engagements that result in identifiable public outcomes.
- Scholarly Teaching and Expertise: Identify and improve the percentage of faculty disseminating scholarly teaching activities through presentations and publications, which increases the university's academic visibility.
- Elevate WSU's visibility in the greater Puget Sound region through increased engagement with regional chambers of commerce, civic organizations, community events and, when appropriate, local governments.
- Streamline and establish new process to gather information in support of WSU's priorities in the federal appropriations and state operating and capital budget request process working with WSU leadership, office of research and communications to highlight the value and importance of this process.
- **STRETCH:** Post-graduation Placement: Assess and improve the percentage of graduates with employment or continuing education within one year of graduation.





Elevate the Cougar Identity and Brand:

# Championing the Future of WSU Athletics (AtE)

## Key Performance Indicators:

- Maintain Pac-12 membership and actively participate in conference governance.
- Implement strategies to address financial operations, including adherence to budgetary constraints and revenue generation.
- Administer surveys to gain insight from student-athletes on their experience and academic support.
- Provided WSU Athletics support and guidance for NIL and MMR discussions.
- Develop growing and positive rapport with WSU athletics leadership and coaches as well as donors and alumni.
- Actively support WSU athletic events, promotions, tailgates, etc.
- Promote and support student-athlete success; cultivate a nationally competitive and character-driven athletics program.
- Integrate athletics communications into the broader university brand strategy to enhance visibility and community engagement.



**Thank  
You**



**WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Office of Policies, Records, and Forms

# Board of Regents Policy Manual

## BOR 02: Policy on Delegation of Authority

Revision Approved by the Board of Regents, ~~November 17, 2023~~

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### 1.0 Policy and Purpose

It is the policy of the Washington State University (WSU, University) Board of Regents (Board) to engage in responsible governance by delegating broad authority, express and implied, to the President or designee to manage and conduct the affairs of the University, except for those matters reserved either by law or by the Board for the proper exercise of its fiduciary duties to the institution.

This policy is intended to help University administrators and others understand what must go to the Board for approval. It delineates specific authority reserved by the Board and, conversely, authority that has been delegated to the President or designee. **This**

**policy is not intended to cover every matter that must or should be brought to the Board of Regents.** For assistance with these decisions, see [Section 3.0](#).

Any delegated authority continues to be subject to the ultimate authority of the Board. The Board also reserves the right to intervene in any matter and to enact or amend such rules and policies as it deems necessary or proper to further the best interests of the University. In doing so, the Board acts as a whole, recognizing the Chair or designee as its spokesperson.

The Board will periodically review delegations and reserves the right to amend or rescind them at any time.

## **2.0 Authority Reserved by the Board**

By law, the Board is vested with full authority to manage the assets and affairs of the University. [RCW 28B.30.095](#), [RCW 28B.30.150](#). The Board also has authority to delegate by resolution any of its powers and duties to the University President or designee. [RCW 28B.10.528](#). Accordingly, the Board has delegated [to](#) the President or designee broad authority to act in matters relating to the general business and financial affairs, academic affairs, organization, and management of the University, including express or implied authority to carry out the administration and operations of the University.

See [Appendix 1: Resolution delegating general authority to President or designee](#).

The Board has reserved authority in specific areas as set forth below.

Links to resolutions delegating authority to the President or designee are provided in each subject area. In the event of a conflict between this policy and a particular resolution, the resolution takes precedence.

### **2.1 Board Administration**

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Board Policies and Operations:** To enact and amend Board bylaws and Board policies, establish standing and ad hoc committees, set the meeting schedule, and otherwise organize, administer, and operate the Board
- **Board Officers:** To appoint a Treasurer pursuant to [RCW 28B.30.130](#), and to elect a chair and vice chair

### **2.2 Personnel**

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Presidential Employment:** To select, appoint, and evaluate the University President, including setting the compensation and other terms and conditions of employment
- **Faculty Appeals:** To hear faculty appeals of formal discipline, in accordance with the [Faculty Manual](#)
- **Financial Exigency:** To declare a financial exigency arising from a financial crisis or legislative mandate, upon the recommendation of the President
- **University Retirement Programs:** To establish or amend University retirement programs for employees.
- **Legal Defense and Indemnification:** To authorize legal defense and indemnification of employees, officers, or volunteers, in accordance with [RCW 28B.10.842](#)

See [Appendix 2: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Personnel](#).

### 2.3 University Rules and Policies

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Regulations:** To adopt, amend, and repeal WAC regulations/rules, except that the President or designee has authority to adopt, amend, and repeal expedited rules pursuant to [RCW 34.05.353](#), emergency rules pursuant to [RCW 34.05.350](#), and rules related to campus parking and traffic

See [Appendix 3: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Rules and policies](#).

### 2.4 Tuition and Fees

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Tuition:** To establish resident and non-resident tuition rates for undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs, in accordance with [RCW 28B.15.067](#)
- **Services and Activities Fees:** To establish services and activities (S&A) fees and technology fees and to approve allocations, in accordance with [RCW 28B.15.044 – .051](#)
- **Other Student Fees:** To approve and implement new student fees or changes in student fees, other than incidental fees such as those for goods, services, access to University facilities, application fees, transcript fees, graduation fees, identification card fees, orientation fees, late enrollment and payment fees, certification fees, and special course fees

- **Housing and Dining Rates:** - To approve housing and dining rates

See [Appendix 4: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Tuition and fees](#).

## 2.5 Academics, Planning, and Structure

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **To Set Admission Requirements:** To set or modify admission requirements
- **University Structure:** To establish or abolish colleges, academic departments, schools, and other academic units, and to approve significant reorganizations of academic and non-academic units, except that the President or designee has authority to approve and abolish University centers, institutes, and laboratories
- **Degree Programs:** To establish or discontinue degrees, except that the President or designee has authority to approve name changes to degree programs and to approve the extension of an existing WSU degree program to another WSU campus
- **Strategic Planning:** To approve the WSU system strategic plans and campus strategic plans
- **Campus Master Plans:** To approve the master plan for each campus, including updates and amendments

See [Appendix 5: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Academics, planning, and structure](#).

## 2.6 Budget, Business, and Finance

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Budget Requests:** To approve the University's capital and operating budget requests prior to submission to the state legislature
- **University Operating Budget:** [To approve the University's annual comprehensive operating budget](#)
- **Athletics Budget:** [To approve the University's annual intercollegiate athletics budget and transfers of funds in accordance with RCW 28B.15.120](#)
- **Debt:** To authorize University debt, in accordance with the Washington State Board of Regents Debt Management Policy, except that the President or designee has authority to issue refunding bonds when the refunding threshold provisions of the "Refinancing and Refunding Principles" in the Board of Regents Debt Management Policy ([BOR 5](#)) are met or exceeded

- **Capital Projects:** To approve contracts for capital projects when the estimated total project cost, inclusive of all phases of the project, is five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or more
- **Real Estate:** To approve contracts relating to real property acquisition and disposal, leases, easements, and transfer of other real property interests when the value of the property to be disposed of or obligated is five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or more
- **General Business-Related Contracts:** To approve contracts relating to the general business and financial affairs of the University, including those related to purchasing and procurement, when total costs are five million (\$5,000,000) or more, except that the President or designee has authority to approve specified contracts without limitation (such as those related to grants and investments)
- **Operating Agreements with Affiliated Entities:** To approve operating agreements with WSU-affiliated entities when the contract term exceeds five years
- **Legal Settlements:** To approve settlements of legal claims or potential legal claims when total costs of the settlement to WSU are five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or more
- **Residency Agreements:** To approve agreements related to the establishment and operation of medical residency programs when total costs to the University are \$15,000,000 or more.

See [Appendix 6: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Budget, business, and finance.](#)

## 2.7 Naming and Recognition

The Board has reserved the following authority in this area:

- **Naming:** To name facilities, academic units, and other major organizational units, except that the President or designee has authority to assign names to minor facilities and names to indicate function to major facilities, academic units, and other organizational units. For further information, see Facility Naming Policy ([Executive Policy #9](#)).
- **Honorary degrees:** To confer honorary degrees in accordance with [RCW 28B.30.150\(15\)](#)
- **Distinguished Alumni:** To designate distinguished alumni upon the recommendation of the President

See [Appendix 7: Resolutions delegating authority to President or designee—Naming and University recognition.](#)

### **3.0 Assistance**

For questions about this policy or assistance with determining whether a specific matter must or should be brought to the Board for approval, contact the Office of the President or the WSU Division of the Office of the Attorney General.

### **4.0 Related Policies**

Board of Regents Policy on Committee Charters ([BOR 3](#))

Board of Regents Bylaws

Office of Policies, Records, and Forms

## Board of Regents Policy Manual

### BOR 03: Policy on Committee Charters

Revision Approved by the Board of Regents, [\[date\]](#)

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#### 1.0 Policy and Purpose

Board of Regents (BOR, [Board](#)) standing committees assist ~~it~~ [the Board](#) in focusing and organizing its work around institutional issues and responsibilities that align with the BOR's governance role. Committee charters delineate committee structure and responsibilities and help advance the productivity of the BOR.

BOR committees include an Executive and Governance Committee and three committees of the whole:

- The Academic and Student Affairs Committee
- The Finance and Administration Committee
- The Strategic and Operational Excellence Committee

## **2.0 BOR Standing Committee Charters**

### **2.1 Executive and Governance Committee**

#### **2.1.a Purpose and Authority**

The Executive and Governance Committee has a broad mandate to work with the BOR chair and the WSU president to help the BOR function effectively and efficiently in service to WSU and to the public. It is vested with authority to act on behalf of the BOR on emergency matters that cannot or should not be delayed until the BOR's next regularly scheduled meeting or until a special meeting of the full BOR is called, such action taking place at a meeting conducted in accordance with the requirements of Washington law.

Three members of the Executive and Governance Committee constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the committee. If three members of the committee are not available, the BOR chair may designate any member of the BOR to temporarily fill the role as a member of the committee.

#### **2.1.b Composition**

The Executive and Governance Committee consists of the BOR chair, the BOR vice chair, and the immediate past BOR chair. The WSU president serves as an ex officio (non-voting) member of the committee, except when the committee is considering matters of the president's hiring, evaluation, or compensation. Committee membership changes concurrently with the schedule for BOR elections as outlined in Article I, Section 3, of the Board of Regents Bylaws.

#### **2.1.c Responsibilities**

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Monitoring the president's performance and overseeing presidential assessment and compensation, including annual and comprehensive performance evaluations in accordance with [BOR Policy #6](#);
- Monitoring, reviewing, advocating for, and implementing best practices in higher education governance;
- Ensuring that a substantive, comprehensive orientation program is provided to all new BOR members;
- Regularly reviewing and updating BOR policies and bylaws;
- Encouraging all BOR members to continue to learn about the institution and their responsibilities, including timely completion of any mandatory training and participation in regular in-service education opportunities;
- Overseeing the timing and process of periodic BOR self assessment;
- Ensuring the BOR adheres to its policies, bylaws, and applicable state and federal laws;
- Serving as a sounding board for the WSU president;
- Acting on behalf of the BOR in emergency matters.

## **2.2 Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

### **2.2.a Purpose and Authority**

This committee facilitates the BOR's responsibilities for teaching, research, and other academic matters, as well as matters relating to student affairs, student life, and education and activities outside the classroom.

### **2.2.b Composition**

This is a committee of the whole. The BOR chair appoints a chairperson, as provided in the Board of Regents Bylaws. Additionally, the WSU president appoints one ex officio primary liaison from among the officers of WSU and may appoint other ex officio members. The primary liaison, in consultation with the committee chairperson, the Office of the President, and other appropriate WSU officials, is responsible for development of the committee agenda.

### **2.2.c Responsibilities**

This committee considers matters, makes recommendations, and provides governance oversight in the following areas:

- Academic policy and programs, including accreditation; curriculum; instruction; educational technology; online education; student advising; research; public

service; admission requirements; the establishment and discontinuation of educational and research departments, colleges, and units; and the establishment and discontinuation of degree programs;

- Research, scholarship, and creativity statewide, nationally, and internationally, including economic development activities;
- Intellectual property, technology transfer, and commercialization activities;
- Enrollment management and planning, including enrollment levels for each campus and system-wide; admissions; financial aid; student retention; and graduation rates;
- Faculty affairs, including matters relating to recruitment, retention, promotion, composition of the faculty, and other policies and matters that impact faculty;
- Student affairs and student life, including policies, practices, and procedures that impact students; housing and dining services; health and safety; student organizations; career services; student support programs; education abroad; recreation, civic engagement and leadership; and extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

## **2.3 Finance and Administration Committee**

### **2.3.a Purpose and Authority**

This committee facilitates the BOR's responsibilities for the financial and administrative operations of WSU, including fiscal and compliance matters related to intercollegiate athletics. The committee also is responsible for physical and information technology infrastructure, as well as other infrastructure matters.

### **2.3.b Composition**

This is a committee of the whole. The BOR chair appoints a chairperson, as provided in the Board of Regents Bylaws. Additionally, the WSU president appoints one ex officio primary liaison from among the officers of the WSU and may appoint other ex officio members. The primary liaison, in consultation with the committee chairperson, the Office of the President, and other appropriate WSU officials, is responsible for development of the committee agenda.

### **2.3.c Responsibilities**

This committee considers matters, makes recommendations, and provides governance oversight on the following:

- Investments, including:

- Reviewing and approving changes to the Investment Policy Statement for the Washington State University Foundation Consolidated Endowment Fund (Fund) Investment Policy, as it relates to the WSU endowed assets;
- Reviewing and recommending BOR-appointed members to the WSU Foundation Investment Committee;
- Annually reviewing the operational performance of the Fund and the actions of the WSU Foundation, its Governors, and the WSU Foundation Investment Committee;
- Borrowing and debt management, including the financing of capital projects;
- Budget, including reviewing and approving, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the University's annual comprehensive operating budget; and reviewing, providing recommendations, and approving all requests for appropriation of state funds for both capital and operating budgets;
- Operating and capital budget endorsement, including overseeing annual and long-range operating and capital budgets; and reviewing, providing recommendations, and approving all requests for appropriation of state funds;
- Student fees and tuition;
- Audit, including meeting a minimum of two times per year with WSU's chief audit executive to discuss the effectiveness of WSU's internal controls, significant status updates on corrective action plans, the audit plan, and internal audit activity; review of the audit charter, as needed; this committee or the committee chairperson meets at least once per year with the internal auditor in the absence of WSU officers;
- Finance, including oversight of the financial health of WSU and the integrity of its financial statements; sufficient opportunity for the independent external auditor to meet with the committee or the committee chairperson at least annually is to be provided;
- Compliance, including meeting a minimum of two times per year with WSU's chief compliance officer to receive updates, reports on the status of corrective action plans, presentations and/or recommendations on compliance issues, including discrimination, harassment, and Title IX issues, and reports regarding any significant noncompliance issues; in addition, the committee reviews the compliance charter as needed; sufficient opportunity for the chief compliance officer to meet with the committee is to be provided; this committee or the committee chairperson meets at a minimum of once per year with the chief compliance officer in the absence of WSU officers;
- Investigation of any matter brought to the committee's attention with full access to all records, facilities, and personnel of WSU and the authority to engage other individuals, including professionals external to WSU as necessary to carry out its

duties, consistent with applicable laws; the committee will receive any required education and sign any necessary forms to review regulated, confidential, and/or privileged records and information;

- Risk management, including meeting a minimum of once per year with WSU's chief risk officer to discuss significant enterprise and operational risks and WSU's risk management plan;
- Campus safety and security;
- WSU trust lands;
- Classified and administrative professional employees, including matters relating to recruitment, retention, promotion, policies, collective bargaining, and other matters that impact employees;
- Real property, including ownership, management, leasing, acquisition, and disposition;
- Physical facilities, including:
  - Long-range physical planning, including capital and campus master plans;
  - Capital-asset preservation and renewal, including monitoring deferred maintenance and overseeing the repairs, replacements, modernization, and renovations of buildings and infrastructure systems;
  - Major capital projects;
  - Research infrastructure, including major research facilities, core instrumentation laboratories, and other capabilities;
  - Plant operations and maintenance;
  - Facilities-related policies and procedures (e.g., bidding processes, safety, sustainability, and ADA compliance);
- Information technology, including the needs of, and coordination among, the various campuses in information technology areas, research computing, telephone services, and other technologies;
- Athletics, including [approval of the fiscal year Athletics budget and transfers of funds in accordance with RCW 28B.15.120, budget](#), policies, compliance, Pac-12 and NCAA, and matters pertaining to student athletes.

## **2.4 Strategic and Operational Excellence Committee**

### **2.4.a Purpose and Authority**

This committee facilitates the BOR's engagement in strategic planning and analysis, institutional advancement, development, marketing and communications, alumni relations, corporate engagement, and governmental relations. It also considers matters pertaining to the efficiency and effectiveness of system-wide operations.

#### **2.4.b Composition**

This is a committee of the whole. The BOR chair appoints a chairperson, as provided in the Board of Regents Bylaws. Additionally, the WSU President appoints one ex officio primary liaison from among the officers of WSU and may appoint other ex officio members. The primary liaison, in consultation with the committee chairperson, the Office of the President, and other appropriate WSU officials, is responsible for development of the committee agenda.

#### **2.4.c Responsibilities**

This committee considers matters, makes recommendations, and provides governance oversight on the following:

- Strategic and organizational planning and analysis, including development and approval of the strategic plan for each campus and the WSU system, oversight of implementation, and monitoring overall performance, including review of meaningful performance metrics;
- Advancement, development, and fundraising, including supporting the WSU Foundation in achieving its goals and aligning fundraising efforts and the institution's strategic priorities;
- Alumni relations, including working with the WSU Alumni Association to support programs and activities that encourage alumni involvement with, and support of, WSU;
- Government affairs, including the institution's public policy agendas and long- and short-range planning and engagement efforts aimed toward advancing WSU's strategic priorities to all local, state, and federal leaders, constituencies, and agencies, including the Washington Legislature and the general public;
- Tribal relations, including an annual report on progress and challenges from the Office of Tribal Relations and Native American Programs;
- Marketing and communications, including strategic public relations, marketing, and communications efforts;
- Corporate engagement, including major sponsorships and relationships that advance WSU objectives; and
- WSU Extension and all of its operations statewide.



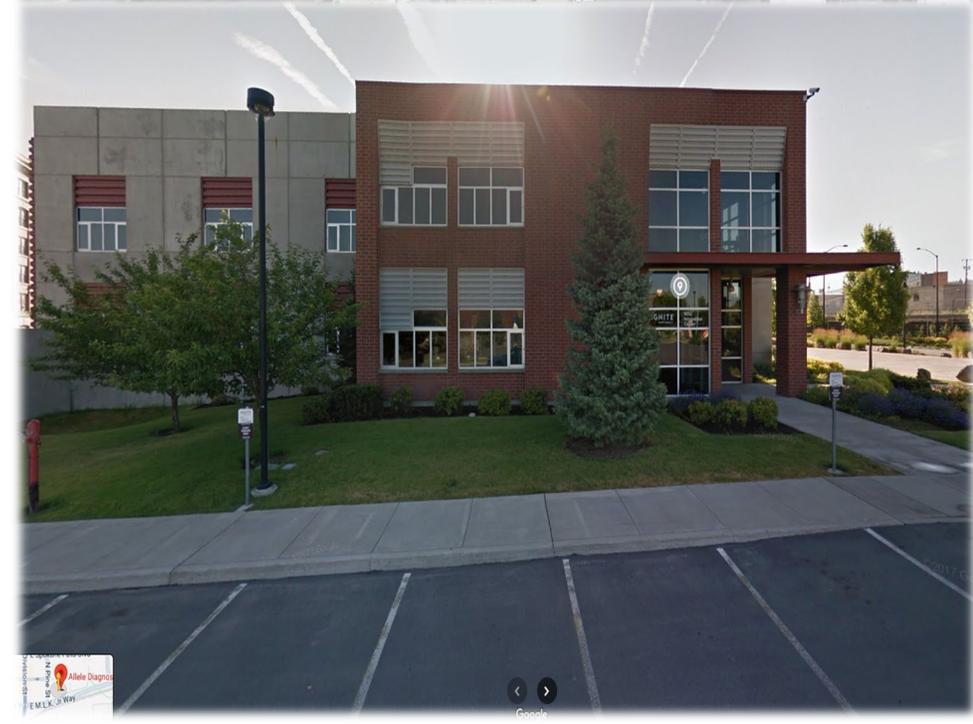
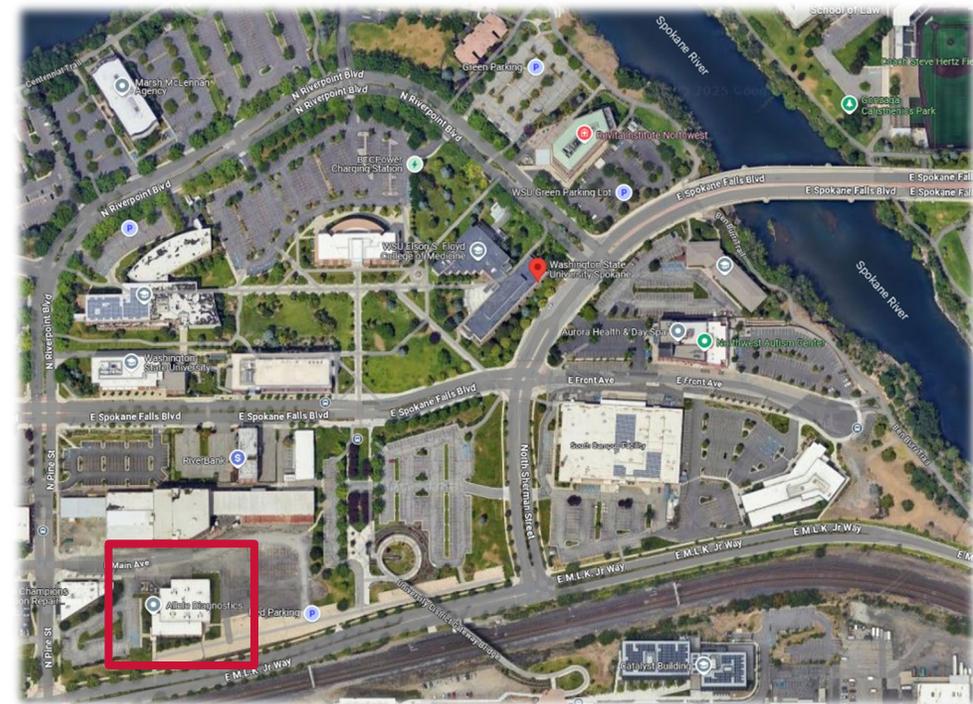
WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# Ignite Building Purchase

Executive Summary  
Board of Regents  
September 18, 2025

# Building Overview

- Address: 120 N. Pine, Spokane, WA 99202
- Size: 36,284 square feet | Land area: 1.86 acres
- Constructed: 2005
- Master Lease: In 2014, legislative action transferred the master lease obligation to WSU without funding. This transfer was part of the legislation establishing the WSU Applied Sciences Laboratory.
- Functions:
  - WSU Research space
  - Rental space leased to private parties
  - Incubator space supporting the Spokane medical technology community
- Management:
  - Self-sufficient, managed by WSU Real Estate in collaboration with WSU Health Sciences



# Situation Overview

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- The building is being sold
- WSU's current lease expires in January 2026
- Multiple options reviewed and considered to:
  - Ensure space for the Applied Sciences Laboratory
  - Fulfill a longer-term goal to acquire the building located within the WSU Spokane footprint
- Purchasing the facility is the most viable and strategic option



# WSU Applied Sciences Laboratory (ASL)

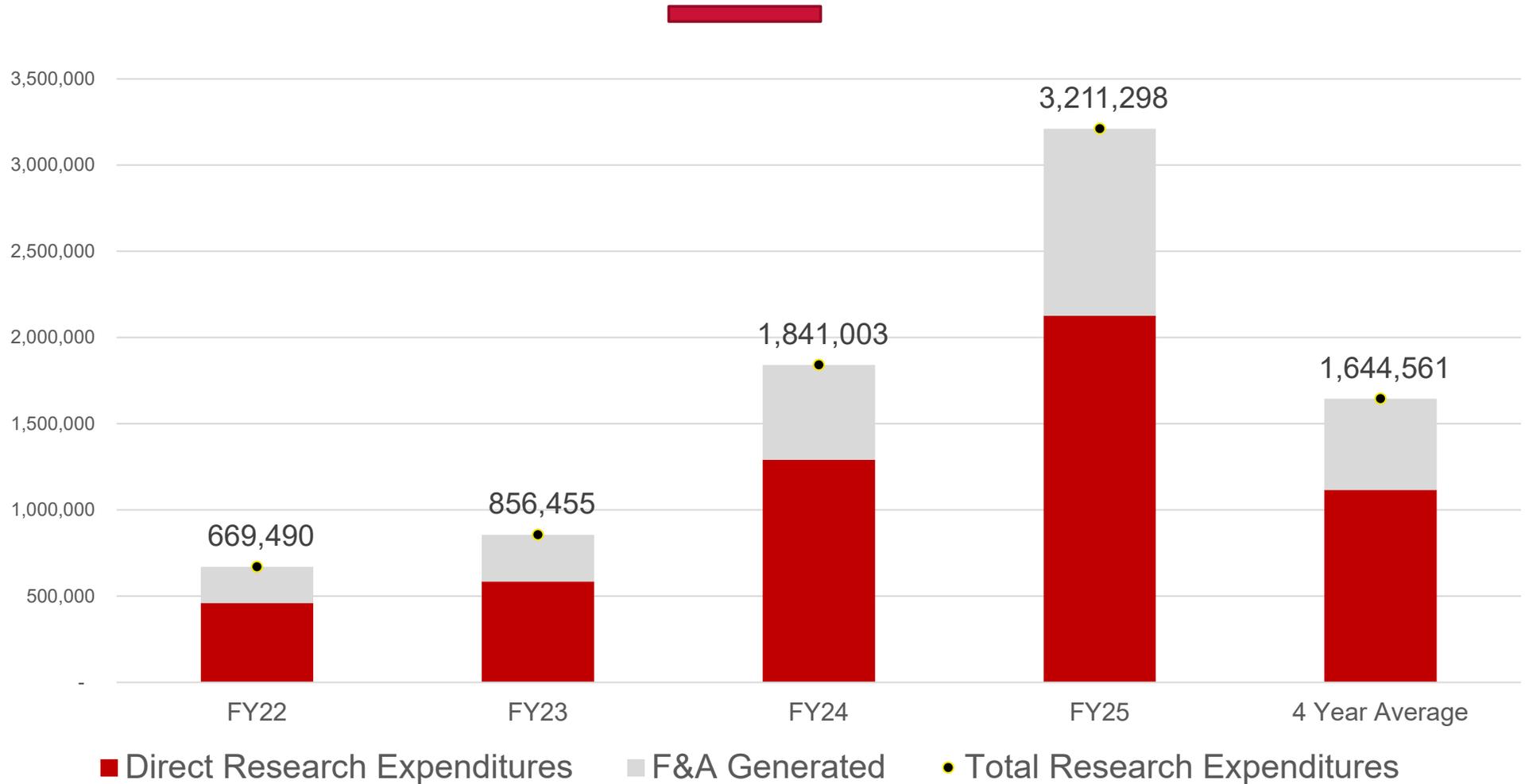
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- The Applied Sciences Laboratory focuses on solving problems for industry and government agencies in energy, national security, advanced materials/sensors, and biomedical applications
- The scientific underpinnings involve optical physics, materials science, chemistry, biomedical engineering, and computational modeling and simulations
- ASL is led by Dr. Brian Jensen
  - Physics professor and former Los Alamos National Laboratory physicist, named director of WSU's Institute for Shock Physics in May 2024, succeeding Dr. Gupta
- Dr. Yogendra Gupta, founder of ASL
  - Regents Professor Emeritus, a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the recipient of the American Physical Society's Shock Compression Science Award





# ASL Research Activity



# Purchase Funding Sources

- \$6,825,016 Central bond refinancing savings
- \$1,675,424 from Spokane Teaching Health Center bond refinancing savings
- \$749,560 from Real Estate
- \$1,909,152 of the funding to be repaid to real estate and central over 6 years at 3% interest
- Note: \$1,000,000 will be held in reserve for future maintenance needs.

|   |  | Summary          |
|---|--|------------------|
| Contracted Price  |  | 9,000,000        |
| Concession - Facilities Inspection  |  | (750,000)        |
| Purchase Price  |  | 8,250,000        |
| Set Aside for Future Maintenance  |  | 1,000,000        |
| <b>Total</b>  |  | <b>9,250,000</b> |
| <b>Sources of Funding</b>   |  |                  |
| <b>Group 1: No Repayment Required</b>   |  |                  |
| Savings Debt Refunding - STHC   |  | 1,675,424        |
| Savings from Debt Refunding - Central   |  | 5,665,424        |
|   |  | <b>7,340,848</b> |
| <b>Group 2: Repayment Required with Interest (in priority order of payback)</b> |  |                  |
| Real Estate Reserve Account   |  | 749,560          |
| Portion of FY25 Savings from 2015 Debt Refunding - Central                      |  | 1,159,592        |
|   |  | <b>1,909,152</b> |
| <b>Total Funding Available To Support Purchase Price</b>                        |  | <b>9,250,000</b> |



## Exhibit D

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-001 Preamble.** Students have the responsibility to read and be familiar with the standards of conduct, to abide by them, and to understand that violations of these standards, if the student is found responsible, will result in educational sanctions and/or remedies for cases in which executive policy 15 is implicated. The dean of students or designee is the person designated by the university president to be responsible for the administration of the standards of conduct.

Washington State University has a long-standing commitment to providing students with a holistic learning experience both in and out of the classroom. Students are expected to uphold and be accountable to our standards of conduct to foster a safe, healthy, and inclusive campus community. The basic philosophy behind the standards of conduct and processes is one of education, centered on student learning through personal development and accountability. Therefore, the student conduct process is designed to support students, guide and correct behaviors, challenge students to make better choices, protect the rights of all students, and support a safe environment for students, the university, and the community at large.

The university strives to provide a fair process for every student without bias or favor regardless of socioeconomic status, personal or social connections, sex (~~((including sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions))~~), sexual orientation, ((and)) gender identity((+)), race, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, marital status, genetic information, status as an honorably discharged or protected veteran or member of the military, physical, mental, or sensory disability, including the use of a trained service animal, or immigration or citizenship status, except as authorized by federal or state law, regulation, or government contract. It also has responsibility to inform and educate the university community, parents, and the public at large on these standards, uphold them, and exercise the authority to take educational and/or disciplinary action accordingly.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-010 Definitions.** Words and phrases used in the standards of conduct regardless of their associated gender identity include all genders. Words and phrases used in the standards of conduct in the singular or plural encompass both the singular and the plural, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. For purposes of the standards of conduct, the following definitions apply:

(1) Academic integrity hearing board. Teaching faculty and student representatives who are authorized by the university to review an instructor's decision that a student violated university academic integrity policies and whether or not the academic sanction assigned by the instructor is in keeping with the instructor's published policies.

(2) Appeals board. The group of students, faculty, and staff, collectively, authorized in accordance with WAC 504-26-115 to consider

appeals from a decision maker's determination as to whether a student or registered student organization has violated the standards of conduct and any sanctions and/or remedies assigned.

(3) Brief adjudication.

(a) The process by which a conduct officer or conduct board may adjudicate student conduct matters. Brief adjudication is not permissible for matters that:

(i) Would constitute (~~sex discrimination or sex-based~~) Title IX sexual harassment as defined in the university's executive policy 15 (EP15); or

(ii) Where possible sanctions include expulsion, loss of recognition, or revocation of degree.

(b) Also referred to as a "conduct officer hearing," "conduct board hearing," or "brief adjudicative proceeding."

(4) CCR. The university's office of compliance and civil rights.

(5) CCS. The university's center for community standards.

(6) Community standards boards. University conduct board, university appeals board, academic integrity hearing board, or any other panel of individuals empowered to make community standards decisions on behalf of the university.

(7) Complainant. Any person who is the alleged victim of prohibited student conduct, whether or not such person has made an actual complaint.

(8) Conduct board. The group or individual authorized in accordance with WAC 504-26-110 to adjudicate certain student conduct matters.

(9) Conduct hearing. The process in which a decision is made regarding a student or registered student organization's responsibility for alleged behavior and assignment of applicable sanctions and/or remedies, where appropriate. (Remedies may be considered for matters implicating executive policy 15 part 15.B.) Conduct hearings include brief adjudications and full adjudications. Also referred to as "student conduct hearing" or "student conduct proceeding."

(10) Conduct officer. A university official authorized by the dean of students or their designee to initiate, manage, and/or adjudicate certain student conduct matters in accordance with WAC 504-26-401 and 504-26-402.

(11) Executive policy 15. The university's policy prohibiting discrimination and harassment. Also referred to as "EP15."

(12) Faculty member. For purposes of this chapter, any person hired by the university to conduct classroom or teaching activities or who is otherwise considered by the university to be a member of its faculty.

(13) Full adjudication.

(a) The process for adjudicating matters involving:

(i) (~~Sex discrimination or sex-based~~) Title IX sexual harassment, or retaliation stemming from those as underlying complaint, as defined in EP15; and

(ii) Possible sanction including expulsion, loss of recognition, revocation of degree, or otherwise utilized at the discretion of the CCS when deemed appropriate, in accordance with WAC 504-26-401(4).

(b) Also referred to as "formal adjudication," "formal adjudicative proceeding," or "full adjudicative proceeding."

(c) In a full adjudication, the presiding officer is also the decision maker.

(14) Gender identity. Having or being perceived as having a gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression, whether

or not that gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to the person at birth.

(15) Member of the university community. Includes any person who is a student, faculty member, university official, any person employed by the university, or any person with a relationship with the university, including guests of and visitors to the university. A person's status in a particular situation is determined by the dean of students or designee.

(16) Parties. The parties to a conduct hearing must include the university and the respondent. Where the conduct hearing includes allegations that constitute violations of EP15 or allegations of Title IX sexual harassment, the parties may include the university, the respondent, and the complainant. The university may designate other complainants as parties to conduct proceedings including, but not limited to, harmed parties. The dean of students or their designee determines party status.

(17) Registered student organization. A group of students, collectively, that has complied with the formal requirements for university recognition.

(18) Respondent. A student or registered student organization alleged to have violated these standards of conduct.

(19) Staff. Individuals employed by the university of any rank or classification who are not considered faculty members as defined in subsection (12) of this section.

(20) Standards of conduct. The standards of conduct for students outlined in this chapter.

(21) Student. For the purposes of this chapter, any person who:

(a) Is enrolled in at least one undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies course at the university;

(b) Has been notified of their acceptance for admission but has not yet registered for their course(s);

(c) Is eligible to reenroll in classes without reapplying.

(22) Title IX. Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 and its implementing 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

(23) University. Washington State University.

(24) University official. Any person employed by the university, performing assigned administrative or professional responsibilities.

(25) University premises. All land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, websites, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by the university (including adjacent streets and sidewalks), including its study abroad program sites, as well as university-sponsored or hosted online platforms.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-015 Jurisdiction and applicability—Relationship to other proceedings.** (1) General. The standards of conduct apply to conduct that occurs on university premises or in connection with university sponsored activities, including transit to or from the activity.

(2) Off-campus conduct. In addition to subsection (1) of this section, the standards of conduct may apply to conduct that occurs off university premises and not in connection with university-sponsored activities, if the conduct adversely affects the health and/or safety of the university community or the pursuit of the university's vision, mission, or values.

The university has sole discretion to make this determination. In making this determination, the conduct officer considers whether the alleged conduct:

(a) Requires the university to exercise jurisdiction under law or as required by federal or state agencies or policies including, but not limited to, allegations of Title IX sexual harassment;

(b) Negatively impacted the reputation of the university or its students;

(c) Occurred on the property of registered student organizations;

(d) Caused physical, mental, or emotional harm to another; or

(e) Was recognized by onlookers, complainants, or witnesses as being carried out by a student or registered student organization.

(3) Online conduct - Electronic communications. These standards of conduct may be applied to behavior conducted online, via electronic mail, text message, or other electronic means.

(4) Time frame for applicability. Each student is responsible and accountable for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual conferral of a degree, even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment. These standards apply to a student's conduct during that time frame, even if the student withdraws from school, takes a leave of absence, or graduates.

(5) Group accountability. Registered student organizations that violate university policies and the standards of conduct are subject to sanctions. A registered student organization may be held accountable for the behavior of its officers, members, or guests when the university demonstrates that:

(a) The organization or its officers should have foreseen that behavior constituting a violation was likely to occur, yet failed to take reasonable precautions against such behavior;

(b) A policy or practice of the organization was responsible for a violation; or

(c) The behavior constituting a violation was committed by, condoned by, or involved a number of organization officers, members, or guests.

(6) International and national study programs. Students who participate in any university-sponsored or sanctioned international or national study program must observe the following rules and regulations:

(a) The laws of the host country and/or state;

(b) The academic and disciplinary regulations of the educational institution or residential housing program where the student is studying;

(c) Any other agreements related to the student's study program; and

(d) These standards of conduct.

(7) Academic and professional standards. Nothing in these standards of conduct is to be construed as limiting academic action that may be taken by a program or other academic unit against a respondent who, based on an established violation of these standards or other-

wise, demonstrates a failure to meet the academic and/or professional standards of the program.

(8) Relationship between student conduct process and other legal processes. The university is not required to stay a conduct hearing pending any criminal or civil proceeding, nor must the disposition of any such criminal or civil proceeding control the outcome of any conduct hearing. Respondents may choose to remain silent during conduct proceedings, in accordance with WAC 504-26-045.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-020 Advisors and representatives.** (1) Advisors. Any party may have an advisor of their choice, provided that person agrees to serve as an advisor, to be present during all stages of a conduct process. A list of university employees who are trained advisors is provided upon a party's request. University advisors can provide support at no cost to the party. Advisors may assist any party engaged in the conduct process and attend meetings and hearings. Advisors may not be witnesses to the alleged behavior. Advisors may not be employed in CCS.

(2) Advisors in conduct hearings. During any conduct meeting, brief adjudicative hearing, or full adjudicative hearing, breaks may be taken, within reason, to allow a party to consult with their advisor. However, advisors are not permitted to speak on behalf of parties, except that in full adjudicative proceedings, advisors are permitted to ((direct questions for witnesses to the presiding officer)) directly question witnesses and engage in cross-examination.

(3) Representatives. A party may choose to be represented during a full adjudication, at their own expense. Only persons currently admitted to practice law, including licensed legal interns, are permitted to act as representatives. Representatives are not permitted in brief adjudications; however, persons currently admitted to practice law may participate as advisors in brief adjudications.

(4) As a condition of participation in the conduct process, CCS may require advisors and representatives to sign a statement agreeing to comply with legal requirements and university rules including, but not limited to, requirements related to confidentiality of student information.

(5) Questions regarding logistical and administrative issues are to be directed to the conduct officer, community standards board chair, or presiding officer, as applicable, who may impose reasonable conditions upon participation of advisors and representatives.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-120 Training.** (1) Conduct and appeals board members. Conduct board members and appeals board members must not participate in any student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:

(a) ~~((Diversity, equity, inclusion, and implicit bias;~~  
(b)) Student development and student conduct philosophies, including the educational component of the student conduct process;  
~~((e))~~ (b) Fair and equitable decision making, including:  
(i) Due process;  
(ii) Standards of proof;  
(iii) Relevant and admissible evidence;  
(iv) Conflict of interest; and  
(v) Identifying bias;  
~~((d))~~ (c) Sexual assault and gender-based violence;  
~~((e))~~ (d) Alcohol and drug prevention;  
~~((f))~~ (e) Sanctioning principles and guidelines; and  
~~((g))~~ (f) Title IX regulatory definitions, jurisdiction, and grievance processes.

(2) Conduct officers. Conduct officers must not participate in any student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:

(a) Alternative dispute resolution;  
(b) Restorative justice; and  
(c) All training required of board members (see subsection (1) of this section).

(3) Presiding and reviewing officers. Presiding and reviewing officers must not participate in any student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:

(a) ~~((Diversity, equity, inclusion, and implicit bias;~~  
(b)) Student development and student conduct philosophies, including the educational component of the student conduct process; and  
~~((e))~~ (b) Title IX regulatory definitions, jurisdiction, and grievance processes.

(4) Academic integrity hearing board members. Academic integrity hearing board members must not participate in any student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:

(a) ~~((Diversity, equity, inclusion, and implicit bias;~~  
(b)) Student development and student conduct philosophies, including the educational component of the student conduct process; and  
~~((e))~~ (b) Fair and equitable decision making, including:  
(i) Due process;  
(ii) Standards of proof;  
(iii) Relevant and admissible evidence;  
(iv) Conflict of interest; and  
(v) Identifying bias.

(5) Renewal of training. Training must be renewed on a biennial basis, except for decision makers who hear EP15 matters, who are required to take Title IX regulatory training annually.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-220 Discriminatory harassment.** (1) Unwelcome, intentional conduct on the basis of sex (other than Title IX sexual harassment); sexual orientation; gender identity; race; religion; age; color; creed; national or ethnic origin; marital status; genetic information; status as an honorably discharged veteran, protected veteran, or

member of the military; physical, mental, or sensory disability (including disability requiring the use of a trained service animal); or immigration or citizenship status, except as authorized by federal or state law, regulation, or government contract, which is so severe or pervasive, and objectively offensive, that it substantially and unreasonably:

(a) Interferes with, or has the potential to interfere with, an individual's ability to participate in university employment, education, programs, or activities;

(b) Adversely alters the condition of an individual's university employment, education, or participation status;

(c) Creates an objectively abusive employment, program, or educational environment; or

(d) Results in a material or substantial disruption of the university's operations or the rights of students, staff, faculty, visitors, or program participants.

(2) In determining if conduct is harassing, the totality of the circumstances are assessed including, but not limited to, the following factors:

(a) Severity;

(b) Frequency of the discrimination;

(c) Status of the complainant and respondent parties and their relationship to each other;

(d) Physicality, threats, or endangerment; and

(e) Whether or not the conduct could be reasonably considered protected speech or serving some other lawful purpose.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-227 ((Hostile environment sex-based)) Title IX sexual harassment.** ~~((Unwelcome, sex-based conduct (including conduct based on sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression) that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that:~~

~~(1) It limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from WSU's education programs or activities (i.e., creates a hostile environment); or~~

~~(2) Enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment.))~~ Conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

(1) A WSU student conditioning the provision of a WSU aid, benefit, or service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to WSU's education programs or activities;

(3) "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v);

(4) "Dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(11);

(5) "Domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(12); or

(6) "Stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(36).

**WAC 504-26-401 Initiating conduct proceedings.** (1) Complaints. Any member of the university community may submit a complaint that a student or registered student organization violated the standards of conduct. In matters that would constitute a violation of EP15, the complaint must be submitted to CCR or initiated by CCR pursuant to EP15. In addition, CCS may initiate conduct proceedings when it receives any direct or indirect report of conduct that may violate the standards of conduct.

(2) Decision not to refer the matter to a hearing. Except as provided below, if the conduct officer decides not to refer the matter to a hearing, the conduct officer must notify the reporting party in writing of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and how to seek review of the decision. Conduct matters may be reopened if new relevant information becomes known. A conduct officer cannot dismiss a matter received from CCR where CCR completed an investigation implicating (~~EP15~~) Title IX. In such cases, the matter must be referred to a conduct hearing, which must be held within 60 days of the date the CCR investigation is completed, unless good cause exists to extend the date of the hearing or the matter is resolved through agreement or alternative dispute resolution.

(3) Agreement and alternative dispute resolution. A conduct officer may resolve a matter by agreement. Agreements may be reached directly or through alternative dispute resolution including, but not limited to, shuttle diplomacy or mediation. Parties involved in matters implicating EP15 also may participate in an informal resolution process outlined in EP15 and the CCR procedural guidelines at any time prior to a determination of responsibility. When resolution of a matter is reached by agreement or alternative dispute resolution, the agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties and the conduct officer. In the agreement, the parties must be advised in writing that:

(a) The disposition is final and they are waiving any right to a hearing on the matter, including any right to appeal; and

(b) If any party decides not to sign the agreement, and the matter proceeds to a hearing, neither the agreement nor a party's refusal to sign will be used against either party at the hearing.

(4) Referral for adjudication. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, if CCS determines that a conduct hearing is warranted, and the matter is not resolved through agreement or alternative dispute resolution, the matter is handled through either a brief adjudication in accordance with WAC 504-26-402 or a full adjudicative proceeding in accordance with WAC 504-26-403. In determining which process is appropriate, CCS considers factors including, but not limited to, the nature and severity of the allegations, the respondent's past contacts with CCS, and the range of possible sanctions that would be appropriate given the alleged conduct (~~(, and whether the alleged conduct constitutes sex discrimination or sex-based harassment)~~). A student may request a full adjudicative proceeding, but the final decision regarding whether to refer the matter to a full adjudicative proceeding for resolution is made by CCS and is not subject to appeal.

**WAC 504-26-403 Full adjudications.** (1) Adoption of model rules of procedure. Full adjudications are governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, RCW 34.05.413 through 34.05.476, and chapter 10-08 WAC, Model rules of procedure, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. In the event of a conflict between the rules in this chapter and the model rules, this chapter governs.

(2) Notice of hearing. Notice to the parties of a full adjudicative proceeding must comply with model rule WAC 10-08-040 and standards of conduct rule WAC 504-26-035. In addition, information regarding the student conduct process and student rights, as required by WAC 504-26-401 must be provided.

(3) Time for hearings. The full adjudicative proceeding is scheduled no less than seven calendar days after the parties have been sent notice of the hearing.

In accordance with WAC 10-08-090, requests to extend the time and/or date for hearing must be addressed to the presiding officer. A request for an extension of time is granted only upon a showing of good cause.

(4) Subpoenas. Subpoenas may be issued and enforced in accordance with model rule WAC 10-08-120. In determining whether to issue, quash, or modify a subpoena, the presiding officer must give due consideration to state and federal legal requirements including, but not limited to, Title IX, its implementing regulations, and guidance issued by the federal Office for Civil Rights. The party requesting the subpoena has the burden of showing that a subpoena is necessary for full disclosure of all the relevant facts and issues.

(5) Discovery. Depositions and interrogatories are not permitted in adjudications of student conduct matters. Other forms of discovery may be permitted at the discretion of the presiding officer; however, discovery should be limited to help ensure the prompt completion of the adjudication process.

(6) Direct questioning and cross-examination. As required by RCW 34.05.449, direct and cross-examination of witnesses is permitted to the extent necessary for full disclosure of all relevant facts and issues.

(a) ~~((For hearings involving allegations where EP15 is implicated, parties and/or their advisors or representatives may submit))~~ Direct questioning and cross-examination ((questions to the presiding officer who asks relevant, permissible, clear, and nonharassing questions)) is conducted by the party or the party's advisor or representative in a respectful manner. Prior to asking or allowing any direct and cross-examination question, the presiding officer must first determine whether the question is relevant, permissible, clear, not repetitive and ~~((nonharassing))~~ not harassing. If a presiding officer excludes a question, the presiding officer must explain the rationale for exclusion and provide the party and/or advisor an opportunity to clarify or revise their question.

(b) ~~((For hearings involving allegations where EP15 is not implicated, cross-examination is conducted orally through the party's advisor or representative. If a party does not have an advisor or representative, an advisor is provided by the university free of charge to conduct cross-examination on that party's behalf. Advisors and representatives are required to engage in cross-examination questioning in~~

~~a respectful manner. In no circumstance may the complainant or respondent be permitted to cross-examine each other directly. Before any witness or party may answer a cross-examination question, the presiding officer must first determine whether the question is relevant. The presiding officer must instruct parties or witnesses not to answer cross-examination questions that are irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious))~~ At no point may a party personally cross-examine the other party when the other party is testifying as a witness or directly cross-examine other witnesses in a full-adjudicative hearing involving allegations of Title IX sexual harassment. If necessary, the university provides an advisor to the parties for the purposes of direct questioning and cross-examination in full adjudicative hearings involving allegations of Title IX sexual harassment.

(7) Decision requirements. Decisions regarding responsibility and sanctions are made by the presiding officer.

(8) Notice of decision and right to appeal. Within 10 calendar days of the completion of the hearing, the presiding officer must issue the initial order simultaneously to all parties, unless the presiding officer notifies the parties in writing that additional time (up to 30 calendar days) is needed. The initial order of the university must contain the following:

(a) Description of the allegations that initiated the community standards process;

(b) Description of procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint up to and including the outcome of the full adjudicative proceeding;

(c) Appropriately numbered findings of fact (~~and~~), conclusions, and rationale for each result;

(d) The sanction(s) and/or remedy(ies) to be assigned, if any, and the rationale for the sanction(s) and/or remedy(ies);

(e) Information regarding the parties' right to appeal according to WAC 504-26-420, including the time frame for seeking review; and

(f) Notice that the initial order becomes final unless an appeal is filed within 20 calendar days of the date the initial order is sent to the parties.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-409 Emergency suspension.** (1) Definition. An emergency suspension is a temporary exclusion of a student from all or specified portions of university premises, programs, or activities pending an investigation or conduct hearing relating to alleged standards of conduct violations. An emergency suspension may be assigned at any time prior to the issuance of the university's final order in the matter.

(2) Circumstances warranting emergency suspension. Emergency suspension may be assigned only in situations when the dean of students or a vice chancellor for student affairs (in consultation with CCS), or their designee, has engaged in an individualized safety and risk analysis, and determines that removal is justified because the student:

(a) Allegedly has violated any provision of the standards of conduct; and

(b) If the allegations in (a) of this subsection are true, the student is an imminent and serious threat to the health or safety of any student, employee, or other individual. Conduct that creates an ongoing disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the university and that prevents other students, employees, or invitees from completing their duties or accessing their education or the educational environment, is conduct harmful to the welfare of members of the university community.

(3) Procedure. The dean of students or a vice chancellor for student affairs, or their designee, ordering an emergency suspension must send the student a written notice of emergency suspension. The notice must contain the reasons for the decision (both the factual basis and the conclusions as to why those facts constitute a violation of the standards of conduct), the policy reasons for the emergency suspension, and the process to challenge the decision. The emergency suspension does not replace the community standards process, which must proceed to a conduct hearing, as applicable, as quickly as feasible unless the emergency suspension is lifted earlier by the individual who issued the original emergency suspension or the individual who reviewed the student's challenge to an emergency suspension. If an emergency suspension is lifted prior to the hearing, the conduct officer determines whether to refer the matter to a hearing. Once a final order or agreement is entered, any emergency suspension is lifted and the sanction, if any, set forth in the final order or agreement is assigned.

(4) Challenge of the decision. The student can challenge the emergency suspension decision within 10 calendar days of the date of notice. Challenges are reviewed by the vice (~~(president)~~) provost for student affairs or their designee, provided the designee is not the same person who made the original emergency suspension decision. The vice (~~(president)~~) provost for student affairs or designee has 10 calendar days to respond to the challenge and can uphold, reverse, or modify the emergency suspension. If the challenge is not reviewed within 10 calendar days, it is automatically deemed upheld. The submission of a challenge does not stay the emergency suspension decision.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-23-093, filed 11/19/24, effective 12/20/24)

**WAC 504-26-425 Sanctions.** (1) Publication of guidelines for sanctioning. Sanctioning guidelines and other information regarding sanctioning must be published on the university website. Guidelines must explain in plain language the types of sanctions that a respondent may face for a particular violation and the factors that are used to determine the sanction(s) assigned for a particular violation.

(2) Factors for sanctioning must include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Conduct record. Any record of past violations of the standards of conduct, and the nature and severity of such past violations;

(b) Malicious intent. If a respondent is found to have intentionally selected a complainant based upon the respondent's perception of the complainant's race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex/gender, marital status, status as an honorably discharged

veteran or member of the military, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity/expression, or mental, physical, or sensory disability (including disability requiring the use of a trained service animal), such finding is considered an aggravating factor in determining a sanction for such conduct;

(c) Impact on complainant and/or university community;

(d) Applicable local, state, or federal laws that define sanctioning.

(3) Effective date of sanctions. Except as provided in WAC 504-26-420(2), sanctions are implemented when a final order becomes effective. If no appeal is filed, an initial order becomes a final order on the day after the period for requesting review has expired. (See WAC 504-26-420.)

(4) Types of sanctions. The following sanctions may be assigned to any respondent found to have violated the standards of conduct. More than one of the sanctions listed below may be assigned for any single violation:

(a) Warning. A notice in writing to the respondent that the respondent is violating or has violated the standards of conduct.

(b) Probation. Formal action placing conditions upon the respondent's continued attendance, recognition, or registration at the university. Probation is for a designated period of time and warns the respondent that suspension, expulsion, loss of recognition, or any other sanction outlined in this section may be assigned if the respondent is found to have violated the standards of conduct or any institutional regulation(s) or fails to complete any conditions of probation during the probationary period. A respondent on probation is not eligible to run for or hold an office in any registered student group or organization; they are not eligible for certain jobs on campus including, but not limited to, resident advisor or orientation counselor; and they are not eligible to serve on the university conduct or appeals board.

(c) Loss of privileges. Denial of specified privileges for a designated period of time.

(d) Restitution. Compensation for loss, damage, or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement.

(e) Education. Requirement to successfully complete an educational project designed to create an awareness of the respondent's misconduct.

(f) Community service. Assignment of service hours (not to exceed 80 hours per respondent or per member of a registered student organization).

(g) University housing suspension. Separation of the respondent from a residence hall or halls for a definite period of time, after which the respondent may be eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.

(h) University housing expulsion. Permanent separation of the respondent from a residence hall or halls.

(i) University suspension. Separation of the respondent from the university for a definite period of time. The respondent may be required to request readmission after completing a suspension per other university policy.

(j) University expulsion. Permanent separation of the respondent from the university. Also referred to as university dismissal. The terms are used interchangeably throughout this chapter.

(k) Revocation of admission and/or degree. Admission to or a degree awarded from the university may be revoked for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of law or standard of conduct in obtaining the degree or admission, or for other serious violations committed by a respondent before awarding of the degree.

(l) Withholding degree. The university may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in these standards of conduct, including the completion of all sanctions assigned, if any.

(m) Trespass. A respondent may be restricted from any or all university premises based on their misconduct.

(n) Loss of recognition. A registered student organization's recognition (or ability to register) may be withheld permanently or for a specific period of time. Loss of recognition is defined as withholding university services, privileges, or administrative approval from a registered student organization. Services, privileges, and approval to be withdrawn may include, but are not limited to, intramural sports (although individual members may participate), information technology services, university facility use and rental, student engagement office organizational activities, and their liaison relationship with the center for fraternity and sorority life.

(o) Hold on transcript and/or registration. A hold restricts release of a respondent's transcript or access to registration until satisfactory completion of conditions or sanctions assigned by a conduct officer or university conduct board. Upon proof of satisfactory completion of the conditions or sanctions, the hold is released.

(p) No contact directive. A prohibition of direct or indirect physical, verbal, and/or written contact with another individual or group.

(q) Fines. Previously established and published fines may be assigned. Fines are established each year prior to the beginning of the academic year and are approved by the vice (~~president~~) provost for student affairs.

(r) Additional sanctions for hazing. In addition to other sanctions, a respondent who is found responsible for hazing forfeits any entitlement to state-funded grants, scholarships, or awards for a specified period of time, in accordance with RCW 28B.10.902. Any registered student organization that is found responsible for hazing must lose recognition for a specified period of time.

(s) Remedies. Sanctions designed to restore or preserve a complainant's equal access to the university's educational programs or activities.