

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

FY2020 Annual Review Narrative Response for: **201 - Attorney General**Programmatic & Academic Vitality Narrative

- 1) Please briefly describe your unit's annual internal budget development process. *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: All Units*

The UW Division of the Attorney General's Office (AGO) is partly funded by the UW. The UW budgets primarily cover salaries of the non-attorney staff and additional operating costs (with the AGO budget covering attorney salaries and other costs). Per UW's request connected with a past AGO request for additional resources (2 non-attorney staff positions) and the granting of funding for temporary non-attorney employees, the AGO conducted an organizational review to help determine proper resource levels. Additionally, the division is engaged in ongoing communications with UW officials regarding the legal needs of UW, its current level of resources, and how additional resources could be allocated.

- 2) What are 3-5 key elements of your unit's current strategic plan? *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: All Units*

The AGO's strategic plan has three priorities;

- (1) serve the state by providing excellent, independent, and ethical legal advice and representation to our clients;
- (2) protect the people by protecting the legal rights of the state; and
- (3) empower our employees by creating a positive work environment that recognizes employees as our most valuable resource and fosters integrity, professionalism, civility, and transparency.

- 3) What major obstacles or institutional barriers currently do, or likely will, hinder execution of your strategic plan? What are you doing to address these challenges? *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: All Units*

There is a need to work more collaboratively between the UW and the AGO in determining how the AGO can provide high quality, timely, and efficient legal services given the AGO's current resource levels and the legal needs of the UW, which are anticipated to increase especially with the integration of NW Hospital and UWP and the increase in faculty adjudications and labor matters. The AGO and UW need to work together to prioritize the legal work to be done by the AGO and the proper level of resources to accomplish such work.

- 4) Over the next year, could any of your planned strategic activities result in material changes to revenues or expenditures, faculty or staff workload, or the student experience within your unit and/or another unit/campus? *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: All Units*

The AGO would like to continue discussions with the UW regarding its legal needs and demands and the appropriate levels of staff and other resources.

- 5) What is your unit doing to effectively use resources in a way that benefits your unit and/or other units/campuses? *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: UWB, UWT, UWS Administrative Units*

The division's 20 attorneys and 12 non-attorney staff are generally organized into three teams to address the University's varied legal needs.

- The Healthcare Team advises and represents UW Medicine and the health-related schools.
- The Employment Team is assigned all labor and employment legal matters (HR, Academic Personnel, labor relations).
- The General Practice Team handles all other matters, with attorneys being assigned to UW departments, colleges, schools, and units as well as subject matter areas.
- The Division Chief advises the President and the Provost as well as the Board of Regents. The attorneys are supported by staff (legal assistants, paralegals, office assistant, fiscal specialist, and administrator). This structure was put into place in order to best handle, in as timely a manner as feasible, the multitude of complex legal issues related to the UW's vast array of activities connected with its three campuses and UW Medicine.



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

FY2020 Annual Review Narrative Response for: **201 - Attorney General**

Programmatic & Academic Vitality Narrative

- 6) What are you doing to improve the experience and outcomes of students in your unit? What could the University do to support your efforts? *Question Type: Free Text, Word Limit: 500, Required For: UWB, UWT, UWS Academic Units, UAA, Graduate School*

Not Applicable