



University of Washington
FACULTY SENATE
Box 351271

Class C Bulletin No. 451

Resolution Regarding
Principles of State Higher Education Policy

Class C Resolution Adopted at the January 25, 2007, Faculty Senate

WHEREAS, Higher education enables citizens to better understand their world and adapt throughout their lifetimes to a changing social landscape; and

WHEREAS, Higher education is increasingly a prerequisite for participating in a knowledge-based economy through rewarding occupations that take advantage of the intellectual and creative talents of our people; and

WHEREAS, The social and economic welfare of all people in a region, not just those who go to college, is advanced when excellent higher education is widely accessible; and

WHEREAS, Policymakers in Washington State, through the "Washington Learns" process, have identified a set of eight "global challenge" states with advanced, knowledge-based economies that compete on a global stage; and

WHEREAS, Washington State ranks last among the global challenge states in the percentage of high-school freshmen who go on to complete baccalaureate degrees; and

WHEREAS, The University of Washington's combined funding from tuition and state sources per full-time equivalent student is approximately \$4,000 below the average of peer institutions in the global challenge states; and

WHEREAS, Competitive levels of per-student funding will enhance the ability of students to serve the public welfare and take advantage of the opportunities our economy offers; and

WHEREAS, Faculty share the governance of the institution with the administration, with primary responsibility for setting admissions and degree requirements, hiring and promoting faculty, and maintaining academic standards; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Faculty Senate endorses the following principles for state higher education policy:

1. Extending its paramount duty to make ample provision for the education of all children, the state should provide affordable access to higher education for all persons living in Washington, at a level consistent with their needs, abilities, and interests;
2. To provide the quality of education that Washington students need and deserve, public funding of four-year institutions, in combination with affordable tuition payments, must rapidly reach a level competitive with peer institutions in the global challenge states;
3. Faculty are ready to contribute their talents and experience to educational policy and believe that such consultation will promote the public benefits of a widely accessible, high-quality college educational system.

*Approved by:
University of Washington Faculty Senate
January 25, 2007*