

**WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
Initiatives and Priorities
October 2009**

CURRENT INITIATIVES

- **Strategic Plan for Graduate Education:** As a result of the White Paper on Graduate Education at WWU, we are in the process of developing a strategic plan for the growth and expansion of graduate education.
- **Science Faculty for the Community Colleges:** We are preparing a proposal to request funding from the National Science Foundation for the training of future science faculty for the Community Colleges. This project involves collaboration of College of Science and Technology, Woodring College of Education, the Integrated laboratory Network, Whatcom Community College, Everett Community College and North Seattle Community College.
- **Professional Science Masters:** several departments are considering offering Professional Science Masters programs. These programs add to the science degree courses in business, law and ethics, and they require an internship in a private sector company or a public sector organization.
- **Environmental Science and Geography Masters Programs for Professionals:** Currently being developed for offering in October 2010 in Port Angeles. These programs are patterned after the Professional Science Masters model.
- **MBA for Managers and Professionals:** The program has been approved for offering at Everett.

FUTURE INITIATIVES:

- **Mathematics Faculty for the Community Colleges:** We plan to develop a proposal to the Gates Foundation for the preparation of Mathematics faculty for the Community Colleges.
- **Doctor of Audiology Degree:** The D. Aud. Is the entry degree for professional practice of audiology. It would benefit our region if such a degree were offered at WWU.
- **Master of Nursing:** There is a growing need for Nurse Educators who are Master's degree holders.
- **Master of Physical Therapy:** There is a growing need for Physical Therapists who are Master's degree holders.