VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

<u>Establishment of the Executive Master of Public Administration Degree in the
Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs</u>

<u>RECOMMENDED ACTION</u>

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student
Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Daniel J.
Evans School of Public Affairs to offer the Executive Master of Public
Administration (Executive MPA) degree program, effective immediately. The
Executive MPA degree program will have provisional status with a review to be
scheduled in the 2011-2012 academic year. At such time that the Board of
Regents grants continuing status, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

<u>BACKGROUND</u>

In January, 2007, the Graduate School received a proposal from the Daniel J.
Evans School of Public Administration requesting authority to offer a distinct
Executive Master of Public Administration (Executive MPA) degree program.
The degree title distinguishes differences in the program's curriculum, student
audience of senior-level professionals, leadership focus, and delivery model. The
program provides advanced public policy and management education to
experienced public service professionals. A comparable degree program is not
offered in Washington State.

In 2003, the HECB approved an Executive program as an extension to the Evans
School's Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree. The School admitted
the first Executive cohort in 2003, with the fourth cohort admitted in September
2006. The demand for Executive Education in public affairs has grown
dramatically in recent years prompting the National Association of Schools of
Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) to encourage the differentiation of
Executive degree programs where appropriate. In July 2006, the Evans School
earned NASPAA accreditation for the Master of Public Administration degree
program. The Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) then
determined that the Executive program was sufficiently different from the
traditional MPA degree to merit its own degree. The Evans School has offered an
MPA degree program for over 45 years and is well-positioned to launch an
Executive MPA program to serve the needs of Washington State.

The Executive MPA is a 45-quarter credit program with an intensive multimodal
18-month format. It focuses on enriching existing competencies of
senior managers to effectively develop public program priorities, design and
monitor complex financing options for public investments, manage financial,
capital and human resources efficiently in an increasingly complex cross sector
environment, and to enhance strategic communications within organizations and
with key stakeholders. Developing techniques for improving operations and

STANDING COMMITTEES

A.   Academic and Student Affairs Committee

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service delivery by streamlining operations through innovation and technology is
emphasized. Leadership development is a key component.

On May 31, 2007, the Graduate School Council considered the Executive MPA
proposal and recommended that it be forwarded to the Higher Education
Coordinating Board for review and approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the
Graduate School concurred with the Council's recommendation.

On October 25, 2007, the Higher Education Coordinating Board in Resolution
No. 07-20 approved the proposal to offer the Executive Master of Public
Administration. It supports the role and mission of the University of Washington
by providing students the opportunity to earn a graduate degree which has broad
community impact and will meet student, employer and community needs. The
program's targeting and recruitment plan is well-defined and builds on existing
UW programs. The program costs are reasonable.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Dean of the Daniel J.
Evans School of Public Affairs, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the
recommendation.