

## AGENDA ITEM

Date: February 12, 2007

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Consolidation of planning documents

### Description:

One of the benefits of engaging in the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Self Study process is the opportunity to review our effectiveness in communicating what is important to Washburn University. As a part of the process, we also have the opportunity to consider new venues for communication. One such venue we would like to use is,, of course, the World Wide Web.

Over the past several months, a number of academic administrators and faculty have reviewed the documents, print and electronic, which inform the community about the vision, mission and core values of the institution. Presented here for your information and comment is a consolidation of those documents. We felt this consolidation was appropriate and important, allowing us to succinctly communicate the vision, values, and mission of Washburn University.

The preamble and vision statement comes from the Academic Plan and the Washburn Transformational Experience description approved by the Faculty Senate. The mission statement is the “mission summary” previously adopted by the Washburn Board of Regents. The core values are as addressed in the “full mission statement” and the mission statement of the VPAT area, and are representative of the shared values of all members of the Washburn community.

As this consolidated document does not represent anything new, it is presented as an information item. Suggestions for improvement are eagerly sought.

Requested action: Faculty Senate review and comment

Originated by: Ron Wasserstein, VPAA, on behalf of the HLC Self-Study Steering Committee

## Washburn University Vision, Values, and Mission

### Preamble

The road to graduation from Washburn University must be a transformative experience, not merely be a series of transactions by which a student completes an array of courses and is rewarded with a diploma. Washburn's goal is to graduate students who are highly principled citizens who make a difference in society.

### Vision

Washburn University will be widely recognized for academic excellence, evidenced by student and faculty achievement, leadership development, community commitment, and global understanding.

### Values

- Washburn University values high quality instruction in the learning/teaching process.
- Washburn University values diversity, is dedicated to equality, and is committed to serving a diverse population including residents of Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas, the nation and the world.
- Washburn University values the fundamentals of a general education.
- Washburn University values helping individuals reach their full academic potential.
- Washburn University values a collegial and interactive process in planning and decision making, promoting civility, understanding, and mutual concern.
- Washburn University values improvement, continuously assessing undergraduate and graduate programs to meet community needs and professional expectations.
- Washburn University values both tradition and progressinnovation.
- Washburn University encourages the growth and development of all learners and those who facilitate these processes.
- Washburn University values integrity and ethical behavior in all matters.
- Washburn University provides a professional and supportive work environment where our employees enjoy freedom of conscience and the right to refuse to engage in actions that violate ethical principles and standards or provisions of law.
- Washburn University values transformational experiences in leadership, community service, international education and scholarly and creative activities for all students.
- Washburn University values its role in the community and is closely engaged with the community beyond the campus, providing services and outreach activities that enhance the social and economic vitality of the region.

**Select Mission**

Washburn University shall prepare qualified individuals for careers, further study and life long learning through excellence in teaching and scholarly work. Washburn University shall make a special effort to help individuals reach their full academic potential. *Approved by the Washburn Board of Regents, September 17, 1999*