

Commendations and Recommendations

Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report
Washington State University, April 9-11, 2018

Commendations

1. The evaluation committee commends the Washington State University administration for rapidly building a reputation for transparency and inclusiveness in decision-making, and the administration, faculty, staff, and students for working together to maintain open communication.
2. The evaluation committee commends Washington State University for fostering a strong esprit de corps among its students, alumni, faculty, and staff.
3. The evaluation committee commends Washington State University for effective initiatives to improve student access and success, particularly that of underrepresented groups, through coordinated and collaborative efforts of Enrollment Management and Student Financial Services, Student Affairs, the Office of the Provost and the Academic Success and Career Center, and other units across the University. The Student Success Council is recognized for facilitating this work.
4. The evaluation committee commends Washington State University for assessment of student learning outcomes, especially the assessment of the learning outcomes of the UCORE general education requirements. The Office of Assessment of Teaching and Learning is recognized for its leadership in this work.
5. The evaluation committee commends Washington State University for planning to revitalize classrooms to serve today's learners. A notable result is The Spark, a state-of-the-art facility, which enables faculty to use innovative technology to help motivate students to engage deeply in learning.
6. The evaluation committee commends Washington State University for focusing research on the Grand Challenges of sustaining health, sustainable resources, opportunity and equity, smart systems, and national security, using interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to serve society.

Recommendations

Standard 3.A.3. The evaluation committee recommends that Washington State University's comprehensive planning process is informed by the collection of appropriately defined data, which can be disaggregated to identify differences among campuses, learning modalities, and other subdivisions of this large and complex institution.

Standard 3.A.5. The evaluation committee recommends that Washington State University's planning includes fully comprehensive emergency preparedness and contingency planning for continuity and recovery of operations at all campuses.

Standards 3.B.3. and 4.B.1. The evaluation committee recommends that results of core theme assessments and results of assessments of programs and services are more consistently used for improvement, by informing planning, decision making, and allocation of resources and capacity.