

ACTION ITEM #3
Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, 2008
(Rich Heath)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, 2008

PROPOSED: That the Board of Regents approve and adopt the Washington State University Pre-Disaster All-Hazards Mitigation Plan (2008.)

SUBMITTED BY: Gregory P. Royer, Vice President for Business and Finance

SUPPORTING
INFORMATION:

The WSU Emergency Management Office and the WSU Division of Governmental Studies and Services prepared a Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan for Washington State University. This two-year project was funded by a \$377,000 grant from the State of Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) with pass-through funds provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The planning process included the development of a Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment (HIVA) for all WSU campuses, research stations, and other facilities throughout the state. The HIVA shows to what degree WSU facilities are vulnerable to natural, man-made or technological hazards; including events such as earthquakes, floods, volcanic activity, storms, terrorism and hazardous materials incidents. Using the HIVA as guide, the plan includes a list of action items to guide future mitigation efforts by the University to lessen the impact to students, personnel, facilities, and intellectual property should any of these hazards occur.

The completed plan was submitted to the State EMD and FEMA for approval. The State EMD approved the plan as written in January 2008 and transmitted it to FEMA for its approval. FEMA approved the plan as written in March 2008. The terms of the grant require the plan to be approved and adopted by the Board of Regents.

The plan, as approved by State EMD and FEMA, can be reviewed on the WSU Emergency Management website: www.oem.wsu.edu/HMPDrafts. The executive summary is included in the meeting materials, and hard copies of the entire plan are available. It is requested that the Board of Regents approve and adopt the plan. Once the plan has been approved and adopted, WSU will be eligible to apply for competitively awarded Mitigation Project Grants from FEMA to accomplish the major action items identified in the plan.

Executive Summary

Washington State University Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Washington State University (hereafter, WSU) is threatened by a number of different types of natural, technological, and societal, or man-made, hazards. These hazards endanger the health and safety of the population of the WSU community, jeopardize its economic vitality, and imperil the quality of its environment. Due to the importance of avoiding or minimizing the vulnerabilities to such hazards, institutional representatives from WSU, statewide, have joined together with associated stakeholders to create the WSU Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (hereafter, HMPC) to undertake a comprehensive planning process that has culminated in the publication of this document: “The Washington State University Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan.”

The multidisciplinary Planning Team from WSU has been tasked with building the Pre-Disaster, All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. The team consists of two project co-leaders: Christopher Tapfer, the WSU Emergency Management Coordinator from the WSU Office of Business and Finance, and Michael Gaffney, the Associate Director of the Division of Governmental Studies and Services (DGSS). Additional staff from the Office of Business and Finance includes Lana Redman, Finance and Budget Manager; Victoria Murray, Executive Director of Budget and Resource Planning; and Richard Heath, Senior Associate Vice-President. Staff from DGSS includes Christina Sanders, Research Coordinator; Eversley Linley, Project Assistant; Julie Lusby, Finance and Budget Coordinator; Maggie Cronin, Student Researcher; William Budd, Professor of Environmental Science and Regional Planning; and Nicholas P. Lovrich, C.O. Johnson Distinguished Professor of Political Science.

The plan looks at WSU as it is; a single entity with many parts. The planning effort has been conducted through the coordinated, cooperative effort of WSU personnel from across the state. Table PS.1 (below) lists the WSU units, along with associated stakeholders, participating as planning partners for the project.

1	College of Pharmacy, represented by Pat Ager
2	College of Nursing, represented by Frank Beahan
3	College of Engineering and Architecture, represented by Miles Pepper
4	College of Agriculture, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, represented by Pete Jacoby
5	College of Education, represented by Lynn Buckley

6	College of Veterinary Medicine, represented by Mike Malcolm
7	College of Business, represented by Darlene Russell-Neunherz
8	College of Liberal Arts, represented by Paul Phillip
9	Provost's Office, represented by Ken Vreeland
10	Office of Business and Finance, represented by Rich Heath
11	Office of Student Affairs, represented by Bob Tattershall
12	Office of the Controller and Business Services, represented by Barry Johnston
13	Office of Capital Planning and Development, represented by Keith Bloom
14	Office of the Executive Director of Planning and Budgeting, represented by Deborah Carlson
15	Office of Grant and Research Development, represented by Dan Nordquist
16	Office of the Campus Veterinarian, represented by Steve Russell
17	Office of Research Compliance, represented by Dave Clark
18	Facilities Operations, represented by Ev Davis
19	Radiation Safety Office, represented by Steve Eckberg
20	Environmental Health and Safety, represented by Dwight Hagihara
21	WSU Police, represented by Steve Hansen
22	Information Technology, represented by Dave Ostrom
23	Emergency Management Office, represented by Christopher Tapfer
24	Division of Governmental Studies and Services, represented by Michael Gaffney
25	School of Biological Sciences, represented by Carolyn Emerson
26	WSU Extension, represented by John Winder
27	WSU-Spokane, represented by Jon Schad
28	WSU-Vancouver, represented by Dave Stephenson
29	WSU-Tri-Cities, represented by Dallas Barnes
30	Thurston County Extension Office, represented by Cliff Moore
31	Puyallup Research and Extension Center, represented by Jon Newkirk
32	Mt. Vernon Research and Extension Center, represented by Deborah Inglis
33	Wenatchee Research Center, represented by Craig Root

Table PS.1: WSU HMPC Planning Partners

WSU has also engaged the communities in which the university is present in the mitigation planning process. WSU has undertaken efforts in each of the nine State of Washington Homeland Security Regions to solicit opinions and recommendations regarding mitigation issues and the action items identified within the plan.

The planning team has conducted detailed studies to identify the hazards threatening the campuses and site locations of WSU and to estimate the relative risks posed to its community by those hazards. This information has been used to prioritize planning efforts in assessing the vulnerabilities of the facilities and properties of WSU, and the impacts of future disasters involving those hazards. With these vulnerabilities identified, the HMPC has worked to identify, justify, and prioritize specific action items that WSU will use to avoid or minimize these vulnerabilities.

The proposed action items that reduce the impacts of future disasters are called, interchangeably, mitigation initiatives or action items throughout this document. Mitigation initiatives have been developed, and will continue to be developed, by the HMPC for implementation whenever the resources and opportunities to do so become available. The completion of this plan is essentially done through implementation of the mitigation initiatives included in the plan, and with each effort, the HMPC will continue to help make the participating units more resistant to the human and economic costs of future disasters.

This document details the work that has been done over the past 24 months by the WSU planning team and HMPC; to develop the planning organization, undertake the needed technical analyses, and coordinate the mitigation initiatives that have been proposed. The draft plan has been reviewed and approved by the participating HMPC members. The Board of Regents of WSU will also review, approve, and adopt the plan on behalf of the institution as a whole. The procedures for these operations are delineated within the plan.

This plan will continue to be updated and expanded in the future to ensure it addresses: changing conditions within the university, experiences on disasters that do occur, and any changes in the characteristics of the hazards that threaten the campuses and facilities, statewide. The updating process and future editions of the mitigation plan issued will also be used to continue to inform and involve the general public, and other interested groups, to fully participate in making WSU more resistant to the impacts of future disasters.