



May 26, 2010

University of Washington Geographic Information System (GIS) Network Ad-Hoc Work Group

Jeffrey Linn, GIS Manager, Office of Planning and Budgeting, **Chair**
Rebecca Barnes, University Architect, Office of Planning and Budgeting
Joshua Kavanagh, Director, Facilities Operations – Transportation Services
Jerome Solomon, Commander, University of Washington Police Department
Steve Kennard, Assistant Director, Asset Management - Real Estate Office
Butch Kuecks, Assistant Director, Facilities Operations - Campus Engineering
Alan Nygaard, Director of Business Services, Facilities and Finance - Capital Projects Office
Kristine A. Kenney, University Landscape Architect
Colleen Pike, Director, Capital Resource Planning, Office of Planning and Budgeting
Stephanie Steppe, Interim Director, Health Sciences Administration
Pamela Stewart, Executive Director, UW Information Technology
Jude Van Buren, Director, UW Environmental Health and Safety
Eric Darst, Office of Planning and Budgeting, Staff to the Work Group

Dear Colleagues:

To sustain and continue our University's success in an increasingly challenging fiscal environment, it is critical that we further enhance integration of a forward-looking geographic information system plan with our operating and capital budget planning activities. We must also directly confront our current financial challenges by developing a GIS governance model which is cost-effective and efficient. I have asked Jeffrey Linn, GIS Manager in the Office of Planning & Budgeting, to serve as chair of this ad-hoc work group.

As each of you continue to work on specific geographic information system-based tasks, a unified, long-term vision is now required. Planning and management of UW building space, identifying infrastructure investments, managing hazardous materials, enabling more efficient emergency response, evaluating building energy performance, and measuring operating and maintenance efficiencies are just a handful of the benefits of an efficient and accurate GIS. There are special challenges and opportunities associated with building and maintaining this information and we must ensure our resources are expended wisely, particularly without unnecessary duplication of our efforts.

The creation of the UW GIS network is already underway. Significant progress has been made with the floor-plan GIS and the Seattle Campus site plan. The gains made in the past year have been critical to the University, and will form the foundation of a larger interactive system of spatial information. As various groups at the University continue to undertake GIS projects, a need for clear direction, prioritization and governance has emerged. You will find attached with this letter a potential model based on outreach with peer institutions, which I believe will provide guidance and support for the work group's efforts.

There are five key areas which I believe need the focus of the Work Group:

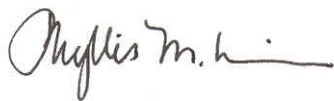
1. Identification and prioritization of key potential UW GIS initiatives over the next six years.
2. Definition of the roles and responsibilities of each group contributing to the UW GIS.
3. Recommendations regarding operations and maintenance of the UW GIS.
4. Identification of potential industry partners or other non-UW central fund sources for the continued development and operation of the UW GIS.
5. Preliminary six-year business plan for a cost-efficient operational model utilizing existing staff resources.

An outline of a tentative schedule with key dates has been developed to support your and efforts which will lead to the creation of an efficient and effective University of Washington GIS Network. The Office of Planning and Budgeting will coordinate the Work Group meetings. Given the importance of this effort, please assist us by coordinating your existing commitments to support the following schedule:

July 2010	Workshop 1 - <u>Assessment</u> : Gather information. Identify a preliminary Work Group proposal in response to the five items above.
August 2010	Workshop 2 - <u>Explore and Test</u> : Further refinement and discussion of proposal and presentation to the Provost
September 2010	Workshop 3 - <u>Summarize</u> : Develop final proposal.
October 2010	Review with Provost.

Thank you for agreeing to assist the University of Washington in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

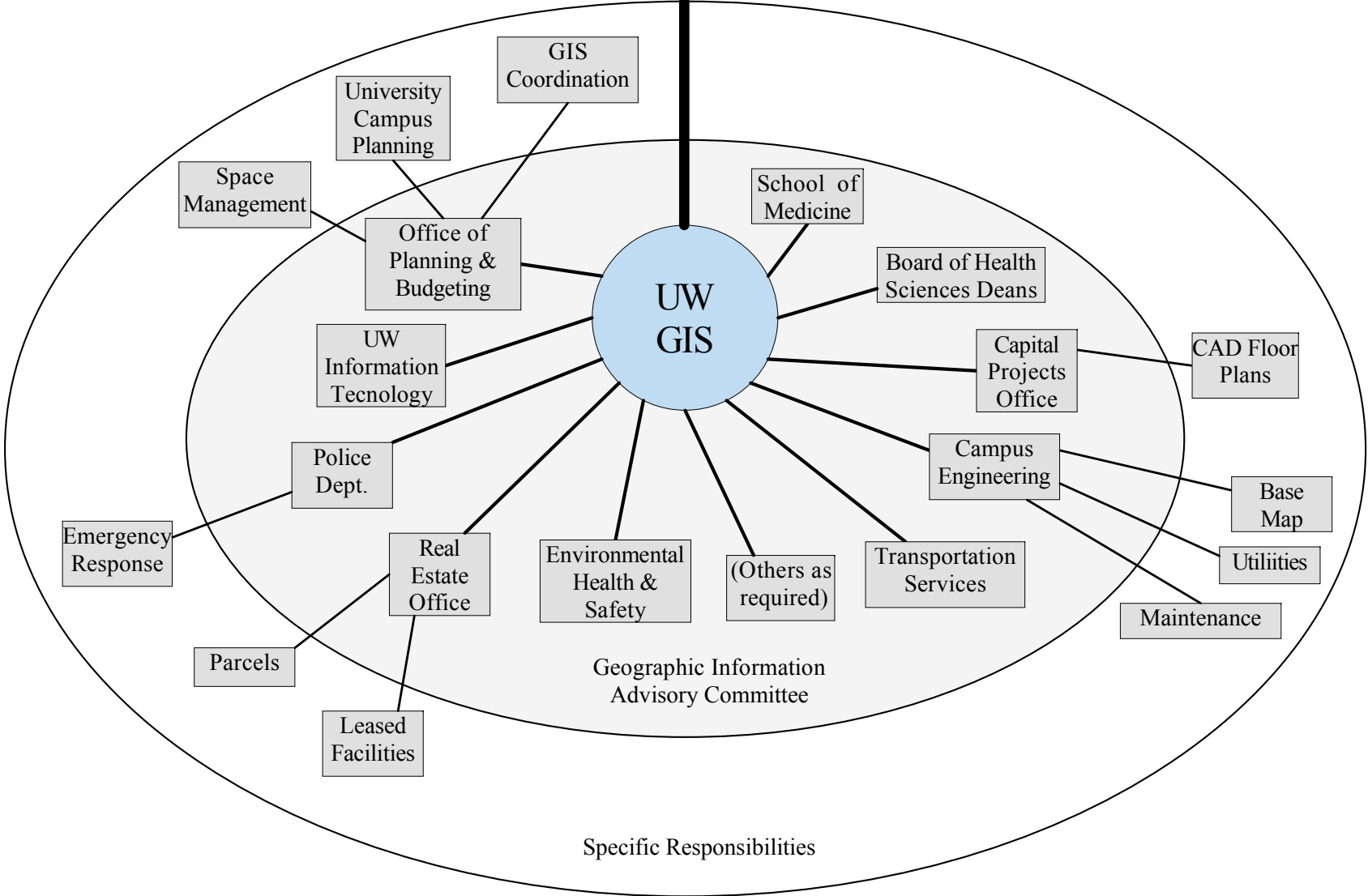


Phyllis M. Wise
Provost and Executive Vice President

cc: Paul Jenny
V'ella Warren
Kelli Trosvig
Eric Godfrey
John Coulter

Phyllis Wise
Provost

Paul Jenny
VP Planning and
Budgeting



DRAFT

University of Washington GIS Network

Advisory Model

5/25/10

