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STATE OF WASHINGTON Global Learning Goals for Higher Education April 2008

With encouragement from the *Global State of Washington Initiative*, faculty from six of the state's institutions of higher education (Cascadia Community College, Seattle University, the University of Washington, Walla Walla Community College, Washington State University, and Whitman College) met over the last five months to draft a set of global learning goals. Drawing on current national discussions and efforts from a number of education associations (particularly the NASULGC's *National Action Agenda for International Education*), we identified a set of core goals.

Our objective in developing these global learning goals is threefold: (1) to bring statewide attention to the critical importance of producing globally-competent graduates; (2) to provide a platform of common goals for Washington colleges and universities to adapt to fit their own missions; and (3) to position Washington State as a leader in global learning.

A globally-competent graduate needs to have many or most of the following:

- ***A diverse and knowledgeable world view***
Graduates of internationalized universities and colleges will develop a variety of perspectives through which to understand the historic and contemporary connections among local, regional, national and global communities.
- ***Comprehension of the global dimensions of the field of study***
Graduates will understand some of the important cultural and political differences that impact policies, work and problem-solving related to the primary disciplines of their field of study.
- ***Effective communication skills in more than one language***
Graduates will enhance their competitiveness in the global economy and gain insight into other peoples of the world by studying their languages and cultures.
- ***Demonstrated sensitivities and the abilities to adapt in cross-cultural communities***
Graduates will exhibit the adaptability to interact effectively with individuals from a variety of backgrounds and cultures.
- ***Cross-cultural international education experiences***
Graduates will accomplish this through classroom study, internships, research, or service learning programs abroad, or other experiences that provide significant opportunity for interaction with people of different cultures and countries.