

1 Title: **RESOLUTION URGING THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE**
2 **TO MAINTAIN ACCESS IN GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**
3 **BY REINVESTING IN STUDENT FINANCIAL AID**

4
5 Sponsored by: Sarah Reyneveld (President) and Ben Henry (Vice President)

6
7 Resolution Number: 02.10-11

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9 WHEREAS the University of Washington is a leader in fostering graduate and
10 professional education in the State of Washington and Nationally;

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12 WHEREAS the University of Washington teaches and trains professionals essential to
13 meet employer demand and maintain and further the State of Washington's place in the
14 global economy;

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16 WHEREAS Washington State is in the midst of a shortage of advanced degrees, having
17 to import 125 degrees for every 100 produced;ⁱ

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19 WHEREAS State investment in financial aid incentivizes Washington residents to pursue
20 an advanced degree;

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22 WHEREAS graduate and professional students are essential to research and teaching
23 practices University-wide;

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25 WHEREAS the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board's (HECB) Strategic
26 Master Plan Goals for 2010 included an increase of master's, doctorate, and professional
27 degreesⁱⁱ;

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29 WHEREAS the current production of degrees are below the HECB's targets;

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31 WHEREAS an emphasis on educational outcomes means the State has an obligation to
32 mitigate barriers to degree completion;

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34 WHEREAS graduate and professional tuition has continued to rise significantly and
35 unpredictably, with an increase of up to 14% most recentlyⁱⁱⁱ;

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37 WHEREAS average debt for a graduate or professional degree is \$40,297^{iv};

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39 WHEREAS the 2011 Governor's budget proposes to reduce the Washington State Work
40 Study Program by 47 percent;

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42 WHEREAS the 2011 Governor's budget proposes the continued suspension of Future
43 Teachers Conditional Scholarship and Loan Repayment, Washington State Work Study
44 Program, the Health Professions Scholarship, and Child Care Matching Grants;

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46 WHEREAS the Graduate Fellowship Trust Account was suspended in the 2010
47 supplemental budget and has not been reinstated;

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49 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL
50 STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

51 THAT the GPSS urges the Washington State Legislature to invest in graduate and
52 professional student aid programs;

53 THAT the GPSS urges the restoration of the Washington State Work Study Program;

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55 THAT the GPSS urges investments in the Future Teachers Conditional Scholarship and
56 Loan Repayment Program; the Washington State Work Study Program; the Health
57 Professions Scholarship; and the Child Care Matching Grants;

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59 THAT the GPSS supports the restoration of the Graduate Fellowship Trust Account and
60 the Distinguished Professorship Program;

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62 THAT this resolution be forwarded to ASUW President Madeleine McKenna; UW
63 President Phyllis Wise; UW Provost Mary Lidstrom; Gov. Christine Gregoire; Speaker of
64 the House Rep. Frank Chopp; Senate Majority Leader Sen. Lisa Brown; Senate Higher
65 Education & Workforce Development Committee Chair Sen. Rodney Tom; and House
66 Higher Education Committee Chair Rep. Larry Seaquist.

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68 *Presented to GPSS for approval on Feb. 9, 2011.*

69 | *Approved on Feb. 9, 2011*

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ⁱ Higher Education Coordinating Board, "The Impact of Interstate Migration on Human Capital Development in Washington," September 2010, www.hecb.wa.gov/research/documents/2010migrationReport-final.pdf

ⁱⁱ Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board, Review of Strategic Master Plan Goals for 2010 Office of Planning and Budgeting. "10-Year History of Tuition and Mandatory Fees".

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.washington.edu/admin/pb/home/pdf/tuition/2009-10-tf-history.pdf> Accessed 2/2/11

^{iv} National Association of Graduate-Professional Students, Advocacy Training Information