Title: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PRESERVING THE EVANS SCHOOL, INFORMATION SCHOOL, AND INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH GENETICS.**

Sponsored by: Kelsey Knowles (Evans School of Public Affairs), Colin Morgan-Cross (Evans School of Public Affairs), James Rosenzweig (Information School), Jonathan Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics), Alan Foster (Evans Student Organization), Andrew Erwin (Evans Student Organization)

Written by: Kelsey Knowles (Evans School of Public Affairs), Jonathan Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics), Andrew Erwin (Evans Student Organization)

Resolution Number: 05.10-11

WHEREAS according to the U.S. News and World Report of 2010, the Evans School of Public Affairs ranked fourth in Environmental Management and Policy overall, and in the top three public schools of public affairs for this specialization; ranked fifth in Nonprofit Management overall, and in the top three public schools of public affairs for this specialization; ranked thirteenth in Public Management Administration overall, and in the top eight public schools of public affairs for this specialization; and ranked sixteenth in Public Policy Analysis overall, and in the top eight public schools of public affairs for this specialization; and,

WHEREAS in 2009-2010 the Evans School of Public Affairs had over 400 enrolled students seeking a degree, and more in non-degree classes and certificate programs; and,

WHEREAS in the 2009-10 academic year, Evans School students completed over 80,000 hours of direct public service through internships; and,

WHEREAS UW Graduate School Ten Year Review Committee in 2005 found the independence of the Evans School was one of its key strengths; and,

WHEREAS the Information School—coined the “iSchool” on the UW campus—is a strategic initiative of the University of Washington that has become recognized as an outstanding success and role model for the establishment and development of Information Schools worldwide; and,

WHEREAS in the U.S. News and World Report rankings for schools with library and information science programs, the UW Information School is ranked fourth in the nation overall; first for law librarianship, second for services for children and youth, third for health librarianship, and fourth for information systems; and,

WHEREAS in 2009-2010 the Information School had over 600 enrolled students seeking a degree, and more in non-degree classes and certificate programs; and,
WHEREAS as a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) major, the
Information School’s Bachelor of Science in Informatics Degree and Master of Science
in Information Management Degree are defined as public interest degrees for the state;
and,

WHEREAS Information School students have been placed in numerous jobs and
internships in a diverse array of companies across Washington State, including Amazon,
Ascentium, Boeing, Deloitte Consulting, Disney Interactive Media Group, Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft, REI, Starbucks, Weyerhaeuser, etc.; and,

WHEREAS the Institute for Public Health Genetics is the only program in the U.S.
offering graduate degrees in genetics whose graduates go on to advocate for the effective
and ethical integration of genetic and genomic science into the public domain locally,
nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS the University of Washington is an internationally-recognized leader in the
emerging field of Public Health Genetics, influencing the gamut of public health genetic
issues, from the individual patient to the policies of healthcare systems and beyond\(^i\); and

WHEREAS the Institute for Public Health Genetics attracts and retains top talent to the
University and state of Washington, bringing in highly-accomplished students and faculty
who research and impact the ethical, social, political, legal, medical, economic, scientific,
and pharmaceutical implications of genetic science to human society; and

WHEREAS the UW Graduate School performed a 5 year review of IPHG and found the
program to be “an innovative interdisciplinary program that is the first of its kind in the
world” and “an inspiring model for other interdisciplinary programs”\(^i\); and

WHEREAS on February 23, 2011, University of Washington Interim President Phyllis
Wise sent a letter to elected officials of the Washington State Legislature that outlined the
anticipated University impacts associated with proposed state budget reductions; and,

WHEREAS a significant reduction in course and degree offerings—as well as a
consolidation of the Evans School of Public Affairs with another college, and the
Information School with another college – has been considered in the mentioned letter;
and,

WHEREAS other reduced educational choices may result in the elimination of
educational units like the College of Education’s Foreign Language Certification
Program for Teachers and the School of Public Health’s Institute for Public Health
Genetics; and,

WHEREAS University of Washington Provost Mary Lidstrom is meeting with all
University senior leadership and student leaders to discuss how to adjust to these
significantly reduced funding levels while ensuring a viable and quality academic
program offering for students and the state; therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT
SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT the Evans School of Public Affairs, the Information School, the Institute for
Public Health Genetics, are valuable assets as independent units on the University of
Washington Seattle campus; and,

THAT many undergraduate and graduate students come to the University of Washington
Seattle campus explicitly because of the programs offered by the Evans School of Public
Affairs, the Information School, the Institute for Public Health Genetics; and,

THAT the quality educational programs provided by the Evans School of Public Affairs,
the Information School, the Institute for Public Health Genetics, are key to the mission of
the University of Washington; and,

THAT every attempt should be made in budgetary considerations to maintain the quality
and educational excellence of the Evans School of Public Affairs, the Information
School, the Institute for Public Health Genetics, and,

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Interim President Phyllis Wise, Provost
Mary Lidstrom, Dean of the Evans School of Public Affairs Sandra Archibald, Dean of
the Information School Harry Bruce, Dean of the School of Public Health Howard
Frumkin, the Board of Regents, and Graduate and Professional Student Senate President
Sarah Reyneveld.

Presented to GPSS for approval on April 13, 2011
Approved on April 13, 2011

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i U.S. News and World Report, Graduate School Public Affairs Rankings. Retrieved from
http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-public-affairs-
schools/public-affairs-rankings on March 31st 2011.

ii Evans School of Public Affairs, Key Facts. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of

iii University of Washington Graduate School Program 10-Year Review, Evans School of Public
Affairs (2005), Retrieved from
http://www.washington.edu/about/accreditation/reviews/PubAffairs2.pdf on March 31st, 2011

iv Dean Harry Bruce, iSchool Program Evaluation Initiative Response. Department and Non-

v U.S. News and World Report, Graduate School Public Affairs Rankings. Retrieved from
http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-library-

vi University of Washington Graduate School External Review Committee Report, Program 5-
Year Review, Public Health Genetics (2009), Retrieved from