

Response to the Report of the Department of Statistics Program Review

**Jon Wakefield, Acting Chair
February 16, 2010**

On behalf of the Department of Statistics, I would like to thank the Review Committee for their thoughtful report, and their diligence throughout the review process. The Department has been fortunate to have such a committee. As individuals, and as a group, they have made a significant contribution to the Department and its future.

We would also like to thank the Graduate School, and particularly David Canfield-Budde, for their work.

We fully agree with the review committee's view that "*[Statistics has a] meaningful role to play in the scholarship of virtually every evidence-based discipline of the modern university.*" Statistics as a discipline is unique in this, and the department has achieved wide and deep impacts on the University of Washington way beyond its size.

We also agree with the review committee's assessment of our Department, and in particular their recommendations. The size recommendations would lead to a 3-6 FTE increase and a 2020 FTE size of 15-18.

We would like to be able to continue to expand the Department's campus-wide instructional role at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Our addition of STAT 221 is a good start. We are actively engaged in the consideration of graduate educational opportunities such as a M.S. in Statistics. The department receives support for TAs substantially below the necessary level.

The University and College should give immediate attention to de-fragment and improve the Department space in Padelford. Increased allocation of contiguous space in Padelford Hall would open up opportunities to attract externally funded grants. The Tutoring Center needs a home close by to the department and, to be sustainable, a permanent source of funding.

We hope that the University will act on the main recommendations of the report and, in particular, address the key issue of growth of the departmental FTE.