

January 3, 2012

TO: Les Purce, President
FROM: Art Costantino, Vice President for Student Affairs
RE: Student Code of Conduct

This memo is written to recommend that the College adopt the attached Student Conduct Code which was proposed as of November 1, 2011 when the College submitted the CR102 to Washington State Code Reviser. Written comments and a public hearing held on December 7, 2011 did not result in any new substantive comments on the proposed Code as documented in the memo from the Hearing Officer, Holly Joseph (see attached).

The Geoduck Student Union has indicated it does not support the standard of proof used to determine responsibility for misconduct that might result in degree revocation and advocated for a higher standard of proof. This version of the Code retains the 'more likely than not' standard of proof for all determinations of responsibility for violations of the Code. This standard was retained to afford continuity in administration of the Code and to adhere to best practice and the standard used in civil proceedings.

The Student Conduct Code DTF was charged in Winter 2008 and provided me with recommended revisions to the Code in June 2010. Following legal counsel review and further refinement, I vetted a Code with the College community during October 2011. The concerns which emerged and the responses are documented in my memo of October 5, 2011. See attached for documents related to feedback received since January 10, 2011 when the College submitted the CR101 to initiate the rule-change process.

The Code was developed with a representative committee and significant input from the broader community was solicited. Since the inception of the DTF this input included a dynamic website and blog, numerous forums, tabling, and engagement with the Geoduck Student Union. Many refinements in the final version were a direct result of community input including the Geoduck Student Union. The Code I am recommending the College adopt is a substantive improvement to the current Code and will promote best practice in student conduct and adherence to federal and state regulations.