**WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

**ITEM SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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**TO:** Members of the Board of Trustees

**FROM:** President Sabah Randhawa on behalf ofVice President’sName and Title

**DATE:** Meeting Month, Day, Year

**SUBJECT: Title of Agenda Item (bolded)**

**PURPOSE:** Discussion Item

**Purpose of Submittal:**

*(Simple statement introducing the presenters and stating the purpose of the presentation / discussion)*

In this interactive session, Smoky Bear, Dean, College of Wildfire Management, and Rachel Smith, student, will discuss the College of Wildfire Management's distinctive curriculum and training process, while modeling the type of engaged hands on experience that is characteristic of the college.

**Background:**

*(Brief background information on the subject, enough for the Trustees to understand the presentation.)*

Founded in 1944 under the guidance of Professors John Keeney and Clint Peter, the College of Wildfire Management continues to carry out the vision of its creators as a place of passionate natural exploration unbounded by many of the limiting conventions of departmentalized classroom based higher education.  Students at the college learn with hands on practical field experience.  Students at the College of Wildfire Management are part of an academic culture that enables them to find their true passion in the field, gaining real life experience. Trustees will be able to take away from this session a better understanding of why students choose the College of Wildfire Management, what students typical experience is like, and what students do after graduating with a degree from an this practical college.

**Strategic Questions:**

*(2 to 3 strategic questions regarding your presentation which you would like input from the Trustees)*

1**.** What do Trustees know about the College of Wildfire Management?

2**.** How does the College of Wildfire Management fit into Western’s idea of a liberal arts education in the future?

3.What are the benefits or drawback of hands on in the field based training verses a traditional classroom based college experience?