WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION NO. 2013 – 07 RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE convened on Monday, January 14, 2013 to conduct the business of the people of the great state of Washington in another challenging budget year; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE with the 2013 – 2015 final budget compromise made a significant reinvestment in higher education after years of deep and difficult cuts to education due to the economic downturn; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE adopted a bipartisan budget that represents a return to Washington's proud history of prioritizing higher education, and is an important step forward in creating brighter futures for all of Washington's students; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE has provided a significant level of investment that will be instrumental and critical in preserving continued excellence at Western Washington University at an affordable cost to the students and families of Washington state; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE has provided the resources necessary for Western to achieve the outcomes of a 0% tuition increase for the 2013 – 2014 school year, full maintenance funding, additional funding that will provide enhanced institutional budget support and new funding for expansion in high-demand areas and programs; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE has recognized Western's efforts to improve STEM education in the state by providing funding for targeted investments which will allow the University to transition to a full Engineering program, increase our capacity for computer science graduates, and to further develop Western's expertise in key and developing areas to help meet the state's critical workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE also provided for new institutional budget support which will enable Western to meet high-demand enrollment shifts, increase internship opportunities for students, create new degree programs aimed at meeting the needs of the new energy economy, and enhance Western's overall goal of building on our considerable strengths to serve the needs of the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE concluded their regular legislative session and two special legislative sessions after months of dedicated and hard work to serve the citizens and students of this great state on Saturday, June 29, 2013; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University extends its appreciation to **the WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE** for recognition of Western's excellence and their vision for our contributions to higher education in this state, and to express our utmost gratitude for making public higher education a funding priority in the 2013 – 2015 budget.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University at its special meeting on July 18, 2013.