INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

Student Perspective

- WWCC served 12,047 students in the 2009-10 reporting year.

- Education increases lifetime income. The average income at the career midpoint of someone with an associate's degree in the WWCC Service Area is $37,700, 35% more than a student with a high school diploma.

Students enjoy a 38.8% rate of return on their investment in WWCC.

- Throughout his or her working career, the average WWCC student’s discounted lifetime income increases by $11.20 for every dollar invested in WWCC.

- Students enjoy an attractive 38.8% average rate of return on their WWCC educational investment, recovering all costs (including tuition, fees, and forgone wages) in 4.2 years.

Social Perspective

- Higher earnings of WWCC students and associated increases in state income expand the tax base in Washington by about $42.5 million each year.

- Washington will see avoided social costs amounting to $1.9 million per year due to WWCC students, including savings associated with improved health, reduced crime, and reduced welfare and unemployment.

Taxpayer Perspective

- State and local governments see a rate of return of 12.9% on their support for WWCC. This return compares very favorably with private sector rates of return on similar long-term investments.

ECONOMIC GROWTH ANALYSIS

College Operations Effect

- The WWCC Service Area economy annually receives roughly $28.6 million in income due to WWCC operations. This is a conservative figure adjusted to account for monies that leave the economy or are withdrawn from the economy in support of the college.

Student Spending Effect

- WWCC estimates that approximately 22% of its students come from outside the region, bringing with them monies that would not have otherwise entered the local economy.

- The expenditures of WWCC’s non-local students generate roughly $4 million in added income in the WWCC Service Area each year.

Productivity Effect

- The current WWCC Service Area economy embodies an estimated 2.2 million credits that have accumulated over the past 30-year period as thousands of former WWCC students (completers and non-completers) enter the workforce year after year.

- WWCC skills translate to higher earnings for students and increased output of businesses. The added income attributable to the accumulation of WWCC credits in the workforce amounts to around $265.5 million each year.