June 2005

Dear Member of the Puget Sound Community:

I write to inform you of an action taken by the Board of Trustees at its May meeting that applies to Puget Sound trustees, faculty, staff, students, volunteers, and others who work with and represent the university.

Given recent increased scrutiny of non-profit organizations by government at the state and federal levels and by the public in general, the board took a proactive step in its fiduciary capacity to adopt a Code of Conduct (see [www2.ups.edu/humanresources/zzzz/manual/cplcycofc.pdf](http://www2.ups.edu/humanresources/zzzz/manual/cplcycofc.pdf)). This Code of Conduct is intended to provide an overarching general statement that supplements, but does not replace, existing published university policies and codes, which provide more specific guidance and should be used whenever appropriate.

There is little new information in this document; rather, it puts into writing expectations that have long been the norm at Puget Sound: that members of the university community comply with laws, regulations and policies; that we act with integrity and uphold ethical, professional and legal standards; that we maintain appropriate confidentiality and avoid conflicts of interest; that we are accountable for our actions. The Code of Conduct also calls upon us to uphold these standards by reporting possible violations of laws, regulations, or other requirements of the Code of Conduct through processes identified in other published university policies and codes, or in the absence of an applicable process, through a compliance helpline, which will be established later this year.

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the members of the Puget Sound community value integrity, honesty, fairness, and the high standards expressed in the Code of Conduct, and that our community has upheld these values and standards for many years. Our commitment to these high standards is an important part of our history and culture and is among the reasons that Puget Sound has achieved such distinction in the more than 100 years since our founding. The board pledges to do its part to continue this tradition.

Sincerely,

Deanna W. Oppenheimer ‘80
Board Chair