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January 25, 2008

The Honorable Senator Joseph Zarelli
Washington State Senate
P.O. Box 40418
Olympia, Washington 98504-0418

RE: Support for University of Washington eScience Institute Operating Budget Request

Dear Senator Zarelli

On behalf of the IBM Corporation and its Pacific Northwest teams, we strongly support the University of Washington's 2008 supplemental budget request for \$2 million to support the eScience Institute Initiative.

IBM's research focus is on creating innovations that matter in the world and aligns in many ways to the innovations that tie closely with eScience's proposed work. Our recent partnership with Google is one example. This initiative was launched at the University of Washington and addresses how the data centers of tomorrow will work today. This initiative is very important – notably to the University of Washington and to our region -- that is it now growing nationwide. There are also other relevant examples that are based around grid based computing, storage archiving and cell processor based research that IBM is deeply involved and complements this activity.

This is just one of many opportunities for IBM global research professionals to collaborate with their colleagues from the University of Washington and other Washington based companies to forge new paths in this arena. Our combined efforts will assist universities to collect, store, organize, data mine, and virtualize their ever growing amounts of data.

Through our collaboration and partnership with the University of Washington, IBM gives full support to our communities, our state, and our nation to remain competitive. If you have questions, please contact me directly.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rick Warren
Vice President, ISV Global Support
IBM Partnership Executive – University of Washington
IBM Oregon Senior State Executive