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Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences Receives \$200,000 Grant From Boeing
Increases Information Sharing Between Early Learning Researchers and Policy Makers

Seattle, WA-January 24, 2011 – In an effort to raise awareness and support for Washington State’s early learning system, University of Washington’s Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences (I-LABS) has received a \$200,000 grant from Boeing. The funds will help ensure results from I-LABS’ Developing Mind Project are effectively communicated in relevant and actionable ways to non-scientific audiences and stakeholders. The Boeing grant will be matched by the Bezos Family Foundation as part of the Foundation’s \$5 million challenge grant announced earlier this year.

“Having a signature Seattle business like Boeing support our work on early learning means the world to us – it signals their understanding that the future of the State of Washington depends on the developing minds and skills of its youngest citizens,” said Patricia Kuhl, co-director of I-LABS. “We are incredibly grateful to Boeing.”

“This gift will foster stronger linkages between the science and practice of early learning, which will help Washington’s young learners enter school ready to learn,” added Dr. Andrew Meltzoff, co-director of I-LABS.

Information dissemination will be managed through I-LABS’ Translation, Outreach and Education (TOE) initiative in conjunction with Thrive by Five Washington, the state’s public-private partnership for early learning.

The collaborative I-LABS/Thrive partnership is innovative and uniquely positioned to meet the growing demand for information about the impact of early

education programs on children's ability to reach their full potential and become active contributors to the workforce of the future. Supported by Thrive's vast outreach network, the proposed efforts will cast a wide net to include a socially and economically diverse audience, including lower income and vulnerable populations. While the partnership will not focus on specific consumer-level curricula or programs, it will increase knowledge and awareness such that systems-level leaders can make more informed decisions about policies and programs that affect classrooms, services and homes.

"Support for early learning is important to Boeing. We partner with children's programs from birth to age five to develop the social, emotional and cognitive skills needed to succeed in school and life, as well as supporting parents as a child's first and most important teacher," said Liz Warman, Global Corporate Citizenship Northwest director. "We are pleased to partner with I-LABS and their collaboration with Thrive by Five on the TOE initiative, which will provide essential child development information to families across Washington State."

About I-LABS

The Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences is an interdisciplinary center founded in 2003, and is dedicated to discovering the fundamental principles of human learning over the lifespan, with special emphasis on work that will enable all children from 0 to 5 years to achieve their full potential. By conducting innovative research and disseminating this knowledge to international audiences, I-LABS will quicken the pace from creating new knowledge about early learning to its use in society. The Institute's co-directors are Dr. Patricia K. Kuhl, The Bezos Family Foundation Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Learning, and Dr. Andrew N. Meltzoff, Job and Gertrud Tamaki Endowed Chair, both at the University of Washington. Their scientific studies on children and adults have had far-reaching impact on cognitive science, neuroscience, artificial intelligence, and education. Learn more about I-LABS at <http://ilabs.washington.edu>.

About Boeing

Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship (<http://www.boeing.com>) refers to the work that Boeing does in its diverse communities, both as a company and individual employees. The economic well-being of the Pacific Northwest region and the vibrancy of its communities are foundational components to the region's long-term health and viability. Boeing plays a significant role in ensuring the Northwest Region provides for strong, vibrant communities through its support of arts and culture, civic, education, environment and health and human services needs. Last year Boeing contributed more than \$21 million to organizations in Northwest communities where employees work and live.

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