

Kiga appointed UW regent

OLYMPIA, Wash. -- Fred Kiga, Gov. Gary Locke's former revenue director and chief of staff, has been appointed to the University of Washington Board of Regents.

Kiga, now director of corporate and government relations at Russell Investment Group in Tacoma, earned bachelor's, master's and law degrees from the UW.

He served as revenue director from January 1997 until November 2001, when he joined Locke's inner circle as chief of staff. He left state government a year ago.

Another close Locke ally, Bill Marler of Bainbridge Island, was appointed by the governor to the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Marler, a lawyer and a key member of Locke's "kitchen cabinet," will leave his post as a regent of Washington State University. No successor on the WSU board was named.

Marler will succeed state economist Chang Mook Sohn, who was term-limited. Marler will serve a four-year term.

Locke also appointed two other members to the higher education panel, Joan Yoshitomi of Seattle and Michael Worthy of Vancouver, and reappointed business leader Herb Simon of Tacoma.

Yoshitomi is a top official of the state school superintendent's office. She succeeds Ann Ramsay-Jenkins of Bainbridge Island, who resigned for personal reasons. The unexpired term is for one year.

Worthy, a banker, succeeds Gay Selby of Kelso, a former Kelso school superintendent who was term-limited. Worthy's term is for four years.

Simon, head of a real estate and venture capital firm, will serve a four-year term.