ASWWU Executive Board Meeting Documents
10/1/26

Document Number	Agenda Topic Title
1	9/30/26 ASWWU Executive Board Consent Agenda: - 6/4/26 ASWWU Executive Board Meeting Minutes-Draft
2	ASWWU President Report
3	ASWWU Referendum Student Fees Summary and Renewal Schedule
4	Workgroups discussion
5	Legislative Impact Report 2025-2026 Session
6	Board Report Schedule

ASWWU Executive Board Meeting Minutes-DRAFT

06/04/26 | 4:30 PM | VU 567

ASWWU Executive Board Members
Present: Cates-Doglio, Montalvo Zarate, Maynard, Stegeman, Skinner, Carnell, Polo - late
Absent:
Advisor: Lorio
Secretary: Stensrud
Guest(s) in attendance: Chris Rosenquist, Corbie Brantner, John Hardgrove

Motions

Motion #	Title	Result
ASB-26-S-15	To approve the 6/4/26 consent agenda items as presented	Passed
ASB-26-S-16		Passed
ASB-26-S-17		Passed
ASB-26-S-18		
ASB-26-S-19		

1. **Call to order**
   Cates-Doglio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 16:35

2. **Revisions to the agenda**
   a. None

3. **Consent Items – Routine business items that do not require discussion**
   a. **Approving ASWWU Exec Board 5/28/26 Meeting Minutes** (Doc 1)
   b. **Approving ASWWU 05/27/26 Special Joint Meeting Minutes** (Doc 2)

ASB-26-S-15	**Motion:** To approve the 6/4/26 consent agenda items as presented.
Motion Made By: Carnell	**Motion Seconded By:** Montalvo Zarate
Vote Count: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain	**Action Result:** Passed

4. **Public forum – Time for WWU & community members to address the ASWWU Executive Board**
   a. None

5. **ASWWU Exec Board Reports**
   a. **AS President Report** (Cates-Doglio)
      i. Reports to be brief and timed. Gavel will sound when it is time to finish.
      ii. Working on legacy doc. Conversing with Sophia about plans for next year.
      iii. Thanks everyone for an amazing year. Pleasure working with you all. Set a really good foundation.

iv. Lot of work to do to strengthen each position and understanding of what each position does.
v. Hoping for bylaws to pass, will govern both bodies uniformly.

b. ASVP University Operations (Montalvo Zarate, Doc 3)
i. Been an amazing quarter, wished he was here the whole year. Looking forward to being guided by Sophia
ii. Met with UBC, met with Provost, trying to improve working relationship with him.
iii. For more details see report in doc packet.
iv. Ethical Contracts Committee work mentioned.

c. ASVP Gov Affairs (Maynard, Doc 4)
i. Recap of the quarter
ii. Recap of report

d. ASVP Sustainability (Skinner, Doc 5)
i. Thanked everyone for a fun year.
ii. Recap of the quarter and year
iii. Recap of report

e. ASVP Activities (Stegeman, Doc 6)
i. Recap of the quarter
ii. Recap of report

f. ASVP Student Services (Carnell, Doc 7)
i. Recap of quarter
ii. Recap of report

g. ASVP Diversity (Polo)
i. Recap and oral report
ii. Event highlighted in Old Main Solarium on Tuesday the 9th.

h. ASWWU Executive Board Advisor Report (Lorio)
i. Has been a pleasure working with everyone this year.
ii. Invites everyone to reflect on the growth of the year
iii. Timesheets due tomorrow
iv. Contact Adam tomorrow if you have required work next week.
v. Clean office spaces out even if returning.
vi. Particular attention to whiteboard spaces.
vii. Want to store minimal items over summer if returning, contact Adam.

6. Action Items – Items that need a vote

a. ASWWU Government Bylaws (Cates-Doglio & Hardgrove, Doc 8)
i. Aspen and Senate President Hardgrove present new overarching bylaws for approval, and present contextual background. Aspen goes over big changes. Sophia in support of the new bylaws, has reservations about Article VI Removal when it comes to process – thinks there should be more qualifications to initiate the process.

ASB-26-S-16	**Motion:** To approve the ASWWU government bylaws as presented

Motion Made By: Maynard	**Motion Seconded By:** Skinner
Vote Count: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain	**Action Result:** Passed

b. Letter of Support for Student-Run Gallery (Brantner, Doc 9)

i. Senator Brantner asks AS Gov to sign onto letter of support for a student-run gallery due to loss of prior gallery.

ASB-26-S-17	**Motion:** For Exec Board to sign on to letter of support for student run gallery presented by AS Senator Brantner
Motion Made By: Skinner	**Motion Seconded By:** Stegeman
Vote Count: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Abstain	**Action Result:** Passed

c. ASWWU Decorations Workgroup Funding Request (Carnell, Doc 10)

i. Carnell presents proposal, was approved by Senate last night. Mural painted on a sheet of plywood to be hung behind SGA desk, by Hannah Munson. If approved, the work will be done over the summer supervised by Government Support Staff.

ASB-26-S-18	**Motion:** To approve ASWWU Decorations Workgroup Funding Request
Motion Made By: Montalvo Zarate	**Motion Seconded By:** Maynard
Vote Count: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain	**Action Result:** Passed

d. SEJF Budget (Skinner, Doc 11)

i. Skinner presents budget proposal from SEJF.

ASB-26-S-19	**Motion:** To approve SEJF budget proposal for fiscal year 2027
Motion Made By: Skinner	**Motion Seconded By:** Carnell
Vote Count: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain	**Action Result:** Passed

7. **Information Items – Items that do not need a vote**

a. Intersectional Thinking (Sterling, Doc 12)

i. Due to technical issues, no powerpoint available. Adam states everyone can access presentation through the doc packet.

ii. Senator Sterling presents about Black Student Experiences. View powerpoint in doc packet for full details.

8. Call to adjourn

Cates-Doglio, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 17:19

ASWWU Executive Board Report

ASWWU President
Oct 1st, 2026

Committees: N/A. At least, right now...

Committee	Date	Summary

Meetings with Staff:

Staff	Date	Summary
Faith Pettis BOT Chair	9/17	Discussed early goals. BoT is interested in potentially changing WWU to a semester system, having an AI taskforce, setting up College of Health.
Sabah Randhawa President	9/24	Discussed institutional priorities. Some university taskforces and councils they want student voices on surrounding topics like AI and the retention/enrollment initiative.
James Sterk, Steve Brummel, Teri MacPhee, Katie Potts, and Jeff Evans	9/21	Discussed priorities. Talked about cross pollination and outreach. Briefly discussed early ideas for the athletics advisory committee. Got the ball rolling on shout-out's for our national champions, both athletic and non-athletic. Maybe we should all go to a game sometime?
Joyce Lopes, BFA Staff, ASWWU Reps	9/28	Discussed initiatives from the BFA side of things. Looking to switch over their payroll, HR, and financial services over from Banner to Workday by July of 2027. Put in a bid for the PeaceHealth property. School switching from Inclusive to Flexible Access (opt-in to opt-out). Strategic Housing plan updates: a housing demand survey going out to students soon. Their goal is to have 10% inventory in every village accessible for mobility and neurodiversity. Chartwells contract expires in 2034, new food space in the Student Development Success Center will probably be a cafe or a grab and go vender.

Meetings with Students:

N/A

Important Projects:

Workgroup plans
Bylaws potential amendments
Athletics Fee Advisory Committee charter
SEJF remodeling

Additional Notes:

First week events reflection
Munroe Institute Opportunity
WSA Fall GA

Fall 2026 ASWWU Referendum Student Fees Status and Renewal Schedule Summary

Summary:

This summary and schedule is presented to ASWWU Executive Board and ASWWU Senate for a confirmation vote to ensure alignment of all listed fees with the intent and necessary practices required by the ASWWU Government Policy on New Voluntary Student Fee Referendum Proposals passed during their Winter 2026 session. If approved, the renewal schedule will be shared with all necessary fee administrators and the Western Board of Trustees to be included with their scheduled fee reviews and approvals.

Proposed Motion Language: {Senator Last Name} moves to confirm the ASWWU Referendum Fees Status and Renewal Schedule as presented.

Individual Fee Status and Renewal Schedules

Fee Name:	Sustainability, Equity and Justice Fund (SEJF)	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:** per quarter/student enrolled in 6 or more credits on Bellingham Campus	$9
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2025	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$9
Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2026	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Fall 2025 for 26-27 Academic year
Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Spring 2030	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	December 2026 for 27-28 Academic Year
Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2029		
Notes: none			

Fee Name:	Active Transportation Fee	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:** per quarter/student enrolled in 6 or more credits on Bellingham Campus	$ 34.70
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2022	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$ TBD

Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2027	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Fall 2025 for 26-27 Academic year
Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Summer 2027	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	June 2027 for 27-28 Academic Year
Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2027		
Notes: Transportation Services staff representatives informed ASWWU Government prior to the Spring ASWWU General Election when the fee was due for a regular referendum renewal vote that they have approval from WWU Board of Trustees to delay the referendum renewal vote until Spring 2027 to have a fee increase recommendation based on current WTA contract negotiations. They communicated that WWU BOT has agreed to approve the fee at the June 2027 Board meeting (if the referendum passes) so that the updated fee amount can start being collected Fall 2027 with no gap in revenue collection.			

Fee Name:	Student Technology Fee	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:** per quarter/student	$35 (6 or more credits) $17.50 (1-5 credits)
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2026	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$35 (6 or more credits) $17.50 (1-5 credits)
Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2027	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Fall 2025 for 26-27 Academic year
Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Summer 2030	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	December 2026 for 27-28 Academic Year
Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2029		
Notes: none			

Fee Name:	Legislative Action Fee	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:** per quarter/student enrolled in 2 or more credits	$1
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2026	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$1.25
Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2027	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Fall 2025 for 26-27 Academic year

Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Summer 2030	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	December 2026 for 27-28 Academic Year
Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2029		
Notes: none			

Fee Name:	Food Security Fee	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:** per quarter/full time-student on Bellingham Campus	$4.50
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2026	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$6.50
Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2027	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Fall 2025 for 26-27 Academic year
Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Summer 2030	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	December 2026 for 27-28 Academic Year
Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2029		
Notes: none			

Fee Name:	Intercollegiate Athletics Fee *New Fee	**26-27 Academic Year Fee Amount:**	$ NA
Last ASWWU Referendum Approval Vote:	Spring 2026	**27-28 Academic Year Fee Amount:** each Fall/Winter/Spring/student enrolled in 6 or more credits on Bellingham Campus	$80.36
Fee Starts/Renews:	Fall 2027	**Last Board of Trustees Approval:**	Spring 2026 – new fee approval
Fee Expires (if no student vote to renew):	End of Summer 2030	**Next Board of Trustees Approval:**	December 2026 for 27-28 Academic Year

Next ASWWU Referendum Renewal Ballot:	Spring 2029		
Notes: Intercollegiate Athletics staff are responsible for setting up administrative processes/accounts required for collection and administration of the new fee and coordinating with ASWWU Government to develop and implement required fee oversight committee during the 2026-2027 academic year. Beginning with 2027-2028 S&A Fee request and allocation process, Intercollegiate Athletics will no longer participate/request S&A Fee funds. Fee referendum language as approved by ASWWU voters prescribes S&A Fee reduction of $53.57/quarter/student starting Fall 2027.			

Simple Fee Referendum Renewal Schedule based on ASWWU Government Policy:

Fee Name	Next Required Referendum Vote(s)	Notes
Active Transportation Fee	Spring 2027, Spring 2029	
SEJF	Spring 2029	
Legislative Action Fee	Spring 2029	
Food Security Fee	Spring 2029	
Student Technology Fee	Spring 2029	
Intercollegiate Athletics	Spring 2029	

Associated Student of Western Washington University Workgroup Proposal Template

Workgroup Name: Decorations

Reasoning: Write one to two sentences about why you want this workgroup to be formed.

To beautify and cultivate an inviting and engaging environment in the ASWWU offices in the Gov Suite on the Viking Union 5th Floor. We believe that by creating this environment, we can encourage students to connect with their student representatives and associate ASWWU with the betterment of student life.

Membership proposal:

Name	Position	Justification
George Costanza	**VP of University Operations**	**Fiscal steering for the workgroup; Co-Chair**
Elaine Benes	**Senator for the College of Fine and Performing Arts**	**Creative steering for the workgroup; Co-Chair**
Jerry Seinfeld	**Set Design student**	**Relevant skills**
Cosmo Kramer	**Senator At-Large**	**Gives At-large student population perspective**

Goals: 1-3 concrete items that the workgroup will be tasked with completing
Priority 1: Finding and framing the remainder of the Executive Boards group portraits.
Priority 2: Scouting space on the walls to display student art. Recruiting said students to display their art.
Priority 3: Compiling historic artifacts about the ASWWU through the years to honor our heritage and legacy.

Timeline:
This workgroup shall meet biweekly and accomplish it's goals by the end of the 26-27 Academic term.

Associated Student of Western Washington University Workgroup Proposal Template

ASWWU Workgroups 26-27 Update

What is a workgroup?

A workgroup is a group of defined members recruited to accomplish a set of tasks, projects, or goals oriented around one subject at the request of the Executive Board and/or the Senate. Workgroups may be housed in and reported to only the Executive Board, only the Senate, or both bodies depending on the subject and membership.

Who can be a member of a workgroup?

Membership for each group is defined by the workgroup requestor and approved by AS Executive Board and/or Senate as relevant.

- ASWWU Executive Board or Senate members
- Outside/community members defined by the workgroup request

How do I form a workgroup?

1. Design a proposal for a workgroup that includes an idea of main issue of choice/project, membership, goals, and timeline. The number of members in a workgroup shall not breach quorum for each body (i.e. no more than 8 members from Senate, no more than 3 from Executive Board).
2. Fill out the workgroup proposal template.
3. If required, present it before either body for a vote of approval at their respective regular business meetings.
4. Make necessary adjustments to your proposal if requested by the bodies.
5. Follow up with membership and assemble your workgroup to accomplish your goals!
6. A workgroup may disband when its goals are successfully accomplished, or it reaches the end of its requested timeline. You may approach the bodies during a regular business meeting to amend your timeline and extend it. You may request for any goals still outstanding by the end of the academic term to be taken up again the following year.

26-27 Workgroup Ideas to date:

- Student Protections and Safety:
  - To address campus safety concerns and outline recommended actions and measures to the Executive Board and Senate.

- Outreach:
  - To encourage campus knowledge of and interaction with ASWWU Student Government.
  - Collaboratively manage the AS Instagram page
  - Future Town Hall event planning and outreach

- ASWWU Finance & Budget:
  - To steer the financial direction of ASWWU in our budgetary priorities for Services and Activities Fee Committee, monitor the budgets of our chartered fee advisory committees, and design future budget policy.

ASWWU

Associated Student of Western Washington University Workgroup Proposal Template

- Campus and Community Partnerships:
  - To promote ASWWU's activism and advocacy on the local, state, and federal level. To discover more opportunities for ASWWU to volunteer, collaborate, and contribute on and off campus.

- Decorations:
  - To propose measures that foster an engaging and inviting environment in the ASWWU Government Suite on the 5th floor of the Viking Union.

- Divestment:
  - To bridge the efforts of divestment from the University's unethical partnerships between various dedicated groups on campus and ASWWU.

- Athletics Fee Advisory Committee Construction (AFACC):
  - To construct --in collaboration with athletics department representatives and at-large students-- an Athletics Fee Advisory Committee before the end of the 26-27 academic term.

- Student Art Advocacy
  - To advocate and scout for spaces dedicated to the showcasing of student art.

- Artificial Intelligence Response
  - To design a response on behalf of ASWWU to how Artificial Intelligence may or may not be utilized in our bodies. To draft policy opinions on various AI taskforces, councils, or groups throughout the campus community.
  - To provide ASWWU student feedback to AS reps on FS AI Tools Workgroup and campus wide AI Workgroup

2026 Legislative Recap

CONTACT:
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Washington State 2026 Legislative Session Context

- This was a short session that lasted 60 days total and consists of bills as well as a small budget supplemental to fix issues with the 25-7 biennial budget
- State projected a 2.3-billion-dollar shortfall for the 2026 session down from the original 16 billion in the 2025 session
- WWU was cut by 8 Million in the 2025 session
- It is important to note that higher ed has continued to be cut and lacks a strong following of dedicated supporters

Please ask questions as I present, this is cumulative and I want to make sure everyone can follow along!

Sophia Maynard

AS Vice President of
Governmental Affairs
ASVP.Gov@wwu.edu

Chris Rosenquist

Coordinator of
Legislative Affairs
COLA@wwu.edu

Honorable Legislators,

With deep pride and heartfelt respect, we present our 2026 Legislative Agenda on behalf of the Associated Students of Western Washington University. This document, which our students hold before you, has been shaped by many hands across our community with care and the unwavering faith that the representation of our experiences and needs will lead to lasting change for the better.

We built this agenda with our stories at the forefront while balancing the realities of a challenging climate. Whether it's matters of budget or policy, federal or state, or conflicts abroad and at home, we recognize that solutions grow from inclusion and the value of working together. Our legislative priorities reflect this by emphasizing equity, the protection of essential services, and the restoration of vital programs that determine the futures of our students – and our state.

Western Washington University has long been one of Washington State's most productive institutions, yet current budget constraints and longstanding funding disparities threaten that consistency. Students face barriers of all kinds, whether that be food insecurity, college affordability, safe student workplaces, and the freedom for all to pursue a post-secondary education without intimidation. No matter the name these barriers wear, they all result in lower retention, graduation, and enrollment in post-secondary education for our future workforce. Engaging students as key voices on these challenges and bringing them to the table is core to our values and mission as the ASWWU.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules fighting for Washington state to meet with our students and review this agenda. We deeply appreciate the hard work you do for us and for our shared future.

Sincerely,

The Associated Students of Western Washington University

ASWWU

Associated Students of Western Washington University Lobby Day 2026

Legislative Agenda

Per Student Funding

ASWWU is committed to passing HB 2070, closing the funding gap between WWU and the second lowest funded regional university, Central Washington University.

- For much of the last three decades **Western Washington University has been the lowest funded school per student in Washington State.**
- Since 2020, **more than $25 million in reductions and 3% permanent across-the-board budget cuts** in every division, have led to winnowing course options, fewer staff positions, reduced student support, and delayed maintenance that affects safety and accessibility.
- Rising costs are outpacing tuition and draining university resources, putting WWU's academic mission to help students succeed, at real risk.

HB 2070 would give WWU more stable and equitable resources, allowing the university to restore course selection, rebuild student support services, and address essential safety and maintenance needs. Over time, this bill would **strengthen WWU's ability** in its commitment to keep college affordable, and meet Washington's workforce needs, rather than **shifting rising costs onto students.**

WWU OSE Collective Bargaining Rights

ASWWU is committed to supporting a **clear collective bargaining framework for Operational Student Employees (OSEs)** at Western Washington University through the passage of **HB 1570.**

- Operational Student Employees include program staff, clerks, lifeguards, attendants, RAs, and more.
- **They still lack legal recognition as a union** leading to situations involving **unstable scheduling, low wages, and limited job protections,** making it harder to succeed academically and professionally.
- Without statutory recognition, these workers **remain without stable, enforceable bargaining power.**
- Safe and equitable workplaces for students provide the opportunity for increased retention and graduation rates.

Union recognition, rights, and enforcement at the college level ensures future champions of the labor movement. **ASWWU urges the legislature to pass SHB 1570** and allow WWU and OSE's to come to the table and bargain.

Basic Needs

ASWWU urges the Washington State Legislature to take strides towards securing student housing and food insecurity safety nets. **HB 1559 (2023) launched a pilot program in which colleges provide additional assistance for their homeless and food insecure students,** which is vital in making housing and food more affordable.

- WWU has participated in the pilot program by **providing food vouchers to eligible low-income students** during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 through **the Food Security Pilot Program,** housed in our Basic Needs Hub.
- In 2023-2024 (Y1) **48.1% of program participants were reporting food security.** At the end of the program, it was up to **70% food secure participants.**
- In 2024-2025 (Y2) which incorporated more participants, **15.7% reported food security** which increased at the end to **69.8%.**

Amidst a rising cost of living, ASWWU believes we need to protect and retain services that are vital to students in need and support their retention in school. ASWWU encourage state legislature to support Western in **the renewal of funding the basic needs pilot program, which expires July 2026.**

Student Protections

ASWWU strongly supports the rights of all students, regardless of documentation status, political beliefs, and economic standing to obtain a safe and quality higher education. ASWWU urges legislators to pass **HB 2132,** which strengthens privacy protections for students—especially undocumented, DACA, or otherwise FAFSA-ineligible students—by tightly restricting how Washington State can store, use, and share their state-financial-aid application data (e.g., WASFA). ASWWU also urges legislators to pass **SB 5906,** which would **codify higher-education institutions' role in the** collection and storing of **immigration or citizenship information** and **bars immigration-enforcement from entering non-public areas** without a judicial warrant.

Post-secondary educated students are vital to Washington's economy; it is imperative that these **students have a safe environment to pursue their education,** free from the fear of **intimidation, detainment, or deportation.** This bill is a common sense, practiced, loophole-closing solution that all students benefit from.

College Affordability

Passports to Careers assists low-income populations, specifically former foster youth and unaccompanied homeless youth, with affording post-secondary education.

- At WWU, participation in this program through Western Success Scholars has **increased 240%** in the last four years, with **192 students served in 2024.**
- Nearly 99% of Passport eligible students qualify for the full Washington College Grant; however, **they continue to have the lowest college enrollment rates,** signaling an ongoing barrier in access.

ASWWU supports **SB 5963,** which ensures students who are eligible for the Passport to Careers program **will now automatically qualify as income-eligible for the Washington College Grant.**

The Washington College Grant fills essential financial needs for around **100,000 students statewide.** In the 2025 legislative session, the maximum Washington College Grant **Median Family Income (MFI) eligibility was codified at 60%, a 5% decrease** from where it had been operating at. This means students who were receiving the award at 65% MFI have now faced a sudden decrease in their award, which has presented many with a chaotic barrier to accessing higher education.

- In 2024, around 4,324 WWU students relied on its support.
- This grant is critical in supporting low-income Washington families' access to higher education.
- Increasing access to this grant directly supports Washington's goal of increasing **post-secondary degree attainment to 70%.**

ASWWU urges legislators to **codify the maximum award amount for the Washington College Grant at 65% Medium Family Income.**

Environmental Justice and Sustainability

ASWWU remains steadfast in its commitment to the principles of environmental sustainability. We believe that equity in our communities, economically viable investments, and public health oversight is vital to the success of students and the state of Washington. ASWWU urges the legislature to pass **SB 6171,** which would **regulate large energy-intensive data centers and cryptocurrency mining operations** with fees that directly support **clean energy assistance** and **higher-education programs.**

This bill supports a **clean** and **prosperous** future for our students by keeping them ahead of the curve when adapting to AI and other technologies that are evolving in our constantly changing innovation landscape, while keeping these companies responsible for our precious natural environment.

WWU Lobby Day

45 Western Washington University students met with legislators, shared their stories, and advocated for our ASWWU Lobby Day Agenda.

- 63 meetings with legislators taken on by 15 groups
- Big success this year with few incidents and great communication and feedback from legislators
    - i.e. the intensive training we did this year paid off

Thanks to any of you that came to lobby day!

Per Student Funding (HB 2070)

WWU continues to be the least funded higher education institution on a per student basis and has been for a good chunk of the past 30 years

- at least 8 of the past 14 years
- And perhaps more importantly 5 out of the past 5 years

House Bill 2070 would directly reduce this by funding WWU up to the next lowest funded university (20M).

2070 received a hearing in the House Postsecondary and Workforce Development Committee, which went well, now we must keep advocating for higher education funding!

There is a funding formula study currently in the works by the Washington Roundtable

HB 2070 WWU STATE FUNDING PARITY
OSENQUIST
DENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
ONDARY EDUCATION & WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

HB 2070 WWU STATE FUNDING PARITY
A MAYNARD
RESIDENT OF GOV AFFAIRS, ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WWU
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION & WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

HB 2070 WWU STATE FUNDING PARITY
HEARING
RE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.LEG.WA.GOV
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION & WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

Snazzy!

OSE Collective Bargaining (HB 1570)

After a multi-year effort, we were finally able to pass

HB 1570 which authorizes OSE's to collectively bargain!

- This was done after removing previously included universities (i.e. limiting its scope to just WWU)

Basic Needs (No Bill)

This year we asked for an extension of the food insecurity pilot program from HB 1559 (2023)

- Program increased food security by 4x (23%->93%) and by 4.5x (15%->69%) in the second year

Unfortunately, we were not able to introduce or pass a bill that extended this program, so individuals with access to this program will now loose this access*

  - Mainly because there was not enough money

Student Protections (HB 2231 & SB 5906)

HB 2132 would have required the following:

- Personal information in WAFASA being exempt from public inspection
- Prohibiting such information from being released absent a court order
- Applications must be destroyed 1 year following the end of the award year

SB 5906 would have required the following:

- Require the designation of some areas as non-public
- Notify collective bargaining units if worker is involved in immigration enforcement

Neither of these bills passed largely due to the cost of each bill

College Affordability (WCG & SB 5963)

This year we asked for the state to codify the maximum award MFI from 60% to 65%, the previous MFI was at 65% before it was cut in the 2025 session

- This was not passed because of the cost

SB 5963

This bill creates automatic eligibility for Passport to Career Students (Western Success Scholars, which is comprised of eligible former foster youth and unaccompanied homeless youth) for the maximum WCG award amount (99% already qualify), this would eliminate the requirement for filling out the application for the program.

THE SEAL OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
1889

Environmental Justice and Sustainability (HB 2515 & SB 6171

HB 2515 would have done a LOT of stuff but most applicable and important are:

- $.005 fee per kilowatt hour, with 40% of the funds would go to the Washington Student Achievement Council for Career services, quantum computing education, and artificial intelligence education for educators.

- Establish requirements around reports around water and energy use, resource forecasting, labor standards, and the use of renewable resources
- These and other provisions of the bill would have applied to AI Data Centers and Crypto Currency Mining Operations

This bill did not pass, and the fee related to higher education was stripped from the bill

College Grant for Private Schools

One of the big flashpoints the whole session was SB 5828 Sponsored by Sen. Nobles (Chair of Higher Education and Workforce development)

- This bill would have restored a significant portion of the award cuts that students attending private four-year non-profits received in the 2025 session
  - Would have cost the state est $8 billion a year
- WSA did not take an official position but there was an almost unanimous coalition of schools opposing this bill (excluding WSU and UW)
  - ASWWU was adamantly against this and testified other on the bill with the stipulation that awards to students attending public school must be restored before private schools
- This bill did not pass after much fighting between public school, legislators, and the private school lobbyist

Capital Budget Changes

$2.15 million additional for Minor Works Preservation:

- Campus Wide Infrastructure Upgrade & Renewal
- Replace Supply and Return Fan AHU04
- Replace Aging Exterior Pedestrian Lights with LED
- Exterior Weatherproofing

$500,000 additional for Preventative Facility Maintenance and Building System Repairs

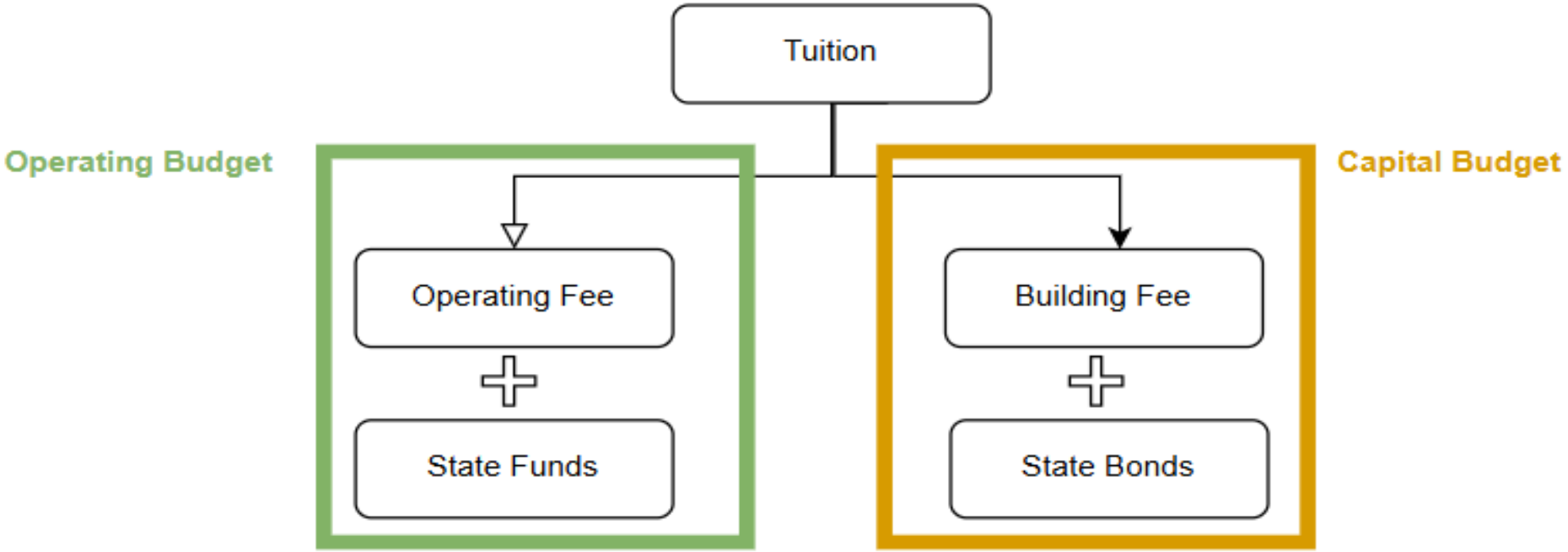
Operating Budget Update: 2026 Supplemental Budget

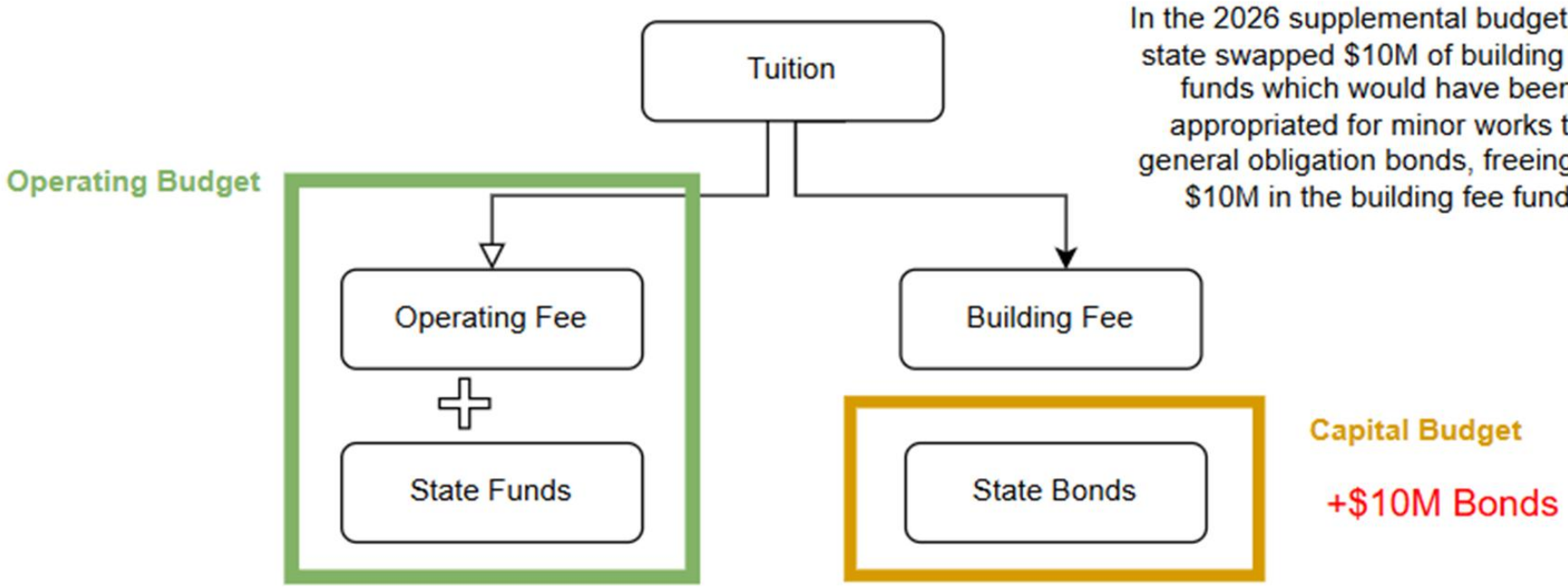
Millionaires Tax

Important to the budget is the Millionaires tax which is meant to fill the remaining (and future) deficits

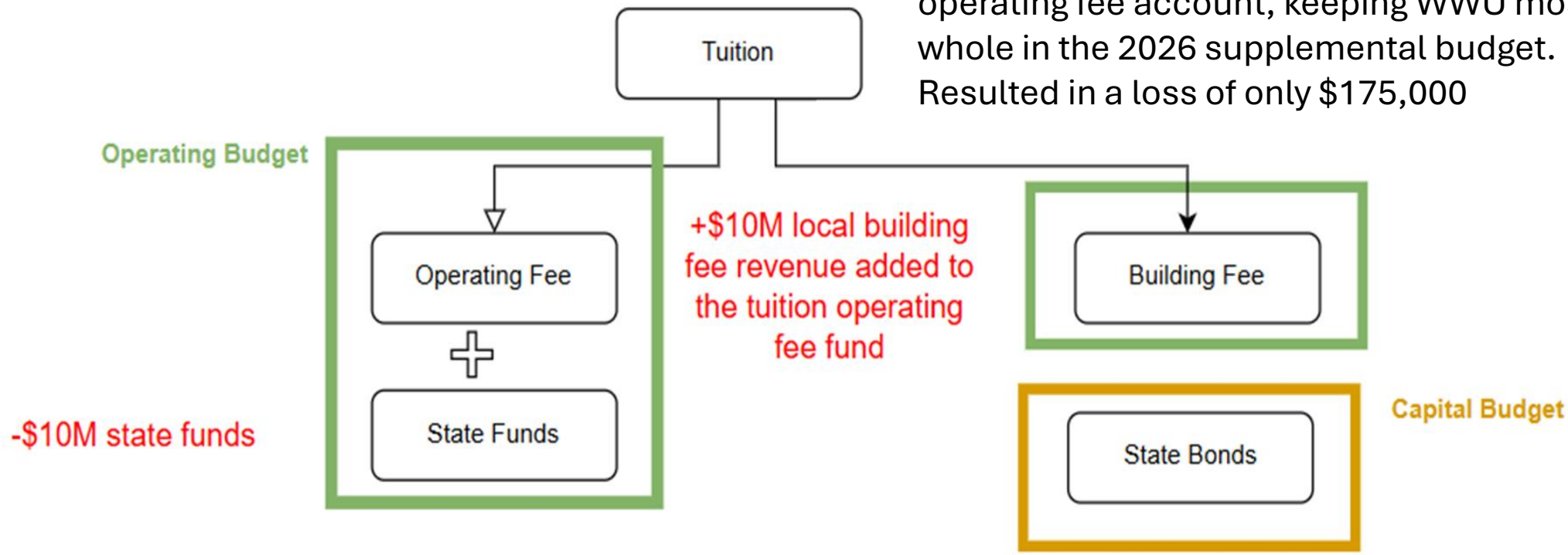
- This was done in place of extra increases to the property tax and other broad-based taxes like they did in the 2025 session
- Revenues realized in 2029 with estimates of $3 Billion per year (who is a millionaire?)

There will be litigation regarding this bill, which we should monitor


Tuition
Operating Budget
Capital Budget
Operating Fee
State Funds
Building Fee
State Bonds
Typically, the WWU operating budget consists of tuition dollars and state funds.
Typically, the WWU capital budget consists of the tuition building fee (local funds) and state general obligation bonds.


Tuition
Operating Budget
Operating Fee
State Funds
Building Fee
State Bonds
In the 2026 supplemental budget, the state swapped $10M of building fee funds which would have been appropriated for minor works to general obligation bonds, freeing up $10M in the building fee fund
Capital Budget
+$10M Bonds

The building fee dollars were moved to the operating fee account, keeping WWU mostly whole in the 2026 supplemental budget. Resulted in a loss of only $175,000



Questions?

What would you like to see?

Personal Note,

ASWWU Executive Board Fall Quarter Report Schedule

Reports are due to President Maynard at 11:59pm the doc day before your presentation meeting.

Oct 1	Pres			
Oct 8	Pres	VP Gov	VP Stu Ser	VP Sus
Oct 15	Pres	VP Opps	VP Act	VP Div
Oct 22	Pres	VP Gov	VP Stu Ser	VP Sus
Oct 29	Pres	VP Opps	VP Act	VP Div
Nov 5	Pres	VP Gov	VP Stu Ser	VP Sus
Nov 12	Pres	VP Opps	VP Act	VP Div
Nov 19	Pres	VP Gov	VP Stu Ser	VP Sus
Dec 3	Pres	VP Opps	VP Act	VP Div