ASWWU Legislative Affairs Council Meeting Minutes

10/26/26 | 4:30 PM | VU 567 or Teams Townhall

ASWWU LAC Members

Present:

Voting Members	
Triebs – Chair - ASVP Gov Aff	Keating - Vice Chair - CAP COLA
Emma Wiens – ASWWU Senator At Large	{Last Name} -CAP Local Opp & Action Coord
Sophia Allard – WWU Student – At Large Member	Ruffaro Guzha– WWU Student – At Large Member
Freya Saunders – WWU Student – At Large Member	Jonas Versaw – WWU Student – At Large Member
Aspen Wambolt – WWU Student – At Large Member	Aiden McKee – WWU Student – At Large Member
Kenyon Satterwhite – WWU Student – At Large Member	Milli Maithly – WWU Student – At Large Member
Non-Voting Members	
{Last Name} – CAP Legislative Assistant	Prasidha Krishnaswamy – Student Government Assistant
Adam Lorio - Advisor	

Absent: 0
Advisor: Lorio
Secretary: Krishnaswamy - SGA
Guest(s) in attendance: 1

Motions Summary – at a glance, actions taken this meeting.

Motion #	Title	Result

1. **Call to order**
   Triebs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM.

2. **Revisions to the agenda**
   None

3. **Consent Items – Routine business items that do not require discussion**
   None

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

5. **Action items – Items that are expected to need a vote**
   None

6. **Discussion Items – Items for discussion, may proceed to action if desired/required**

   None

7. **Information items – Items that do not need a vote**
   a. **Introduction** (Triebs, Doc 1)
      i. Ashley Triebs – Chair
      ii. Stella Keating – Vice Chair + Coordinator of Legislative Affairs

   b. **What is LAC** (Triebs, Doc 1)
      i. Overview
         1. Encourage and Empower
            a. Advocate for WWU students to participate in politics, vote, amplify voices and connect with students
         2. Manage and Allocate Funding from LA fund
         3. Submit and Review Legislative Recommendations to WA Association Legislative Agenda
         4. Formulating Policy Positions for all matters with students in higher education
      ii. Parliament Procedure
         1. Meeting Flow:
            a. Call to Order (by chair)
            b. Roll Call
            c. Reading and approval of minutes
            d. Info Items
            e. Action Items
            f. Adjourn
      iii. OMPA
         1. Requires meetings to be open to the public
            a. Gavel to gavel
            b. RCW 42.30
      iv. Files/Teams Structure
         1. Main form of communication (notifications on)
      v. 25-26 Legislative Overview
         1. Basic Needs
            a. Washington Post Secondary Food Security Plot Program expired in July 2026

i. Asked for a renewal for more funding
ii. Food security increased 4x in the second year at WWU

2. Undocumented Student Protections
    a. SB 5906 & HB 2132 – Both dead
        i. Fiscal note was too high
3. Higher Ed Funding
    a. HB 2070 – Dead
        i. WWU has been one of the lowest funded schools on a per student basis
        ii. Bill would have put WWU on par with Central Washington University
    b. Roundtable funding formula for higher ed is discontinued
        i. Was a non-profit group of business leaders in WA
            1. Not focused on creating funding formulas for higher education anymore
4. College Affordability
    a. SB 5963 – Passed
        i. Automatically qualifies eligible students as income-eligible for the Washington College Grant
    b. SB 5828 – Dead
        i. Would have prioritized private institutions over public
5. Collective Bargaining
    a. HB 1560 – Passed
        i. Granted operation student employees at WWU the right to collectively bargain

vi. WSA
1. Washington Student Association (Non-profit)
    a. UW, WSU, WWU, CSU, Evergreen, TCC, Bellevue College
    b. Founded in 1972
    c. Pay Dues
        i. WWU has 8 votes = 8 delegates
2. Fall and Spring GA
    a. Fall (Nov 14-15 at UW Tacoma)
        i. Presenting proposals for legislative agenda
            1. Focusing on student funding/cuts to higher ed.
                a. Roundtable funding formula
            2. Stop cuts to higher education
        ii. More in depth on proposals next meeting

vii. Early ASWWU Priority Ideas
1. Stop cuts to higher education (number one priority)
    a. 11/02/26
        i. Legislative Priorities
        ii. LAF Overview
        iii. WSA Priorities

iv. Lobby Date

b. 11/10/26
   i. Finalize Prioritizes

c. 11/16/26
   i. Drafting ASWWU Agenda

d. 11/23/26
   i. Bill Tracking

e. 11/30/26
   i. First Draft of ASWWU Agenda

c. Discussion

i. Higher education funding
   1. Increase in 5-year grad rates due to not enough courses available
      a. Economic burden for students
      b. Comes from lack of funding to universities themselves
   2. Students seem to have decreased autonomy in courses and education pathway
   3. Cuts have a major impact on higher ed.
      a. A need to make legislatures aware of the impacts of the cuts on students

ii. Resources for first generation students is very limited
   1. Funding for these opportunities is scarce
   2. Decreasing diversity

iii. On campus housing
   1. Repairs are slowed
      a. Direct impact from budget cuts
   2. 80% of student body lives on campus
   3. WWU has poor on campus housing specifically
      a. Costs keep adding on

iv. National College Health Assessment Survey

8. Call to adjourn

Triebs, Chair, called the meeting to adjourn at 6:01 PM.