

ASWWU

Monthly Newsletter, Feb/March

Student Service Shout-Out

Starlight Shuttle:

The Starlight Shuttle is a service paid for by the Active Transportation fee. They offer free rides on-demand withing approximately a five-mile radius of campus Monday through Saturday from 10:30 pm - 2:30 am, and from 9:30 pm - 1:30 am on Sundays. To ride the shuttle, you can download the Starlight Shuttle app or call at (360) 650-2400. For more information visit the Starlight Shuttle [website](#).

Legislative Digest:

SHB1570:

SHB1570 is a bill that would extend the right to collectively bargain to Operational Student Employees (OSEs) at Western Washington University. Currently, only Educational Student Employees (ESEs) have the right to collectively bargain as a union. Thanks to the hard work of student activists on campus, we are glad to see that SHB1570 has passed both the senate and the house and is now in statute.



Budgets:

The Washington State Legislature is during the second year of the biennium. As such, ASWWU has dedicated its legislative efforts to the upkeep of existing programs that have been proven to work, rather than the creation of new programs that we cannot guarantee produce results.

ASWWU supports most of this year's budgetary adjustments, specifically for higher education and WWU. Namely, the fact that WWU has received a 1.5% cut to non-faculty exempt staff (administrative staff), rather than the sweeping 5% cuts we were expecting. Additionally, this budget introduces changes to Washington state law that allows WWU to pull from our institutional building account to fund core university operations. In effect, this additional funding account essentially offsets the nearly \$10 million cut we received in state appropriations. We have also received small appropriations to our minor works and preventative maintenance funds.

ASWWU Mission Statement:

ASWWU Executive Board and Senate passed our new mission statement. We believe that this statement represents our values and goals well and will help guide us in our work.

“The mission of Associated Students of Western Washington University is to represent student interests and promote student welfare through shared governance of the University, including advocating to university administration, local and state governments, and the WWU community. Focusing on empowering students to thrive socially and academically both on campus and beyond.”



Club Spotlight!

The Student Sustainability Coalition (SSC) of Western Washington University (WWU) serves as a collaborative hub for connection students, faculty, and staff working to advance sustainability initiatives. They envision a campus where sustainability is embedded in decision-making, shaped by diverse voices, and driven by collective action that extends beyond institutional boundaries. By providing an organized space for connection, the SSC supports campus collaboration while amplifying student voices to benefit both the campus and the broader community. To express interest in the SSC please fill out [this form](#).

