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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASWWU Statement: “Executive Board decides to appoint the next AS President”

Bellingham, WA — On Friday, July 10, 2020, the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) Executive Board convened for a special meeting to discuss the vacant position of AS President. Nicole Ballard, AS VP for Governmental Affairs, has been the acting AS President since the position became vacant on June 13, 2020. Ballard has presided over the Board's three special meetings to discuss the vacancy, as they have explored whether it would be more appropriate to call a special election for the position or proceed with an appointment process. The Board expressed their priority to fill the position as soon as possible, ensuring complete representation of all Western students through the summer.

On Friday, the Board voted unanimously to amend their bylaws to allow flexibility for filling vacant Board positions over the summer and to charge a committee to begin an appointment process for the 2020-21 AS President. Ballard announced her appointments to the committee, which will consist of Keenan Kaemingk, AS VP for Activities, Carson Brock, AS VP for Student Services, and Kaylan Rocamora, AS Personnel Director. Ballard directed, in compliance with the Executive Board's bylaws, for the AS Communications Office to publicize the position opening from July 13th through July 19th, then to publicize the open application from July 20th through August 2nd at 11:59 PM. Ballard noted that the committee will need to develop their screening criteria, fairly review applications, and provide no fewer than two recommendations to the full Board for final ratification. Ballard expressed her hope to have a sitting AS President confirmed by August 7th.

All Western students enrolled through the 2020-21 academic year (Fall-Spring) are eligible and invited to apply for the 2020-21 AS President position as long as they are registered for at least six or four undergraduate or graduate credits, respectively. Application materials can be submitted through the Western Involvement Network at win.wwu.edu beginning July 20, 2020 until August 2, 2020 at 11:59 PM. Once the position has opened, more publicity will be provided across ASWWU social media channels. For disability accommodations, email as.doc@wwu.edu. For media inquiries, email as.communications@wwu.edu.