

Western Washington University  
Associated Students Charter  
April, 2010

Preamble :

We, the Students of Western Washington University, have the right and responsibility to achieve a system of shared governance. For this purpose the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) has been established. The ASWWU will:

- Foster students' rights and responsibilities
- Promote the general welfare of students
- Establish channels of communication within the University
- Represent student interests and opinions to the University Administration, Board of Trustees, and appropriate governmental agencies

Article I: Membership

The membership of the ASWWU shall include all full-time, part-time, graduate, and undergraduate students who are registered for a minimum of one academic credit at Western Washington University.

Article II: Recognition

The ASWWU shall be the officially recognized student government of Western Washington University with the privileges associated with this recognition provided to by the Board of Trustees and state legislature. The ASWWU shall derive its authority to participate in the University governance from the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University.

Article III: Responsibilities

Section 1. The ASWWU, as the primary representative of the students shall make every effort to meet the needs and concerns of the students.

Section 2. The ASWWU membership shall elect a Board of Directors to a one year term, each academic year.

Section 3. The Board of Directors are elected:

- a. To serve as the representatives of the ASWWU to the Board of Trustees through the President, University Administration, Faculty Senate, State of Washington and other entities as necessary
- b. To make every effort to encourage student involvement in the development of university policies
- c. To consult with and report to any university bodies on matters of concern to students
- d. To be aware of university actions concerning students
- e. To inform the university community of actions taken by the ASWWU

#### Article IV: Granted Authorities

Section 1. The ASWWU shall be granted the authority to fulfill its responsibilities within the provisions set forth herein and to act in any University-related matter not specified within the constraints of University regulations, policies and procedures. In addition, the ASWWU shall also have the following granted authorities:

- a. To administer and appropriate monies allocated to the ASWWU by the Services and Activities Fee Committee to ensure continuous, safe, and efficient operations
- b. To obtain and review information made available on the affairs of the University
- c. To be included in the development of recommendations for the allocation of University funds
- d. To appoint student representatives to standing University committees, and other bodies upon request
- e. To be consulted with and be given reasonable opportunity to provide recommendations regarding any increases and renewals of all mandatory and voluntary student fees
- f. To be provided by the University Administration all information pertaining to the usage of student fee dollars
- g. To have a majority of student voting membership on fee committees overseeing mandatory and voluntary student fees with exception to the operating and building fees
- h. To reserve the right to have a student chair, in consultation with the University President or designee, on all committees overseeing and appropriating mandatory and voluntary student fee dollars with exception to the operating and building fees
- i. To employ students and staff in a manner consistent with those articles, regulations, policies and procedures of the University
- j. To allow the ASWWU Board of Directors to make decisions in creating and overseeing a program of student activities and services. These decisions may be reviewed by the University President or their designee

#### Article V: Agreements

Section 1. The ASWWU acts in partnership with the administration through involvement in the development and recommendation of general policy for the bookstore in addition to managing the net operating revenues of the AS Cooperative Bookstore.

Section 2. The Viking Union shall serve as the primary facility, provided by the University, for the ASWWU and its operations. The Viking Union will, in good faith, consult with the ASWWU regarding changes to the facility and operations of the Viking Union.

Section 3. The ASWWU may only be abolished by a vote of the membership of ASWWU. In such case the powers given herein become null and void.

#### **Article VI. Bylaws and Amendments**

The ASWWU shall have the authority to adopt bylaws, as necessary, to govern its organization and structure in a manner consistent with this charter and the policies, regulations, and procedures of the University. All amendments to this Charter must be approved by the ASWWU Board of Directors and the University President.

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