



Associated Students of Western Washington University

Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter

~~October 2011~~ September 2012

I. CHARGE

Legislative Affairs Council will actively seek to:

- Advocate for students' interests and progressively alter the current position of underrepresented students and all students striving to obtain a higher education.
- Empower student participation and civic engagement in the political process.
- Create, review, and propose the Legislative and Federal Agenda for to the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) Board of Directors, as well as submit recommendations to the Washington Student Association (WSA) regarding the statewide legislative agenda.
- Establish contact with all appropriate elected officials, for the purpose of communicating student concerns and obtaining information regarding student issues to disseminate to the student body.
- Formulate policy positions concerning the impact of legislative activities, community governance and relations, national affairs and external matters to WWU students, Washington State higher education institutions, and the overall state of higher education-
- Assume a role in the implementation and fruition of policy positions taken (and adopted with review by the Board of Directors') through involvement in lobby days and meetings with appropriate officials.
- Manage the operations of the Legislative Action Fund and appropriate funding to more directly represent WWU students in legislative matters.

II. MEMBERSHIP

AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs (Chair)

AS Legislative Liaison (non-voting)

6 - Students at-Large, appointed by the AS Board of Directors

(additional at-large positions may be added for content and value)

1- Western Votes! Representative

1 - Student Senate Representative

Secretary (non-voting)

Advisor (non-voting)

III. CHAIR

The Chairperson shall be the AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs. They shall convene the meetings, approve agendas, and preside at all meetings. The Vice-Chairperson shall be selected at the discretion of the council and acts in the absence of the Chairperson.

IV. MEETINGS

Meetings shall be called by the Chair. The council shall meet at least twice prior to the establishment of an AS Legislative agenda. All meetings must be called with a minimum of twenty four (24) hours notice. Meetings may also be called by any member with support of at least twenty-five (25%) of the seated, voting membership.

V. VOTING

In order for a motion to pass, it must obtain a majority of the legal votes cast. An abstention shall not count as a legal vote cast.

VI. QUORUM

A majority of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present, the Chair will adjourn the meeting and reschedule to a new day and hour.

VII. RULES OF OPERATION

The council may adopt and amend rules of operation governing its operation by a majority vote of the council, subject to review or approval by the AS Board.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

This Charter may be amended by a majority vote of the AS Board of Directors

IX. REPORTAGE

This council shall report to the AS Board of Directors through the AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs.