



Associated Students of Western Washington University

Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter

September 2013 August 2014

I. CHARGE

Legislative Affairs Council serves to empower student representation by:

- Encouraging civic engagement and student participation in the political process.
- Creating, reviewing, and proposing the Local, State, and Federal, and other proposed Legislative Agendas to the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) Board of Directors.
- Submitting recommendations to the Washington Student Association (WSA) regarding the statewide Legislative Agenda.
- Establishing contact with elected officials to ensure that student perspectives are being considered at all levels of government.
- Formulating policy positions for all matters concerning students in higher education.
- Reviewing funding request proposals, making financial decisions, and monitoring the expenditures of student funds donated through the Legislative Action Fund.
- Approving a budget for the Legislative Action Fund ~~based on projected revenue with estimated expenses~~ in areas designed to more directly represent Western Students at the local, state and federal level.

II. MEMBERSHIP

AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs (Chair)

AS Legislative Liaison (~~non-voting~~)

AS Local Liaison (~~as needed, non-voting~~)

6-8 Students at-Large, appointed by the AS Board of Directors

1- Graduate Student

1- Western Votes! 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 percent (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. During the summer, and when not in academic session, this council's responsibilities fall to the AS VP for Governmental Affairs with approval from the AS President and Director of Student Activities.

**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.