



Associated Students of Western Washington University
Board of Directors

A Resolution Regarding Police Accountability
March 2015

WHEREAS, It was found that in 2012 a Black man was killed every 28 hours by police, security guards, and vigilantes, according to the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement; and,

WHEREAS, Washington State police have shot and killed more people in the past six months than the United Kingdom in the past three years; and,

WHEREAS, State and local police have gained more access to military equipment since 2006. Whatcom county has gained 82 night vision pieces, 11 assault rifles, two mine-resistant rifles and one armored vehicle, according to The New York Times; and,

WHEREAS, There is no mandated training for police regarding racial and gender profiling or critical cultural consciousness, for state or local departments; and,

WHEREAS, Black people make up 1.2 percent of the population in Whatcom county, and 5 percent of the Whatcom county; Native Americans make up 3.2 percent of Whatcom County, and 18 percent of Whatcom County Jail, according to Whatcom County Sheriffs Department; and,

WHEREAS, Western has admitted record numbers of students of color in its first-year classes; 25.4 percent in 2013, and roughly 28 percent in 2014; and,

WHEREAS, The Western Campus, Bellingham, and Whatcom County Police Departments are not representative of the communities they serve; and,

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BE IT RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Western Washington University urge the local police departments to create a plan for more transparency, as well as protective accountability.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, The ASWWU encourages the local police departments to adopt trainings regarding racial and gender profiling and critical cultural consciousness.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, (POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL RESOLVE, subject to police input).

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