

Text Response: 5. If you feel comfortable, please use the following text box to explain how you think the AS could better serve you?

More knowledge about how the AS impacts our daily lives on campus. There seems to be a separation between how the AS relates to students and how those students work with the AS.

The AS could better serve me by paying employees better. I technically work less than minimum wage here.

being more transparent! Making more of an effort to clearly lay out the AS structure (who does what), and spread the word of what the AS is around campus.

Transparency and allowing room for actual activism to occur.

Communicate with students more efficiently and effectively

As a club officer, the AS could have better served me by not making it so difficult to be a club.

Transparency. We need to be able to find governing documents on the webpage. Demand more seats at the table for other students to weigh in on issues they care about, its less of a shared governance and more of a structural hierarchy governance that leaves people who don't want to committ their time to being an AS elected student without access to important conversations. More outreach to clubs keeping ongoing dialogue and updating us on events/deadlines coming up.

better scheduling of rooms for clubs

It could use some more space in the ESC, and more scholarship opportunities in general.

No idea, should do more to promote themselves

A student senate. More open and inclusive governmental structure

I don't think there is enough diversity of opinion represented by the AS. Things seem remarkably one-sided sometimes on the political spectrum.

I wish I knew more about what the AS was doing or what events they were hosting, etc.

I don't feel that the as has enough funds to support students to the degree that is nessicary

start taking www more seriously

Have more events where I can get to know more. I'm sure you already do this but apparently it's not effective.

More emphasis on club activities and events

Considering my general level of interest it serves me well, I'm sure

Support people of color events

n/a

N/A

Appear at Board of Trustees meetings

As an extended education student in Poulsbo, I never see any signs or evidence of a student governance structure or program. If we actually had members representing us at various satellite campuses (Poulsbo, Everett, or Port Angeles) then that would be great. I feel as though only the main campus students benefit from this and extended education students may not. I don't know though since this is not salient at other campuses.

More visibility of AS decisions - I am familiar with many programs but I have no idea what the AS government actually does.

I'm a non-traditional student. I work full time, have a family, and attend college full time. That diversity is overlooked on the WWU campus.

Know how the people have changed their departments during their tenure

Tell a band that they have a concert here so they're not two hours late????

Stop booking events and clubs over each other and then refusing to do anything about it

I think there needs to be more information available on services and activities for those that maybe don't know where to look to find it

There's too much focus on diversity being the fun word and all that we focus on. I would rather see emphasis on academics and issues with classes rather than just hearing "diversity" thrown around for the sake of using a buzz word.

They could try and get more feedback from students on issues affecting them and regarding them without speaking for all of them. As someone whose beliefs tend to be more conservative, I do not feel like my voice is welcome nor is it represented.

Fix registration, parking, lower Gur requirements. Stop putting us in the news for embarrassing social political issues (pc freak outs).

Our elected officials are jokes. The club staff is great, but we pay a lot of money for fun events and all we get is inflammatory speakers.

Well the students who are making a lot more money than what I make for my on-campus job could at least respond to their emails when I ask them questions. Preferably the Club Hub.

The AS is too handcuffed by the school. We need to allow the students true freedom when it comes to making campus decisions. We don't pay the exorbitant tuition for nothing.

WWU is 73% white - per WWU's own statistics. Yet others appear to get more attention, more focus, and that we aren't doing enough for them. I feel slighted because evidently being in the minority, even those in the single digits, appear to get more focus and attention. You want a Student Senate? Then 73% of the seats are for the majority.

I'm a 30 year old grad student and assume I'm an outlier you don't cater to.

I think having a running student senate would be greatly beneficial.

More noon-time programming so commuter students can attend. Also, think about offering free parking for people who buy tickets to events.

I think the AS should focus more on serving the interests of the university as a whole rather than satisfying the desires of those in power within the AS.

More outreach/better events

Disband and return my student fees.

Departmental reps by focus/major to communicate back to students within those departments?

As a student, I feel a huge disconnect between AS and the student body. It feels very unapproachable and inaccessible- I don't feel as though my voice is being heard.

What do you do?

Such a confusing system, I don't understand it

Knowing all about what the AS does takes some outside research, and most students, particularly first-years, don't put in that extra effort. So if the AS could better promote themselves to these students to help them see why the AS matters to them, then more students could be involved with the AS.

Not sure. I don't take advantage of most of the things listed above. I only chose those two things because I've used or participated in them in the past. As a masters student, campus life and support is not that important to me and don't think I should be paying this fee.

Less bureaucracy.

it has always been my view that AS is primarily supported by WWU as a means for the administration to keep tabs on what the students are up to. I would like to see the AS be used for more direct-action and as a louder and more cohesive voice on important issues.

The AS does great things, but because of our lack of visibility we do not engage the students and we don't have things for them to rally behind as a campus culture.

This is a very small text box - perhaps on the next survey it should be larger to allow for survey takers to better organize responses to this question.

Better integrating transfer students

Although AS is meant to serve as a representation of the student body, I don't think enough students vote for that to be true. There needs to be better outreach and campus wide involvement.

No one will listen to me based on my sex and skin color.

more services and spaces for marginalized identities

By advertising more, specifically to people who live off campus

I haven't been on campus for very long, this is my first quarter so I just don't know that much about it yet I guess.

They could serve me better by telling me what they do in clearly listed bullet points. I need to be better informed.

By being more present on campus and clearer about what the group is and does

I still don't know much about what the AS does in some areas and I'm a senior. I guess I want to know more about what the AS is currently doing

Lower tuition and fees. The fees are out of control.

Provide newer audio equipment for clubs meeting in the Viking Union, several pieces are non-functional.

more money for events, speakers that appeal to EVERYONE- not just targeted at validating identities

I'm an online student and when I registered for Lobby day the communication was poor. I had no clue what to expect when meeting the student body at the capital. It seemed the on campus students had a better idea of what was going on.

Being more apparent with their actions that benefit the student body.

I think I'd need a bigger box honestly.. The AS could put more resources towards representative and advocacy programs, and make sure that students know how to bring issues forward, as well as how to access shared governance structures.

make changes based on the vocalized needs of marginalized students

figure out ways how commuters could opt out paying the whole fee for the Rec Center if it is never used.

support clubs better, by responding and supporting clubs efforts, responding to clubs requests sooner.

I just don't see them much in the day to day life of WWU

Still not sure about what the AS does

More scholarship opportunities

By providing more opportunities for student input.

Elected contests turn into popularity Facebook contests that marginalize introverts.

Students need to know what the AS board is doing. What do they decide on? What kind of decisions do they have the power to make? I think it would be helpful to students to know what the AS is currently doing that way there is less of a disconnect

At the time the AS seems to offer students many opportunities and services. While this is great and should be maintained, it is my understanding that the AS should also be representing student interests and voices in dealings with the Board of Trustees, Administration, and WA Government. I don't see this happening and I don't think there is any meaningful way that the AS is gathering their constituents views.

By actually representing all of the students here

Letting people know what services are available sooner. I still find out about new stuff and I'm a senior.

The AS needs a more democratic, representative form of government. The Board should not function as the executive and policy making bodies. Instead, there should be a separate independent legislative body with co-equal standing, and representing the broader student body.

Be more visible to the student body.

Focusing on issues actually important to students, such as tuition, textbook prices, class retake policy, etc. rather than things like the mascot that nobody has complained about.

AS focuses too much on trite questions of privilege - even as a student of color, I find the sjw mentality it promotes appalling.

I don't know how any student would look at this form and feel capable of answering these questions with any shred or ounce of understanding of the impact their input would have on the AS.

better live shows, more substantial booking

Dissolve

make the resources more available I didnt know we had a lot of programs

Student senate and more diverse programming

The AS needs to represent all needs of all ethnicities and not baby the minorities while demonizing the rest of the majority student population

Host more school-wide events that shows off the different clubs and opportunities to get involved around campus through current projects and events.

Agree.

AS Clubs do not communicate well.

Text Response:

Because the added buracracy will just slow down the decision making process

I don't think the students, especially those in AS, are capable of making decisions that might affect future generations. I don't think they have the emotional strength and mental clarity to make these important decisions. I don't think there needs to be a check against the current structure of the system.

It sounds like more beurocratic red-tape.

I don't feel that it is possible to reperesent each group accurately.

No one knows how the AS is run and few people know what it does. The elections are a joke already, I don't think including a student senate will change that in any way.

Mobocracy

Electoral college was made to make things efficient in regions that had low voting turnouts by the populous

10. Optional question: If you have other suggestions not listed above, please use the following text boxes to explain alternate options.

Hybrid of one or more of the above options	Other
Doing it by college would be good but it would also be important to make sure that students of all identities and years were represented	I think we should dissolve most of the power currently held by the AS. If we must have senators, I would like to see them approved by faculty/board of trustees.
Colleges and academic departments could probably be combined.	Representatives for out-of-state and transfer students
Using Colleges and Departments within would be the best combination	I want a senate representative of every group at Western. All deserve a voice.
At-Large elections mixed with appointed officials	Ethnicities
Colleges + academic year seems decent	Representatives for various committees on campus, and potential clubs
Should be wholly based on academic divisions	It should be the people who want to participate. Why the demographics?
Academic Year + Identity. OR General	I don't understand, and therefore don't support this effort.
Within the academic departments they could have a mixture of academic years and identity based.	Parents of Students
At least one student from each department, then more student reps for larger departments. If only 1 person runs, they get more votes proportional to the size of the department they represent.	Student housing, on-campus and off-campus
Members of clubs, making sure as many identities as possible are represented It's important to have a well rounded, diverse Senate that can represent the general student population. To do so, you must consider many of these groups	Graduated alumni as members bc by the time they graduate change may not have happened. senate members from different club types

<p>If we have a Senate as many groups as possible need to be represented</p>	<p>They might count as general representatives, but I think there should be representatives of ResLife in the senate. Especially since we interact on a very deep basis with students in the residence halls, so we can accurately speak on their behalf.</p>
<p>Everyone deserves/needs to be heard and represented</p>	<p>Mental health and ethnic representatives</p>
<p>A percentage of each identity based on the population of the school</p>	<p>Someone to represent Online and/or alternative campus locations</p>
<p>I think all of these groups are important to have representation from. Academic departments but within that having a mix of academic year, gender, and other characteristics</p>	<p>The Student Assembly for Power and Liberation Athletics</p>
<p>There are multiple ways to combine them, you will probably have to experiment a bit to find what works best for Western. Even more importantly, this should be subject to change so it can adapt according to the needs of the student body. I could imagine a hybrid of all but the college wide representatives could be effective. You should also be aware that representative democracy is only one type of democracy, and it might work better for western students to have a different form of democracy, such as direct or participatory. There's a good amount of work in political science that shows how representative democracies can easily fail to be both representative and democratic.</p>	<p>Ditch representatives, have students individually vote on issues through any online portal.</p>
<p>Hybrid of all of them but a diverse selection of them. ie. sophomore and chem student and then a graduate who identifies as non-binary and is studying sociology.</p>	
<p>athletic department, clubs</p>	
<p>I think a student senate would need to be as diverse as possible, in race, gender, sexual orientation, college, major, and academic year.</p>	
<p>last two</p>	
<p>Academic Departments/Academic Year (The more representatives, the better!)</p>	

Colleges with a system for ensuring adequate representation of marginalized identities.	
I think its important to be able for students in interdisciplinary programs to have an oppurtunity to join the senate if they were to choose to do so. Departments and Colleges are important, but when a group of students is not a member of just one, they tend to be overlooked	
Make sure that there are identity based representation from the college reps.	
Students of different academic years composing each of the chosen groups	
Committees should be comprised, at least in part, of senators i.e. Cold Beverage Commitee, Planning, LAC, etc.	
A mix of at-large and college representation would be ideal. Too many senators would lead to gridlock, more than 50 is probably sub-optimal.	

Other: 12. If there were a student senate, what do you think the main roles should be? (Check all that apply)

I'm not really sure what student advocacy is actually occurring.
All of the above
Input on GUR requirements!
Budget approval most important
Making sure the stupid idea of having a dorm for a specific race is not going to happen. I'm not paying for a dorm I can't even live in, that's discrimination. I don't even know why the AS would have some idea like that. I've been hearing about it a lot, I'm not voting for students who have such exclusive ideas like that. Sure, people think Western is a racist school and they're entitled to their opinion. But those types of decisions shouldn't even be going through the AS.
The students need to take the power back.
Fixing whatever problems exist that makes you think we need a senate.
IS THIS JUST MORE BUREAUCRACY?
Finding ways to make the AS relevant.
agenda setting for academic affairs advocacy as well
checking admin
All these give too much power to students