

WWU Board of Trustees and Administration,

We acknowledge and appreciate all Western Administration, faculty, and staff that have been working under difficult conditions to ensure the education of students can continue. Our current situation is novel and so feedback is essential in helping our institutions react accordingly to the pandemic. We want to communicate to you, Western Administration, that members of the Western community found the Western alert of March 26th as dismissive in tone and an ineffective response for the means of easing student concerns over tuition and fee charges.

With the pandemic terminating access to needed laboratory equipment, software, technology, recreational services, and community spaces. As well as the shortening of spring quarter by 5 academic days. Students have voiced concern over the claim that courses will sustain their quality and value under this new operating standard.¹ They're concerns are the following.

- Many professors are not well-versed in online teaching or technology.
- On-hand technical training is now unattainable.
- Unjust high costs of tuition for out of state and international students during a time in which courses are online.
- Strain on professors' and students learning and teaching capacity as result of implications of stay at home order. (e.g. childcare, mental health impacts, internet access, etc.)
- Fact that many students will have to teach themselves.

We believe that the decision to place all courses on a Pass/Fail procedure acknowledges these obstacles. The discrepancy between this change and the decision to sustain standard tuition are contradictory. We emphasize the need for reasonable accommodations for students through **ASWWU Resolution on Tuition and Fee Revisions as Response to COVID-19 Pandemic and ASSWWU on Reasonable Accommodations on Instruction Amid COVID19 Pandemic.** .

We also want to take this opportunity recognize the graduating classes of winter and spring quarters. Their graduation is not only a personal milestone but a generational one for many. We hope that their hard work is considered in the planning of the next possible graduation ceremony. Our request is presented as **ASWWU Resolution on Involvement of Graduation Seniors in Nearest Possible Graduation Ceremony,**

Lack of student input recent decisions has furthered distrust amongst our community towards the administration. We kindly request transparency from Western Administration in the form of the following items:

- Breakdown of the expenditure of student tuition and fees.
- In depth information on how courses will sustain their quality and value want
- Information on what new resources have been attained, as mentioned in the March 26th Western update.

In making future decisions, we hope you consider that relief for college and undocumented students was not considered in the 2020 COVID-19 Relief bill passed by congress. We hope future communication and decisions made by the Board of Trustees and Administration will demonstrate our University's capacity to live up to those words of *equity* and *inclusion* used in the University's marketing strategy.

Best

ASWWU Student Senate 2020

¹ "Partial Tuition Refund for WWU" Change.org Petition https://www.change.org/p/western-washington-un-partial-wwu-refund?recruiter=1063926302&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=psf_combo_share_initial&utm_term=psf_combo_share_abi&recruited_by_id=9ce355e0-6f07-11ea-9c19-51826b0e4b72&utm_content=fht-20948489-en-us%3Av12