Members:

Present: Gabe Wong (Chair); James Dinh, Lauren Johnson, Mariana Flores (At-Large); Lily Duong, Matt Condon (Woodring); MJ Dizon (CFPA); Melissa Bernal, Lola Thompson (CENV); John Hardgrove (CSE); Dacey Durbin, Devin Moreno (CBE); Miguel Estevez (Fairhaven); Ellen Esteves (Graduate)

Absent: Yasmin Lamas Flores, Miguel Acuna (CHSS); Ella Byerly (CFPA)

Advisor: Leona Friedman

Secretary: Nely Vasquez

Guests: Liam Pratt (AS VP for Sustainability)

MOTIONS

SEN-23-W-22 | To approve Consent Items. **Passed.**

Call to Order: Gabe Wong, Student Senate President, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

   b. Adding advisor note from Friedman in Other Business

II. CONSENT ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

   a. Appointment to Student Advisory Committee – Devin Moreno
   b. Approval of Minutes – 10/30/23, 11/06/23 and 11/20/23

   **MOTION:** To approve Consent Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motion Made By: Dacey Durbin</th>
<th>Second: Melissa Bernal</th>
<th>SEN-23-W-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vote Count:</strong> Aye: 11</td>
<td>Nay: 0</td>
<td>Abstain: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   **Action Result:** Passed

III. PUBLIC FORUM *(comments from students and the community)*

Pratt tells the Senate the Sustainability Council is trying to push out the Sustainability Action Plan. He came to the senate because he wants input from students for curriculum research, engagement and leadership, and student life. This is to make the process more inclusive because right now the plan only involves involvement from the College of the Environment. Durbin asked Pratt to give a quick summarization on those three areas. Pratt says he is mainly focusing on engagement and leadership because there is investment involved. He would like input on the curriculum and input section as it revolves around GURs and classes. Pratt gave an update on the Divestment Resolution. The Faculty Senate unanimously supported it and the Board of Trustees too. Pratt says The Foundation will give them a formal list of what will be given based on the Divestment Resolution.
IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

V. ACTION ITEMS – Guests*

VI. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Senate*
   a. Spring Meeting Time

   Wong thinks it would be easiest to keep this time and would like it if everyone scheduled their classes around this. Thompson would like it if everyone could give an advanced schedule, possibly next month, of their spring classes. That way a spring meeting time could be found.

   b. Update – Governing Documents

   Wong defined the AS Charter, AS Constitution, and the Senate Bylaws. She hopes all the documents are up to date by year's end. On the AS Constitution, Wong informs there is no group work being done on it. Wong also informs the Senate that she and Keara Ryan have submitted their final revisions for the AS Charter and are waiting on Melynda Huskey's response.

   c. Long-Range Calendar

   Wong presented a Calendar with all the documents that will be presented at future meetings and other important meetings for winter and spring quarter.

   d. OSE Recognition Resolution

   Wong explains that the resolution asks the university to recognize an Operational Student Employee Union. WWU doesn’t have to because there is no law telling them to do so. Wong continued to explain what the resolution requested of WWU.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS – Senate*

IX. SENATE REPORTS

Dinh is still working on Arbitrary Borders. Condon is working on a disability access listening session with Freidman. Him and Duong have been talking about working with Woodring's embedded therapist for a de-stress session during finals week. Johnson is working on Lobby Day, and says the hours spent on lobbying are paid but not the training portion. Moreno helped launch the WWU Entrepreneurship Club at his college. Durbin is hoping to meet with their College's Dean more this quarter. She also wants to appoint students for the PEJ taskforce. She would like it if they were elected officials so they can get paid. Wong was in a budget committee today and reported there is work on getting more transparency on where money is going. She also says AS Executive Board approved a resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. Thompson is still working on their food security project and would like the bookstore to sell staple foods. They also interviewed students from the College of the Environment. Thompson is also working with clubs from their college to get funding so they can go to conferences. Esteves introduced herself to the Senate as the new Graduate Senator.
Hardgrove is working on organizing ADEI resources for the CSE website and working on finding someone to oversee the relationship between faculty and student ambassadors.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Friedman asked the Senators to fill out a survey asking their availability/work hours.

Adjournment: Gabe Wong, AS Senate President, adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.
I. CHARGE

The purpose of the Associated Students Finance Council is to:

The purpose of the AS Finance Council is to serve as a central body in responsibly managing AS funds.

The Finance Council shall have the authority to:

- Review and approve AS grant proposals up to $50,000 to be funded from AS Reserves. (AS Grants over $50,000 to require AS Executive Board, AS Student Senate, and Fund Financial Manager approval.)
- Review and approve Large Event proposals funded from AS Reserves.
- Revise and approve AS fiscal policies.
- Propose the AS Operating budget to be submitted to the Services and Activities Fee Committee. Discuss and approve a recommended AS Operating Budget. This Recommended Budget is subject to approval by the AS Student Senate and AS Executive Board, the AS Fund Financial Manager (or designee), the S&A Fee Committee, and the WWU Board of Trustees.

The Finance Council has the responsibility to:

- Present the recommended AS Operating Budget and grant proposals over $50,000 per year to the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate approve as Consent Items and to the Fund Financial Manager for approval.
- Present the recommended AS Operating Budget to the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate as Information Items.
- Keep the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate aware of significant decisions under consideration.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Voting:

AS President or delegated Vice President (Vice Chair)
AS Student Senate President or delegated Student Senator
1 Student At-Large (appointed by the AS Business Director)
1-2 Club Members (AS and/or ESC) to represent the Club area (appointed by the AS Business Director)
1 AS Employee from the following central service programs:
   Communications, Business Office, Personnel, Publicity Center, Wavelength (appointed by the Assistant Director for Student Activities and Media)
1 AS Employee from the following activities programs: Productions, Club Activities, KUGS FM, Office of Civic Engagement, Outdoor Center (appointed by the Assistant Director for Student Activities and Media)

**Non-voting:**
AS Business Director (Chair)  
AS/VU Business Services Manager (Advisor)  
AS Fund Financial Manager  
Viking Union Staff (Fiscal Support) Secretary

### III. CHAIR

The Chairperson shall be the AS Business Director. They shall convene the meetings, develop agendas, and preside at all meetings. The Vice Chairperson shall be the AS President.

### IV. MEETINGS

Meetings shall be called by the Chair. The council shall generally meet every other week with a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours’ notice. Meetings may also be called by any member with the 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 at least four affirmative votes. An abstention shall not count as a legal vote cast. In the case of a tie, the AS Business Director shall act as a voting member. The council shall only vote electronically if action is required before the next available meeting time.

### 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, or when the council is not in session, this council’s responsibilities fall to the AS Business Director, AS President, and AS Student Senate President to approve time sensitive funding up to $19,999, up to $50,000, in consultation with the Business Manager and Assistant Director for Business Services & Planning, AS Fund Financial Manager or designee.

### VII. FUNDING

It shall be the responsibility of this council to recommend the annual AS Operating Budget to the AS Executive Board, and the AS Student Senate, and the Fund Financial Manager for submission to the S&A Fee Committee. The council will also review and approve funding for Large Events and AS Grants (under up to over $50,000 requires additional approval) and Large Events.
VIII. SUBCOMMITTEES
In order to provide for coordination and direction, the council may establish subcommittees as necessary. Unless otherwise noted, these groups shall follow the provisions of the council with respect to procedure.

IX. RULES OF OPERATIONS
The council may adopt and amend rules of operations governing its operation by a majority vote of the council, subject to review and approval by the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate.

X. AMENDMENTS
This Charter may be amended by a majority vote of the Finance Council and consent of the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate.

XI. REPORTING
This committee shall prepare regular reports for the AS Executive Board and AS Student Senate, though to be presented by the AS President and AS Student Senate President.

XII. DISSOLUTION
The AS Finance Council is a permanent council of the Associated Students of Western Washington University. After input from Staff and Finance Council, the AS Finance Council may be dissolved by a 2/3 majority vote of both the AS Executive Board and the AS Student Senate, the [Leadership Group], and with final approval from the Fund Financial Manager.
Committee Appointments

FROM: Gabe Wong, Senate President
TO: The Student Senate
DATE: 1/23/2024

Proposed Motions:

1. **Appointment of Matt Condon to the Elections Advisory Committee**
   Matt asked to be on the EAC as early fall quarter and he's already working with the EAC chair to facilitate scheduling. The EAC chair wants the EAC seated as quickly as possible.

2. **Appointment of Ellen Esteves to the Graduate Faculty Governance Council**
   The Graduate Faculty Governance Council currently has 2 vacancies for graduate students appointed by the ASWWU. Historically the GFGC has filled those seats with the graduate school student senators. The Chair of GFGC and Ellen are ok with this appointment.

3. **Appointment of Gabe Wong to the Student Advisory Committee as Chair**
   The resignation of our previous SAC Chair from the student senate means that there is no one working on convening the SAC. I don't believe that any other member of the senate has the capacity to take on SAC Chair but am open to tabling this appointment to a later date so we can have other candidates show interest.

   A key issue for me is that the longer the SAC says un-convened, the less time it has to have an impact this year.
Student Union Advisory Group (SUAG)

Greg McBride
Interim Director VU Facilities
Student Union Advisory Group Information

• What is the goal of SUAG?
  o Provides advisement to Viking Union leadership in the management of the Viking Union building and Lakewood watersports facility. The SUAG includes students and staff to get a broad range of perspective from our University Community

• What does SUAG do in each meeting?
  o The SUAG team will have a couple of orientation meetings at the beginning and then review the 2024-2025 budget, fee recommendations, capital and non-operating priorities, and review other components of our operation.
Student Union Advisory Group Information

- What kind of preparation is needed for each SUAG meeting?
  - Not much other than being thoughtful about how our Union facilities can best serve all students on campus. There isn’t much homework and gathering and bringing in perspectives into the decision making is a goal for this group.

- What kind of work will you do if you serve on SUAG?
  - Mostly reviewing and providing feedback on presentations of budget, and strategic priorities. There may be “subcommittees” of SUAG that may take more time if members want to engage in some topics more deeply like facility planning, vendors row, etc.
Student Union Advisory Group (SUAG)

- **Committee Meeting Time:** TBD 2-3 times per quarter
- **Weekly work load:** Meetings would be 1-1.5 hours long

If you are interested, please contact Greg McBride at the in for below with your name, preferred pronouns, and a sentence or two about why you want to be on the SUAG.

Greg McBride

[Email: mcbridg@wwu.edu](mailto:mcbridg@wwu.edu)

Or Teams message: Greg McBride
The Faculty Senate Library Committee (SLC) is seeking input to help inform our work for the year. To that end, we hope you will share your thoughts in response to two brief questions. Your answers will assist SLC in better understanding library needs across disciplines and colleges. This critical context, combined with input from the Western Libraries and information from other library-related committees and discussion groups, will shape our agenda and help us establish achievable and meaningful committee goals for the year.

Responses will be anonymized before they are shared with the committee, and any publicly posted summaries of the feedback will be aggregated by theme before being shared. We are hoping to receive your response by Friday, January 26. Feel free to reach out to me, SLC Chair Blanca Aranda (arandab@wwu.edu), or Vice Chair Madeline Kelly (kellym24@wwu.edu) with questions and thoughts.

Questions for Students:

1. What are the top 3 library services* that have been most helpful to you in your time at Western? Please rank them, with 1 being the most important, and if possible, share a few thoughts about the impact these services have had.

2. What 1 or 2 services* would you like to see the library add or change?

*Western Libraries provides a broad array of collections, services, and spaces to support the university community. These include:

- **Accessing graduate student services** (e.g., consulting with the Graduate Studio; attending library events focused on Graduate Students; working in the Grad Hub space; connecting with grad student services through the Grad Hub)
- **Connecting with the Hacherl Research & Writing Studio** (e.g., visiting the Studio for research and writing support; meeting with a Studio Partner; submitting a paper, question, or other assignment online for feedback)
- **Engaging with Archives and Special Collections** (e.g., using primary sources from Special Collections, Archives, or the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies; class visits to Special Collections, Archives, or the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies)
- **Interacting with librarians (Subject Teams)** (e.g., attending/scheduling a Getting Started, Finding & Using, and/or Revising & Editing workshop; consulting on copyright; exploring resources to expand and enhance research and writing assignments)
- **Library collections** (e.g., checking out physical materials; using online articles and eBooks; course reserves; consulting with librarians about library collections; requesting new books, media, or subscriptions; borrowing materials through ILL or Summit)
- **Using library spaces** (e.g., attending public events held in the library, using library spaces for research, leisure, or studying)
- **Using the Tutoring Center** (e.g., attending a study group session; visiting the center for math, science, or other tutoring support; attending a class study skills presentation or study skills appointment)
- **Writing Instruction Support** (e.g., attending a writing retreat; meeting with library faculty/staff to consult about writing instruction practices and writing proficiency queries)
- **Other** (e.g., taking for-credit classes through the library; online tutorials through the library website; other)
AS Senate Budget Proposal FY25

SPONSOR: Gabe Wong, Senate President
DATE: 7/5/2023

Unfortunately, I don’t have concrete numbers to share for our budget proposal so instead I’ll be presenting the main ideas around budgeting for the next fiscal year (FY25: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025).

In general,
- AS Finance has asked budget authorities to budget 48 hours of training for each AS Staff Position
- AS Finance has indicated the need to revise budgets for each Fast Index to reflect accurate expense predictions (e.g. event hosting, etc. for FXXSSN)

Specifically,
- Adam hopes to adjust the distribution of SGA time. There would be 5 total SGAs:
  o 1 dedicated AS Exec
  o 1 dedicated AS Senate
  o 1 dedicated LAC/Lobby Day planning support
  o 2 combined support for additional committees.
- We will budget for max allowable weekly per position (e.g. 10hrs/week per Senator)
- We will budget for the actual calculated number of weeks based on the 24/25 academic calendar.
- We will budget for a limited number of hours during Winter Break for intersession work using the estimate of 5 hours of work per senator over intersession.

Some administrative and material changes,
- Moving the Senate President and Senate SGA Salaries to FXXSSN (these are currently housed in FXXBAD, or the Executive Board’s budget)
- Adding 5hrs/week budget capacity for Senate Vice Chair role when appointed.
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Process

The purpose of the annual budget is to support ASWWU Programs and Services that allow for students in their endeavors to increase the quality of campus life and learning.

The Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) will develop the recommended Fiscal Year 2025 (2024-2025 academic year) budget based on written proposals and information submitted by ASWWU Budget Authorities. In recent years budget requests far exceed the total amount of funding available. This year, Budget Authorities are being asked to deeply review and right size budgets to reflect the amount of funding that is needed to maintain programs and services. In the past few years, in spite of budget requests exceeding the funding available, there were funds remaining in the operating budget. The goal this year is to right size the budgets in order to accommodate the mandatory increases, grants ending, and to inch closer to a balanced budget.

Budget Proposals will be reviewed by Business Director and VU Fiscal Analyst for consistency, errors, or vague justifications. They may reach out to you with questions and clarifications. Proposals will then be reviewed by Dr. Fred & Cynthia from an Organizational, ADEI, and Assessment lens. When budgets have been reviewed and approved to move forward the budget proposals will be presented to the AS Finance Council for review and comment. The AS Finance Council, in their role as an advisory council of students, will ask questions to ultimately form their recommendations. From there, the recommended budget is presented to the AS Executive Board and the ASWWU Student Senate for final approval. This final budget will be presented to WWU Services & Activities Fee Committee.

If, at any time in the process, there are major concerns or recommended changes, Budget Authorities will be informed and may be asked to engage in further discussion, clarification, review, or modification of the budget proposals.

**Timeline**

**Winter Quarter 2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 12th</td>
<td>- Budget Authority Meeting to discuss Finance Council Values and Rubric, State of the AS, mandatory increases next year, and the budget process - Proposal templates available to Budget Authorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29th</td>
<td>- Submit Budget Proposals by typing your signature at the bottom of each budget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| January 30th – February 20th | - Budgets reviewed by Business Director and VU Fiscal Analyst for consistency, errors, or vague justifications.  
- Budgets reviewed by Dr. Fred & Cynthia from an Organizational, ADEI, and Assessment lens. |
| February 15th – March 14th | - AS Finance Council reviews AS Budget proposals, Budget Authorities attend meeting(s) |

**Spring Quarter 2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>AS Budget Proposals submitted to Services &amp; Activities Fee Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2nd – 15th</td>
<td>AS Finance Council completes review process; and recommends 2024 AS Budget to ASWWU Executive Board and Student Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16th – 28th</td>
<td>ASWWU Executive Board and Student Senate review and approve 2024 AS Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1st</td>
<td>Final approved AS Budget Allocations available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WWU Assumption and Directives for Budget Authorities

This will be a challenging year from a revenue and expense perspective. There are many expense impacts that were unplanned, there are still many unknowns, and there are real effects of inflation. We are asking Budget Authorities to critically engage in the process this year. The AS is currently operating with a structural deficit. This year we will all be held accountable for right sizing our budgets using past spending and current trends.

There are many mandatory increases and organizational directives to consider when preparing Budget Proposals.

FY 24 Planning Assumptions – Incremental Cost Factors and Changes

1. Wages/benefits
   a. For FY25, classified staff will receive a 3% across the board legislative increase. Pro-staff will receive a 4% increase (3% legislative and 1% local). Pro-staff will also be moved from 90% to 95% of their step placement. This is an estimated $57,000 increase.
   b. Overtime eligible threshold has increased to $67,724.80 and will increase to $78,249.60 on January 2025. Budgets need to include potential overtime for all overtime-eligible positions. This is an estimated $2,500 increase.
   c. Beginning in FY25, healthcare rates are expected to increase to $1,191 per month per employee ($552 per year per employee). This is an estimated $8,280 increase.
   d. WA Minimum wage as of January 1, 2024 is $16.28. As of May 2024, Bellingham minimum wage will be $1 above this level. For FY25 budgets- minimum wage is set at $17.28. Please assume a 4% increase for student staff wages starting January 1, 2025 (actual rate announced in October 2024). Budget Proposals now include a 3rd calculator to account for the May 1st 2025 change to $2 above minimum wage. This is an estimated $70,000 increase.

2. Programs/Operations/Good/Services

Use an inflationary factor of up to 4% on non-salary expenses if you have noticed or been informed of an increase in expenses. (Know that with the increases to wages and benefits and the fact that the S&A fee can only be raised by 4%, at this point we are asking that known increases are included in Budget Proposals (for example if a subscription service is increasing), but all other expenses should be at carry forward.)

FY24 Directives to Budget Authorities – Right-sizing our budgets

1. Structural Deficit Reduction:
   a. Analyze each major area of spending and determine where we have a history of over-budgeting, work to right-size those areas.
   b. Pay particular attention to variable costs (number of hours of student employment, programmatic spending, etc.) and determine the areas to right-size based on historical trends and future predictions.
   c. Are there areas of revenue generation that we should engage/re-engage (for instance ticketing or costs for participation in certain activities)?
2. **Efficiencies & Innovation:**
   These processes should not only be reductive but should be done with an eye toward future opportunities.
   a. Are there areas of work we should emphasize AND are there those we no longer need to/should be funding? Make those suggestions and analyze budget impacts for those.
   b. Are there shifts that allow for efficiencies in operations or program costs? Personnel costs?
   c. Are there partnered programs that offer efficiency and effectiveness in our work?
   d. Are there new or evolving areas of focus that we should invest in (time/talent/etc.)?

**Grants Ending**

Two staff positions (OC Programs Coordinator and Club Activities Manager) need to be added to the Operating Budget this year, this will be an increase of approximately $150,000. It may be partially covered by restructuring in different areas, but it will be a significant increase.

**Mandatory Increase Projections:** At this point, we project the increases this year to impact the budget by about $180,000. The budget passed last year was $114,343 over budgeted. If the budget is just a carry forward, adding in the projected increases and the assumption that Services & Activities approve a 4% increase, the AS would be about $188,000 in expenses over the expected revenue (over budgeted). If there is no increase in the fee the AS would be about $300,000 in expenses over revenue (over budgeted).

**Resources:**

2024 Rates and Fees: [https://sbo.wwu.edu/files/2023-06/20232024%20Approved%20Tuition%20and%20Fee%20Chart.pdf](https://sbo.wwu.edu/files/2023-06/20232024%20Approved%20Tuition%20and%20Fee%20Chart.pdf)

WWU Mission and Strategic Plan: [https://president.wwu.edu/mission-strategic-plan](https://president.wwu.edu/mission-strategic-plan)

Enrollment and Student Services Mission-goals-Values: [https://vpess.wwu.edu/vision-mission-goals-values](https://vpess.wwu.edu/vision-mission-goals-values)

Viking Union Visions-Mission-Values: [https://vu.wwu.edu/core-beliefs](https://vu.wwu.edu/core-beliefs)
A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Sen. J.Res. 2023/24-02

“Recognize and Negotiate with WAWU Operational Student Employees”

WHEREAS, operational student employees – custodians, clerks, program support staff, resident advisors, photographers, laborers, and others who do similar work – do critical work across Western Washington University (Western) including keeping students safe, facilities running, and maintaining programs and services; and

WHEREAS, a majority of operational student employees (OSEs) working for Western Washington University have authorized Western Academic Workers United / United Auto Workers (WAWU-UAW) to represent them in collective bargaining [1]; and

WHEREAS, WAWU-UAW has filed a representation petition with the Public Employment Relations Commission [2]; and

WHEREAS, WAWU-UAW has requested that Western Washington University voluntarily recognize the OSE bargaining unit [1]; and

WHEREAS, every on-campus union – WFSE Local 1381, PSE of WWU / SEIU Local 1948, UFWW / WEA/AFT Local 2084, and WAWU / UAW Local 4121 – has demanded that Western Washington University recognizes the OSE bargaining unit [3]; and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University is capable of voluntarily recognizing the OSE bargaining unit; and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University is capable of negotiating over OSE working conditions; and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University already has a relationship with WAWU-UAW; and

WHEREAS, the Western Washington University Board of Trustees approved the Western Washington University Strategic Plan for 2018 through 2025 [4]; and

WHEREAS, within this Western’s 2018–2025 strategic plan, the Board of Trustees asserts its plan to advance Western by “Improving climate and working conditions for student employees, staff, and
WHEREAS, the voluntary recognition of the OSE bargaining unit is in the best interest of Western Washington University, OSEs, the membership of the ASWWU, and the public; and

THAT, the ASWWU supports SB 5895; and

THAT, the ASWWU requests that Western Washington University

1. also clearly, and publicly support SB 5895,
2. respects the wishes of its faculty and staff,
3. acts in accordance with its strategic plan,
3.4. immediately recognizes the OSE bargaining unit,
4.5. begins negotiating with WAWU-UAW OSEs, and
5.6. formally responds to the ASWWU’s above requests.

Introduced Jan. 10, 2023, in the Student Senate.
Introduced Jan 18, 2023, in the Executive Board, with amendment.
Considered Jan. 24, in the Student Senate, with additional amendment.

cc: Marcy Hammer, Director of Employee and Labor Relations
Sabah Randhawa, President
Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General
WWU Students, Staff, and Faculty


Associated Students of
Western Washington University
WWU Student Government
Charter
2010 Charter (Transcribed) Revised 2023

Preamble

We, the students of Western Washington University, have the right and responsibility to achieve a system of shared governance of the university. The Associated Students of Western Washington University is the body created to represent students for this purpose. For this purpose the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU), as defined by this Charter, is established. The ASWWU will:

- Represent student interests and opinions to the University Administration, Board of Trustees, and appropriate governmental agencies,
- Fosters students’ rights and responsibilities participation and inclusion of the student body in university governance and operations as appropriate,
- Promote the general welfare of students
- Establish channels of communication within the University
- Communicates with the ASWWU membership about institutional matters which affect them.
- Represent student interests and opinions to the University Administration, Board of Trustees, and appropriate governmental agencies.

Article 1 – Membership

1.1. Western Washington University recognizes the ASWWU as the sole recognized student association of Western Washington University.

1.2. The voting membership of the ASWWU shall include all full-time, part-time, graduate, and undergraduate students who are registered for at least minimum of one academic credit at Western Washington University any WWU location where students pay Services and Activities Fees. Only voting members of ASWWU may vote in student government elections.

1.3. The ASWWU may only be abolished by a vote of the membership of ASWWU. In such case, the powers established in this charter become null and void at the end of the academic year in which the vote is held.

Article 2 – Recognition

2.1. The ASWWU shall be the officially recognized student government association of Western Washington University and as the governing body of the ASWWU, with the privileges associated with this recognition provided to the Board of Trustees and state legislature.

2.2. The ASWWU’s shall derive its authority to participate in the shared governance of the University from the through the AS Student Government is established by the President of Western Washington University, with the consent of the ASWWU membership, and registered by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University.

2.3. The AS Student Government may only be abolished by a vote of the membership of the ASWWU. In such case, the powers established in this charter become null and void at the end of the academic year in which the vote is held.
All amendments to this Charter must be approved by the ASWWU Board of Directors and the University President.

**Article 3 – Responsibilities**

**ASWWU Student Government Duties**

3.1. The AS Student Government, as the primary representative of the students, shall make every effort to meet the needs and concerns of the students through participation in shared governance and representation to appropriate governmental agencies.

3.2. The AS Student Government membership shall hold annual elections open to all members of ASWWU for the purpose of selecting representatives and deciding referenda on matters of importance to the student body.

3.3. The AS Student Government shall consult with and report to any university bodies on matters of concern to students.

3.4. The AS Student Government shall make every effort to encourage student involvement in the development of university institutional policies which impact students.

3.5. The AS Student Government shall inform the university community of actions taken by the ASWWU Student Government.

3.6. The ASWWU Student Government shall have the authority to adopt bylaws and establish structures, as necessary, to govern its organization and structure, carry out its responsibilities in a manner consistent with this charter and the policies, regulations, and procedures of the University. It shall review those bylaws and structures at least every 5 years.

The Board of Directors are elected:

- a. To serve as the representative of the ASWWU to the Board of Trustees through the President, University Administration, Faculty Senate, State of Washington and other entities as necessary
- b. To make every effort to encourage student involvement in the development of university policies
- c. To consult with and report to any university bodies on matters of concern to students
- d. To be aware of university actions concerning students
- e. To inform the university community of actions taken by the ASWWU

**Article 4 – Granted Authorities**

The ASWWU Student Government shall be granted the authority to fulfill its responsibilities, duties within the provisions set forth herein in this charter and to act in any University-related matter not specified within the constraints of University regulations, policies, and procedures. In addition, the ASWWU Student Government shall also have the following granted special authorities:

4.1. With regard to student fees, the AS Student Government has the authority to:

- a. To administer and appropriate Ensure that monies allocated to the ASWWU Student Government by the Services and Activities Fee Committee are used to ensure support continuous, safe, and efficient operations, consistent with federal, state, and university policy.
- b. To obtain and review information made available on the affairs of the University
- c. To be included in the development of recommendations for the allocation of University funds
d. To appoint student representatives to standing University committees, and other bodies upon request.

- b. To be consulted with and be given reasonable opportunity to provide recommendations regarding any increases and/or renewals of all mandatory and voluntary student fees.
- c. To hold elections to determine changes to or establishment of voluntary student fees.
- d. To be provided by the University Administration Review all information pertaining to the expenditure and usage of student fee dollars.
To have a majority of student voting membership on fee committees overseeing mandatory and voluntary student fees, with the exception of operating and building fees.

To reserve the right to appoint a student chair, in consultation with the concurrence of the University President or designee, on all committees overseeing and appropriating mandatory and voluntary student fee dollars, with the exception of operating and building fees.

To employ students and staff in a manner consistent with those articles, regulations, policies and procedures of the University.

To allow the ASWWU Board of Directors to make decisions in creating and overseeing a program of student activities and services. These decisions may be reviewed by the University President or their designee.

4.2. To fulfill its administrative responsibilities, the AS Student Government has the authority to:

a. Obtain and review information made available on the affairs of the University.

b. At the request of University committee chairs, appoint student representatives to standing University committees, and other bodies upon request.

c. Allocate funds to support the employment of students and permanent staff in a manner as needed to fulfill the goals and maintain the operations of the AS Student Government, consistent with those articles, the regulations, policies and procedures of the University.

d. Manage its allocated funds in accordance with regulations, policies, and procedures of the university and with fiduciary responsibility on behalf of students.

e. The ASWWU acts in partnership with the administration through involvement in the development and recommendation of general policy for the bookstore in addition to participating in the management of the AS Cooperative Bookstore.

Article V—Agreements

Section 1
The ASWWU acts in partnership with the administration through involvement in the development and recommendation of general policy for the bookstore in addition to managing the net operating revenues of the AS Cooperative Bookstore.

Section 2
The Viking Union shall serve as the primary facility, provided by the University, for the ASWWU and its operations. The Viking Union will, in good faith, consult with the ASWWU regarding changes to the facility and operations of the Viking Union.

Section 3
The ASWWU may only be abolished by a vote of the membership of ASWWU. In such case the powers given herein become null and void.

Article VI—Bylaws and Amendments

The ASWWU shall have the authority to adopt bylaws, as necessary, to govern its organization and structure in a manner consistent with this charter and the policies, regulations, and procedures of the University. All amendments to this Charter must be approved by the ASWWU Board of Directors and the University President.