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Western Washington University Associated Students
Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 25th, 2023  5:30 p.m.  VU 567/Teams Town Hall

Present: Keara Ryan, Gabe Wong, Erin Godwin, Morgan Whitt, Liam Pratt, Sophie Snyder, Sebastian Mayotte

Absent: None
Advisor: Leona Friedman
Secretary: Rachel Kleffman
Guests: None

MOTIONS

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<td>ASB-23-W-43</td>
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Call to Order: Keara Ryan, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

II. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

  a. Meeting Minutes from January 18th, 2024  5 minutes (Doc 1) Ryan
     - Change bill from “SB 59999” to “SB 5999”
     - Specify “Western Intersectional Lobby Day” instead of “Lobby Day.”
     - On the Office of Civic Engagement Resolution Draft language in the first bullet point should be changed to “bargaining unit.”

  b. At-large Committee Appointments  5 minutes
     Ryan
     - There are three At-Large applicants for the Student Grievance Board. With these applicants, five out of the six undergraduate student seats will be filled.
     - Two of the students are part of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences while the other student is part of the College of Environment.
       - These two students from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences will lead to a total of three students from the college on the Board. Considering that it is the biggest college on campus, they come from varying academic backgrounds despite falling under the same college.
     - A candidate for the Sustainability, Equity & Justice fund is replacing a previous candidate. They are majoring in Environmental Studies and have current and past committee experience.

  c. Finance Council Charge & Charter  5 minutes (Doc 2) Ryan
- Fund Financial Manager has been added to the Charge and Charter.
  o All budgetary items are approved by the Executive Board, Senate, and the
    Fund Financial Manager.
- For Disillusion, approval goes through the Associated Students Leadership
  Group.
- Wong: This passed in its current form through the Student Senate last night.
  o In Section VI. Quorum: The restriction of funding looks like it has been
    struck out, but it’s not a material change because that information is
    present in Section I. Charge.

### MOTION: To Approve Consent Items with Stated Amendments

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

None.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

- Chair Report
  5 minutes  Ryan
  - The Board of Trustees report is due on January 30th.
  - Everything for the Communications AS newsletter is due on January 28th.
  - Snyder, Whitt, and Ryan have found time to work on the Narcan project to make a
    survey for students and to ensure that there is more access to Narcan on campus.
  - The Outback Task Force has also found a time to meet.
  - Ryan was added into a group chat with all student lobbyists and AS presidents to
    be updated on bills.
- Senate President Report
  5 minutes  Snyder
  - The Emergency Management Committee has been discussing how successful the
    alerts are and what can be changed.
  - The Emergency Management website has been revamped.
    o There will be a shift from the LiveSafe App to AppArmor.
    o There are five blue light phones not working on campus that may be
      decommissioned instead of replaced.
- Wong: When LiveSafe was introduced, there was concern for students due to the
  police aspect of the app. Is that something that has been in consideration with this?
- Snyder: I will bring those concerns when we meet next. It will probably be in about
  a month.
- Vice President Report
  5 minutes  Godwin
- Western Intersectional Lobby Day closed submission forms for the event on January 23rd. As of January 25th, there were 83 people signed up with a capacity of 77, which means there is a small waitlist.
  
  o Godwin is working on an email to send out to people who signed up with details about the itinerary and drafted agenda.
  o They are also working on setting up meetings with legislators.

- Godwin spoke to Wendy Johnson from Event Services to cancel an event that didn’t receive publicity. The event has been postponed until March.

- Vice President Report
  
  - The EDM club on campus is having a concert in Viking Union.
    
    o They’re hoping to make a profit to sustain themselves.

- Dead Parrots Society is putting on a festival at the end of the quarter.

- The Activities Council met this week, and they made some adjustments as to how they’re operating.
  
  o They are no longer funding food.

- Mayotte is meeting the Outback Task force on January 26th.

- Advisor Report
  
  - None.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests*
  None presented.

VI. ACTION ITEMS – Guests
  None presented.

VII. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)
  None presented.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*
  - WILD 2024 Legislative Agenda 20 minutes (Doc 6) Godwin
  - There was feedback for the WILD 2024 Legislative Agenda about formatting.
    
    o After adjustments, there are issue areas that have short paragraphs underneath to connect to Western Washington University students.
- Godwin: Should we have a conclusion that is summing things up saying thank you for your time? I am also wondering how involved or detailed we want this agenda to be.
- Ryan: You can look at previous agendas to get ideas. In the past we have quoted some data. It depends on if it’s for the legislator or the students.
  o I don’t know how we are defining intersectionality. The agenda doesn’t read intersectional to me. We aren’t addressing some really important areas with all the bills that were removed from the agenda, such as ensuring abortion pills on campus, the equal pay act, removing gender terms from the constitution, mental health treatment, firearms, human trafficking and exploitation.
- Godwin: I have been in communication with Stella Seth, who was an advocate for cutting down the length. It’s hard to make a direct connection between every issue to a student issue.
- Ryan: There are some bills that directly impact students, such as updating the protected classes in The Equal Pay and Opportunities Act, accessing abortion pills on campus at a reduced cost, and funding for resources at the Counseling and Wellness center and Disability Access Center.
- Godwin: I agree abortion pills are a big issue. I don’t necessarily want to take away time from these issues that are important. My main priority is the time and resources we can dedicate to specific topics.

**MOTION:** To Extend WILD 2024 Legislative Agenda Information Item by 10 Minutes

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<td>Ryan</td>
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**Vote Count:**

| Aye: 7 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: 0 |

**Action Result:**

Passed

- Wong: It’s important that ideas keep showing up so that legislators don’t forget about it. It’s important to have long-term goals.
- Whitt: For the conclusion, I think it would be more impactful to move the request for money for the Ethnic Student Center and Disability Access Center to the Health and Wellness section.
- Wong: It is important for us to clearly say whether we support or don’t support a specific bill. There should also be two different documents, one for legislators and one for students that contains more information.

- WWU Foundation’s Response to Divestment Resolution 10 minutes (Doc 4)  Pratt
  - WWU’s Foundation responded to the Divestment Resolution by saying they plan on expanding their website to share information about sustainable investing.
That is similar to what Ryan and Pratt were previously told in a meeting in October.

- The Foundation also denied students representation by saying “The Foundation Board’s Finance Committee will not be seeking outside involvement in the industry review process.”
  - In 2018, students were allowed to be involved in that process.

- Pratt plans on saying something to the Board of Trustees about this general update.

IX. Action Items- Board*
- Student Government Charter
  - The preamble defines Student Governance instead of an all-encompassing ASWWU.
  - In Article 1 – ASWWU, the wording was changed to reference ASWWU as sole recognized student association of Western Washington University.
    - Instead of including all WWU locations in voting membership, the Charter now says “any WWU location where students pay the Services and Activities Fees.”
  - In article 2 – ASWWU Student Government, the document clarifies our role within the AS Student Government and adds a section about abolishment.
  - In Article 3 – ASWWU Student Government Duties, the document now states that the Student Government will be addressing and viewing its structures every 5 years.
  - In Article 4 – Granted Authorities, there is now less Student Government power and control over the bookstore. This section also moves the Student Government away from the Board of Directors model toward a model currently being used.
  - The Charter has been approved by the Student Senate and will be signed on February 1st if passed.

**MOTION:** To Approve Student Government Charter

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- OSE Recognition Resolution Draft
  - The OSE Recognition Resolution Draft was approved by the Student Senate on January 24th.
  - There is a portion added that asks that Administration supports SB 5895 which is the bill clarifies collective bargaining authority.

- Additions to the beginning of the document with quotes from Western’s response to Western Academic Workers United.
- Added that the ASWWU supports SB 5895.

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X. Other Business

None.

Adjourn: The Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.
Western Washington University Associated Students Executives Board Meeting Minutes
February 1st, 2023 5:30 p.m. VU 567/Teams Town Hall

Present: Keara Ryan, Gabe Wong, Erin Godwin, Morgan Whitt, Liam Pratt, Sophie Snyder, Sebastian Mayotte

Absent: None

Advisor: Adam Lorio
Secretary: Rachel Kleffman
Guests: Stella Seth, Dibora Markos

MOTIONS
None

Call to Order: Keara Ryan, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA
None.

II. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)
None.

III. PUBLIC FORUM (comments from students and the community)
   - Dibora Markos works in the Black Student Coalition as the Retention Director. She works to make sure black students have enough resources to graduate college. She has also been part of the Legislative Affairs Committee since Fall Quarter 2023.
     o Dibora feels that the agenda addresses key issues that someone who has a marginalized identity would experience, and she really enjoyed working on it. The agenda did a good job of addressing financial aid, employment, and housing.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS
   - Chair Report 5 minutes Ryan
   - The February 9th ASWWU Report to the WWU Board of Trustees has been submitted.
     o The report touches on editing Student Government documents, Western Intersectional Lobby Day, and the Foundation’s continued investment in fossil fuels.
- Administration is aware of the issues Chartwells has been experiencing. They are addressing these issues at the highest level.
  - Due to this, there will be updates and changes made. Dining halls will now always have pizza, chicken nuggets, fries, and the dietary stations will be stocked with the correct dietary necessities. There will now be labels with ingredients for dietary restrictions.

- The ASWWU Government Charter was signed February 1st, and everyone was forwarded the finished document. Ryan thanks those who were part of the Charter editing taskforce.

- Michael Sledge will be visiting the February 8th Executive Board meeting to give updates on basic needs and basic need initiatives on campus.

- Lorio: Western’s administration is aware of Chartwells issues and are taking it seriously. There is a list of corrective actions and expectations shared by the administration of Chartwells with the expectation that they will step up. Dining service is a critical service to our students, and it’s being fully addressed.

- **Vice President Report** 5 minutes  Wong

- Wong attended the Faculty Senate meeting on January 29th.
  - During Western Washington University’s six-year evaluation regional accreditors raised concerns about Western not having explicit protections for academic freedom for students.
  - An item before the Faculty Senate was to amend one of the appendices of the catalog to include academic freedom protections for students.
    - There will be more discussion surrounding the topic within the Faculty Senate. Due to that, a statement about academic freedom has been pulled from the February Board of Trustees meeting to be presented during the April meeting instead.

- Wong met with Brad Johnson to talk about the process of academic freedom.

- The Student Senate is working on amending their bylaws. They are starting to dig into membership and accountability.

- The Student Tech Fee Initiatives Committee has started meeting. They will be reviewing tech abstracts.
  - The committee is still looking for At-Large students. There is one application and three seats open.

- **Vice President Report** 5 minutes  Pratt

- The Sustainability, Equity, & Justice Fund (SEJF) has six or seven large grants being planned, which should improve sustainability, equity, and justice on campus.
- Western Washington University is hosting The Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) in March.
  o They are in the early stages of planning a preconference meeting.

- Pratt met with Steve Hollenhorst, who is the Vice President for Facilities, and Teena Gabrielson, who is the Dean of the College of The Environment, to see where they’re at in the Divestment effort.

- The Transportation Advisory Committee hired a new Active Transport Coordinator.

- The President’s Sustainability Council has a meeting next week where they will start reviewing sections in the Sustainability Action Plan.

- Vice President Report 5 minutes Whitt

- Compass 2 Campus programming is still going. The multicultural services are involved to have more eyes on it.

- Whitt has an Accessibility, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADEI) meeting with those at the Multicultural and Student Services to help them with student engagement this quarter. They also want feedback on events during APIDA Month and Undocu Month.

- Got into contact with the Office of Civic Engagement regarding undocumented resources.

- Whitt is helping the Latina Student Housing. It’s confirmed to roll out within the next academic year. She is going to help look over their programming.

- She is meeting with Wong about BIPOC spaces for Student Senators. This would be a space for Senators to have access to resources and form a community.

- Whitt may be joining the Power, Equity, and Justice Task Force.

- Wong: For context, the Power, Equity, and Justice Task Force is looking at GURS to figure out how to engage ideas about power, equity, and justice.
- Advisor Report

- Budgeting for Viking Union and AS Operations Offices is proceeding.
  - The extension for draft budgets to be sent to the Finance Council for review was updated to next Monday.
  - This year will be different than last year budget wise, and Lorio will collaborate with everyone to strategize and address questions.
  - The budgets don’t get finalized until May before they come to the Executive Board for final approval.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests*

- Lobbying Update from Olympia

- January 31st was the cutoff date to pass bills out of committee. The policy committee and the executive session had to receive a bill and vote on it for it to go to the fiscal committee.
- February 5th is the last day to pass bills out of a committee.
- February 13th is the last day to consider and pass a bill out of the house of origin.
  - By February 13th, every bill that is moving forward should be in the opposite house.
- A priority for students this year was SB 5999, which is the Washington College Grant. The bill had its public hearing on January 30th. They are waiting for executive action to be taken to see if it moves forward.
- SB 5904, which is in relation to extending the terms of eligibility for financial aid programs from 5 years to 6 years, had its second public hearing, and they are now waiting for executive action.
- SB 5953 had its executive session on January 24th. The bill is scheduled for a public hearing on February 2nd.
- HB 1889, which allows people to receive professional licenses and certifications regardless of immigration or citizenship status, had its executive session on January 26th and received a do pass motion, but it has been referred for a second review.
- HB 2242, which supports sexual assault survivors at institutions of higher education, received a do pass motion. It has been referred to the Appropriations Committee and is waiting for a scheduled public hearing.
- HB 2309 proposes that students who graduate high school can apply to community college or technical college within 15 months to receive 45 credits of tuition free.
  - If this bill moves forward, it could take funds that could be used for the Washington College Grant.
Pratt: you mentioned February 5th and February 13th, which one is when the bills are out of committee and will be voted on?
Seth: February 5th is when bills must pass the Policy Committee and executive session. In the Policy Committee, people testify and then Legislators vote on it to give the bill a do pass or do not pass motion. If it is passed, it moves into the Fiscal Committee. January 31st ended that first step, and we are now in the Fiscal Committee. February 5th is when bills need to go to the opposite House.

VI. ACTION ITEMS – Guests
None presented.

VII. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)
None presented.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*
- WILD 2024 Legislative Agenda 20 minutes Godwin
- The Legislative Affairs Council (LAC) voted to endorse the Western Intersectional Lobby Day (WILD) Agenda on January 31st.
- Ryan: Can you talk about what is going to happen when a bill dies. Will it be removed?
- Godwin: I discussed this topic in the emergency LAC meeting, but not in depth with the Committee. This Agenda is the version the LAC voted on and endorsed, so from my understanding it’s out of the LAC’s hands and it’s now up to the Executive Board to make decisions on what we feel should be on the WILD Agenda.
- Godwin: I had a conversation with Western’s University Lobbyist, Nora Selander. Regarding that bill that died, she thinks it reduces our credibility to have a bill that isn’t moving through the legislature as the first thing on our Agenda. She thinks we should have higher education student focused issues first.
- Ryan: Since bills will die, a good approval date for the agenda is February 8th. How would we like to move forward if a bill dies?
- Wong: I agree we shouldn’t pass this today. A dead bill hurting credibility makes sense because the Legislators may feel like they can’t do anything about it since the decision is not in their hands.
- Whitt: If a bill dies, are we able to add that to the conclusion, would that be beneficial?
- Godwin: I agree with including ideas that we support even if the bill has died. It shouldn’t be the first thing on the agenda.
- Ryan: We can go on a case-by-case basis. I think that the Centering Equity & Justice paragraph can move up with the Value Statement.
- Ryan: Why was the decision made to combine LGBTQ+ community and Reproductive Rights? I see them as two separate issues. Is there the opportunity to change that and focus more on what is impacting university campuses? College campuses getting abortion pills accessible on campus would really be beneficial.
- Wong: The clarity in the second paragraph of the agenda isn’t the best, the first statement expressing appreciation about protecting members of the LGBTQ+ community, I don’t think that’s true. Police just raided LGBTQ+ bars in Seattle.
- Ryan: It was brought up that if you’re going to be talking about the Disability Access Center (DAC) asking for funding on our campus, it doesn’t belong in the conclusion. If we are asking for something, I think it would be beneficial for it to have its own section.
- Parliamentary Procedure and Rules of Op 10 minutes Wong
- The AS Parliamentary Procedures and AS Governance Rules of Operation have passed in the Student Senate.
- A previous document titled “AS Governance Meeting Guidelines” is being changed to “AS Governance Rules of Operation”.
- The goal would be that most of the AS Committees follow some semblance of this.
- Ryan: What are your thoughts about these documents being accessible to committee members?
- Wong: Are you thinking does it read at an introductory level?
- Ryan: Yeah, we need to be aware of how we train people.

- ASWWU Constitutional Amendment 15 minutes Ryan & Wong

- Wong: The first change is adding Voting Membership to Article II. Elections. In Section B. General Elections, it states that election results will be certified by the Office of Civic Engagement rather than the Student Senate and Executive Board.
  - The document clarifies that there is an ASWWU government instead of only talking about the governing bodies separately.
  - Proposed change is to make the Executive Board President and Senate President non-voting. This is an ongoing conversation.
  - In Article V. Powers and Granted Authorities, Section B - ASWWU Government is new. This section is about what is jointly held by the Student Senate and Executive Board.
  - In Article VI. Amendments and Bylaws, Section B - Constitutional Amendments, the Board of Trustees is taken out.
- In Section C – Abolition of the whole ASWWU, this is where we can work on numbers for the threshold of getting rid of the whole Associated Students. The proposal is a majority vote of at least 10% of the voting membership of the ASWWU.
- In Section D – Abolition of the Student Government, the proposal is a majority vote of at least 5% of the membership of the ASWWU.

IX. Action Items - Board*

X. Other Business
   None.

Adjourn: The Meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.
February 7, 2024

**WWU Associated Students**

Gabe Wong, President

Associated Students of WWU
Viking Union 511-518 – MS 9106
516 High Street, Bellingham WA 98225
as.wwu.edu

Dear Associated Student Employees:

Thank you for your letter requesting support to recognize and support Western Washington University Operations Student Employees who recently submitted its representation petition to the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC).

Western Washington University (WWU) will work with PERC and the Office of the Attorney General to ensure compliance with federal and state law. PERC holds a crucial place within the state employment system with responsibilities for formally recognizing unions and defining the scope of bargaining units. Further, as you may be aware, the legislature has not passed an authorizing statute related to the collective bargaining rights of Operational Student Employees. Such legislation is essential to provide a uniform structure, as well as orderly and clearly defined procedures for collective bargaining and dispute resolution.

WWU continues to remain committed to improving the working environment of all student employees. At this time, WWU is unable to formally recognize or negotiate with this group. As this process develops, WWU looks forward to receiving guidance from PERC and potentially the state legislature regarding WAWU's petition.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Marcy Hammer

Director, Employee and Labor Relations

C: Sabah Randhawa, President
Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General
2024 Athletics Survey to be Released April or May

Students

How often do you attend Western Athletics events on campus? (e.g., volleyball, basketball, soccer)

What factors influence your decision to attend a Western Athletics event? (e.g., team performance, opponent, promotions, giveaways)

Have you participated in any student traditions associated with Western Athletics events?

Have you ever traveled to support Western Athletics teams at an away game or tournament?

How do you usually find out about upcoming sports events on campus? (e.g., social media, campus announcements, flyers)

Do you follow Western Athletics on social media? If so, what platforms do you follow Western Athletics on?

What improvements regarding Western Athletics website or social media do you think could be made?

Are there specific types of promotional events or activities that would encourage you to attend more sports events?

Do you find getting to games/transportation is easy (e.g., getting to the campus / finding parking)

Do you watch livestreamed games if you cannot attend in person? If so, how often?
A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Sen. J.Res. 2023/24-03

“Supporting Muslim Students Seeking Religious Accommodations for Ramadan”

WHEREAS, The Associated Students of Western Washington University recognizes the diverse backgrounds represented in our campus community, and

WHEREAS, the holy month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, occurs every year [1], and

WHEREAS, this month is of importance to the approximate 1.8 billion followers of Islam, including many Western Washington University students, staff, and faculty [2], and

WHEREAS, during Ramadan, Muslim students abstain from food and water from dawn to dusk, or sunrise to sunset, whilst adhering to the month’s spiritual traditions of prayer, meditation, reflection, and maintenance of good character [3, 4], and

WHEREAS, Muslim students may adhere to differing conditions in the observance of Ramadan due to cultural and religious variability [6], and

WHEREAS, fasting is a mandatory act for all Muslims who are able and fulfills one of five pillars of Islam, Sawm [1], and

WHEREAS, this act of worship takes a mental and physical toll on Muslim students that may impair day-to-day functioning, such as difficulty completing assignments, taking exams at certain times, and attending classes [7], and

WHEREAS, for many Muslim students this toll will be in addition to the mental and physical toll caused by the catastrophic Israeli siege on Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem in Palestine, and

WHEREAS, for many Muslim students these tolls are in addition to the mental and physical toll caused by the continued and lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including long-COVID, and

WHEREAS, Muslim students may experience food insecurity due to the limited availability of dining options that recognize and accommodate the observance of Ramadan [4], and

WHEREAS, there is mental, spiritual, and physical risk to Muslim students observing Ramadan in Bellingham due to a recognized history of Islamophobia [8], and

WHEREAS, there has been an acute rise in Islamophobia and racism in Bellingham and at Western that has placed additional mental, spiritual, and physical risk on our Muslim students, and

WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr, a three-day holiday of celebration with friends and families occurs directly after Ramadan [5], and

WHEREAS, Ramadan may be difficult for Muslim students who are away from their families, and

WHEREAS, in this context, the ASWWU further recognizes that to foster an environment that embodies our strategic mission of “inclusive success,” we must be sensitive to and honor the needs of all students, staff, and faculty, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 5166, effective July 8, 2019, states, “educational institutions must develop policies to accommodate students’ absences to allow students to take holidays for reasons of faith or conscience... so that students’ grades are not adversely impacted by the absences” [9]; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 5166 also states that faculty members are required to “accommodate students who, due to observance of religious holidays, expect to be absent or endure a significant hardship during certain days of the course or program” [9].
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:

THAT, the ASWWU respects and supports the needs of our Muslim students; and
THAT, the ASWWU Student Government is willing to help individual students receive the accommodations they need, if such help is requested; and
THAT, the ASWWU requests that

1) the administration and faculty acknowledge that Ramadan begins over 2023 Spring Break, are proactive about recognizing Ramadan, and encourage students to seek accommodations,
2) faculty members refrain from implementing unconditional Ramadan accommodations for all Muslim students and instead work with Muslim students on a case-by-case basis to define reasonable Ramadan accommodations,
3) faculty members are courteous with reasonable absences of Muslim students due to the observance of Ramadan,
4) faculty members are courteous with 11:59 p.m. deadlines, and if a student who is fasting needs to complete their assignment during the hours after sunset, implement a 24-hour grace period with no impact to the student’s grades,
5) exams, and quizzes, if strictly timed and on limited hours, can be taken with reasonable accommodations at a different time as discussed between the student and instructor, and
6) the Dean of each college ensure that this document is sent to each Department Chair and faculty member.
The Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) believe that when we invest in students, we are investing in the future workforce and long-term economic growth of Washington State. We ask the Legislature to provide financial aid opportunities that are robust and equitable, contribute to student employment, improve housing availability, and provide inclusive health services to postsecondary educational institutions. Additionally, we believe that investing in the future includes taking steps to make Washington a more sustainable and climate-resilient place to live.

We will demonstrate throughout this agenda how intersectionality requires us to reflect on the impacts of legislation in different communities. Students with intersecting marginalized identities face multiple systems of oppression and discrimination. This legislative agenda targets systemic issues such as housing, health care, employment discrimination, and wealth disparities to address students' needs, especially marginalized students who are disproportionally affected by these problems which originate from systems of oppression.

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ASWWU believes that investing in financial aid will help students from across the state access higher education. Increasing eligibility for the Washington College Grant (WCG) will encourage more people to pursue higher education and help the state reach its goal of having 70% of adults possess post-secondary credentials. ASWWU also stands in solidarity with incarcerated students and supports increased access to higher education for incarcerated individuals. Recognizing the positive effect access to higher education can have on individuals’ economic outcomes and well-being.

- **Support HB 1946** Extending the terms of eligibility for financial aid programs from 5 to 6 years of eligibility. The Washington College Grant currently lasts 15 quarters, but the Pell Grant lasts for 18. An inconsistency like this makes it difficult for low and middle-income students to finish their education. Consistency across programs will help increase access and provide support to lower-income students.

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**Health and Wellness:**

ASWWU believes that health and wellness are necessary to be a successful student. The legislature has an opportunity to provide remedies for victims of sexual assault, support young people experiencing mental health crises and housing vulnerability, promote education and resources to prevent opioid overdoses, and medicated abortion on public university campuses.

- **Support HB 2112** Concerning opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness at institutions of higher education. To promote health on safety on campus, we are asking the legislature to provide funding for our school to secure free fentanyl testing strips for students. Additionally, we are asking that the legislature make Narcan, and the training required to administer it, more widely available as this medication can be used to reverse an opioid overdose.

- **Support HB 1958** Concerning nonconsensual removal of or tampering with a sexually protective device. Sexual assault on college campuses is unfortunately common. According to the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN), 13% of all students experience sexual assault during their undergraduate or graduate experience, which carries serious mental, physical, and academic consequences.
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Support the creation of a bill like 2019 CA SB 24 Concerning public university student health centers offering abortion by medication techniques. Students seeking early pregnancy termination, especially those enrolled at institutions outside of major urban centers, face prohibitively expensive travel, often without reliable means of transportation, to a clinic away from their campus. These burdens have only been exasperated by longer wait times to access care with an increase in out-of-state patients seeking reproductive healthcare. The ASWWU believes there is more to be done in the next legislative session to support comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare by making abortion by medication accessible through university health centers.

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Support HB 1889 Allowing persons to receive professional licenses and certifications regardless of immigration or citizenship status. Undocumented students are unintentionally excluded from many internship and work opportunities due to their immigration status. This bill would remove employment requirements to be a U.S. citizen or resident alien in Washington state. Additionally, employers would be prohibited from reporting an individual’s citizenship status to external agencies including the federal government.

Support SB 5631 Requiring state agencies to clearly identify programs and services which accept applicants with deferred action for childhood arrival status. The multiple court decisions on the constitutionality and continuation of DACA have caused confusion for those who benefit from it. Such uncertainty can be reduced by requiring state agencies to clearly identify the programs and services available for this population. More specifically, DACA-mented students can be informed of their access to in-state tuition and state financial aid.

Sustainability: ASWWU believes that thoughtful and deliberate stewardship of our planet is imperative to the long-term health of our people and their environment. Western Washington University's four pillars of sustainability are as follows: The Environment, Social Equity, Economic Vitality, and Human Well-Being. With Western hosting the first interdisciplinary environmental college in the United States, as well as leading the charge in areas like renewable energy and sustainable waste management, we believe in the continued and increased support of marginalized communities who face the worst effects of climate change. We believe in accountability for reckless pollution and product production. We believe in consumer protections that benefit the taxpayer rather than large international businesses. Lastly, we believe that Washingtonians deserve to live in a clean and climate-conscious state, where legislative action is constantly taken and improved upon, year after year.

Support HB 2049 Requires companies that create packaging to fund state recycling services. WWU has a great waste management system which is limited to our main campus. We would like to advocate for better waste management systems to be implemented statewide. HB 2049 would...
change who pays for curbside recycling services through what is called an “extended producer responsibility program.” Companies that supply packaging and paper products would fund the statewide program, instead of residents.

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**Housing Affordability:**

ASWWU believes passing legislation that creates a stable housing market will provide security and stability for students, which are key factors for success in higher education. 70% of WWU students live off-campus according to the most recent WWU Common Data Set, and most people who live off-campus are renters and are subjected to ever-increasing rent prices. Financial struggles consistently rank among the top reasons that students leave WWU, and housing is a major expense that students must pay in addition to the cost of their education. It is imperative that we find a solution to this problem so that students don’t have to choose between pursuing higher education and having a place to live.

- **Support HB 2114 23-24 and SB 5961** Improving housing stability for tenants subject to the residential landlord-tenant act and the manufactured/mobile home landlord-tenant act. This bill works to stabilize the rental housing market by limiting rent and fee increases, requiring notice of rent and fee increases, limiting fees and deposits, establishing a landlord resource center and associated services, authorizing tenant lease termination, creating parity between lease types, and providing for attorney general enforcement.

- **Support HB 2160 23-24 and SB 5466** Promoting community and transit-oriented housing development. This Bill will create a positive change for students by offering reasonable and affordable housing options. Additionally, it will reflect the state’s commitment to vibrant, walkable, accessible urban environments that improve health, expand multimodal transportation options, and include varied community facilities, parks, and green spaces that are open to people of all income levels. Students will be able to access more off-campus resources and student housing will be less geographically concentrated but still accessible from campus.

**Additional Legislative Asks**

- **Support SB 5999** Expanding financial aid eligibility for the WCG to 70% MFI. This bill would expand financial aid eligibility for the full Washington College Grant from 65% to 70% of the state median family income, allowing more students to access essential financial aid to attend higher education institutions across the state. Currently, 27.3% of WWU students receive the Washington College Grant if access were expanded, even more students would benefit from reduced financial stress, improving their academic outcomes.

- **Support SB 5895** Concerning collective bargaining for certain employees enrolled in academic programs at public institutions of higher education. The proposed legislation is similar to SB 5238, passed in 2023. This proposal is to add a section to RCW 41.56, which defines union bargaining frameworks for different employees in higher education, to enshrine a collective bargaining framework for other student workers who wish to form a union.

- **Support HB 2242** Supporting sexual assault survivors at institutions of higher education. After being sexually assaulted, it is incredibly difficult to return to life as usual, which can sometimes lead to survivors dropping out of school. By providing better support for survivors of assault, we can improve our experience in higher education as well as their overall quality of life. This bill implements a list of rights to which survivors of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and gender-based violence at institutions of higher education are entitled and requires public institutions of higher education to create a Student Health and Safety Committee.
Support HB 2070 Provides protection and a platform for communities that have been disproportionately affected by environmental injustices. In the near future, Washington state will become a leader in the green economy, an economy that is low carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive, as we continue to invest in environmental protections. However, we must ensure that equity and social justice is taken into consideration in project developments moving forward.

Support HB 1541 & SB 5616 Establishing the nothing about us without us act. Underrepresented populations and historically oppressed groups are often left out of the policy-making process. This bill seeks to remedy this problem by requiring that entities developing policies have representation from the communities they are trying to serve. It is crucial that the communities that are likely to be affected by new policies can have a seat at the table and speak to their lived experiences with these issues and how to best address them.

Oppose bills that criminalize, disenfranchise, and dehumanize members of the LGBTQ+ community. As other states systematically target LGBTQ+ folks, the ASWWU would like to express our appreciation that the legislature has not enacted bills infringing on the rights and freedoms of members of the LGBTQ+ community. We ask that you continue protecting these rights and take proactive steps to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ folks by, for example, addressing the disparate impacts of policing, housing discrimination, and access to gender and sexual healthcare.

Funding Education or Future Budgetary Needs

In anticipation of our University Administration’s capital and operating budget requests for the 2025-2026 biennium, we urge the Legislature to ensure funding for critical programs that support the needs of marginalized communities on our campus. Specifically, departments that focus on mental health, disability access, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The financial capacity of the Counseling and Wellness Center determines its ability to meet the mental health needs of our student body. College students worry about their academic success while also keeping in mind the social, political, and environmental aspects of their future. The individualized care needed in many of these cases, especially when marginalized identities are at play, is an essential part of overall student success.

The Disability Access Center (DAC) serves 20% of our student population as a result, each of our Access Managers manages several hundred cases. Increasing funding will allow the DAC to adequately serve students by hiring more access managers and a pro staff member to oversee the Disability Outreach Center. This program is primarily student-led and provides disabled students with a sense of community, and connection to campus resources, as well as educational programming on disability topics.

Through Multicultural Student Services, the Disability Access Center, and LGBTQ+ Western, our university addresses the challenges and needs that students who have been historically underrepresented in higher education have to overcome. What these spaces are ultimately creating is a community for students to learn about these resources, to actively seek support, and to see themselves as capable of being successful. Centering marginalized identities is relevant to the success of each student individually and to the University at large, by helping increase retention, completion, and enrollment rates. To meet the state’s 70% attainment goal, we must remain committed to Access, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and supporting the needs of all students in and outside of the classroom.

Conclusion:

The ASWWU offers its sincere gratitude to members of the Legislature for their time and consideration of our policy priorities for this session.
Western Intersectional Lobby Day Legislative Agenda, Draft 7

Centering Equity & Justice:

The Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) believe that when we invest in students, we are investing in the future workforce and long-term economic growth of Washington State. We ask the Legislature to provide financial aid opportunities that are robust and equitable, contribute to student employment, improve housing availability, and provide inclusive health services to postsecondary educational institutions. Additionally, we believe that investing in the future includes taking steps to make Washington a more sustainable and climate-resilient place to live.

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undergraduate or graduate experience, which carries serious mental, physical, and academic consequences. This bill would allow victims of sexual battery to seek civil action.

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Conclusion: The ASWWU offers its sincere gratitude to members of the Legislature for their time and consideration of our policy priorities for this session.
AS Parliamentary Procedures

This procedure describes how governing body and committee meetings are run. 

**Specific Rules:** The governing bodies of the ASWWU and committees that act on behalf of them must adhere to the Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30.

I. **General Principles**

Rather than referencing standing rules of order (e.g., Robert's Rules, Reed's Rules) when questions or ambiguities arise out of these procedures, the **Chair should make a fair ruling** with consideration to these general principles:

1. **One person speaks at a time.**
2. **The chair of a voting body will recognize or call upon those who wish to speak.**
3. **Voting bodies will consider one item at a time.**
4. **The will of the majority shall determine the voting body's action.**
5. **The rights of the minority are preserved.**
6. **The public (students) are informed of actions taken or considered by a voting body.**

II. **Holding a meeting**

1. **A date, time, place, and agenda are set for a meeting.**
   
   Voting bodies will often regularly schedule meetings: weekly, bi-weekly, etc.

2. **The chair calls the meeting to order.**
   
   This marks the start of this meeting's proceedings.

3. **The chair moves the voting body through the agenda, sponsors present their agenda items, voting members may make motions.**

   Each agenda item is subject to action by the **voting body.** A **voting** member of the voting body may move to take some action on the item (e.g., “[Last Name] moves to approve [item]).

4. **The chair adjourns the meeting.**

   The marks the end of the meeting's proceedings.

III. **Presenting an agenda item**

1. **The chair asks the sponsor to present their item.**

   The chair may cede a set amount of time to the sponsor: this amount may be stipulated in the agenda.
2. The sponsor presents their item.
   The sponsor may present their item in whatever manner they wish, within reason. Typically, sponsors go through an associated document or presentation. This initial presentation should only take up a portion of the allotted time.

3. The sponsor opens the discussion.
   Members will seek recognition to participate in the discussion. The chair will recognize speakers. The chair may elect to have sponsors recognize speakers, temporarily delegating facilitation.

4. Discussion ends.
   Discussion ends when the allotted time expires (the chair or designee will keep time), when conversation slows or stops and the chair transitions to the next item, or when a relevant, substantive motion passes. Discussion is paused while motions are considered.

5. Discussion continues.
   Discussion may continue if a motion to add time to the discussion passes: the new time remaining in the discussion will be the balance of the current allotment plus the time added.

IV. Considering and passing a motion

1. A voting member of the voting body is recognized by the chair and makes a motion.
   An example of a motion would be: "I move to table the parliamentary procedure discussion."

2. The chair affirms or contests that the motion is in order.
   Affirmation may take the explicit form “the motion is in order” or is implied when the chair asks for seconds.
   A contesting may take the form "the motion is not in order..." the chair should always explain why the motion is not in order and give the proposing member the opportunity to correct or withdraw the motion.
   A motion is in order if it applies to the agenda item under consideration or if it’s procedural in nature.

3. A second is made by another voting member.
   E.g., "[last name] seconds the motion" or "[last name] seconds." If no second is made, the motion dies.

4. The chair opens discussion on the motion.
   For example, "moved and seconded, do we have any discussion?"
   If there’s no comments, the chair closes the discussion and holds a vote.

5. The chair holds a vote.
   The number of votes needed for a motion to pass can vary: the chair will let the voting body know the vote threshold (e.g., 11/20 for a simple majority (50%+1) or 15/20 for 3/4ths)

There are few ways to vote:
A vote by acclamation or a vote by unanimous consent is one where no member objects. This is often done by the chair asking, “are there any objections [to this motion]?”

A voice vote is one where each side (yes, no, abstention) says their vote aloud in series. The chair would ask “those in favor say ‘aye’... those against say ‘nay’... those abstaining say ‘aye’...” and then estimate the results by ear.

A vote by show of hands is one where each side raises their hand in series. The chair might say ask “those in favor raise your hands... those against raise your hands ... those abstaining raise your hands...” and count the hands for each side.

The ASWWU tends to combine the voice vote and show of hands. This is the middle ground between accuracy and efficiency.

A vote by electronic means is one where each member types out their vote into the meeting chat or otherwise casts their vote electronically.

A roll-call vote is one where the chair goes through the list of all members of the voting body and asks each of them how they vote (yes, no, abstention). This form of voting is time-intensive and is usually only used for contentious votes or transparency.

6. All present voting members of the voting body vote; the chair and secretary record the votes.
   If the vote is not unanimous or it’s a roll-call vote, the chair and secretary should record the names of the voting members who voted yes or no, or who abstained.

7. The chair announces the result of the vote.
   This usually takes the form of “this motion passes unanimously” or “this motion passes 12-1-0.” The vote counts are usually written out in the order of yes-no-abstentions. The chair should give opportunity for those dissenting to explain their vote.

V. Amending a motion

Note: A motion to amend should not be itself amended. While not usually out of order, amending an amendment is inefficient. Usually, the first amendment should first be defeated and then another amendment moved and seconded.

1. A voting member of the voting body moves to amend a motion.
   A motion to amend is like any other motion and follows the procedure in Section III.

2. The voting body considers the motion to amend.

3. The voting body returns to considering the original motion, with or without the amendments depending on passage of the amendment.
   In some cases the motion to amend may be worded as a competing motion (i.e., the original motion is “motion to approve policy A” and the motion to amend is “motion to approve policy A with X amendments”). In these cases, at the discretion of the chair, an affirmative vote on the motion to amend may be taken as an affirmative vote on the original motion.

VI. Overruling the Chair
1. When a voting member objects to a procedural ruling of the chair, they may move to overrule the chair.
   A motion to overrule the chair is like any other motion and follows the procedure in Section III.

Global Definitions: these definitions are consistent across all AS/VU Policies, see Master Definition List

**Voting Body** – The governing bodies or committees of the ASWWU.

**Procedure-specific definitions**

**Sponsor** – A member of the voting body that’s bringing an item to the agenda.

**Chair** – The person with the authority to preside over the meeting of the voting body (e.g., Chair or Vice-chair).

**Agenda** – The list of topics planned for discussion and/or action during a meeting.

Return to Procedure

Procedure Information:

**PRO-AS-GOV-02**

**AS Parliamentary Procedure**

**Procedure Owner:** ASWWU Government

**This procedure cancels:** AS Board Parliamentary Procedures (ASB-14-W-45, Feb. 19, 2014)

**Procedure Approved By:** ASWWU Government (SEN-23-F-20; NOT YET APPROVED BY EB)

**Effective Date:** 02/09/2024

**See also:**

AS Governance, Rules of Operation [GUD-AS-GOV-03]

AS Student Government Handbook, Meeting Agenda Guidelines


Deleted: Meeting Guidelines
AS Governance Rules of Operation

This guidance describes how voting bodies operate outside of meetings.

Specific Rules: The governing bodies of the ASWWU and committees that act on behalf of them must adhere to the Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30.

Scheduling meetings

1. **At the beginning of each quarter the voting body's secretary determines members' availability.**
   The secretary and the chair collaborate to determine the best time for regular meetings. Alternatively, the chair may decide to stick with the fall quarter meeting times throughout the whole year.

2. **The secretary makes publicly available the schedule of meetings.**
   The secretary and advisor ensure that the public disclosure adheres to the Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30.

Making the agenda

1. **The secretary and chair agree to an agenda-making process.**
   A written agreement of agenda timelines and process should be made before the first meeting of the voting body.

2. **The chair has the final say on the agenda.**
   All voting members can propose agenda items.

3. **The secretary makes publicly available the meeting agenda.**
   The secretary and advisor ensure that the public disclosure adheres to the Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30.

Preparing for the meeting

1. **Members review the meeting documents.**
   Members review previous meeting minutes, the agenda, and agenda documents. Members form opinions and questions on agenda items where applicable.

2. **The secretary invites the appropriate guests.**

Acting on agenda items

1. **The voting body will address an agenda item in at least two meetings before action.**
   The item will be introduced in the first meeting. The item will be voted on in a later meeting. The item may be brought to the body as many times as necessary. The voting body may take action on the item in the first meeting if it deems such acceleration reasonable.

Keeping records
1. **Item sponsors keep track of document changes between meetings.**
   Edits are clearly noted. Source documents are retained and shared with the secretary.

2. **Approved documents are finalized and made publicly available.**
   The item sponsor and the voting body’s chair or advisor work together to prepare the document(s) for public release.

3. **The secretary keeps meeting minutes and makes them publicly available.**
   A voting body will approve minutes before they are made publicly available.

4. **Voting bodies will retain agendas, minutes, meeting documents, and approved documents in an organized way.**
   The advisor will ensure that records are retained in compliance with applicable policy, regulation, and law.

### Changing operations

1. **Committees of the ASWWU may adopt their own Rules of Operation.**
   These rules should be seen as guidance, not a mandate. The spirit and intent of these guidelines should be used in their interpretation.

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**Global Definitions:** consistent across all AS/VU Policies, see Master Definition List

**Voting Body** – The governing bodies or committees of the ASWWU.

**Return to Guidance**

**Guidance Information:**

- **GUD-AS-GOV-03**
  AS Governance Rules of Operation

- **Guidance Owner:** ASWWU Government

- **This guidance cancels:** AS Board Meeting Operational Guidelines (ASB-14-W-45, Feb. 19, 2014)

- **Guidance Approved By:** ASWWU Government (SEN-23-F-21, NOT YET APPROVED BY EB)

- **Effective Date:** 02/08/2024

**See also:**

- AS Parliamentary Procedure [PRO-AS-GOV-02]
- AS Student Government Handbook, Meeting Agenda Guidelines

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Half-approved (SEN-23-F-21; AWAITING EB)