



The Student Senate

Of the Associated Students of Western Washington University

Viking Union 527 ■ Bellingham, WA 98225 ■ (360)-650-6455

Resolution Regarding

The Right to Unionize for Aramark Employees

May 3, 2012

Whereas, employees have a right under federal law to establish collective bargaining agreements,

Whereas, Aramark sent a letter to employees stating that they could “be permanently replaced” if they join a union and a dispute arises regarding collective bargaining agreements,

Whereas, employees of dining service contractor of WWU Aramark should not be intimidated for their desire to unionize.

Whereas, Aramark has current union contracts in various sectors of their company, including university dining services,

Whereas, the Associated Students has a business interest as a contracted customer with Aramark,

Whereas, employees who work in a hostile environment are less likely to feel secure in their workplace,

Whereas, organized labor has helped build the middle class, and furthered economic democracy in the workplace,

Whereas, union jobs foster financial access to higher education institutions,

Whereas, the ability to unionize would generate better working conditions for student employees,

Whereas, the Strategic Plan of the ASWWU seeks to provide opportunities for students to organize themselves around their special interests,

Whereas, it is the job of the Associated Students of WWU, “to make every effort to encourage student involvement in the development of university policies”

Be it resolved, that the ASWWU urges the university and its contractors to stay neutral in regards to unionization drives by its employees.

Be it resolved that during the course of the union organizing drive Aramark should abide by the letter and spirit of the law.

Be it resolved that we call on WWU President Bruce Shepard to issue an official statement urging Aramark to stay neutral in employees’ right to unionize.