

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Student Senate Charge and Charter

June 2011

I. CHARGE

To serve as an advisory body to the AS Board of Directors on student issues and increase student involvement in the AS Board of Directors' decision-making process. ~~The Student Senate shall not be limited in the scope of issues it covers.~~ Issues discussed by the Student Senate can originate from the AS Board of Directors, other AS or University committees, within the Student Senate, or directly from students. ~~To approve any changes to the~~ The Student Senate will see issues that haven't seen committee and issues that have arisen out of committee. Senate will also approve any changes to the AS Election Code and the charge and charter of the AS Election Board. The Student Senate will not advise the AS Board of Directors on personnel matters and application of personnel policies. The Student Senate will entertain an issue of each quarter pertaining to campus and/or community matters.

II. MEMBERSHIP

- 1 Chairperson (non-voting except in the event of a tie)
- 1 Vice-Chairperson
- AS VP for Academic Affairs, or AS Board of Directors Designee (non-voting)
- 1 Senator per 1000 students (normal rounding rules) as follows:
 - 1 Senator to represent students in their First year at WWU
 - ~~1 Senator to represent students in their Second year at WWU~~
 - ~~1 Senator to represent students in their Third year at WWU~~
 - 1 Senator to represent students in their Fourth year (and above) at WWU
 - ~~1 Senator to represent Graduate and Post Baccalaureate students~~
 - ~~1 Senator to represent each of the 7 academic colleges and the graduate school~~
 - ~~1 Senator to represent the Residence Hall Association~~
 - ~~1 Senator to represent an ESC club or the ESC Steering Committee~~
- Balance to be Senators at-large
- Secretary (non-voting)
- Advisor (non-voting)

III. CHAIR

The Chairperson shall be hired in accordance with AS hiring procedures.. (S)he convenes all meetings, approves agendas, and presides at all meetings. The Chairperson will also be responsible for making regular reports to the AS Board of Directors (at the AS Board of Directors' meetings) concerning the Senate's position on any issue. The Vice-Chairperson shall be elected each year from within the Senate and presides over meetings in the absence of the Chairperson. The Senate Chair will organize a program relating to the Issue of the Quarter at least once per quarter.

IV. MEETINGS

The Student Senate will hold regular weekly meetings or when requested by the AS Board of Directors. Meetings may be called by any member with a minimum of 24 hours notice (voting or non-voting) when agreed upon by 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. An abstention shall not count as a legal vote cast.
- VI. QUORUM** A majority of the seated voting membership shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present, the Chairperson shall adjourn the meeting and reschedule to a new day and hour.
- VII. RULES** The Senate may adopt and amend rules governing its operation, subject to review by the AS Board of Directors
- VIII. AMENDMENTS** The Charge and Charter may be amended by a majority vote of the Senate and a majority vote of the AS Board of Directors.
- IX. REPORTAGE** The Senate shall report to the AS Board of Directors. No recommendation of the Senate is binding on the decisions of the AS Board of Directors.
- X. COMMITTEES** Each Senator shall be appointed to at least one (1) committee within the University and Associated Students governance structure, outside of the Student Senate appointment, with each Senator seated on a different committee. (pursuant to approval by the AS Board of Directors through the committee appointment process). Senators are responsible for attending all committee meetings and reporting back to the Senate on any items of interest and relevance that were presented.
- XI. CONSTITUENCY** Each of the Senators representing a specific year of students (First, Second, Third, Fourth +, or Graduate) is responsible for representing the interests of that group. Each of the At-large Senators is assigned to the constituency of the general university population and must act accordingly. Any method by which the Senators may become better acquainted with the interests of their constituents is highly encouraged.