

# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## Student Senate Charge and Charter

~~August 2012~~ October 2012

### 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 by:

- ~~Discussing~~ 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.
- ~~The Senate will also R~~ reviewing and recommending 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~~ Selecting and gathering input on an issue of ~~each the~~ quarter pertaining to campus and/or community matters that impact students.

### II. MEMBERSHIP

- 1 Chairperson (non-voting except in the event of a tie)
- 1 Vice-Chairperson elected from within the Student Senate
- 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 Fourth year (and above) at WWU
  - ~~1~~ 8 Senators to represent each of the 7 academic colleges and the graduate school
  - 1 Senator to represent the Residence Hall Association
  - 1 Senator to represent underrepresented students
  - Balance to be Senators at-large [3 students in 2012]
- Secretary (non-voting)
- Advisor (non-voting)

### III. CHAIR

The Chairperson shall be hired in accordance with AS hiring procedures. They convene all meetings, approve agendas, and preside 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 assist in organizing a program relating to the Issue of the 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 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 constituent group of students (academic colleges, Graduate School, RHA, ESC) 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.