



## Gender-Targeted Event Form for Elect Her

**Proposed Motion:** Approve Elect Her as a gender-targeted event.

**Sponsor:** Kaylee Galloway, AS VP for Governmental Affairs

**Persons of Contact:** Graham Marmion, AS REP Associate Director

**Guest Speaker:** Graham Marmion

**Date:** November 22, 2013

### Background & Context

The Associated Students Representation and Engagement Programs is proposing to offer a gender targeted program. This proposal is meant to give you an introduction to the purpose of this program, as well as to give you a background in our understanding of why it is important for this program to be targeted toward female-identified students.

### Summary of Proposal

The Elect Her initiative acknowledges the necessity to build the pipeline of women running for office in order to diminish the long-standing political leadership gender gap. This event provides grant recipients with a free training that encourages women to run for student government on their campuses and other elected positions. Last year was the third year this event took place on Western's campus. Western partnered with AAUW (American Association for University Women) which allowed for the majority of the cost to be covered by the grant from AAUW (food for continental breakfast & lunch for all participants, and travel for the facilitator).

At the end of the event in 2011, 2012, and 2013, attendees were given a survey where 100% of the students said that they felt the training provided at Elect Her prepared them to run for elected office on campus. The results also showed that they would recommend a friend to attend future Elect Her trainings. Of those that attended in 2013, six ran for AS Board of Directors positions and three were elected to the Board of Directors.

Western is one of the 50 schools nationwide to receive a grant from AAUW to host the training in 2014. The training is planned to be on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

People who identify with any gender are encouraged to participate with the knowledge that the training is targeted for female identified people.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

### Fiscal Impacts

Funds are covered through AAUW grant and FXXREP. No additional fiscal impacts.

### Rationale

This event provides female identified folks and other marginalized identities a learning opportunity and some of the resources necessary to help run for an elected position on and off campus.