



Associated Students Of Western Washington University
University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee
Rules of Operation

REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY INITIATIVE

Mission Statement

The Representation and Advocacy grant program promotes student and worker development opportunities through the implementation of practices that provide workers and students in University Residences with development opportunities through the implementation and support of practices that prioritize Resident Advisor worker welfare and Resident welfare with an emphasis on diversity and a commitment toward ensuring all student actors within University Residences are respected.

University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee

The UHRA Committee provides operational oversight to the grants dispersed through the committee. UHRA provides budgetary direction and approval, and determines avenues for fund allocation. The Representation and Advocacy Initiative upholds the UHRAC mission to support social, diversity and workplace welfare and safety for all residents and resident advisors, as well as to provide student and worker engagement, advocacy and developmental opportunities.

The Representation and Advocacy Initiative acts in accordance with the University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee Charge and Charter and its Rules of Operation

The Representation and Advocacy Initiative

Representation and Advocacy Program funds grants for innovative student-driven and operated projects, events, initiatives and other programming that fit within the mission and priorities of the Representation and Advocacy Program.

The Initiative awards grants in the following areas :

- Student enhancement, Professional development grant
- Event and Workshop grants
- Guest Speakers
- Collaboration with AS offices
- Advocacy related purchasing grants

INITIATIVE OVERSIGHT

Initiative Advisement

The University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee shall offer interpretations and advisement for the allocation of funds and the mobilization of resources on behalf of all residents and resident assistants for their use. The Representation and Advocacy initiative will provide direction and decision making based on the principles of the UHRAC.

Ensures Appropriate Use of Student Funds

The UHRAC works to ensure the fair and equitable use of student funds. These funds will be used exclusively for initiatives with a focus on and the proliferation of diversity, equity and justice related events, workshops, resources and advocacy tools, etc. These funds will be used exclusively for initiatives with a focus on advocating for the rights of students and student workers in accordance with state law and university policy*

* UHRAC will play an advisory role in making sure Residents as well as Resident Advisors are represented, and their input is considered in the event of any changes to policies, procedures and approaches and trainings that University Residences provides.

All monies distributed through this committee will be for the exclusive use of students in the residence halls for advocating for causes relating to equity, justice and their rights as residents and employees.

All funds should be used for the benefit of the entire community, region or the university residences as a whole.

NO University Residences professional staff members or any non-student/non-student staff will have decision-making privileges associated with dollars distributed through this committee.

NO funds will be used for the publicity for social events. Publicity related funds will be used for projects and proposals with advocacy, worker interest, diversity, justice and equity.

FUNDS

Budget

Electronic Voting

Online or electronic voting may be utilized by the SAF Committee as needed at the motion of the committee.

Conflict of Interest

No University Residences professional staff shall act through individual / or groups within this committee. The UHRAC charge and charter and the Representation and advocacy initiative stipulates that all proposals brought to the committee are student-centered and for the exclusive benefit of students and student workers.

The UHRAC budget is not an extension of University residences budget and goals and is independent and an integral part of the Associated Students. The UHRAC will work closely with the Associated Students Board of Directors.

Initiative Follow-up

Once funds are distributed, it will be required that the recipients of said funds report back to the committee on the effectiveness of the event, workshop, advocacy or any other tasks that the funds are used for.

For purchasing grants, receipts will be provided as evidence of such purchases and descriptions of how said purchases have benefitted the interests of residents and resident advisors.

For Advocacy, related grants a timeline of action will be established. For advocacy related tasks, a reasonable timeline must be provided. Reasonable accommodations must be made for extensions to timelines.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND OPERATIONS

The UHRAC is made up of student residents, student resident advisors and staff from different regions of housing across campus and across different representative offices within the Associated Students. All parties are stakeholders to the welfare of residents and resident advisors. The makeup of the committee is as follows

Vice President for Student Life – Chair

Vice Chair will be elected by the UHRAC

3 Students Residents at-large, appointed by AS Board of Directors

4 Resident Advisors, appointed by the AS Board of Directors

1 Representative from the Queer Resource Center or designee

1 Representative from the Disability Outreach Center or designee

1 Representative from the Ethnic Student Center or designee

1 Representative from the Legal Information Center or designee

Secretary (non-voting)

Director of Student Activities, Advisor or Designee (non-voting)

member responsibility, records and accountability and methods for amendments will be determined by the UHRAC. Member responsibility and accountability can either be pre-determined prior to general operations of the UHRAC or these changes can be implemented on a project by project basis.