WHEREAS, universities should foster an environment of peace and the promotion of global welfare; and,

WHEREAS, Western Washington University is a liberal arts institution that values holistic and multi-faceted approaches to complex issues; and,

WHEREAS, it is the mission of Western Washington University to “bring together individuals of diverse backgrounds and perspectives in an inclusive, student-centered university”; and,

WHEREAS, student representation, collaboration, student learning and development, inclusion, and Community and Social Engagement are the core values of the AS as expressed in the Strategic Plan; and,

WHEREAS, it is the duty of ASWWU to fairly represent the diverse interests and views of all students at Western Washington University and to foster dialogue, learning, and an inclusive campus environment; and,

WHEREAS, Western Washington University is committed to ensuring equal opportunity and prohibiting illegal discrimination and inappropriate behavior in all aspects of employment and for students in educational and extracurricular programs and activities; and,

WHEREAS, ASWWU has an obligation to focus its attention and resources primarily on addressing issues directly impacting the general welfare of the student body; and,

WHEREAS, to maintain as safe and inclusive of a campus environment as possible, tensions between students should be defused in a healthy and collaborative manner rather than be exacerbated; and,

WHEREAS, isolation and intimidation of student groups can lead to the perpetration of disrespectful bias, hostility, hate, censorship, or harassment against those groups; and,

WHEREAS, ASWWU has a set procedure in place, which requires a campus wide vote to be able to take stances on any issue, as stated in the AS Elections Code; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASWWU shall work to promote the Four Freedoms of President Franklin D. Roosevelt that are reiterated in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, those
being Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear; and,

(Citation)

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the ASWWU shall take action to protect students and foster dialogue in a safe environment through prohibiting and removing groups or individuals which intentionally threaten or intimidate students, faculty, or guests of AS sanctioned events based on their protected identities (1) as stated in WAC 516-21-110, along with the addition of political affiliation, gender identity, criminal record and documentation status.

1. Protected identities: race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, genetic information, status as a veteran, and/or sexual orientation