TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: President Sabah Randhawa on behalf of the Associated Students
DATE: June 10, 2022
SUBJECT: Associated Students
PURPOSE: Associated Students Report

Purpose of Submittal:
AS President Glory Busic will brief the Board of Trustees on recent activities of the Associated Students.
Associated Students Executive Board Written Report

TO: Board of Trustees, Western Washington University

FROM: WWU Associated Students Executive Board

DATE: May 31, 2022

SUBJECT: Associated Students Executive Board Written Report

Dear Members of the Board,

The Associated Students Executive Board has been working diligently these last weeks of Spring Quarter, and the whole year to push for student needs at Western Washington University. Some of the topics that the Executive Board have been working on are listed in this report, along with our top achievements this year, and things we hope to see in the future. We have also outlined things we would like to see change in student government and university governance overall. If you have any questions about any topics or are interested in discussing them more, please contact Glory Busic, the Associated Students President.

1. Our top achievements this 2022-2023 academic year

   ● Glory Busic, AS President, has been involved in a number of projects this year, including the planning and implementation of Administration Lobby Day and a Campus Engagement Workshop this quarter. Glory was involved in the planning and implementation of the Student Leadership Symposium alongside Sislena Ledbetter, and many other positions and offices. Glory represented student needs at all of the Washington Student Association (WSA) meetings and events, and will be continuing work with them as the Vice President of Communications of the WSA starting this summer. Glory was involved in the planning of and participated in many lobby days this year. Glory pushed for the removal of Huxley from the College of the Environment while attending Board of Trustee meetings. She started the work of looking at the University Police budget and
looking at possible alternatives to emergency response on campus. Glory also worked closely on the aluminum water bottle discussion and water access overall.

- Laura Wagner, VP for Sustainability, worked hard this year on responding to the need for better water accessibility on campus and larger plastic water bottle discussion. As mentioned in the last report, students can now buy aluminum bottled water from the markets on campus. Laura has also worked with Shred the Contract and with other positions on campus to address the upcoming dining decision and advocate for a better future for WWU Dining. This quarter, Earth Week was a huge success due to Laura’s dedication and collaboration with other student staff and offices. Laura actively participated in various lobby days this year. As the chair of SEJF, Laura handled an extremely difficult situation very well and pushed to try and ensure that no successors have to go through that. She recognizes that alternatives to the committee may need to be looked at. Alyssa Tsukada, a Student Ambassador for the Sustainability Engagement Institute and Laura worked closely together about Sustainability Roundtables for sustainability clubs to connect. The SEJF and ATF referendums were written and worked on by Laura. Both referendums passed.

- Jasmine Fast, AS VP for Student Services, in collaboration with Dr. Sislena Ledbetter, Associate Director of Counseling, Health, and Wellness; and the Child Development Center, created the first Family Workspace on campus in Haggard Hall 350. This space will serve as a space for student caregivers in the future, and a mural along with decorating of the space is in progress. An official opening will happen in the fall.

2. **What we would like to see in the future**

- Continued collaborations with students from Self Op Dining and the Associated Students governance for a better future of our dining system. We need to rely on a system that better supports student needs, our mission statement, sustainability goals, our sustainability action plan, our strategic goals and plan, and is more responsive to change than contracting with a giant corporation.

- Continuing to look at data from the aluminum water bottle pilot program to see if this is something the university needs to commit to.
• Administration, advisors, staff, and students all reflecting on SEJF structures and trying to brainstorm improvements, or an entirely new system.

• Continue to consider and hopefully push for alternatives for non-police related mental health emergency calls.

• We recognize that meaningful actions don’t happen solely through committees, so committee members or larger structures must take action outside of the committee meetings to see progress based on the committee's goals.

• Working towards having summer quarter be part of the state university system in order to have tuition in the summer be more affordable.

3. What we want to see changed in student government and Western’s governance structures.

• Better institutional support for student workers. We have seen how AS student government is structured to demand so much of students, especially people of marginalized identities and especially in the AS Executive Board, in which they clock overtime or mentally overexert themselves due to all the responsibilities of their jobs, which could easily be made full time jobs. Then when something disastrous happens, students are not nearly supported as much by this institution. They have to go through the mental, emotional, and other related labor to manage the situation. There are a lot of “I’m so sorry you had to go through that” statements, but very little steps initiated by and followed through by administrators to ensure accountability happens and to prevent similar situations from happening again. When support does happen, it is only to a certain extent.

• If it has been shown that a few different Exec Board positions are clocking overtime, administration and advisors (who are here for multiple years, as opposed to the student workers) should brainstorm how to better support students or restructure things so that students are not overworked.

• Strengthening Associated Students government communication with students across campus and the creation of a monthly student government newsletter.

4. 2022-2023 AS Executive Board Election Results

• AS President: Sargun Handa
As a Board, we all have done a lot of great work this year for students, and this only touches the surface. Thank you for your collaboration with student government this academic year, and for listening to student needs. We hope that even stronger collaboration and communication can continue in the future.

Sincerely,

The Associated Students Executive Board