APPROVED
August 13, 2026

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 11, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees Chair, Faith Pettis, called the June 11, 2026, meeting of the Western Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 12:30pm in the Boardroom, Old Main 340, at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington.

Attendance:
Faith Pettis, Board Chair
Chris Witherspoon, Vice Chair
Mo West, Trustee
John Meyer, Trustee
María Sigüenza, Trustee
David Frockt, Trustee
Ashlynn Tibbot, Trustee
Sabah Randhawa, President
Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President
Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
Kim Hill, Vice President for Advancement, CEO for the Foundation for Western Washington University and Alumni
Jacqueline Hughes, Chief Diversity Officer, Executive Director for the Office of Equity
Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General
Erika McPhee-Shaw, Faculty Senate President
Aspen Cates-Doglio, Associate Students of WWU President
Rebecca Hansen-Zeller, Executive and Liaison to the Board of Trustees
Elissa Hicks, Policy Coordinator for Government Relations and Board of Trustees Assistant

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Trustees agenda provides for public comment per Amended RCW 28B.35.110, also known as the Open Public Meetings Act. Nobody signed up for public comment at this meeting.

3. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

a. RESOLUTION 2026-01: RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF TRUSTEE ASHLYNN TIBBOT

This was Ashlynn Tibbot's last meeting as a Student Trustee. The Board of Trustees recognized her with a Resolution.

Trustee Mo West read the Resolution:

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot of Milton, WA, began her term on the Western Washington Board of Trustees on July 25, 2025, and will end her service on June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot contributed to mission fulfillment through insightful and articulate engagement in policy discussions and decisions affecting the University, both in meetings of the full Board and as a member of the Board's Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot prepared for meetings thoroughly; she posed informed questions and offered valuable perspectives as a student and as a fiduciary for the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot engaged in the state budget process and was an effective advocate for higher education funding in Olympia; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot participated in many university events and represented the Board of Trustees at a wide variety of official functions; and

WHEREAS, Ashlynn Tibbot is graduating from Western Washington University with a bachelor's degree with a double major in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and English with a Creative Writing and Teaching Endorsement; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University that Ashlynn Tibbot is hereby honored for outstanding service and dedication to the University and is extended the gratitude and best wishes of the entire University community.

MOTION 06-01-2026 Trustee Mo West **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees approve Resolution 2026-01: Recognizing the Service of Trustee Ashlynn Tibbot.

Trustee María Sigüenza seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with Trustee Tibbot abstaining.

The Trustees then offered reflections on Ashlynn's contributions and encouraging remarks about her post-graduate plans.

Trustee María Sigüenza commented that Trustee Tibbot posed insightful questions during Board meetings. Trustee John Meyer described the confidence with which she approached the role. Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon commended Trustee Tibbot's curiosity, a characteristic that will serve her well in the future. Trustee David Frockt thanked her for bringing her important perspective as a current student. Trustee Mo West thanked her for her thoughtful contributions during the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee meetings. Chair Faith Pettis commented on the growth she's observed over the last year and thanked Trustee Tibbot for her full participation.

Trustee Ashlynn Tibbot thanked the Trustees and shared that she is proud of how her critical thinking and leadership skills have developed and she expressed thanks for the relationships that she has built.

The Board presented Trustee Tibbot with the Resolution and a diploma frame.

b. RESOLUTION 2026-02: CONGRATULATING THE WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S ROWING TEAM

The Women's Rowing Team recently won a national championship and was recognized with a Resolution.

Chair Pettis invited Head Coach, Courtney Moeller, to introduce the rowers and talk about the team's success this season. Coach Moeller expressed her pride in the team and the growth of the student athletes, especially the rookie rowers who were new to the sport. The rowers introduced themselves and proudly displayed their championship trophy. The team was presented with a framed Resolution to add to the trophy case.

Board of Trustees Vice Chair Chirs Witherspoon read the Resolution.

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2026, the Western Washington University Women's Rowing Team won the 2026 NCAA Division II National Championship; and

WHEREAS, this is the 10th Division II title for the WWU Women's Rowing with both the Varsity 8+ and Varsity 4+ teams earning a perfect team score; and

WHEREAS, this title further cements WWU's status as an elite rowing program that stands out nationally across all divisions; and

WHEREAS, the Vikings earned the podium sweep with gold medals in the eights and fours for the first time since 2011; and

WHEREAS, the team was the 2026 Great Northwest Conference Champions and six student athletes earned All-GNAC Honors; and

WHEREAS, the team's accomplishments in the classroom were also impressive with eleven student athletes earning GNAC All-Academic Awards; and

WHEREAS, the Coaching Staff brought committed leadership and constant encouragement that helped lead to the team's success; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University officially recognizes the Western Washington University Women's Rowing Team for its outstanding accomplishments and extends to the team the Board's sincere congratulations on behalf of the entire university community.

MOTION 06-02-2026 Board of Trustees Vice Chair Chirs Witherspoon MOVED, that the Board of Trustees approve Resolution 2026-02: Congratulating the Western Washington University Women's Rowing Team

Trustee John Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Following presentation of the Resolutions, Chair Pettis gave her report:

The Board Executive Committee did not receive any requests for review of an investment and did not appoint new committee members or convene the Advisory Committee for Socially Responsible Investing this academic year. A memo to the Advisory Committee was sent to the current members and the ASWWU President on May 28, 2026. The memo outlined the university's ongoing actions to comply with the Board of Trustees Policy on Socially Responsible Investing. That memo is posted on the Board's website.

The House of Healing community celebration was on May 14. Chair Pettis thanked Trustees West and Tibbot for attending.

The Board anticipates an announcement from the Governor's Office about the appointment of a new Student Trustee.

4. UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT REPORT

President Sabah Randhawa gave his report:

Members of the Cybersecurity Team attended the meeting and were recognized for their recent success at a national competition. The Computer Science Department Chair and student team members introduced themselves and described the competition as a simulated system attack by industry professionals that the students worked to defend against.

The Men's Rugby Team operates as a Club Team and recently won a national championship. The coach and members of the team attended the meeting. They brought their trophy and

presented President Randhawa with a team photo. The coach and student athletes commented on the strong camaraderie that the team has built.

The Spring Commencement ceremonies will celebrate over 2,500 graduating students.

President Randhawa shared information on recent events on campus. He thanked Laural Ballew, Simone-Calai Staley and Western's Tribal partners for the May 14 celebration at the House of Healing. The Alumni Awards were held on May 15 and the Celebration of Excellence Awards to recognize Faculty and Staff occurred on May 28.

Daniel Records-Galbraith from the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Compliance recently passed. Professor Ned Brown, former Geology Faculty, also recently passed. President Randhawa acknowledged both of their important contributions to Western.

In closing, President Randhawa offered thanks to Trustee Tibbot, to Faculty Senate President Erika McPhee-Shaw, and to Aspen Cates-Doglio for their leadership over the past year.

5. FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Chair Pettis thanked Erika McPhee-Shaw for working on behalf of Faculty and for developing a positive dialog with her over the past year.

Erika McPhee-Shaw, Faculty Senate President gave her report:

An Artificial Intelligence Tools workgroup will begin meeting in the fall. When new technology is proposed, the group will evaluate the ethics and impacts to academic honesty.

Faculty continues to support the Strategic Enrollment Growth Initiative. The Academic Coordination Commission endorsed the pilot program, and the Senate is interested in a strong shared governance relationship with the administration as the initiative continues.

President McPhee-Shaw thanked President Randhawa for attending a Senate meeting to talk about potential changes to Western's funding model. The ongoing work with the Washington Round Table and with other public universities in the state has Faculty support.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is experimenting with online course evaluations over the summer, and the Faculty Senate is discussing whether online evaluations should be implemented year-round. They will be discussing the cost, quantity and quality of the online evaluations.

James Ray is the new Faculty Senate President and will be representing the Faculty Senate for the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

President McPhee-Shaw closed with reflections on the goals that were set at the beginning of the year and the accomplishments of the Faculty Senate in areas such as shared governance,

academic freedom, and the use of Artificial Intelligence in the classroom and on Faculty scholarship. She thanked the administration and Board of Trustees for their partnership in moving those issues forward.

6. ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY REPORT

Chair Pettis offered her thanks for President Cates-Doglio's leadership and congratulated him on finishing his degree and graduating.

Aspen Cates-Doglio, Associated Students of WWU President, gave his report:

Sophia Maynard was introduced as the incoming ASWWU President. She previously served as the Vice President of Government Affairs. The Spring 2026 election drew 1,300 votes, which is about 10% of the student population and on par with pre-covid participation. President Cates-Doglio expressed confidence in the new leadership and encouraged continuing efforts to strengthen shared governance.

The S&A Fee committee came to a unanimous decision, and its allocation proposal is before the Board of Trustees for approval. The students are interested in improving trust and strengthening relationships.

ASWWU is advocating for funding for a student-run art gallery.

In closing, President Cates-Doglio shared that it was an honor and a privilege to serve students this year. He thanked administrators and the Board for their work to make Western a place for students to succeed academically and have unique experiences.

7. BOARD FINANCE, AUDIT, AND ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee John Meyer, Chair, Finance, Audit, and Enterprise Risk Management Committee, gave his report:

Trustee Mo West joined regular committee members Trustee María Sigüenza and Board Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon for the June 1 committee meeting.

Priya Sall reviewed ongoing Internal Audit investigations with the committee.

The committee received a status update on 2025-2027 capital projects including Access Control, Minor Works and Preservation, and Academic Facilities.

Trustees reviewed the Capital Budget Request for 2027-2029, which is before the Board for its review and approval.

Committee members posed questions about legislative support for the Peninsulas expansion and the heating conversion project.

The committee received an update on the FY 2026-2027 Operating Budget. That budget is before the Board with a recommendation to approve it. Planning for the 2027-2029 biennial budget takes into consideration the role of the enrollment initiative, reserve requirements, and changes to the funding model that will hopefully better-position Western financially. During the upcoming session, advocacy messages to legislators will emphasize the impact of budget cuts on students.

The student Athletics Fee referendum passed and there is also a parallel fundraising effort to stabilize funding for Athletics programs. The Athletics budget is on the action agenda for approval.

Vice President Lopes reviewed the Q3 Treasury Report. Government Portfolio Advisors changed the way it computes ESG ratings. The OMWBE reporting process has also changed.

The committee discussed scenarios for renovating current residence halls and building new student housing. More discussion will occur over the summer.

The committee will meet next in July.

8. BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Mo West, Chair, Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee, gave her report:

The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee met on May 20, 2026.

The committee looked at the FY26-27 operating budget proposal. They were briefed on the key drivers that were considered when building the FY26-27 operating budget. The status of reserves and a summary of the revenues were presented, and a summary of expenditure increases and how those are being offset by reductions were provided.

The committee reviewed the Fall 2026 enrollment dashboard. The goal for Fall 2026 is 3,200 first-year students, 1,200 transfer students and an 80% retention rate from Fall 2025 to Fall 2026. An overview of the current confirmed pool of applicants in both the WEGAP pilot region, as well as the overall numbers that include all in and out of state students was provided. Staff are focused on communicating with the pool of confirmed students to convert them into enrolled students who attend in the fall. The committee discussed statewide expansion of the WEGAP pilot

The committee heard updates on the early discussions about the possibility of Western converting from a quarter system to a semester model. A dialog to solicit Faculty feedback

about the ideal timing of such a change and the impact of short-term workload increases is underway.

The committee received information on the ways that administration is ensuring the protection of First Amendment rights and expressive activities among students and the ways it is working to improve information sharing for safety planning. Committee members shared their thoughts on the importance of having all students feel safe and respected.

2,500 students per week are accessing the Whole Food Pantry. Addressing basic needs is directly tied to student success.

The committee offered its congratulations to the Student Health Center for passing its accreditation renewal review.

The committee will meet again in July. The potential expansion of on-campus student housing is one of the topics that the committee is looking forward to analyzing in detail this summer.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

President Randhawa relayed a message from the Office of Financial Management that forecasted another state budget shortfall. Trustees David Frockt and María Sigüenza shared their views of the state budget outlook and encouraged a student-centered approach to advocacy this session.

9. OVERVIEW OF 2027-2029 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST & 2027-2037 TEN-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs introduced the other presenters Traci Rogstad Love, Associate Vice President for Facilities, Development and Operations, and Brian Ross, Director of Capital Budget and Public Works Procurement. The presenters outlined the status of current capital projects, including the Heating Conversation Project and Poulsbo building, and shared the budget request for the next biennium. Capital priorities include expanding education and addressing workforce needs on the Peninsulas; preserving, improving, and modernizing our existing assets; precluding utility and building system failures; and reducing carbon emissions. The ten-year Capital Plan was also presented.

10. OVERVIEW OF 2026-2027 ANNUAL STATE OPERATING BUDGET

Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs introduced her fellow presenters who were Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, and Faye Gallant, Associate Vice President for Strategy, Management, and Budget. They shared the key drivers that guided the proposed operating budget which were: addressing budget reductions from the 2025-2027

biennial budget plan, Academic Year 2025-2026 enrollment and Academic Year 2026-2027 goals, state budget changes to the fund split, and inflationary pressures and utility increases.

Presenters summarized revenues, expenditures and reductions. Reserves stand at 5.5% with the goal of meeting the Board Policy target of 10% in 2032.

Expanding the Western Undergraduate Exchange Program (WUE), making housing available to transfer students, and focusing on converting confirmed students to enrolled students are among the strategies that are being implemented to meet Fall 2026 enrollment goals.

11. OVERVIEW OF 2026-2027 INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS BUDGET AND MULTI-YEAR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS BUDGET PLAN

Faye Gallant, Associate Vice President for Strategy, Management, and Budget introduced Jim Sterk, Co-Athletics Director and Steve Brummel, Co-Athletics Director, who presented to the Board. Athletics is currently running a deficit, therefore RCW 28B.15.120 requires the Board to publicly approve the Athletics budget each year, as well as a financial recovery plan to address the deficit.

A new student fee to support Athletics and a private fundraising campaign will help sustain the $300,000 per year needed for budget stabilization.

12. 2026-2027 SERVICES & ACTIVITIES FEE ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATION

Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, along with Faye Gallant, Associate Vice President for Strategy, Management, and Budget, and Sislena Ledbetter, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, presented to the Board. The Board of Trustees approved a set of process changes for the allocation process to align the S&A allocation with the strategic plan, standardize funding requests, increase transparency, and ensure that the funds are benefiting all students. The Board is committed to continual improvement of the process. Those changes were implemented.

The allocation recommendation was summarized and S&A Committee Chair, Ella Horner, made comments on student priorities.

Chair Pettis appreciated the breakdown of how the funds are allocated and encouraged next year’s committee to take a close look at fund balances.

ACTION ITEMS

13. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes: April 9-10, 2026

Board members reviewed the minutes and did not propose any changes.

MOTION 06-03-2026 Trustee Ashlynn Tibbot **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the President, and under the individual motion language proposed in the attachments, approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Mo West seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

14. APPROVAL OF 2027-2029 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST & 2027-2037 TEN-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

MOTION 06-04-2026 Trustee María Sigüenza **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, approves the 2027-2037 Capital Plan, which includes the 2027-2029 Capital Budget Request from State-appropriated funding sources totaling $133,430,000.

Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

15. APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 ANNUAL STATE OPERATING BUDGET

MOTION 06-05-2026 Trustee John Meyer **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, approve the 2026-2027 annual state operating expenditure budget of $239,748,191, to be supported by projected revenues of $237,368,747 and use of reserves or further one-time strategies of $2,379,444.

Trustee Mo West seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

16. APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS BUDGET

MOTION 06-06-2026 Trustee David Frockt **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, approve the 2026-2027 intercollegiate athletics operating budget of

$5,998,328 supported by tuition, S&A fees, and other auxiliary revenues in the amount of $5,638,834.

Trustee María Sigüenza seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

17. APPROVAL OF MULTI-YEAR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS BUDGET PLAN

MOTION 06-07-2026 Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon **MOVED***,* that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, approve the financial recovery plan to resolve the outstanding deficit in Athletics operations.

Trustee Ashlynn Tibbot seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

18. APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 SERVICES & ACTIVITIES FEE ALLOCATION

MOTION 06-08-2026 Trustee Mo West **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the President and of the Services & Activities Fee Committee, approve the distribution of the Services & Activities Fee as follows for the 2026-2027 year, including Summer Quarter of 2026;

FURTHER MOVED, that if actual Services & Activities Fee revenues are lower than planned for FY 2027, the allocations be proportionally reduced across funded areas; and

FURTHER MOVED, should the actual Services & Activities Fee revenues exceed the budgeted allocation for FY 2027, the surplus be directed to the Services & Activities Fee reserve, with recommendations for the use of reserve funds to be considered by future years' committees.

Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

19. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027 SELF-SUSTAINING AND 2027 SUMMER TUITION RATES

MOTION 06-09-2026 Trustee María Sigüenza **MOVED**, that the following Academic Year 2026-2027 Self-Sustaining Tuition Rates remain the same as the 2025–2026 rates:

- Credit Option: Variable Fee $50 to $100 per credit
- Continuous Enrollment $50 flat
- Viking Launch $300 per credit
- Weekend MBA $757 per credit

FURTHER MOVED, that the following Academic Year 2026-2027 Self-Sustaining Tuition Rates be raised by 3.3% to the amounts shown:

- Undergraduate Course/Workshop $326 per credit
- Graduate Course/Workshop $418 per credit
- Graduate – Audiology Course/Workshop $680 per credit
- Graduate – Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling $463 per credit
- Graduate – MBA Program (Bellingham) Course/Workshop $484 per credit
- Graduate – Pathology Course/Workshop $637 per credit
- Self-Paced Course/Workshop $181 per credit
- Undergraduate Degree Program Courses $378 per credit

- Graduate Degree Program Courses $453 per credit

FURTHER MOVED, that the Summer Session 2027 Tuition Rates be raised by 3.3% to the following rates:

- Resident – Undergraduate Summer Session $326
- Resident – Graduate Summer Session $418
- Non-Resident – Undergraduate Summer $521
- Non-Resident – Graduate Summer Session $611
- MBA – Resident – Graduate Summer Session $474
- MBA – Non-Resident – Graduate Summer Session $1,207
  MBA tuition rates are banded from 10 to 18 credits.

Trustee John Meyer seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

20. APPROVAL OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027

The Board of Trustees bylaws require the election of officers annually in June.

MOTION 06-10-2026 Trustee John Meyer **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University elect the following Trustees to one-year terms as Board officers, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

- Faith Pettis, Chair
- Chris Witherspoon, Vice Chair

Trustee Mo West seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

21. APPROVAL OF SPRING QUARTER DEGREES

2,058 candidates for academic degrees were presented to the Board.

MOTION 06-11-2026 Trustee Mo West **MOVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, on recommendation of the faculty and subject to the completion of any unmet requirements, approves awarding undergraduate and graduate degrees to the candidates listed in the files of the Registrar and Graduate Dean, for Spring Quarter 2026, effective June 12, 2026.

Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with Trustee Tibbot abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

22. WRITTEN REPORTS

a. Academic Affairs Report

b. Business and Financial Affairs Report

c. Advancement Report

d. Office of Equity Report

Trustee Siguenza remarked that she was pleased to see that a shuttle to Lakewood would be available over the summer.

23. TRUSTEE REMARKS

Trustee Ashlynn Tibbot thanked the other Trustees and made a call to action for fostering campus engagement and strong shared governance. She encouraged a unified approach among stakeholders to ensure that WWU thrives.

Trustee Mo West remarked that the House of Healing celebration was a proud moment that highlighted the university's commitment to inclusivity. Trustee David Frockt echoed Trustee West's comments.

Trustee John Meyer reflected on the many student accomplishments to be celebrated. Student commitment to both academics and activities indicate strong teamwork and self-discipline.

Chair Faith Pettis attended the National Ultimate Frisbee tournament where both the WWU Men's and Women's teams were strong competitors.

Vice Chair Chris Witherspoon spoke about how a year of complex decision-making is ending and expressed gratitude for the leadership of the President, Cabinet and broad community that supports WWU.

24. DATES FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for August 13-14, 2026, in Bellingham, WA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

25. BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Faith Pettis called an executive session at 3:10 for 30 minutes.

The executive session was authorized by RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), to discuss the acquisition of real estate by purchase; RCW 42.30.110(1)(ii)(g), to review the performance of a public employee; and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), to discuss potential litigation.

The executive session ended at 3:40pm.

26. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING AND ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:42pm.