

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Session 119

Date *June 11, 2020*



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

*Submitted by Brianna Asman, Director of Campus Partnerships*

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### **BOARD RESOLUTION 6.06: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE NEEDS OF BLACK STUDENTS**

WHEREAS: In order to be applicable for competitive majors in which Black students are historically underrepresented and currently disadvantaged from pursuing, Black students need to maintain high grade point averages; and,

WHEREAS: There is a decentralized method of grading between classes which leads to an inequitable distribution of grades for students; and,

WHEREAS: Due to COVID-19, many professors and instructors have already been flexible with their syllabus and made accommodations for students throughout the quarter, in which case they should especially be able to do so for Black students who are heavily impacted by the current crisis; and,

WHEREAS: The ongoing COVID-19 crisis already disproportionately affects Black students; and,

WHEREAS: We recognize that violence against Black lives is a major public health crisis; and,

WHEREAS: The University has offered no accommodations specifically for Black students beyond their condolences; and,

WHEREAS: Black students are unable to opt-out of discussions and organizations pertaining to current events; and,

WHEREAS: Many Black students face the burden of educating the community on the racism they face which causes unnecessary emotional and mental stress resulting in re-traumatization; and,

WHEREAS: A petition -- titled "UW: Give Black Students Accommodation for Finals" and started May 30 by Mihret Haile -- has already received more than 20,000 signatures; and,

WHEREAS: The ASUW Board of Directors, in serving as representatives of the student body to university administration, has received overwhelming feedback and support for the modification of finals and grades; and,

WHEREAS: The ASUW Board of Directors recognizes that this institution (UW) and others across the country were not built to serve marginalized students, specifically Black students, and still to this day, institutions such as UW, do not serve Black students to the same capacity that white students benefit from; and,

WHEREAS: The UW states time and time again that it values diversity and racial equity and, if that is the case, then we believe that this is the time to show those values through direct and immediate action to demonstrate that these values are not just blanket statements; now,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

THAT: Black students receive accommodations during finals for spring quarter 2020; and,

THAT: S/NS and dropping courses are not substitutes for tangible accommodations, and that each professor has the responsibility to create an alternative for their students; and,

THAT: Deans and department heads provide guidance to professors on options to accommodate their Black students; and,

THAT: University leadership review and implement an increase in the number of Black counselors at the UW to support Black students' mental health; and,

THAT: The Counseling Center and Hall Health Mental Health, and any other related wellness service, consider new, effective promotional materials and campaigns to engage with Black students; and,

THAT: The ASUW Board of Directors collectively signs on to the "Decriminalize UW" petition; and,

THAT: The ASUW no longer engages in a formal partnership with UWPD to include the ASUW Bike Shop servicing UWPD bikes; and,

THAT: The ASUW Board of Directors urges UW Police Department to disarm and stop the use of police dogs on campus; and,

THAT: The ASUW Board of Directors urges university administration to not partner with the Seattle Police Department for additional security or traffic control at events, response to calls on campus, or any other previously agreed upon partnership; and,

THAT: The Office of Financial Aid recognize and include ‘racial trauma’ as a legitimate circumstance for emergency aid; and,

THAT: The ASUW and student body have more influence and transparency regarding faculty and staff hirings; and,

THAT: An email be forwarded alongside this resolution to each professor, dean, and department head asking that they engage in a comprehensive audit of their school, college, and/or department’s practices and policies and produce the following:

- Specific steps to report and remove racist professors within the university;
- Specific steps to report and punish microaggressions;
- Specific steps to engage in a comprehensive audit of university, school, college, and department practices and policies in reporting and responding to racial bias, microaggressions, hate crimes, and other related issues; and,

THAT: Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to remain anonymous in their reporting microaggressions, hate crimes, and instances of racism; and,

THAT: The reporting structure should be independent from UWPD; and,

THAT: Professors, deans, and department heads should send an email to students, staff, and faculty on a quarterly basis with those specific reporting protocols and opportunities; and,

THAT: This bill be forwarded to Mihret Haile, the Board of Regents, UW Counseling Center, Every Dean, UWPD Interim Chief, and the following individuals:

ASUW President, **Kelty Pierce**

ASUW Vice President, **Kevin Mendez**

ASUW Finance and Budget Director, **Trevor Hunt**

ASUW Personnel Director, **Kiran Singh**

ASUW Communications Director, **Ana Osorno**

ASUW Director of University Affairs, **Sam Akeyo**

ASUW Director of Community Relations, **Sarah Shaklan**

ASUW Director of Diversity Efforts, **Sahra Ibrahim**

ASUW Director of Campus Partnerships, **Brianna Asman**

ASUW Director of Internal Policy, **Cooper Robertson**

ASUW Director of Programming, **Daniella Calasanz Miño**  
ASUW Administrative Assistant to the Board of Directors, **Phoebe Walker**  
ASUW Student Senate Speaker, **Clara Coyote**  
ASUW Student Senate Vice Speaker, **Bryn Sinclair**  
ASUW Student Senate Speaker-elect, **Lukas Illa**  
ASUW Student Senate Vice Speaker-elect, **Mustapha Kinstafa Samateh**  
ASUW Bike Shop Operations Manager, **Nicholas Ng**  
ASUW Bike Shop Business Manager, **Lisa Jensen**  
Incoming ASUW Bike Shop Operations Manager, **Melissa Nunez**  
Incoming ASUW Bike Shop Business Manager, **Megan Caldwell**  
GPSS President, **Giuliana Conti**  
ASUW Bothell President, **Shugla Kakar**  
ASUW Tacoma President, **Vincent Da**  
UW Student Regent, **Daniela Suarez**  
Provost Advisory Committee for Students Chair, **Farah Nadheem**  
UW President, **Ana Mari Cauce**  
UW Provost, **Mark Richards**  
UW Assistant Vice Provost for Enrollment and Executive Director for Financial Aid and  
Scholarships, **Kay Lewis**  
UW Vice President for Student Life, **Denzil Suite**  
Faculty Senate Chair, **Joe Janes**  
UW Associate Vice President for Student Life, **Lincoln Johnson**  
HUB Director, **Justin Camputaro**  
UW Manager of Student Success, **Sean Ferris**  
UW Associate Director for Student Activities, **Rene Singleton**

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**End**

*Presented to the ASUW Board of Directors for approval on June 11, 2020*  
*Approved on XXXX XX, 2020*