

1/25/2019

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Regarding Shared Governance

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between:

The Associated Students of the University of Washington Tacoma and the Chancellor of the University of Washington Tacoma.

- I. **Preamble:** The Associated Students of the University of Washington Tacoma (ASUW TACOMA) and the University of Washington Tacoma Administration affirm their commitment to shared governance.

Shared governance is the participation of faculty, staff, students, administrators, and the Chancellor in decision and policymaking processes. The purpose of shared governance in an institution of higher education is to provide shared responsibility among stakeholders for university affairs through the creation of a partnership based on mutual respect and collaboration. Such shared responsibility entails working toward mutual goals to embrace a unified vision established by a fully empowered campus community. Shared governance involves collaborative efforts to execute the institutional mission by participating in matters including:

- A. The identification of priorities;
- B. The development of policy;
- C. The enhancement of community partnerships;
- D. The governance of the academic institution as a whole;
- E. Address campus wide issues.

The value of this process is to cultivate an inclusive environment where decisions and policies are made stronger by the contribution of all affected stakeholders.

- II. **Purpose:** The purpose of this MOU is to formally establish guidelines for shared governance and therefore responsibilities at the University of Washington Tacoma that will guide the communication between all parties of this agreement.

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111. **Definitions:**

"Administration" is defined as any leadership position relating to the operation of the university, to include the chancellor, vice chancellors, deans, directors, and other senior officers of the University.

"Committee" is defined as any task force, work group, cabinet or advisory board.

"Stakeholders" is defined as faculty, staff, students, administration, and community members.

IV. **Policies & Principles:** The principles of shared governance should permeate the university, reaching every level of decision-making. In the interest of creating a culture of shared governance, this memorandum recognizes the following set of principles and policies:

- A The University of Washington Tacoma thrives when diverse stakeholders are included in decision-making processes from the outset, because open channels of communication and information prevents conflict caused by misunderstandings and partial information.
- B. Mutual respect, collegiality, and transparency mark&-the relationships and communication between all stakeholders.
- C. There should be opportunities for stakeholders to develop an understanding of each other's interests, perspectives, operations, and experiences (e.g. events and/or workshops).
- D. Pursuant to the principles of transparent information and inclusion, signatory parties should maintain a list of all currently existing committees and their purpose and operating schedules. Signatory parties should also communicate the formation of new committees to one another.
- E. All stakeholders should have the option to appoint a representative to sit on relevant committees of interest to their constituents (except when legally barred from doing so). These representatives should receive all relevant information pertaining to committee work as part of their membership.
- F. Consultation amongst university stakeholders about vendors and contractors whose operations directly relate to campus interests and have a broad impact.
- G. Stakeholder representatives should be active participants in decisions pertaining to the advancement of the University of Washington Tacoma.

V. **Commitments:**

ASUW TACOMA commits to:

- A. Working to ensure representation of a broad base of UW Tacoma students;
- B. Provide relevant and accurate information about student's interests and experiences;
- C. Uphold professional standards of timely communication;
- D. Approach the appropriate university administrators (where known) when issues arise;
- E. Ensure that committee appointees maintain regular attendance at meetings;
- F. Provide an easily accessible overview of ASUW Tacoma committees, legislation and initiatives.


The Chancellor commits to:

- A. Ensure that Administration collaborate and consult with ASUW TACOMA appointed students on the following financial decisions: Housing New Student Enrollment and Orientation Student Technology Fee, and Services and Activities Fee.
- B. Providing student representation on Cabinet, strategic planning, commencement, and other important committees.
- C. Provide relevant and accurate information concerning campus priorities.
- D. Publicize this document on the Office of the Chancellor website.


VI. **Signatures:**

 7-29-16


Mark Pagano, Chancellor - University of Washington Tacoma Date

 7-29-16

Sophie Nop, President - ASUW Tacoma (2015-16) Date



Berkan Koroglu, President - ASUW Tacoma (2016-17) Date

 1-24-19

Armen Papyan, President - ASUW Tacoma (2018-19) Date