***Western Washington Students for Life***

Official Constitution of Western Washington Students for Life

Western Washington University

**Article I: Name**

The name of this organization is Western Washington Students for Life (WWSFL).

**Article II: Purpose**

Western Washington Students for Life, the pro-life campus organization at Western Washington University (WWU), shall promote the pro-life position in the community, provide educational opportunities for its members, and care for women and families affected by abortion.

**Article III: Mission Statement**

Western Washington Students for Life was founded in 2014 to organize and activate pro-life students at Western Washington University (WWU) in Bellingham, Washington. Members of Western Washington Students for Life recognize that life begins at fertilization, and work to save lives that are threatened by induced abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, genocide, and other unjust forms of violence. In order to achieve these goals, members seek to promote respect for life at WWU and on local, state and national levels, to provide education on issues relating to the preservation of life, to help women facing unplanned crisis pregnancies, and to work with others who share these common goals.

**Article IV: Independence**

Western Washington Students for Life is not associated with any national, state, or local group.

Western Washington Students for Life does not have an official position on any issue that is not related to the pro-life position. We are not affiliated with any political or religious institution, nor do we take a position on sexual education or non-abortificient forms of contraceptives.

**Article V: Membership**

*Section 1*: Western Washington Students for Life is open to all WWU students, faculty and staff. No WWU student, faculty member, or staff member may be denied membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, disability, political affiliation, or veteran status. People unaffiliated with the university may be members of Western Washington Students for Life, but these members may not vote in elections.

*Section 2*: To become an official member, one must request official membership verbally or via e-mail to the President or Membership Director. In addition to this request, one must attend three meetings and pay dues before being recognized as an official member.

*Section 3*: If either or both of the official membership requirements specified in Section 2 cannot be fulfilled due to extraordinary circumstances, the consent of at least three officers is needed for the requirement(s) of membership to be dismissed so that the individual may be recognized as an official member.

**Article VII: Officers**

*Section 1*: The executive board of Western Washington Students for Life shall include two Co-Presidents, a Membership Director, Public Relations Director, Outreach Director, Funding Director, Education Director, and Officer of Development.

*Section 2*: Officers will hold office for a one year term starting after the spring semester election at the end of that semester, and ending at the end of the spring semester of the next year. No officer shall hold any office for more than two terms. However, he/she may run for a different officer after his/her two year term is over. The only possible exception may be the Funding Director, who may seek a third term with the consent of a majority of officers.

*Section 3*: Roles and Duties of Officers

A) Co-President(s)

1) Schedule and organize meetings and activities

2) Conduct the meetings

3) Provide general upkeep of the club

4) Handles publicity

5) Attends any external meetings with which the group could be associated and in addition establishes relationships with community groups, i.e. pregnancy care centers and local pro-life organizations

6) Organizes regular recruitment drives

C) Secretary

1) Keep track of the schedule

2) Updates and maintains membership lists and takes roll

3) Keeps meeting minutes

4) Sends out e-mail reminders

5) Works on publications (website and/or newsletter)

6) Counts election, impeachment and amendment ballots and announces results immediately after the vote is taken

D) Treasurer

1) Collects dues

2) Reports finances

3) Handles fundraising

*Section 4*: Duties common to all officers:

1. All officers are expected to attend all general and officer’s meetings as well as all lectures and events sponsored by Western Washington Students for Life. Overly excessive unexcused absences are grounds for impeachment.
2. Each officer may organize and preside over a committee in order to carry out his/her respective tasks.
3. If an officer is unable to complete a designated task, it is his/her responsibility to do everything in his/her power to make sure that the other officers are aware of the situation so that someone else may help complete the task.
4. Every officer must sign a copy of this constitution to state that he/she understands his/her duties and is committed to upholding the mission of Western Washington Students for Life.
5. Officers must remain enrolled at the campus of the Western Washington University.
6. Every exiting officer must schedule a meeting with the newly elected officer before the spring semester ends. The exiting officer must review the officer’s handbook with the newly elected officer.
7. Each officer is expected to perform any reasonable task requested of him/her by the President in order to further the goals of the organization.

*Section 5*: The impeachment of an officer can only occur when a simple majority of officers propose impeachment and a two-thirds majority of official members vote to impeach.

*Section 6*: In addition to the officer positions, it is at the President’s discretion to appoint students to committees to coordinate specific events or activities.

**Article VIII: Elections**

*Section 1*: The election of officers will take place at an election meeting to be held once a year during the spring semester, at least one week before the last day of classes for the semester.

*Section 2*: Any official member who is a graduate or undergraduate student at Western Washington University may be nominated for an office or may nominate him/herself.

*Section 3*: A member who is running for office must be nominated and accept his/her nomination at the nomination meeting, which will occur a minimum of one week prior to the election meeting.

*Section 4*: Officers must be elected by a simple majority via secret ballot. Only recognized (i.e., dues paying) members may vote in the election

*Section 5*: Any positions left unfilled after the election shall be filled by presidential appointment.

*Section 6*: In the event of an officer’s inability or unwillingness to serve his/her office, the president shall fill the position with an interim officer by appointment.

**Article IX: Meetings**

Section 1: The President must call a meeting at least twice a month during the fall, winter, and spring quarters. Meetings are typically every week.

Section 2: Officers must have a meeting at least once a month during the fall, winter, and spring quarters.

**Article X: Amendments**

In order to amend the constitution, an amendment should be submitted to the President. At the next officer’s meeting the President shall announce the proposal and a vote will take place by secret ballot. A two-thirds majority of officers present is necessary for approval. Upon approving a new constitution all officers must sign the new document and a hardcopy must be placed in the club binder.

**Officer’s Signatures \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Academic Year

Signature Printed Name

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President

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Membership Director

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Public Relations Director

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Education Director

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Fundraising Director

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Outreach Director

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Officer of Development

In the event that the club has co-officers they should sign here and include their position beneath their signature.

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