



Business and Financial Affairs
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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December 8, 2022

WWU Academic Student Employees:

Lexy Aydelotte, History
Jaimie Baxter, Environmental Studies
Jamie Good, English
Dan Hart, Business
Annie Jolliff, Biology
Natalie Keys, Computer Science Tutoring Center
Bjorn Knoblauch, History
Paige Koenig, Marine and Coastal Science
Callie Little, Geology
Erin Magarro, Tutoring Center
Jack McBride, Anthropology
Owen Montefisher, Math Tutoring Center
Chris Reid, English
Sydney Reynolds, Hacherl Research and Writing Studio
Karna Ringham, Health and Human Development
Willa Rowan, Geology
Meilin Scott, Employee Language Program
Garnet Swan, Computer Science
Sally Vaux, Environmental Science
William Watts, Tutoring Center
Elizabeth Wirsching, Biology
Ben Workman-Smith, Music
Andrea Wooley, Physics
Drake Woolsey, Math

Western Academic Workers United (WAWU) / United Auto Workers
contact@wawu-union.org
PO Box 2784
Bellingham, WA 98227

Dear Western Academic Student Employees:

Thank you for your letter and for informing Western Washington University of the recently submitted representation petition to the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC).

Western Washington University (WWU) will work with the PERC and the Office of the Attorney General to ensure compliance with federal and state law. The PERC holds a crucial place within the state employment system with responsibilities for formally recognizing unions and defining the scope of bargaining units. Further, as you may be aware, the legislature has not passed an authorizing statute related to the collective bargaining rights of Academic Student Employees. Such legislation is essential to provide a uniform structure, as well as orderly and clearly defined procedures for collective bargaining and dispute resolution.

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WWU is at this time unable to formally recognize or negotiate with any bargaining unit. As this process develops, WWU looks forward to receiving guidance from the PERC and potentially the state legislature regarding WAWU's petition.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Liz Parkes

Liz Parkes
Director, Employee and Labor Relations

C: Sabah Randhawa, President
Melissa Nelson, Assistant Attorney General