

Western Academic Workers United - UAW
April 24th, 2023

Dear President Randhawa and Director Parkes,

We are writing to introduce ourselves as the recently elected members of the Western Academic Workers United - UAW bargaining committee, to engage in dialogue about recognition/certification and to start bargaining as quickly as possible. In December, we wrote to you to announce that a strong majority of us had signed union authorization cards, and to request that you recognize WAWU-UAW. Since then, hundreds more Academic Student Employees have signed authorization cards, completed bargaining surveys, and participated in vibrant union meetings. Across campus, a supermajority of ASEs have indicated the urgency of moving forward to negotiate a contract, as we need clear and transparent policies and protections for student workers to create a more equitable and inclusive university.

In your response on December 8th, you stated that you would not recognize our union because there was no statute that defined our collective bargaining rights. As you are aware, RCW 41.56 now clearly puts to rest any questions about the ability of our unit to collectively bargain with you.

We would like to move forward with a PERC election as soon as possible. There are no determinative issues holding up an election, and we believe that an election will offer us the fastest way to become certified.

We urge you to work closely with us to ensure this process goes smoothly. In particular, we request that you work quickly with PERC to provide a list of eligible voters for the election. As we have noted in our communications with PERC, this list should include all Lab Assistants, as well as Computer Assistants at the Student Technology Center, pursuant to our petition. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to us as soon as possible so we can work together with PERC to resolve them as soon as possible. You can contact us at wawu-bargaining@uaw4121.org, and we hope to hear from you shortly.

Sincerely,

The WAWU-UAW Bargaining Committee,

Andrea Wooley	Gabe Wong
Erin Magarro	Chris Reid
Lily Rayor	David Cummins
Valerie Campbell	Taylor Inman
Willa Rowan	Mara Sullivan
William Watts	Miriam Gold