

4 May 2009

To the members of the President's Cabinet:

AFFIRMING that we, as members of the Associated Students of Whitworth College, recognize our duty to present concerns that have been brought to our attention regarding the Whitworth community;

DEEPLY CONCERNED with the recent discussions on campus regarding cultural differences (including race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, lifestyle, etc.), it is necessary that certain changes need to be made in order to facilitate a respectful and cooperative community;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that we are a Christian institution, we recognize and fully support a Christian emphasis shall be present in curriculum and campus policy;

HAVING CONSIDERED this, Christian values are better understood through exposure to different and challenging perspectives. And as a Christian college, "we take seriously Christ's example of loving across racial, ethnic, gender, socio-economic and religious differences";¹

CONSCIOUS and aware of the fact that many of these perspectives are not adequately presented in the college curriculum or throughout the community;

BEARING IN MIND these concerns, we have identified several areas that should be modified in order to reflect the needs and desires of the student body. These areas include, but are not limited to: the Core program, Freshman Seminar, the American Diversity credit, and clubs on campus;

WELCOMING your consideration of the ideas presented below and further discussion and questions in order to work with you to better serve the student body;

REALIZING that ASWC is wholly committed to that end, and will continue seeking ways to address both strengths and weaknesses within the institution;

APPRECIATING your continued efforts to uphold the mission and goals established by Whitworth College in promising to be supportive, welcoming, open, and respectful to all community members;

BE IT NOTED THAT we have included an addendum of suggested changes to consider while reviewing current policy and campus climate.

Sincerely,

The Associated Students of Whitworth College

¹ Whitworth College. "Whitworth Commitment to Diversity" Available: <http://www.whitworth.edu/GeneralInformation/CommitmentToDiversity/Index.asp>

