

We, the Faculty Senate Executive Council of Western Washington University, believe:

- The use of racial slurs is inexcusable.
- Academic freedom does not protect nor provide cover for racism in the classroom. While academic freedom does allow for challenging and difficult discussions in the classroom, appropriate context and consideration for students with marginalized identities is essential.
- This is the responsibility of each individual faculty member.

Moreover, we recognize:

- That as a majority white visibly bodied Executive Board, we speak from a position of power and privilege.
- And appreciate the courage of faculty and students, especially those of color, for bringing these issues to our attention.
- The need for having a thoughtful and productive conversation about race in Faculty Senate to lead to listening and learning.