



# Diversity & Student Outreach Committee

Fall 2024 Quarterly Report

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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## Introduction

This Fall 2024 Quarter in the Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy Department (UEPP), the Diversity and Student Outreach Committee (DSOC) has completed some important beginning steps towards the continued implementation of the committee. The DSOC is one that has goals of improving the departmental culture in ways that support all students and faculty, and this is done through various means. Following Summer 2024 when the Diversity Plan reached a final version 1 draft, this Fall 2024 quarter was centered around gaining interest and participation from department students to begin the application and ideation needed to meet goals in the new plan. This report details the accomplishments of DSOC in Fall 2024 and the next steps for Winter 2025.

## Objectives

The DSOC had a few goals for Fall 2024, including:

- Gaining increased student and faculty involvement in the committee.
- Implementation of the 2024 Diversity Plan student through student recruitment and retention, community engagement, and identifying outreach opportunities.
- Create a more standardized vision of meetings, work division, and participation for future continuation of the committee.

# Outcomes

## Annual Calendar

At the very beginning of this quarter, the Annual Calendar (located in Appendix A) was created to clarify UEPP departmental events for the 2024-2025 Academic Year. This calendar features deadlines for department faculty, important campus events, the UPSD application deadline, peer advising dates, and more. The creation of this calendar was highlighted as a necessary step to increase information accessibility and availability to students and faculty. The draft calendar was given to faculty to offer feedback, which was utilized to publish the final version. Despite a lack of set-in stone dates, some events are still noted on the calendar to increase accountability in their implementation, as well as knowledge of their proposal.

## Gauging Interest

Early in the quarter posters were created and put up around the department buildings to notify all UEPP students of the DSOC and their option to participate as members. This flyer can be seen in Appendix B. This invitation was also extended to faculty members. The flyers featured a QR code, which directed students to complete a survey indicating their desire to participate in the committee. We had 16 initial respondents, not including the 2 previous DSOC members from the 2023-2024 Academic Year. This was an exciting amount of interest for the committee. All students who completed the survey were invited to the first meeting.

## Meetings

The first meeting for DSOC was an informational session hosted by 2 previous students and Dr. Laninga. This meeting allowed students to meet face to face and learn about the history of the committee, opportunities for involvement, and future goals. This meeting gave an introduction to each of the identified projects which included:

- Media, Logo & Branding
- Peer Advising Event Planning
- Winter Social Planning
- Outreach Opportunities Research

After the meeting, students were divided into one of these teams, notified, and each group was given tasks in relation to their project.

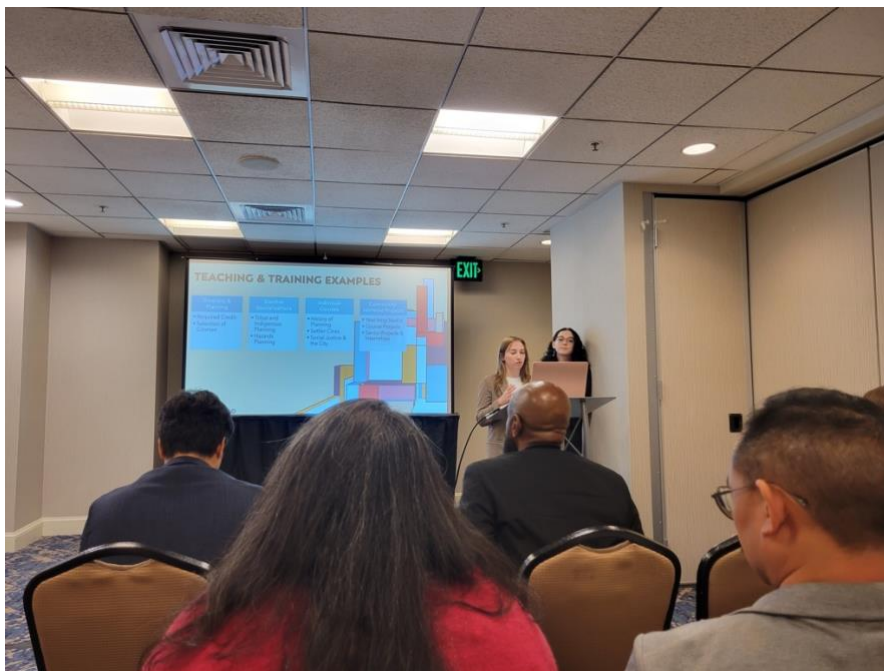
After our first meeting, there was little additional contact between the committee due to improper delegation of tasks and expectations. Although there were deliverables and items we hoped to complete, finding times to collaborate and initiate was a struggle, considering the schedules of 17 or so people. Due to this, our next meeting was at the end of the quarter, where there was emphasis on the Social Climate Survey, which will be discussed more in depth later on.

## Peer Advising Event

The Committee envisions quarterly peer advising events to take place each Friday before class registration for the following quarter begins. These create additional spaces for students to share relevant information, meet new people (potentially mentors) and hear about courses, professors, and otherwise that they may not have from websites or academic advisors. To prepare for Winter 2025 registration we held a peer advising event with knowledgeable senior students willing to engage with others and talk about class schedules. Print outs of our Annual Calendar (Appendix A), as well as general information regarding registration processes, tips and tricks were distributed and discussed. Some of these include Degree Works, Plan Ahead, Class Finder, and others. The flyer utilized to promote the event can be found in Appendix C.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in AH 219 we provided coffee and donuts to participants, peer advisers and those seeking support. Early on, a good number of students showed up to talk about their prospective schedules for winter quarter. Students expressed gratitude for providing such a space where peers could learn from one another, and multiple new connections were made at the event. Some of these students may not have been connected had the event not taken place, due to the structure of course sequencing. This successful event is one we are excited to continue into future quarters, and represents a strong strategy for student recruitment and retention.

## ACSP Conference Presentation



*Fig. 1: Ciara Riordan & Charlotte King present "Shaping Futures" by Dr. Laninga at the ACSP Conference in Seattle, WA. (Image credit: Dr. Kamel).*

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 students from the committee represented the Urban Planning and Sustainable Development Program by giving a presentation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the program. The presentation utilized core frameworks from the 2024 UEPP Diversity Plan to speak to the important inclusion in our curriculum of topics surrounding equity. Much of DSOC's work so far was included in the presentation, including the 2024 Spring Workshop and Fall 2024 Peer Advising Event.

## Community Development Projects

Dr. Tammi Laninga's UEPP 475 Community Development and Participatory Methods class, had three student teams conducting projects that contribute to DSOC's work: Diversity Best Practices Research, Community Based Organization Research & Outreach, and Student Social Climate Survey. The work done in these groups will be utilized moving into Winter 2025.

### Diversity Research: Best Practices

This project group researched multiple universities' Equity, Diversity and Inclusion plans. Their report will provide valuable information for the DSOC in Winter 2025 to continue implementation of DSOC's own Diversity Plan.

### Community-Based Organization Research & Outreach

This group reached out to multiple Community Based Organizations (CBO) in the Bellingham to gauge need and desire for collaboration with the UEPP department. They detailed specific areas for involvement with these CBOs, which represent their needs, but also UEPP's potential assistance. These relationships will need to be continued and offer a great step for outreach with the broader community.

### Student Social Climate Survey

DSOC previously identified the need to create an anonymous survey for students to freely express concerns, highlights, and feelings of belonging in the UEPP department. The Student Social Climate Survey was drafted, piloted, revised, and then given to DSOC to provide feedback. At the final DSOC meeting for this quarter, we carefully went through the survey to clarify necessity and scope. Faculty and students on the committee gave insightful feedback, but ultimately recognized a need to reach out to Western's resources on reporting, as some questions address safety, harassment, and discrimination. This is an area the committee will be looking into before publishing the survey in Winter 2025.

## Next Steps

Despite all these accomplishments, there are areas that were not able to be completed in the fall quarter. We hope to promptly address these areas in Winter 2025, so that we can move onto new goals.

## Creating a “Brand”

Part of establishing DSOC as a recognizable committee for better event notification and opportunities for students would be to create a brand, logo, email, and social media. No work has been done in this area yet, but establishing these can increase continuity in marketing materials and overall image of DSOC.

## Winter Social

In the Winter quarter we hope to host a department wide social event that is inclusive, open to all, and provides opportunities for peer connection in an informal setting. Ideas involve a movie night, with snacks and a voted on movie. Planning for this event will have to take place quickly in January.

## Improving Peer Advising

As we look forward to another peer advising event in winter, it would be useful to standardize some materials and information for peer advisors to utilize. There is currently a draft document detailing the usage of Plan Ahead, Degree Works, advisors, and more in the works. Additionally, we hope to provide senior representatives of all UEPP majors, as there were no Environmental Policy seniors available for the event.

## Conclusion

Fall 2024 was successful but given our high interest in the committee there could have been more accomplishments. This will require better delegation, resource allocation, and standardization of meeting times. Despite this, application of the Diversity Plan is underway in meaningful ways. DSOC is eager to continue engagement with new students and faculty, while addressing department needs.

# Appendix

## Appendix A Annual Calendar

### Urban and Environmental Planning & Policy Department 2024-2025 Academic Calendar

August 2024							September 2024							October 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024							December 2024							January 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025							March 2025							April 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1						1			1	2	3	4	5	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

May 2025							June 2025							July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

<span style="background-color: #ADD8E6; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Appreciation Days	<span style="background-color: #FFDAB9; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Registration Begins	<span style="background-color: #DDA0DD; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Due Dates
<span style="background-color: #FFFF00; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> External Events	<span style="background-color: #FFC0CB; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Quarterly Peer Advising Coffee & Donuts	<span style="background-color: #F08080; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Department Events
<span style="background-color: #FFB6C1; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Campus Events	<span style="background-color: #90EE90; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> First & Last Day of Quarter	

Fall 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
Sept. 23 Fall Info Fair	Jan. 7 1st Day - Wint. Qtr	Mar. 29-4/1 APA NPC	<b>Unscheduled:</b>
Sept. 25 1st Day - Fall Qtr	Jan. 29-31 PAB Site Visit	April 1 1st Day - Spring Qtr	Diversity Committee
Oct. 2 Custodial Workers Day	Feb. 2 UEPP Schedule Due	April 15&12 Admitted Student Day	Summer Session
Oct. 14 UEPP Open House	Feb. 21 Coffee Hour Advising	April 18 UPSD Applications	
Oct. 15 Compass 2 Campus	Feb. 25 Spring Registration	May 6 Teacher Appr. Day	<b>Other AY Events:</b>
Oct. 16-18 APA WA Conf.	Mar. 25 Last Day Winter Qtr	June 13 Last Day Spring / AY	Annual Intern Survey
Oct. 26 Connects for Social Chg.	<b>Unscheduled</b>	<b>Unscheduled</b>	UEPP Promo Vid
Nov. 8 Coffee Hour Advising	UEPP Movie Night	DSOC Workshop Club Elects	
Dec. 13 Last Day of Fall Quarter	Social Climate Survey	EOY Party UPSD Exit Surv.	

**NEW!**

Join the  
**DIVERSITY AND  
STUDENT OUTREACH  
COMMITTEE**

Are you a UEPP major/pre-major looking to get involved and/or earn some experiential credit?

**The Diversity and Student Outreach Committee (DSOC) are accepting applications for the 2024-25 academic year!**



Scan to learn more :)  
Applications due by  
Wednesday Oct. 16th



*linking knowledge and action*

# UEPP DROP-IN ADVISING

NOVEMBER 8, 2024  
AH 219 11AM-2PM

FREE  
COFFEE &  
DONUTS!



Drop in to chat with peers in Urban Sustainability,  
Environmental Policy, & Urban Planning in  
preparation for Winter registration!

**DIVERSITY & STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE**  
**URBAN & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & POLICY**

For accommodations please contact [laningt@wwu.edu](mailto:laningt@wwu.edu)



# Diversity & Student Outreach Committee

Winter 2025 Quarterly Report

March 24, 2025

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## Introduction

In Winter 2025 Quarter the UEPP Department's Diversity and Student Outreach Committee (DSOC) held two events, conducted a social climate survey, drafted a brand image, and has continued community and student outreach efforts as outlined in the UEPP Draft Diversity Plan. This report details the winter quarter achievements, as well as the continued steps for Spring 2025.

## Objectives

DSOC committee members organized into sub-committees with tasks and specific goals, including to:

- Create a clear, recognizable “brand” through colors and visuals
- Host a second, quarterly peer advising event
- Host a Winter Get Together
- Further outreach to community colleges and local coalitions
- Revise and publish a Social Climate Survey

These specific objectives of the committee aimed to promote community connectedness, provide resources for peer advising and registration to lower barriers to entry within the UEPP department, pursue outreach efforts and opportunities, and gain feedback on student's status of belonging in the department.

## Outcomes

### Creating a “Brand”

The committee published a page on the UEPP website about the [Diversity and Student Outreach Committee](#) under the “About Us” tab and created a logo and color kit that is cohesive with WWU's colors. The logo was utilized on the flyers for the Peer Advising Event as well as the Winter Social (see Appendices A and C). A shared mailbox was made for committee members ([UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu)) as well as an instructional guide on how to use this shared mailbox (Appendix B). Mindful of its limitations, this mailbox will serve as a cohesive face for the committee.



### Peer Advising Event

The committee hosted a peer advising event on February 21st from 11-2pm for students to connect with peer advisors in a welcoming and supportive environment. The event was held in the student lounge (AH 221) and aimed to assist students with academic planning and registration. To encourage participation, donuts and coffee were offered to attendees to create a casual and inviting atmosphere and flyers were distributed around campus

(Appendix A). Several peer advisors were available throughout the event to answer questions and provide guidance on course selection, registration processes, and campus resources.

Only 6 students attended. In spring quarter, we should consider picking a different day or time of the week so more people can participate. Materials were distributed to assist students with registration, ensuring they had access to essential information needed for a smooth enrollment process. The event successfully engaged students seeking academic support and contributed to the ongoing efforts to promote inclusivity and accessibility in advising services.

### **Student Social Climate Survey**

The committee revised and published the student social climate survey which was created in the fall quarter by students in Dr. Laninga's UEPP 475 – Community Development and Participatory Methods course. Considerations and revisions were made for Title IX compliance regarding the safety section of the survey, ease of comprehension, clarity of questions, and time required to take the survey. It was then sent out to the UEPP mailing list with regular reminders and is still receiving responses, with the data to be compiled in the spring quarter. The survey will be promoted via flyers in the early spring quarter. DSOC will use survey feedback to help plan the annual Spring Workshop.

The survey is available to be taken here:

[https://www.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8BmPYF1cvSHzn6e?Q\\_DL=O2Fsjzqm8n4ldj8\\_8BmPYF1cvSHzn6e\\_CGC\\_xswkmBWOgjGM4Uk&Q\\_CHL=email](https://www.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8BmPYF1cvSHzn6e?Q_DL=O2Fsjzqm8n4ldj8_8BmPYF1cvSHzn6e_CGC_xswkmBWOgjGM4Uk&Q_CHL=email).

### **Outreach**

The outreach team continued the work of connecting the UEPP Department with regional community-based organizations (CBO's) by following up with those previously contacted about collaboration opportunities to be posted here: <https://cenv.wvu.edu/uepp/current-internship-senior-project-opportunities>. This has received few responses so far with no immediate opportunities for collaboration, so this should continue to be pursued.

Associate Director of Admissions Jeanne Gaffney was contacted in an initial step to reaching out to community colleges in Washington State to share word about the UEPP department. She said the committee was okay to move forward and suggested contacting professors teaching in related fields to share with their classes directly as well as sharing a flyer with them. The next step in this process would be running a pilot on a select community college, likely with special attention to more diverse colleges.

The outreach team also met with Fred Gold from the WWU Foundation to discuss creating a scholarship for underserved youth in the Duwamish River Valley to attend WWU. The discussion settled on fundraising an initial \$2,000 to generate one scholarship of \$2,000 or two of \$1,000. This will require a Viking Funder to be set up, which Fred has been contacted about, but we may need to contact Mandy Hanousek after some administrative changes.

### **Winter Social**

On February 27, 2025, DSOC hosted the first Winter Get Together in the planning studio (ES 318). The event was a fun, casual opportunity for students of the three Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy majors to get together over pizza, snacks, and a movie. Flyers (Appendix C) were placed around campus, but especially in Arntzen Hall and the Environmental Studies buildings. The Urban Planning Club also sent out an email about the event to their mailing list. There was a good turnout of about 18 attendees, especially considering that this was the first time this event has been hosted. We obtained the rights to screen *Fish War* (2024). We borrowed a popcorn machine to serve fresh popcorn alongside pizza, beverages, fruits and other snacks.

## **Next Steps**

### **Spring UEPP Workshop**

The Spring Workshop is an annual event hosted by the DSOC. In 2024, it centered around belonging in the department. Quickly in the beginning of spring quarter, the committee will confirm facility and location details. The feedback from the Social Climate Survey will be utilized to ideate a central “theme”, similar to how belonging was considered for the previous year. This event will need to work around Earth Day events (week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>) and the Urban Planning and Sustainable Development applications deadline (April 18<sup>th</sup>).

### **Peer Mentorship Program**

The UEPP Peer Mentorship Program is a collaboration between the Diversity and Student Outreach Committee and Western Urban Planners. The groups collaborated on a Social Justice & Equity Committee grant, which was funded. The groups will move forward to implementing a peer mentorship program, with a full launch in AY 2025-2026.

### **Community Outreach**

The community outreach team should:

- Continue to follow up with community-based organizations (CBO) in Bellingham;
- Collaborate with the media team to create a flyer for community college professors to share with their classrooms;
- Identify and pilot advertising with a professor at a community college with special emphasis on underrepresented communities in the UEPP Department;
- Follow up about creating a Viking Funder (may need to contact a different person such as Mandy Hanousek); and
- Brainstorm fundraising ideas and identify people or groups which could help us fundraise for the scholarship.
- Create an Instagram account, as well as a member designated to creating the media for and managing it.

## Conclusion

DSOC has accomplished most of the set goals for the winter quarter, and each subcommittee continues to carry out activities that align with goals in the UEPP Draft Diversity Plan (2024). With continued participation from members receiving credit and not, DSOC can consider new areas for projects and events.

The committee successfully achieved the goals outlined in the previous quarterly report as well as continuing student projects in the social climate survey and outreach methods. New opportunities were identified and will continue to be worked towards. With winter quarter often being the most difficult on students, the outcomes produced by this student committee were great and spring quarter will be a great chance for a final push before many of the members graduate, especially in the outreach department.

# Appendix

## Appendix A Winter Peer Advising Flyer

**DIVERSITY & STUDENT  
OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

invites you to...

# PEER ADVISING

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025  
AH 221 (STUDENT LOUNGE)  
11 AM - 2 PM**

Drop in to chat with peers in  
Urban Sustainability,  
Environmental Policy, & Urban  
Planning in preparation for  
upcoming registration!

**FREE COFFEE  
& DONUTS!**

## **Appendix B Shared Mailbox Instructions**

The [UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu) account is a “shared mailbox”, meaning it is added to the sidebar on your outlook account where you can view and send emails without a separate log in.

It is important to note that the account only has an inbox, no draft or sent box, meaning you cannot see how other members have used it. Drafts and sent emails are viewed only from the account of who wrote them. To resolve this, *simply CC the [UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu) address so it ends up in the inbox.*

### **How to Access the Shared Mailbox**

Once you are a registered user, the inbox will not automatically show up in your outlook, you have to add it by:

- Mobile: click on your account on the top left (next to “inbox,” and press the “+” sign on the left, then type in “[UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu).”
- Desktop: right click the “Folders” header located above your inbox and select “add new shared mailbox” and type in “[UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu).”

Further directions can be found here: [Open an Outlook Shared Mailbox | ATUS | Western Washington University](#)

### **Using the Shared Mailbox**

You will have to do this every time unless you make the permanent switch by:

- Go to the settings in the top right of outlook
- Navigate to “mail” -> “compose and reply”
- check the box “always show from” at the top
- Write [UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu) in the “from” field next time you send a mail

For sending out to a mailing list *paste the mailing list into BCC to make sure they cannot see who else is on the list, and if they respond, it will only go to the [UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu](mailto:UEPP.DSOC@wwu.edu) mail address.*

Appendix C  
Winter Get Together Flyer

**DIVERSITY & STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

# WINTER — GET — TOGETHER

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH**  
**ES 318**  
**5:30 PM**

Open to  
**ALL UEPP Majors!**

Hangout with  
friends, bring crafts,  
games, and comfy  
clothes for a night  
of fun during this  
chilly season!

**Movie!**

**FREE Pizza!**

**Snacks!**

**Friends!**





# Diversity & Student Outreach Committee

Spring 2025 Quarterly Report

June 11, 2025

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## Introduction

In the Spring 2025 Quarter the UEPP Department's Diversity and Student Outreach Committee (DSOC) held two events, analyzed survey data, developed a resource for transfer students, and has continued community and student outreach efforts as outlined in the UEPP Draft Diversity Plan. This report details the Spring Quarter achievements, as well as the continued steps for summer session and the 2025-26 academic school year.

## Objectives

DSOC committee members organized into sub-committees with tasks and specific goals, including to:

- Conduct a Spring UEPP Workshop centering themes from the Social Climate Survey.
- Prepare for launching the now-funded peer mentorship program for AY 2025-26 in collaboration with Western Urban Planners club.
- Further student and community outreach efforts, including:
  - Advertising the UEPP program at community colleges
  - Creating two scholarships for students from the Duwamish River Valley
  - Fostering relations with community-based organizations in Bellingham

These specific objectives of the committee aim to promote community connectedness and sense of belonging, provide resources for peer advising and registration to lower barriers to entry within the UEPP department, and pursue outreach efforts to underrepresented populations in the UEPP department.

## Outcomes

### **Peer Advising Event**

The committee hosted a peer advising event on May 8th for students to connect with peer advisors in a welcoming and supportive environment. The event was held in the student lounge (AH 221) and aimed to assist students with academic planning and registration. To encourage participation, chips, salsa, and iced tea were offered to attendees to create a casual and inviting atmosphere. Flyers were distributed around campus (Appendix A). Several peer advisors were available throughout the event to answer questions and provide guidance on course selection, registration processes, and campus resources.

A flow of students fluctuated in and out of the space. In Fall quarter 2025, we should consider a more organized process for advisors and marketing outreach to better ensure students are aware of the program and that we have the support necessary. Materials were distributed to assist students with registration, ensuring they had access to essential information needed for a smooth enrollment process. The event successfully engaged

students seeking academic support and contributed to the ongoing efforts to promote inclusivity and accessibility in advising services.

### **Outreach**

Following Winter Quarter's approval to advertise UEPP programs to community colleges in Washington, the outreach team developed a list of professors from various colleges who teach relevant classes. These professors can then be contacted with a standardized email with a flyer created by the media team attached.

The team created a guide for transfer students interested in the UPSD major (Appendix B). It includes information on applying to the major, courses they can take while still in community college that will apply, which courses to take in their first quarter at WWU, and institutional knowledge to assist in settling into the new department (who to contact, overrides, sequential courses, pre-major information, etc.). This should be developed into an outreach format, such as a flyer with a link to further information as it may not all fit into a flyer.

Efforts to create two \$1,000 scholarships for students in the Duwamish River Valley were stalled due to layoffs and administrative changes. This should be re-attempted in Fall Quarter 2025. The most recent contact was Mandy Hanousek, and the subcommittee should begin there.

### **Student Social Climate Survey**

Students completed an analysis of the Student Social Climate Survey, which was administered in Winter Quarter. The final report will be available by mid-summer.

### **Spring Workshop 2025: Making Connections**

On May 2nd, DSOC hosted their second annual spring workshop with the theme "Making Connections," which came out of the need for more social opportunities outside of Western Urban Planners club, as indicated by the social climate survey. The event was a great opportunity for students of the three Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy majors, pre-majors, and faculty to meet over bagels and coffee to get to know each other. Flyers (Appendix C) were placed around campus, but especially in Arntzen Hall and the Environmental Studies buildings. About 25 people attended the workshop. Attendees played games, reviewed results of the survey, and had opportunities to speak with their own cohorts and others about their experiences in the UEPP department and hear from a panel of graduating seniors about their future plans and lessons learned while at WWU.

## **Next Steps**

### **Peer Mentorship Program**

The UEPP Peer Mentorship Program is a collaboration between the Diversity and Student Outreach Committee and Western Urban Planners. The groups collaborated on a Social

Justice & Equity Committee grant, which was funded, beginning Summer of 2025. The groups will move forward to implementing a peer mentorship program, with a full launch in AY 2025-2026. This consists of a paid coordinator position, a committee of support, and of course student mentors and mentees in the UEPP department.

### **Community Outreach**

The outreach team should continue transfer student outreach efforts by:

- Adding to the list of colleges to reach out to with more underrepresented demographics/areas; and
- Contacting select professors using a revised email and flyer the media team will create.

As well as restarting efforts to create two \$1,000 Duwamish River Valley student scholarships by:

- Re-attempt starting up a Viking Funder; and
- Brainstorm and start fundraising, potentially collaborating with people outside of DSOC but within UEPP.

They should also continue to follow up with community-based organizations (CBO) in Bellingham.

### **Media Team**

The media team should:

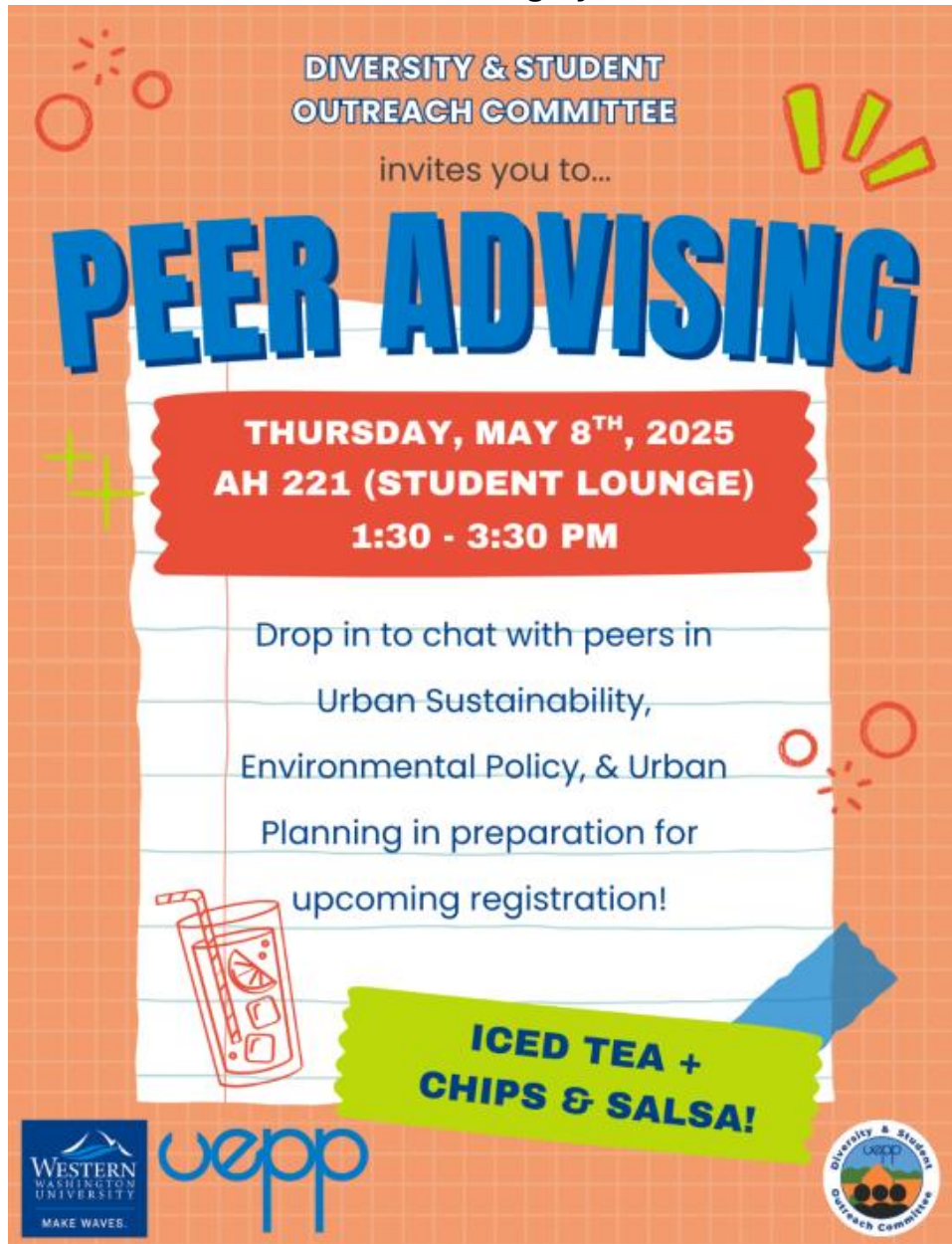
- Create a flyer for community college professors to share with their classrooms, using resources from the community outreach team;
- Create a flyer with information for transfer students and their advisors, using resources from the community outreach team; and
- Create an Instagram account and assign a member to create and manage posts.

## **Conclusion**

DSOC has accomplished many of the set goals for the Spring Quarter, and each subcommittee continues to carry out activities that align with goals in the UEPP Draft Diversity Plan (2024). With continued participation from members receiving credit and not, DSOC can consider new areas for projects and events.

# Appendix

## Appendix A Peer Advising Flyer



The flyer is set against an orange background with a white grid pattern. At the top, the text 'DIVERSITY & STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below this, 'invites you to...' is written in a smaller, black font. The main title 'PEER ADVISING' is in large, bold, blue, uppercase letters. A red banner with a scalloped edge contains the date and time: 'THURSDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2025', 'AH 221 (STUDENT LOUNGE)', and '1:30 - 3:30 PM'. The event description is on a white notepad with blue horizontal lines: 'Drop in to chat with peers in Urban Sustainability, Environmental Policy, & Urban Planning in preparation for upcoming registration!'. A green banner with a scalloped edge says 'ICED TEA + CHIPS & SALSA!'. There is a line drawing of a glass of iced tea with a straw and a slice of orange. The flyer includes logos for Western Washington University, uepp, and the Diversity & Student Outreach Committee.

DIVERSITY & STUDENT  
OUTREACH COMMITTEE




invites you to...

# PEER ADVISING

**THURSDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**  
**AH 221 (STUDENT LOUNGE)**  
**1:30 - 3:30 PM**

Drop in to chat with peers in  
Urban Sustainability,  
Environmental Policy, & Urban  
Planning in preparation for  
upcoming registration!

**ICED TEA +  
CHIPS & SALSA!**



## Appendix B Guide for Transfer Students Interested in UPSD

### Info about applying to the majors

Admitted students can declare their pre-major as early as the middle of July before the start of Fall Quarter. Students who have declared their pre-major are able to register for 300-level courses and get overrides into 400-level courses when necessary.

Kathryn Patrick is the advisor for all pre-major students. Once a student is admitted to the program, they are assigned another advisor who is more closely engaged with UEPP courses.

If you have trouble registering for the courses you need, you can email the professor directly or message your advisor Kathryn Patrick for an override and for help finding courses which fit into your major requirements.

It is important to note that students keep a plan for the courses they will take by quarter for graduation. Some classes are only offered once a year, so having a flexible plan is important.

Urban Planning & Sustainable Development applications are open in March-April. More information is available here: [Applying to the Urban Planning and Sustainable Development Major | College of the Environment | Western Washington University](#)

### Course Guide

Western Washington University's Urban Planning & Sustainable Development program offers two foundation paths. They provide two different sets of required courses which students can choose from.

There are some commonalities between these two routes. The following classes are required for both paths and must be taken:

Foundations A & B Shared Requirements			
Code		Title	Equivalency
	PLSC 250	The American Political System	
One course from:	ESCI 204	The Oceans: Topics in Marine Science	
	ESCI 255	Beginning Ecology	

\*Alternatively, students in foundation path B can take ENVS 203 Physical Geography, which also counts towards foundation path A.

Urban Planning & Sustainable Development			
Foundation A Environmental Studies			
Code		Title	Equivalency
	MATH 112	Functions and Algebraic Methods	

	ECON 206	Introduction to Microeconomics	
One course from:	ENVS 203	Physical Geography	
	ENVS 204	Human Geography	
<b>Foundation B Environmental Science</b>			
<b>Code</b>		<b>Title</b>	<b>Equivalency</b>
	MATH 114	Precalculus I	
	CHEM 161	General Chemistry I	
One course from:	BIOL 101	Introduction to Biology w/lab	
	BIOL 204	Introduction to Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity w/lab	

\*If a student has taken a more advanced course than what is required, the student may have already met the requirement even if the course is not exact. For example, a student who has completed Precalculus I will not be required to take Functions and Algebraic Methods in foundation A. Students should talk to Kathryn Patrick to confirm their situation.

#### First courses to take at WWU

When arriving at WWU, students should finish their foundation courses. This includes taking UEPP 261 and UEPP 270 ASAP, as well as finishing any requirements not met by transfer credits. For students taking foundation path B, this may include taking one of the courses listed below:

ESCI 302 Environmental Disturbances

ESCI 325 Fundamentals of ecology

ESCI 330 Natural History of the Pacific Northwest

ESCI 333 Introduction to Environmental Toxicology

ESCI 361 Water Quality

ENRG 380 or ESCI 380 Energy and Environment

ENVS 392 or ESCI 392 Introduction to Climate Change

ESCI 404 Indigenous Resource Management in the Salish Sea

ESCI 442 Introduction to remote Sensing

ESCI 463 Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment

\*Students should refer to the programs website ([Program: Urban Planning and Sustainable Development, BA - Western Washington University](#)) for details on all of their options for meeting course requirements. This document focuses only on 200 and below level courses as its intended use is for community colleges.

Next, students should start taking 300-level UEPP courses. Students who have declared as a UPSD pre-major should be able to register for these classes. If you have issues, send an email to Kathryn Patrick with details.

For information on which quarters classes are offered, see here: [BA in Urban Planning and Sustainable Development \(brochure\)](#)

Appendix C  
Making Connections Workshop Flyer

DIVERSITY & STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

# MAKING CONNECTIONS

## IN UEPP


**MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2025**  
**VU 462 A/B**  
**9AM - 12PM**

**OPEN TO ALL UEPP MAJORS!**

Join us to meet peers, connect with your own and other cohorts, and hear lessons from seniors.

This annual event is centered around making connections with peers and faculty to create better cohesion and sense of belonging in UEPP.

**PLEASE RSVP HERE:**



**FEATURING GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND A PANEL OF SENIORS**

**FREE COFFEE + BAGELS!**

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
MAKE WAVES.

uepp



For disability accommodations please reach out to [laningt@wwu.edu](mailto:laningt@wwu.edu)