

# The Husky Herald

Edited by Ashley Tsang, Kairi Rojas and Aysha Siddiqui



Cover Art by Colette Skojec

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## Julie Sze on Climate Justice: UW's Study and Struggle Event Sparks Urgent Dialogue

Written by: Ashley Tsang - Editor-in-Chief  
March 2026

# study & struggle

Image Credit: UW Calendar

Originated in Mississippi, Study and Struggle is a collective curriculum designed to promote education and community building through prison-based reading groups. The mission centers on collaborative learning between incarcerated individuals and people outside prison walls, creating spaces for shared dialogue in initiatives such as radical study groups, pen pal relationships, book reviews and prisoner-led research projects.

At the University of Washington, Study and Struggle has taken the form of a series of events held from Jan. to April 2026, bringing together students, faculty and staff to listen and discuss topics related to race, gender and labor, according to [UW's event calendar](#).

On Feb. 12, a discussion centered on climate justice was hosted, featuring UC Davis American Studies Professor Julie Sze and UW Environmental Teaching Professor Jennifer Atkinson, moderated by Jed Murr, the Associate Dean for Diversity and Equity. For many students navigating their education while being exposed to discouraging news about climate change, conversations like this offer space to process and think critically about possible paths forward. This session specifically explored the concept of what Sze described as "non-naive radical hope" when discussing environmental topics, colonialism, and the role of higher education in addressing it.

When introducing the topic, she says, "Everything feels so hopeless and far from justice ... how do we talk about climate freedom when hope is in short supply?"

Rather than promoting optimism detached from reality, the non-naive approach is grounded in a form of hope that acknowledges the long-term impacts of human activities. Sze highlighted how the climate crisis is deeply intertwined with historical contexts, including capitalism and colonialism. She noted that the United States remains the single largest historical contributor of carbon dioxide emis-

sions since 1750. Much of the country's industrial growth later occurred alongside the 19th century Westward Expansion, when settlers claimed Indigenous lands and built extractive industries, a process tied to colonialism.

The conversation continued and addressed broader facts about climate change for context. According to the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#), the current primary sources of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions include transportation, electricity generation, and commercial and residential energy use. Residential emissions often stem from heating, electricity consumption, and refrigerants used for cooling systems. However, the scale of energy demand shifts when cooling extends beyond individual households to large data center facilities. In Washington state, there are approximately 120 data centers consuming significant amounts of electricity and water to regulate high-powered computing systems. This expansion of digital infrastructure raises broader questions of environmental responsibility and reflects the long history of resource extraction for corporate gains.

Community impacts related to climate justice were also discussed. It was mentioned that 2026 is the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, which is a reminder of how environmental disasters disproportionately affect marginalized communities. According to [Louisiana State University](#), 1.5 million residents were evacuated, and thousands were left homeless, and, as a result, mental health issues also rose. "The majority of those who lost their homes or who were otherwise displaced were African Americans living in the city's lower-income areas," says writer Jewett.

The conversation then addressed how political and institutional decisions shape the ability to study issues connected to climate justice. Sze noted recent institutional decisions like the University of Texas closing their gender studies programs. She explained that limiting fields like gender and race can con-

strain how students respond to environmental crises, which often intersect with social issues.

Sze additionally connected her background to how her lived experiences inform her activist commitments. She comes from working-class parents who experienced famine and violence in Maoist China, which shapes her passion for learning about the unheard. Experiences with food insecurity and social instability can also be connected to environmental conditions as climate change continues to worsen agricultural production, deepening existing inequalities.

At the end of the session, there was time for a Q&A session in which a student questioned how to sustain engagement in social movements while feeling anger and exhaustion. Sze replied and emphasized the importance of balancing urgency with collective care and mentioned forms of activism such as art and learning from artists such as [Octavia Butler](#) and [Grace Lee Boggs](#) to challenge existing systems.

Throughout the program, attendees gained new ideas about the importance of dialogue and the concept that "transformative freedom" must be reexamined socially at the state level. Sze emphasized that feeling emotional is central to this work. She also says, "humor can sometimes be used to make sense of the world – we do what we can."

The event concluded with a call for sustained engagement in climate justice movements, as well as greater representation in storytelling and collective action to build resilient communities capable of addressing present and future challenges.

In a time filled with rage, anger and hope, this was just one of the Study and Struggle events that offered students and staff a space to listen and learn about the intersection of policy, history and identities. For many, it reinforced the urgency of collective dialogue.

"We have to reimagine revolution and get beyond protest. We have to think not only about change in our institutions but changes in ourselves." Sze says.

Check out the culminating event of Study & Struggle at UW Bothell on April 30, which will feature Princeton University African American Studies [Professor Keaanga-Ya-mahtta Taylor](#).

# Blooming Too Soon: Nature's Clock is Ticking Faster and Faster

Written by: Kairi Rojas  
- **Managing Editor**  
**March 2026**

Walking through campus, one might notice all the various foliage already beginning to bloom. This isn't a quirky coincidence; the internal clocks of plants are shifting, and global warming is the one to blame. The impacts of warmer winters and earlier springs are steadily growing, and it affects many ecosystems. These conditions can be noticed anywhere from trails and window-front plants to our very own community garden on campus.

Flowers and trees are blooming earlier due to the milder winters and warmer spring temperatures. Across the country and the entire world, temperatures are rising. That might sound nice with longer summers and less rain, however, it also comes with a cost of having less produce. If plants start to bloom early, it affects the entire ecosystem; animals, insects, pollinators, and yes, humanity. For example, species that depend on plants for nectar, fruits, or seeds might be affected if flowers bloom ahead of schedule. This could result in smaller harvests and higher prices for fruits like apples and pears.

To get more insight on this matter, I interviewed, Pip McKay the University of Washington, Bothell's Gardener Hardscape Lead and Farm Manager. McKay has been working here at UWB for two years on the farm, coming in May. McKay has noticed a shift in the plants blooming, "I do think that the Daffodils and a couple shrubs that are usually flowering closer to March are a little early this year. But one thing I noticed is that I was surprised that certain flowers, like some roses for example, were still blooming in winter. It has just been so mild and relatively warm in general this year."

I personally garden and have noticed some unusual trends this year, following very closely to McKay's observations. I grow lavender, peonies, gladiolas, variations of roses, dahlia, strawberries, spinach, and other herbs. One alarming thing I noticed is my gladiolas already beginning to sprout, and roses are beginning to bloom. Now, as McKay mentioned, some of the flowers are blooming a month early, but for the gladiolas which typically sprout mid-April to early May and bloom in July have begun to sprout in January. Roses, which typically bloom in late spring, and early autumn, are now blooming in the winter. This is because their internal clocks are confused.

Here at UWB and all gardens, it is important to keep an eye on all plants. For McKay, he mentions, "The fruit trees are still in dormancy. The perennial vegetables are still on their timeline and will get more active in spring. Same with the herbs." He predicts potential for changes in growing plans as well, "If it stays warm into March we might get to plant carrots a little early. But we still need to keep an eye on frosts. We live in an area where our weather can be difficult to predict and microclimates are abundant."

Frosts are important to navigate ag-

riculture. This can potentially cause damage to early bloomers if plants bloom before the frost comes. While frosts can damage plants that sprout too early, they are very necessary for many plants' life cycles. Frosts typically occur during the coldest nights of late winter and early spring, often when temperatures drop below 32°F (0°C), according to [Montana State University](#). During this chilling period, it ensures that plants don't bloom too early, so it keeps the entire ecosystem on track.

While it may seem like a simple shift in bloom cycles, it will carry a serious shift in our grocery habits as well. While global warming harms plants' internal clocks, consumers will also face some damage to their wallets. In a Stanford article, [Climate change cuts global crop yields](#), even when farmers adapt, Hsiang states, "When global production falls, consumers are hurt because prices go up and it gets harder to access food and feed our families."

When harvest shrinks due to the various effects of global warming, the demand is still steady. Our most valuable known crops here in Washington state, apples, cherries and pears are significantly at risk when it comes to having late frosts and early

blooms. With steady demand, prices will rise due to unpredictable food production. We have currently seen a rise in coffee due to climate outcomes with the fewer availability of cocoa beans, according to an [article produced by NPR](#): Coffee prices are higher than ever. Here's what it means for your cup. This shows how the ripple effects of harvests can take years to fix. Climate change not only affects ecosystems and food systems but also the economy.

If you are interested in getting involved at UWB, there are numerous classes you can take if you are interested in agriculture. McKay would also like to inform everyone that there are various ways to get involved here on campus through volunteering, fruit picking and getting access to portions of the garden beds for gardening. He mentions how they host multiple volunteer events throughout the year at the campus farm and food forest to encourage student engagement. There are other ways to take charge of fighting against global warming by changing everyday habits such as using your own reusable cups, bringing your own reusable bag instead of using plastic, minimize your own waste, recycling or even buying used clothes. Let's all do our part to fight climate change.

## UW Cherry Blossoms Bloom on March 20

Designed by: Anika Anderson - Visual Media Designer

### Cherry Blossoms at UW

**Bloom Season  
in Washington**

Cherry Blossoms usually bloom between **late March & Early April**, with peak bloom in the last week of **March** or the first week of **April**.

**Why They  
Matter at UW**

These cherry blossoms draw thousands of visitors to the UW Quad each spring, making the campus a beautiful tourist destination.

**History of  
Cherry Blossoms**

Trees started being planted in the **1930s**. These trees at the Quad have a **mysterious past**, adding to their beauty!

**Fun Facts!**

National Cherry Blossom Festival takes place from 3/20-4/12, marking the 1912 gift of cherry trees from Tokyo to Washington D.C. as a sign of friendship.

Cherry blossoms petals are edible. They are used in a lot of Japanese teas and sweets, since they have a fruity and sweet, sometimes sour flavor.

**Memories**



1960s Campus



Modern campus with cherry blossoms

Pictures from: [blossoms](https://www.washington.edu/cherryblossoms/behind-the-blossoms/)

https://www.washington.edu/cherryblossoms/behind-the-blossoms/

# AI Data Centers in WA State Reveal the Gap Between Growth and Regulation

Written by: Aysha Siddiqui  
- **Assistant Editor**  
March 2026



Image Credit: Freepik

Since the generative AI boom in 2022, AI technology has become mainstream and widely embraced by most people, including students. Washington is no exception with Seattle as one of the biggest technology hubs in the nation. As AI capabilities grow, the evergreen state continues to adapt and take lead as a tech hotspot. However, a deeper dive into the relationship between AI data centers and energy use in Washington paints a more complicated picture.

Currently Washington is the tenth state with the greatest numbers of data centers in the country, with over 120 data centers and Microsoft being the biggest investor. As the AI industry continues to grow, more data centers are projected to be built. This will have major implications for energy usage demand, economic growth, utility bills, and more. Now, the Washington State government is attempting to balance growth and strict clean energy goals by curbing continuous AI data center construction.

Located in Eastern WA, Quincy is the main hotspot for data centers. The construction of data centers 20 years ago led the small rural town of farmers to make major

economic gains with more job opportunities and increased tax revenue which lifted many residents out of poverty and created new city infrastructure.

While Quincy is one example of how residents are economically benefitting from clean low-cost energy data centers in their city, concerns for residents still exist. In the US, [electricity costs over 200% more](#) in areas near data centers than it did five years ago. Blackouts and air pollution pose risks to residents as well. Concerns rise with ongoing construction; many people are fearful about the high energy demand and long-term economic benefits. Long-term job opportunities for citizens are limited. While construction creates a lot more short-term job openings, once they are built, even large-scale centers [only hire up to 100 technicians](#) to maintain a data center.

In WA, driving forces for the data center boom also include the abundance of hydropower: cheap renewable energy generated through the Columbia River. However, it is not an infinite green source. Dams limit salmon habitat. Climate change reduces snowpack. The Columbia River, a snow dominated watershed, now projects 30-50 percent less flow during summer, generating less hydropower in upcoming years. [Both Oregon and Washington generated 20% less hydropower in 2023 than in 2021.](#) Other renewable energy sources are being explored in WA to comply with strict state clean energy standards with goals of switching to fully clean energy by 2045. These goals are threatened by increased data centers' energy use, while hydropower production continues to decrease.

In an [article with GeekWire](#), Zach Baker, the regional and state policy director for NW Energy Coalition, states that data centers growth has the potential to more than double power demand by 2030. Washington has amongst the cheapest electricity in the nation; however, those prices are rising fast with demand, with AI data centers only adding costs.

Washington state is attempting to push

back against the construction of new data centers with regulations. [House Bill 2515](#) recently passed the House of Representatives in Feb. 2026 and has yet to pass Senate as of March 8. This bill would establish new regulations for high energy data centers. One major change is requiring annual sustainability reports for transparency on energy and water use. It would also require them to cover additional utility costs for ratepayers to ensure other utility payers aren't burdened by costs as energy demand increases. It is controversial, with [republicans like Representative Mary Dye](#) arguing it unfairly targets data centers, making WA less competitive in the tech market. Microsoft Corporation has also urged changes to the bill. According to [The Seattle Times](#), big Tech companies are lobbying behind the scenes to fight the regulatory bill and weaken it.

At UW Bothell, many students and faculty are embracing AI, whether it is through classes, workshops, programs, speaker panels and clubs. There are various opportunities provided for students to learn how to use AI technology. Recently, [Microsoft announced](#) a partnership with UW, donating millions of dollars to increase AI education. In the future, we will continue to see more research and learning in AI technology driven by corporate philanthropy. As students adapt to learning new technologies at UW Bothell, they must not neglect to learn how to navigate the costs mindfully. While we see continuous increases and acceptance of new technology, there still remains a huge gap in regulating it.

Currently there is a lack of education and management with the costs of AI technology in Washington state, with tech corporations fighting hard to keep it that way. As students, it is important to remember: embracing technology without regulation can have grave consequences and our campus is no exception. Students can voice their opinions on curriculum through course evaluation forms or contacting advisors within their school.

## Movie Review: Wuthering Heights

Written by: Estel Soriano Bergua  
- **Student Contributor**  
March 2026

If you haven't heard about the latest toxic "romance" film to hit theaters, I envy you. I wish I could go back to simpler times when this movie did not live in my headspace. The recent adaptation of Wuthering Heights, a classic novel from the 18th century, was released less than a month ago, and it's already one of the most talked about movies of this year. I made an interesting choice to watch it in theaters with close to zero context. I was not blind, however, to the immediate criticism it received from almost everyone I know.

The storyline of Wuthering Heights follows a family in Yorkshire in the late 1800s. In the first act of the film, we meet the main characters, Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff, as children. We see how the Earnshaw family came to adopt Heathcliff as a worker/son because of his unfortunate family situation. As they grow older, their friendship begins to evolve until Catherine is asked to marry her new neighbor, Mr. Linton, who lives with his sister. Catherine agrees, and Heathcliff decides to leave before she changes her mind about the marriage, since their household is in financial trouble.

The second act, however, does a bad job

convincing me that I should continue to care for these characters as adults. Once Heathcliff returns, suddenly rich, Cathy is married to Mr. Linton. The lack of any actual meaningful and substantial dialogue between the characters made me so uninterested in their "relationship," if we can even call it that. The story made me care deeply about the side characters rather than the protagonists. Cathy becomes the jealous mistress, and Heathcliff turns into a desperate side piece begging for Cathy's love.

I have not read the book, but I think that if Emily Brontë were alive to see the adaptation, she would be quite surprised as to how her book was interpreted. There will be some minor spoilers ahead for the rest of the review, so be warned. Instead of focusing on both generations of Earnshaws and Lintons, the adaptation mainly focuses on Catherine and Heathcliff's story. The main characters, as Brontë described, look nothing like Jacob Elordi and Margot Robbie. This story was intentionally meant to be an interracial relationship with class differences, but now it is just two white people. In my opinion, the adaptation lacked a general context that could have been provided by cutting down on other scenes.

Critiquing the film from a cinematic perspective, I have to say that the visuals did not

disappoint. The colors, the camera work, and the soundtrack were all impeccable and up to the standards that I would have imagined. The wardrobe, although not exactly time-accurate, still managed to portray a sense of "old timeliness" that you get when you watch a film set in a different time period.

Released on Valentine's Day, this adaptation of Wuthering Heights was advertised as a forbidden love story we should root for. The trailer claimed the film was inspired by the "greatest love story of all time," but there was an overall lack of emotional depth to the characters. The relationship between Catherine and Heathcliff is based on jealousy, due to Catherine being married, and lust, which simply forces the audience to watch numerous and questionable intimate scenes between our main characters.

To end my thoughts, I have to start by saying that this film was an adaptation of the original 18th century novel. It was addressed by the director that they weren't going to portray it word-for-word. If you enjoyed this movie or are still curious, I recommend you watch it. The experience was entertaining, and I can't say that it didn't keep me interested throughout. To fans of the classic novel, there might be some better adaptations of the original story already released that you may enjoy instead of this one.

# The Ultimate Milan Cortina Winter Olympics Review

Written by: Belen Villalobos Plascencia  
 - **Campus Life Reporter**  
 March 2026

The 2026 Winter Olympics was hosted in Milan and Cortina, Italy. It brought together more than 2,500 winter athletes from over 80 countries to compete in the spirit of international heritage and sport. The games, began on Feb. 6 and ran through Feb. 22. It featured 16 sports, providing medals for the winners. For team USA, the Olympics represented both a sporting stage and a moment of national pride. More than 200 athletes on the U.S. team competed in events ranging from alpine skiing, figure skating, ice hockey, the debut of ski mountaineering and many other sports.

Held every four years, this year's Olympic games was the first in history to be officially co-hosted by two major cities. This structure made the Milano Cortina games the most widespread games in Olympic history, spanning nearly 8,500 square miles as stated by [CBS](#). According to CBS News, the two cities are separated by about 250 miles, making it about a five-hour drive for people attending.

The setup was a deliberate move made by the Olympics Committee to move toward sustainability. According to the [International Olympic Committee \(IOC\)](#), the games emphasized sustainability by using existing infrastructure, with eleven out of the thirteen competition venues having already existed or set-up temporary. One of the most impactful ways this was done was by using the abandoned Porta Romana railway yard. During the games, this structure served as the Olympic Village in Milan, providing a communal home for the athletes. Following the end of the Olympic Games, this place will not go to waste. The [IOC](#) had stated that the space is planning to be converted into 1,700 units of much-needed student housing. The only major new structure made was a 16,000-seat ice hockey stadium, built to serve the growing interest in winter sports for the future.

While Italy focused on building a sustainable legacy, American athletes were busy building a competitive one, with major contributions coming from the Pacific Northwest. While states like Alaska and Colorado led the board in terms of medals, Washington state has also played a part in the winter Olympics and aided in the medals collected for Team USA. Team USA collected 33 medals, with nine bronze, twelve silver, and twelve gold medals. The most medals collected were in freestyle skiing, speed skating and alpine skiing. Team USA has earned second place overall in medal standings, behind Norway, making this year a U.S. record for most gold medals obtained as mentioned by [NPR](#).

According to [Axios Seattle](#), competitors with ties to the Puget Sound region participated in several sports such as hockey and speed skating. The Seattle Hockey community is well represented on the national stage. Hilary Knight, captain of the U.S. women's hockey team, plays for Seattle's hockey league on the Seattle Kraken. During the competition in Milan, Knight continued to break records, tying for most career Olympic goals in U.S. women's hockey history. Joining her on the same team are her Seattle teammates, Alex Carpenter, Hannah Bilka and Cayla Barnes. Additionally, two of her other teammates, Julia Gosling and Aneta Tejralová, represented their home countries, on team Canada and Czechia respectively. As for men's hockey, there were two Seattle Kraken players who represented Finland, Kaapo Kakko and Eeli Tolvanen. Philipp Grubauer competed for Germany and Oscar Fisker Molgaard for Denmark.

As for other WA athletes, Novie McCabe is from Winthrop and competed in cross-coun-

try skiing. Teammates Ben Richardson from Issaquah and Luc Violette from Granite Falls both competed in the men's curling event. Speed skating athletes included Washington natives Eunice Lee, who attended high school in Bellevue, and Corinne Stoddard grew up in Federal Way, competing in short-track events. On the men's speed skating team, Cooper McLeod, from Mount Vernon, raced in both the 500 meter and 1,000 meter long-track events.

Washington state contributed to the team U.S. success. Western Washington University alum Breezy Johnson won gold in women's downhill skiing, earning the U.S. first medal of the 2026 games, according to [Axios Seattle](#). The road to gold wasn't without disruptions; this was Johnson's first Olympic games despite their qualification for the 2022 Beijing Olympics due to a knee injury that sidelined her weeks prior.

Anna Gibson, a University of Washington alum, also represented Team USA in the ski mountaineering event. Gibson, a former multi-sport athlete who competed in track, cross-country and Nordic skiing at UW, moved to ski mountaineering which helped qualify the United States for the Olympics debut of the sport by winning a World Cup mixed relay event with teammate Cam Smith. Her appearance in the Olympics marked a great accomplishment for

both the national team and the Husky community.

Whether winning gold or making a debut, these athletes shared an experience that extended their specific events. The Olympic Village also added another layer to the experience. According to [NPR](#), athletes residing there have described the village as both highly structured and communal. Shared dining halls and recreation spaces brought people together, no matter where they were from. For many first-time Olympians, the experience was just as memorable as the competition itself. As stated by the [International Committee](#), the games were designed to inspire the next generation, showing that sports can bring people together even with the countless events occurring around the world.

For Washingtonians, the games have been a point of immense pride, watching local names like Breezy Johnson and Hilary Knight stand on national stage. By making use of 8,500 square miles of existing infrastructure and housing on long-term community benefits like student housing, Italy has set an example for other hosting nations. Even though the 2026 Winter Olympics is over, the legacy of the Milano Cortina games isn't measured in gold medals, but in the precedent it sets for future hosts of the Olympics.

## The Winter Games at a Glance

Designed by: Makylie Bean - Visual Media Designer

**2026 WINTER OLYMPICS**

MILANO CORTINA 2026

**OVERVIEW**

- The 2026 Winter Olympics were held in Milan, Italy, with additional competitions held in Cortina, Italy, along the Dolomite Mountains.
- They featured over 2,800 athletes from 93 nations. They hosted 16 different athletic disciplines, creating over 100 medal events.
- The Games featured a record breaking 47% female participation, and debuted Ski Mountaineering (Skimo).

**SPORTS**

- Alpine Skiing
- Biathlon
- Bobsleigh
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Curling
- Figure Skating
- Freestyle Skiing
- Ice Hockey
- Luge
- Nordic Combined
- Short Track Speed Skating
- Skeleton
- Ski Jumping
- Ski Mountaineering
- Snowboard
- Speed Skating

**LEADERBOARD**

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Norway	18	12	11	41
2	United States	12	12	9	33
3	Netherlands	10	7	3	20
4	Italy	10	6	14	30
5	Germany	8	10	8	26

Source: [www.olympics.com](http://www.olympics.com)

## Get the Scoop on Car Club

Written by: Zoya Merakov  
- Campus Life Reporter  
March 2026



Image Credit: Instagram @carclubuw

From academic, cultural, to special interest clubs, UW Bothell has a community suited for everyone's interests and backgrounds. One notable organization is the Car Club, a special interest club with the main purpose of bringing together those who have a passion for cars and automotive culture.

According to Aleksie Sanchez Medieros, the President of the Car Club, the goal of the club is to create a "community where members can

connect, learn from each other, and show their enthusiasm for vehicles, whether that's through their builds, motorsports, design, or general appreciation for anything automotive."

The club was initially founded in 2019 but was inactive due to COVID-19. It was restarted in 2021 and has continued to thrive ever since.

As club president, Medieros ensures the creation of both on and off campus events for people to learn more by hosting car meets, movie nights and speaker events. By joining the Car Club, students can network with other car enthusiasts around the area including the UW Seattle Car Club. Medieros states how, "many members within our community are knowledgeable in automotive, whether it is figuring out small issues, getting recommendations on what cars to get, modifications, or chatting on just about anything in the automotive topics."

Car Club hosts a plethora of events throughout the year, but the most remarkable achievements would be hosting campus pop-ups and the yearly garage show. Medieros describes how there are, "no other event like it on campus, we put an enthusiast car on display in

front of the Campus W." According to Medieros, their "crowning achievement every year is [their] garage show near the end of the spring quarter, where [they] fill out the first 3 floors of the garage with enthusiast cars."

By the end of the year, the Car Club hopes to expand its membership and reach new demographics of people. They would also like to expand, "into more informational events and events where we can participate in the track racing or rally community."

Medieros revealed how being a part of the Car Club has allowed him to learn how to "manage events, collaborate with other car clubs, and help continue building a brand that represents a welcoming community for a lot of people." He has also developed strong friendships through the club.

Looking into the future, Car Club will be hiring officer positions at the end of the year. Make sure to follow them on Instagram @carclubuw to stay updated on their recent events and get notified when hiring begins.

## Ownership of Greenland: An Entrance Toward Donald Trump's Terrifying Geopolitical Realm



Image Credit: Unsplash

Written by: Danny Aguilar  
-News Reporter March 2026

"I have done more for NATO than any other person since its founding, and now, NATO should do something for the United States. The World is not secure unless we have Complete and Control of Greenland," stated President Donald Trump. On Jan. 18, 2026, President Donald Trump exchanged a text message to Norway's Prime Minister, Jonas Gahr Store, on the issue of Greenland and decried Norway for not granting him the Nobel Peace Prize.

As outlined in the full exchange first reported by [PBS News](#), President Trump derails the conversation by stating, "Considering your Country decided not to give me the Nobel Peace Prize ... I no longer feel an obligation to think purely of Peace ..." This marks a drastic shift of the world order previously held by former President Joseph Biden, from one of strengthening existing alliances to brute force rhetoric aimed at abolishing the established European commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

"Biden was a mainstream practitioner of Liberalism," stated Jason Frederick Lambacher, a lecturer at UW Bothell and with a Ph.D. in political science. Dr. Lambacher describes this difference using terms from the International Relations theory between Biden and Trump as one of rules-based international order to a zero-sum game of anarchy, "This means a belief that a rule-based international order is possible, and both

shapes and constrains how a country understands self-interest." Dr. Lambacher explains, "Previous liberals, like Biden, talked about threats to the world order from regimes that don't hold democratic values like Russia and China, but sought answers in multilateral institutions and the possibility of cooperation." While Biden went out in cooperation, aimed at reinforcing international institutions, Trump shifted gears, centering diplomatic relations in the framework of the 'America First' policy, one which pursued only America's interest.

Dr. Lambacher states: "In International Relations theory, America First represents a particular variant of Realism. This is the belief that international politics is a space of anarchy and that any attempt to build international institutions will end in failure." Dr. Lambacher continues, "The currency of the Realist worldview based on the political theory of Thomas Hobbes, is that power and interest rule international affairs, not cooperation and morality ... But these tend to be zero sum games — one side wins, the other side loses." The whiplash from this sudden switch, especially to Europe, highlights questions about Trump's ambitions and the motives from the ideology of the Make America Great Again movement.

With this change of U.S. foreign policy, one might wonder what brought forth Trump's desire to acquire Greenland. Many conservative circles argue ownership of Greenland is necessary for national security. [City Journal](#), a magazine by the conservative think tank Manhattan Institute, has an article written last year, "[Trump is Right About Greenland](#)," arguing ownership of Greenland allows access to economically significant minerals and prevents threats from Russian and Chinese ambitions. This would initiate refocusing American presence in the Western hemisphere and create a way for the island of Greenland to deter an invasion from Russia and China. Additionally, Randy Fine, a Republican congressman and a staunch Trump supporter, proposed a bill called, [The Greenland Annexation and Statehood Act](#), that authorizes the President to take any necessary steps to annex or acquire Greenland as a territory of the United States. Congressman Fine asserts that after the U.S. took out the Venezuelan Dictator, Nicholas Maduro, a key ally of Russia and China, U.S. adversaries are eager to strike back in the Arctic, thus requiring decisive action as a necessary step to restore American

strength. Those in the dissenting camp for opposing Trump's foreign policy refute through explaining this divisive rhetoric risks fissures within our western alliances and spurs a rupture of the multilateral post-World War II architecture that the United States has greatly benefited from.

The United States has seen its coalition with its European allies as a key tool to power American exceptionalism in pursuit of our military might and economy. Russia's fourth year invasion of Ukraine showed stabilization of NATO provides a way to combat the Russian President, Vladimir Putin's, disastrous objective on the continent. This galvanizes U.S. strength against its adversaries, painting the United States as a reliable ally for Europe.

Comparative advantage is the theory that advocates for the specialization of tasks to generate a suitable outcome for both parties involved. As the United States specializes in its defense spending, it eases Europe's expenditures on their own defense spending, carving a way for Europe to fulfill programs to help their citizens. While Trump touts the notion of low levels of defense spending by other NATO members, he fails to acknowledge U.S. reliability to Europe has mutually strengthened the economy in America's favor. [Wilson Center](#), a nonpartisan think tank dedicated to research on global issues, has an article detailing reports and academic papers on how NATO has economically boosted U.S. bilateral trade with Europe.

Another benefit for engaging in diplomacy demonstrates to the geopolitical world that the United States can achieve its goals without the use of military combat, using force portrays the U.S. as a weak entity incapable of negotiating on the table. The [Arctic Council](#), for instance, is a multilateral institution with the sole purpose of promoting cooperation with the stakeholders in the Arctic. Through this institution, the United States would gain tremendous respect for resolving its dispute in a professional manner. Considering Trump's harsh way of diplomacy, many criticize his politics as childish.

Thomas L. Friedman, a New York Times Opinion Columnist, wrote "[Trump's Politics Are Not America First. They're Me First](#)." Friedman elaborates on the root cause of Trump's forceful way of diplomacy as, "... a pathological narcissist who insists on having his name on everything — from someone else's Kennedy Center to someone else's Nobel Peace Prize — would risk all of the

above to seize Greenland,” Friedman wrote.

Dr. Lambacher expresses his own opinion on the arguments advocating for ownership of Greenland. “The security argument is puzzling. There is a 1951 treaty that allows for U.S. bases on the territory. We’ve had them there since this time as first defense against thermonuclear war during the tense years of the Cold War ... I have a hard time seeing how aggression is worthy of an esteemed peace prize. FIFA just gave Trump a made-up peace prize. Is that enough?” Reaction from European leaders has seen distrust of the American government with many in the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, Davos 2026, casting their opinion.

Due to Trump’s new foreign policy decisions, many European leaders sense a real possibility that the United States would invade Greenland. Greenland’s Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen said at a news conference, “The possibility of military conflict is not ruled out ... We should be prepared for anything if possible,” per [CNBC](#). This highlights the stark reality under Trump’s geopolitical world, one where even a NATO ally

cannot trust the foundation of its organization. In his speech at Davos, the German Chancellor [Fredrich Merz](#) characterizes this brutal emergence from the United States as a warning sign for Europe to face the harsh reality. “This new world of great powers is being built on power, on strength and when it comes to it, on force.” Merz said, “To succeed, we must face harsh realities and chart our course with clear-eyed realism.” For many Greenlanders, this adds another issue for its inhabitants, with the island grappling the wrought of climate change politics.

Greenland faces significant melting from the increasing effects of climate change, one exacerbated by the refusal of the Trump administration to bring awareness toward the issue. An [AP News article](#) reveals that the Sermeq Kujalleq glacier has lost huge chunks from the onslaught of the warming climate. This bombardment of melting ice erases the culture of dog sledding for Greenlanders, creating difficulty for hunters. The rising temperatures has seen test runs of cargo ships in the Arctic by a Chinese company according to [Politico](#). Given the Trump Administration’s

spouts about climate denialism and its decision to roll back the 2009 Endangerment finding providing scientific basis for greenhouse gas regulation per [Brookings](#), it calls attention to the ironic nature of how Greenland became a geopolitical hotspot. This is one where, worries of Russian and Chinese presence, are brought forth by the Trump’s reluctance to curb climate change.

Ultimately, Trump signaled in his speech at [Davos](#), stating he won’t use force to acquire Greenland, but moving forward could see a future of Europe slowly decoupling from the U.S. As the United States pulls its attention toward a more aggressive form of diplomacy, one vested in taunting NATO allies, it tarnishes the trust formed with Europe and reveals a world ruled solely through force. Even with the assurance from Trump that no military force will be used, it leaves this nearly 80 year old alliance in dismay about its future. However, as Donald Trump relishes in his militaristic geopolitical strategy, it leaves international cooperation behind.

## ICE Presence in Washington: What to Know

Written by: Student Contributor  
- March 2026



Student club tabling in UW2 Commons  
Image Credit: Aysha Siddiqui

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also known as ICE, is a federal law enforcement agency operating under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE was founded in March 2003 following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks through [the Homeland Security Act](#) passed in November 2002. The Act helped create the Department of Homeland Security and additionally consolidated 22 different federal departments and agencies under the same authority for tighter integration.

While Homeland Security shares broader authority in keeping the United States safe, ICE’s specific mission includes securing the nation’s borders and safeguarding the integrity of the immigration system, according to the [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website](#). ICE’s mission additionally shares responsibility in detecting and dismantling transnational crime networks that may threaten national security. ICE’s operational directorates, Enforcement and Removal Operations and Homeland Security Investigations, respectively, are critical to advance these missions. Additional operational directorates of ICE include the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor and Management and Administration, which you can learn more about in the [History section](#) of their website.

ICE announced, in Jan. 2026, a historic 120% manpower increase. The number of officers and agents doubled from 10,000 to 22,000, after receiving more than 220,000 applications [according to DHS](#). ICE further stated that thousands of these new officers and agents have already been deployed nationwide and are actively contributing toward immigration enforcement. However,

there is growing concern over ICE’s record-setting recruitment numbers, especially as reports of lowered hiring and training standards float. In a [press release](#), Senators Alex Padilla and Cory Booker pointed out by significantly lowering standards for newly hired agents, the Trump Administration “compromised the integrity, professionalism, or operational readiness of the federal immigration law enforcement workforce.” The Senators continued to point out that the Department of Homeland Security’s failure to maintain basic professional standards has led to “public reports of misconduct among current officers” and that “American citizens and noncitizens alike are already experiencing the consequences.” Furthermore, the Senators identified a [report](#) where more than 200 of these new ICE agents were dismissed due to improper vetting. Those dismissed failed drug testing, had criminal backgrounds, or did not meet physical or academic standards. The report additionally mentioned ICE’s training, which was got shortened “from 13 weeks to eight” and “later shortened to six weeks.”

ICE’s expanding workforce continues to attract national concern. The recent murder of U.S. citizens Renee Good and Alex Pretti during an ICE operation in Minneapolis, Minnesota invited public outrage. Representative Robert Garcia said in a report, “the killings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti could have been prevented “and that the “Trump Administration’s aggressive, violent, and unlawful immigration enforcement tactics have facilitated them.” Representative Garcia further commented, “these slain Americans posed no threat to federal officers or intended to kill them,” which contrasted Trump Administration officials’ statement which painted them as domestic terrorists. Public outrage at federal immigration agents across the nation intensifies as operations continue.

With ICE operations being expanded throughout the country, Washingtonians are reporting local presence of agents in Bellevue, Tacoma and Seattle. Earlier in the month, a [video](#) circulating on social media revealed federal immigration officers making an arrest in Bellevue, Washington. The Bellevue Police Department [confirmed](#) the incident in an email sent to KIRO Newsradio, and said the Department of Homeland Security confirmed the operation. In Tacoma, nurses at the St. Joseph Medical Center have reported that they have seen a surge in detainees come in as patients along with ICE agents guarding them, as reported by [KUOW](#). These nurses have asked to see ICE out of their hospital and explained how agents have been harmful to the healing environment, community and preventative care. Nurses have additionally reported that ICE brings detainees too late, despite [federal law](#) requiring agents to provide timely medical care. As of Oct. 15, 2025, there have been about 2,000 ar-

rests in Washington, according to the [Deportation Data Project](#), though that number is likely higher today. Not only do these arrests include children as young as three years old, they additionally include individuals with no criminal convictions or pending charges.

Washingtonians have had enough of these inhumane operations conducted by federal agents on a power trip. Seattle has hosted multiple protests in recent weeks and continues to host them, especially as [plans of ICE leasing an office in Riverview Technical Park](#), Tukwila unfolds. Students from Seattle public and private schools have additionally been noted to be a part of these protests. [KOMO](#) recorded hundreds of students rallying at City Hall and near fourth Avenue on Feb. 5, 2026. These students have shared with KOMO that they want ICE to leave Washington. Meanwhile, other students, like Lakeside Upper School senior Amara Aalfs-Weinbaum, have told KOMO they want city leaders to “invest in concrete support systems and protection measures” and to “continue to defund ICE.”

Students at the University of Washington Bothell organized a similar “Rally Against ICE” protest on Feb. 11 at the Plaza. Student demands included schoolwide alerts and lockdowns when there is ICE activity on campus, transitioning to hybrid and online models during periods of prolonged ICE activity, guaranteed protection for all students and training for students, staff and faculty on appropriate protocols. These students have planned another organized protest on Mar. 11 at the Plaza. Recently, a student club has spread activism efforts including distributing ICE whistles and educating people on the topic of immigration enforcement to protect and spread awareness. Seattle and Washington residents interested in attending peaceful and non-violent protests can find more information by visiting the [Seattle Area Protest List](#) and on the [Seattle Indivisible website](#). However, note that the Seattle Area Protest List only lists events until early March.

For those that do not want to attend organized protests but would like to support immigrants in other ways, [Safe Haven and Indivisible Eastside](#) take reports of ICE activity from bystanders, document detentions, and forward information to legal professionals. The [Jewish Coalition for Immigrant Justice NW](#) additionally provides substantial information to support those detained in Washington. They provide hotline and private attorney phone numbers as well as names of organizations providing legal help or referrals. Similarly, the University of Washington posted [protocol](#) information to help students respond to requests from federal immigration authorities which includes campus and facility safety contacts to call, should a student be in an active encounter with an agent.

## Record Attendance: Makers Fair 2026 Welcomes 1,100 Attendees!

Illustration by: Hanin Nazifa  
- **Main Illustrator**

Written by: Miles Lewis  
- **Campus Life Reporter**  
March 2026

The third annual Maker's Fair at UWB was held on Feb. 11, 2026, from 12 PM to 4PM at the ARC Overlook and at the North Creeks Events Center.

The event was led by Student Engagement & Activities staff and co-founders Pauline Tolentino and Jireh Reduque. This year, Makerspace Manager, Jesus Govea, was also part of the planning process and oversaw creative workshops like laser engraving prior to the event. Vendor stands filled both rooms with students, faculty, alumni and community members showcasing their talents with hand-made products which included soap, portraits, stickers and more.

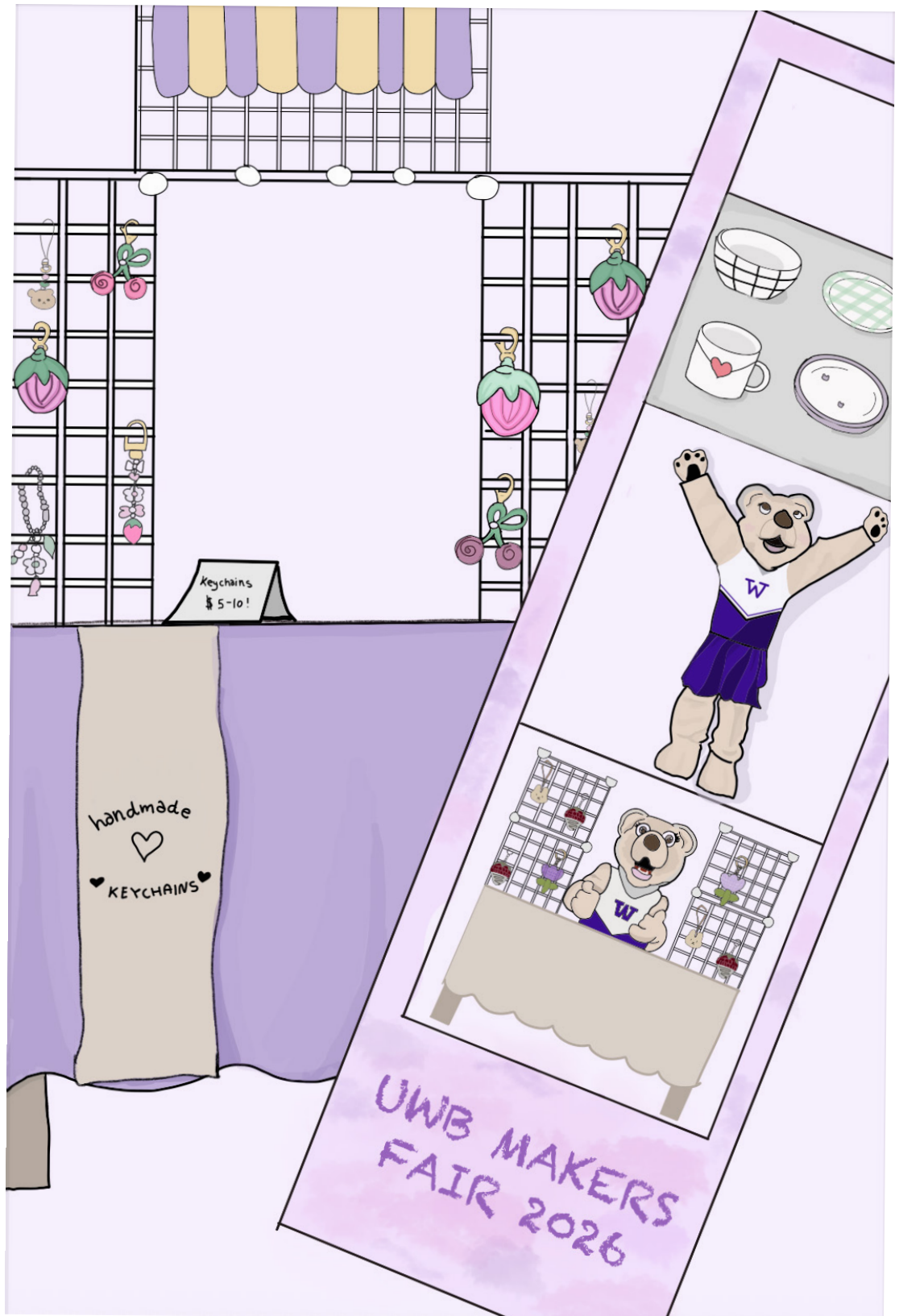
There were more than 80 vendors who showcased their products at the event. One vendor which stood out to me was Washington Moments, a photo art collection founded by Mark Kochanski, an Associate Teaching Professor at UW Bothell for the computer science department. All his photos were turned into 500-piece puzzles. Some of these puzzles include local Washington monuments like Snoqualmie Falls and even photos from the UW Seattle and Bothell campus.

Another vendor that stood out was Sunitas Handcrafted LLC, which sold handcrafted artisan soaps with natural ingredients such as honey, milk, tumeric and more. There were a variety of scents including oatmeal and goat milk, peppermint candy, peach, as well as cool breeze. Baking soda deodorants were also on sale, giving buyers hygiene care products with unique hand-made soaps and deodorant.

A variety of food trucks appeared at the event such as Fil Up, which sold lumpia, a Filipino style egg roll. The egg rolls had two options: chicken or beef served with sweet and sour sauce at the LBA curb. Sugar + Spoon also made an appearance at the ARC lobby, serving safe-to-eat cookie dough. Off the Rez served various types of tacos including beef, chicken or veggie taco options.

Inside the North Creek Events Center was Swanky Scoop, serving dairy and vegan ice cream in a cup or in a waffle cone. Students who attended the event were given a wristband with two tickets, which could be used to acquire two of the six food options that appeared at the event.

Attendees of the Maker's Fair included students, faculty, alumni and community makers who showcased their unique products. It was a great way for students to support local small businesses and for these businesses to gain more exposure in their local communities. Students also had the opportunity to get involved by volunteering or vend to showcase their own creations. The next Maker's Fair will be held on Feb. 10, 2027. Stay tuned for when that day approaches!



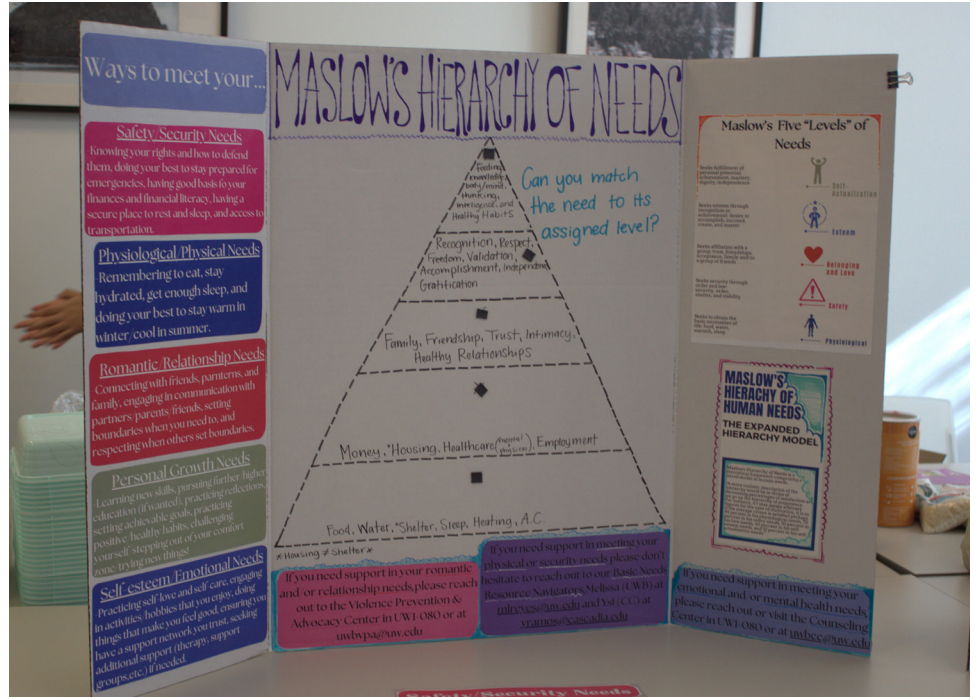
Photography by: Meeti Gobindpuri  
- **SM&D Photographer**  
March 2026



# HAWRC Provides College Essentials and Tote Bag Decorating

Photography by: Angelica Heimbigner  
 - Campus Photographer  
 March 2026

On Feb. 17, the Health and Resource Center (HAWRC) held an event to inform students of essential items for college living and how to eat on a budget. The event also informed students of resources on campus while decorating complimentary tote bags with various pins and decorations.



Students looking at poster board (left) and a close up of a trifold (right)



Various pins and stickers (left) to decorate tote bags (right)

## Dive into Dolphin Awareness

Designed by: Makylie Bean - Visual Media Designer

*dolphin* March awareness month

Sources: WWF, WDC, American Humane Society

**Basic Facts**

- There are currently **42 species** of dolphins and an additional 7 species of porpoises.
- They live in nearly all environments, including oceans, coastal, estuarine and freshwater.
- Dolphins primarily eat fish, squid, and crustaceans.

**Endangered Species**

- Atlantic Humpback Dolphin - 1,500 left
- Amazon River Dolphin - unknown
- Baiji Dolphin - last seen in 2002
- Maui Dolphin - 55 left
- South Asian River Dolphin - <5,000 left

**Threats**

**Bycatch** is their biggest threat. In populated areas, dolphins will often get caught in commercial fishing nets, lines, and "ghost gear," leading to drowning or injury.

**Noise pollution** from naval activity, the oil and gas industry, seismic surveys and underwater construction can stress and injure cetaceans.

**Conservation**

**Reduce marine debris:** Use reusable bags and bottles and pick up trash when you visit the beach.

**Safe fishing practices:** When you approach dolphin habitats, reel your line in and be cautious.

**Responsible Boating:** Slowdown in dolphin areas. Support Eco-friendly boat tours that follow strict guidelines.

## Understanding Epilepsy

Designed by: Leena Peerzada - Visual Media Designer

**PURPLE DAY FOR EPILEPSY AWARENESS**

**HISTORY**

Purple day was established in 2008 by Cassidy Meghan to spread worldwide awareness and reduce public stigma and myths around epilepsy.

**March 26th**

**CAUSES & IMPACTS**

- Known Causes: brain injury, genetics, infection, metabolic & immune disorders
- 50% of causes still remain unknown
- Impacts the nervous system, leading to different types of seizures

**HOW TO OBSERVE**

- Wear purple to show support
- Know the signs of a seizure and what to do
- Use #EpilepsyAwarenessDay or #PurpleDay on social media.
- Donate to epilepsy research

**LOCAL SUPPORT**

- Epilepsy Foundation of Washington offers Seizure First Aid Training and Volunteer Opportunities
- Bellevue's Light the Flame Gala on March 7th, 2026 is an upcoming fundraising event for epilepsy
- Walk to END Epilepsy in September

*Over 50 million people worldwide, or 1 in 100 people, have epilepsy*

Sources: National Day Calendar, Purple Day, Epilepsy Foundation

# Students “Hack the Future” at ACM’s April 24-26 Hackathon

Written by: Miles Lewis  
- **Campus Life Reporter**  
March 2026



Image Credit: [uwbhacks.com](http://uwbhacks.com)

Hey Huskies! Are you someone who’s interested in problem solving using technology or wanting to get involved on campus? Head on over to this year’s tenth annual UWB Hacks happening Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26. This is a multiday event held in the middle of the Spring quarter hosted by one of UW Bothell’s most popular organization, the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).

Here’s how it works: students form a team with peers to finish a project from start to finish. Your team will have to help craft a project surrounding the year’s theme. The method to create is entirely up to students, as UWB Hacks encourages participants to

get creative, practice one’s coding and problem-solving in a team. According to ACM President Jonah Uellenberg, students can also benefit from adding their projects to their resume. This year’s tenth annual UWB Hacks theme is titled “Hack the Future,” which is about creating something that pushes us to “build what comes next,” creating a positive impact on the the future. Themes from previous years include, “Save the World” and “Hacks AI.”

Prior to the Hackathon, students have the opportunity to attend events from the Week of Hacking, a series of workshops that prepare students to create and present their project. These workshops have had both technical and nontechnical aspects in past Hackathons. UWB Hacks has been tailored for students who are also in other majors besides Computer Science or Applied Computing. A no-code track will be offered this year. Uellenberg encourages “students from technical and non-technical majors to team up - after all that’s how things work in the real-world, and is a great way to play to each other’s individual strengths!”

While ACM is the main host of this year’s event, many other clubs and organizations will be involved both on and off campus. ACM-W, Bothell Consulting Association (BCA), Trickfire Robotics and Grayhats are

some clubs that will be collaborating. ACM will also work directly with university departments including Club Council, Student Engagement & Activities, the Division of Advancement and the School of STEM.

400 students are expected to attend this year’s hackathon, an increase from last year’s event. 80-100 tech industry professionals are also expected to attend as judges, mentors and guests, giving students the opportunity to network. In fact, a winner from last year got an amazing internship opportunity through the connections they made at the event.

Uellenberg states “there’s only so much you can learn in your classes before you have to go out and apply it directly, and that’s what hackathon’s all about.” He ends with saying it’s a “great opportunity to go out and build your own project, something you’re really passionate about and might want to keep working on after the fact.”

Students can register for the Hackathon here: <https://uwbhacks.com/apply>. More information regarding the event can be found on their main webpage: <https://www.uwbhacks.com/>. What are you waiting for? Register now!

## Academic Advising: Is it Actually Helpful?

Written by: Zoya Merakov  
- **Campus Life Reporter**  
March 2026



Image Credit: Ashley Tsang

From helping students pick out their classes to discussing potential careers and graduate paths, academic advisors are vital to student success. The [Academic Advising Center’s mission](#) is to “facilitate the exploration of a transformative educational experience so that students may become engaged university members and active global citizens.”

With so many academic advising appointments offered, such as academic planning and registration, academic difficulty, changes to majors, graduation applications, major applications and check-ins, it is worth considering which services students are using and benefiting from.

Student responses from the “Student Opinions on Academic Advisors” survey revealed that they use academic advising primarily for planning their classes and often do so quarterly before registration begins.

Daniel Aguilar, a first-year student studying physics, reports that he finds it

helpful to meet with an academic advisor. For instance, as a first-year student, he has “chatted with [his] academic advisor on what classes [he] can take for [his] general requirements and the classes for the Physics major.” He describes how this opportunity gave him resources while planning for his classes. Aguilar has also, “talked about the possibility of taking the D.C. Human Rights Seminar in Fall 2026, which would open avenues in acquiring a minor in Human Rights.”

Belen Villalobos Plascencia, a junior majoring in business administration, notes that Academic Advising has been beneficial, “especially getting assurance and support from them. It’s reassuring to confirm information and ease worry about being on track towards graduation.” Anika Anderson, a senior majoring in Psychology, echoes similar sentiments as she likes to meet with Academic Advisors to “double-check to make sure [that she] has no errors.”

Plascencia shares that she enjoys how Academic Advisors are contactable in a variety of ways to be accessible to everyone. She states they have “obvious [communication] forms like email and zoom but also have drop-in times online and in-person availability, which is great for people who want to meet face to face.”

Comparatively, there have been some struggles with academic advising as well. The most popular response when asked if there was anything academic advisors could improve on, many students reported that sometimes their advisor’s advice was incredibly vague, making students feel that they had to do most of their own research to answer their questions. An anonymous student feels that, “every time I talk to [my academic advisor], it seems like they want me to find the answer on my own. It would be nice to get clearer ad-

vice.”

Another anonymous student would agree that more guidance would be beneficial. They describe how students are all “lost and look to academic advisors for help on what to take, and they always say do whatever you want. [They] want to know what [they] need to do so that [they] don’t pick the wrong classes.”

Despite struggles shared by students, all students who took the survey put “yes” when asked if meeting with their academic advisors is helpful.

Ultimately, Academic Advisors do quite a bit for students and the school community at large. It is vital for students to utilize the services offered to them.

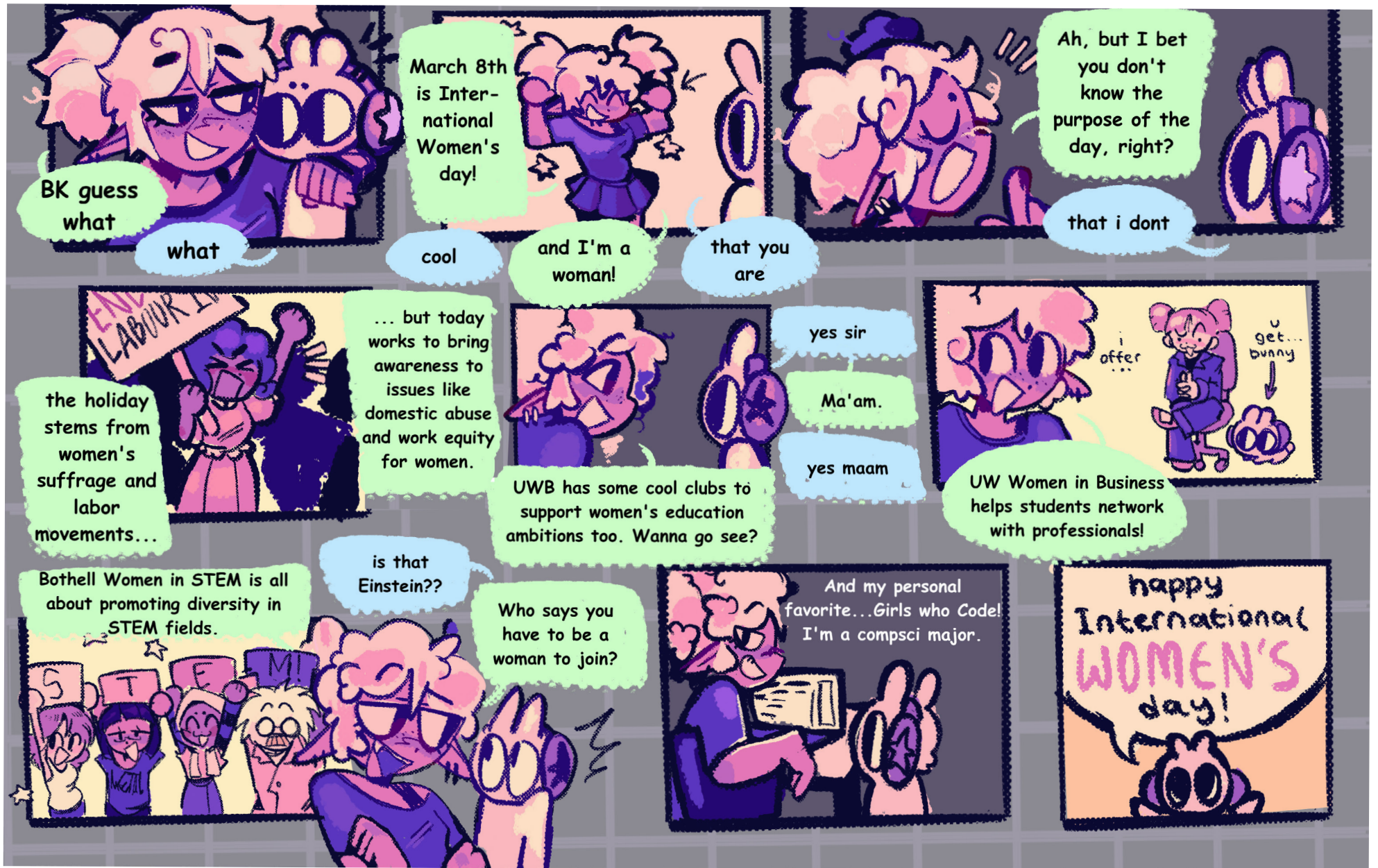


The Academic Advising Center at UW1-160 offers drop in times. Check out their website <https://www.uwb.edu/advising/> for more information.

# March: Celebrating Women's History Month!

Comic by: Mahnoor Asim  
- **Comic Artist**  
March 2026

March 8 is International Women's Day, a time to celebrate the strength and achievements of women worldwide. Check out some campus clubs dedicated to supporting women's education and careers!



# Menstrual Empowerment & Education

Photography by: Sydney Lok  
- **Campus Photographer**  
March 2026

The Health and Wellness Resource Center (HAWRC) held a Menstrual Empowerment event on Feb. 18, in the ARC. This educational event showcased reusable menstrual products and various information regarding menstrual cycles. Students were able to learn and enjoy free snacks and products.



Alternative menstrual products trifold



Various menstrual products



Menstrual cups



Student posing with a menstrual product



Shahrzad sharing a board



Menstrual period poster board

# NAMI Brings Community Together Through Art & Wellness

Photography by: Estel Soriano Bergua  
- **Campus Photographer**  
March 2026

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) hosted Hearts and Crafts: Midterm Distress on Feb.12, in the Innovation Hall. It was a fun Valentine's-themed craft night with students painting wooden heart-shaped boxes. Boxes were filled with chocolates and various candies.



A variety of candies in a box



Student painting on a NAMI heart box



A student painting hearts on a box



Club officer and member chatting



A wide shot of all the members painting



A student painting on heart box with finishing touches



Attendees focused on painting with various colors and snacks



# Indian Student Association Celebrates a Night of Culture

Photography by: Angelica Heimbigner  
- **Campus Photographer**  
March 2026

On Feb. 23, Indian Student Association (ISA) hosted Mehendi Night. This lavish event was held in DISC-252 from 6-8:30 pm, introducing members and students to Indian culture including wedding traditions. This cultural night featured authentic Indian food, henna, music and activities.



Club members and henna artist pose together for a photo



Students participating in a song association game



Decorative corner



Table of Indian food set up by the club officers

## The Joy of Eid

Designed by: Leena Peerzada - Visual Media Designer

**EID AL-FITR**  
MARCH 19-20

Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by muslims world-wide. It means 'festival of breaking the fast' as it celebrates the end of the month-long fast of Ramadan. Date can vary as it depends on the sighting of the moon.

**CELEBRATORY TRADITIONS**

- Looking for the crescent moon the night before
- Wearing new clothes
- Festive meals
- Giving charity and money to kids
- Exchanging gifts
- Prayer in mosque

**CELEBRATE IN WASHINGTON**

- Eid Fest - March 22nd & 28th
- MYWA Annual Eid Dinner - March 29th
- You can join UWB's MSA Club!
  - Also UWB's ASA, PSA, SSA & DSA Clubs!

## March into Creativity

Designed by: Anika Anderson - Visual Media Designer

**Celebrate National Craft Month in March**

Try New Hobbies to Boost Your Mental Health

- Embroidery
- Making Stamps
- Crochet
- Drawing
- Photography
- Baking & Cooking
- Jewelry Making
- Polymer Clay Figurines
- Painting
- Sewing, upcycled old clothes

**Get Creative at UWB**

- Clubs to join: Stitched, Trickfire Robotics, Fitted, Hooks and Needles, and Whisked
- The Collaboratory on Campus is a great place to try sewing, 3-D printing, and creating stickers

**Local Craft Spots**

- Make Apothecary: 18728 Bothell Way NE Suite A, Bothell, WA 98011
- Creative Hands Studio: 19525 Bothell Everett Hwy, Bothell, WA 98012

## Get to Know Your 2025–26 Student Reps! ASUWB Director of Legislative Affairs

Written by: Ashley Tsang - **Editor-in-Chief**  
**March 2026**



### Director of Legislative Affairs

Hiro Hirano-Holcomb  
(They/Them/Theirs)

Major: Law, Economics, and Public Policy  
Minor: Human Rights

### What is your role in ASUWB?

“I am the Director of Legislative Affairs which means that my key roles are to promote civic engagement on campus, develop the ASUWB legislative agenda, and serve as the full-time lobbyist representing the voice of the students of UWB in Olympia, our state capitol. I work closely with the Legislative Liaison, Briseldy Hernandez-Ramos, and the President, Adan Rodriguez, but a lot of my work involves external collaboration with student lobbyists from other members of the Washington Student Association.”

### What values guide your approach to advocacy, and how do you decide what bills are impacting students at UWB?

“Fairness and equity are values that guide my approach to advocacy heavily. The concept of life not being fair is not one I’ve ever taken well and I’m always looking for ways to change that rather than accept it as is. It isn’t fair that lack of access to basic needs resources, financial aid, and more block people from pursuing or completing postsecondary education which for many serves as a pathway to economic mobility and stability and I see advocacy as a way of doing my part to break

down those barriers and make higher education more accessible for anybody who wishes to pursue it. The legislative agenda was put together utilizing the prior legislative agenda from last year, the Washington Student Association legislative agenda, and input from the Legislative and Involvement Survey circulated earlier in the school year which allowed students to rate how important different issues were to them. I had a sense of the legislative climate I was stepping into as I had been following the prior session and knew what bills would be relevant to our agenda, a big one being HB 1316 which I’ll talk about later. I make sure to choose things that I know students have expressed caring about including protecting our undocumented and international students, basic needs resources, and financial aid.”

### You were advocating for House Bill 1316 recently in Olympia. Can you explain what the Students Experiencing Homelessness Program is? What resources or support would it provide to students?

“The Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness program (or SSEH) is a grant program that was originally a pilot program implemented in 2019 and made permanent in 2023 and provides funding to universities, community and technical colleges (CTCs), and as of last year, tribal colleges to support students experiencing housing insecurity on their way to degree completion and into the workforce. This program has funded emergency housing, access to laundry sites, emergency funding, rent assistance, and more. However, the way the bill was written makes it so that only one campus per institution can access the funding and UW Tacoma currently has it. This wasn’t an intentional exclusion and we found out when UW Bothell inquired about applying for the program a few years ago but was informed about how the statute was written. Especially with the unstable sources of funding of basic needs programs at UWB and the reductions we’re facing, HB 1316 would have been even more pertinent as this bill would change the statute to change the language so that all campuses per institution could apply for existing pool of funds. However, while we were able to get it a hearing and passed unanimously out of the Appropriations committee where it had been stuck since it was introduced last session, it died in the Rules committee and did not make it to the floor for a vote before the

house of origin cutoff on 2/17.”

### How has your legislative session been? What are some key takeaways you’d like to share?

“Chaotic, exciting, fun, and heartbreaking! Lobbying is a wild ride - every day is different and it’s an incredible experience where you get the opportunity to meet a lot of incredible people and make a real impact on how policy is shaped. Some days have few meetings with a committee or two to sit in on while others involve standing outside of house chamber doors and trying to catch legislators as they go in and out. The latter was what I was doing all day the last few days before cutoff trying to find a way for the bill to keep moving forward and it was admittedly heartbreaking when it became abundantly clear that it was not going anywhere. But something to keep in mind is how the legislators I talked to those last few days who otherwise did not know about the bill are now aware and supportive for when the bill is reintroduced next year and hopefully makes it completely through. A key takeaway is that lawmaking takes time and persistence. Even when a bill dies (as so many did this cutoff) we still move the needle when we take action and speak up for the things we care about. And some amazing bills are still alive that I’m excited to keep lobbying for alongside the rest of the student lobbyists at the Washington Student Association - SB 5906 - AKA the SAFE Act - which prohibits ICE from entering university campuses among other areas without a warrant and SB 5963 which auto-qualifies students who qualify for the Passports to Careers program (a program which serves foster youth and youth experiencing homelessness), for the full award of the Washington College Grant!”

### What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

“Right now, my roommate (Sienna Jarrard, my predecessor and current VP of Legislative Affairs of the WSA who’s down here in Olympia lobbying full-time as well!) and I watch a lot of movies together while we work! But usually, I love singing, playing the guitar, floral arranging, swimming, and spending time with family and friends!”

## GatherUWB: Find Community Connections in Student Clubs!



“We aim to inspire, educate, and equip girls with the computing skills to pursue 21st century opportunities. Anyone with an interest in or passion for computer science and tech related fields is invited to join!”



SAFIR

Student Association For Immigrants and Refugees

“It is the mission of SAFIR to focus on ways students can effectively help refugees and immigrants within the community and help them succeed academically. Our mission is to provide assistance in applying to college/university and how to succeed once enrolled in higher education. We will also aim to spread awareness about refugees on campus.”

## Get to Know Your 2025–26 Student Reps! ASUWB Legislative Liaison

Written by: Ashley Tsang - Editor-in-Chief  
March 2026



### Legislative Liaison

Briseldy Hernandez-Ramos  
(She/Her/Ella)

Major: Law, Economics & Public Policy  
Minor: Creative Writing

### What is your role in ASUWB?

“As the Legislative Liaison, I work alongside our Director of Legislative Affairs, Hiro Hirano-Holcomb to represent and advocate for our students at the University of Washington Bothell. Being the lead campus organizer for our student body ties into a couple pillars of work, this includes legislative event planning, outreach and research! Apart from this, I have consistent meetings with the elected officials of the City of Bothell to support out student needs and rights both at the state and local level.”

### What makes you passionate about student advocacy and what ASUWB events have you enjoyed on campus?

“Growing up in the agricultural setting, the value of learning was instilled at a young age. I’m a proud daughter of immigrants. For me, it’s not just about focusing on ad-

vocacy for a specific group of people, it’s about multiracial organizing, it’s about organizing everyone in their own spaces to continue pushing for social, racial and economic justice.”

### Do you have a message for students who want to get involved with advocacy but don’t know where to start?

“Ask questions! Do a bit of research on what is going around in your communities, but most of all, talk with your neighbors. Listen to their concerns, connect yourself with those around you to pave the common ground and be able to organize!”

### What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

“I enjoy cold plunging, backpacking, and especially paddleboarding in the summer! Any activity outdoors is so soothing to me.”

## Student Experience: ASUWB Huskies on the Hill

Written by: Moiz Mughal  
- Student Contributor  
March 2026

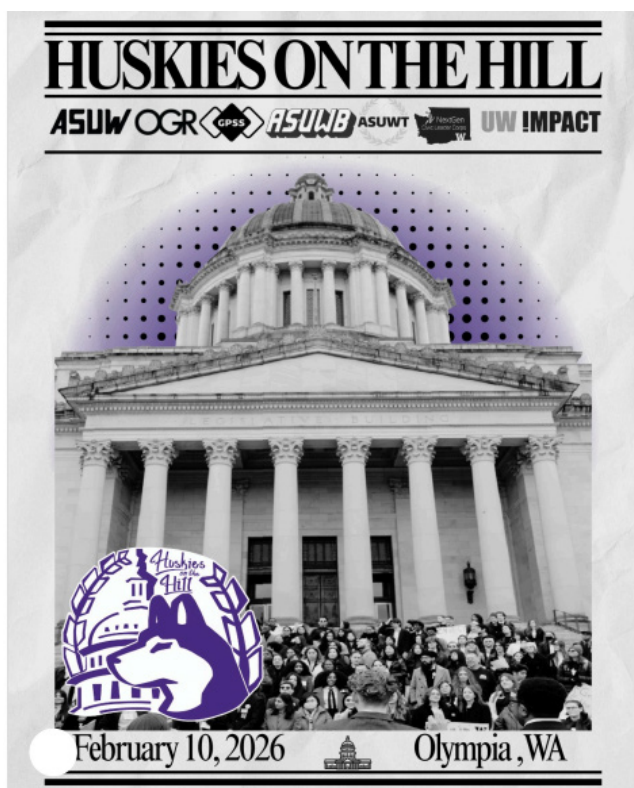


Image Credit: IG @uwnextgen

I had the pleasure of attending the Huskies on the Hill event hosted by the ASUWB alongside ASUW and ASUWT, where our group met early at UW Bothell around 6:45am before departing by bus at 7am. We arrived at Olympia around 8:30am where we first visited the Washington Student Association (WSA) office. We learned from WSA alumni such as Adan Espino and Joel Anderson about their experiences as student lobbyists and the importance of advocating for legislation to protect students, especially bills that address immigration enforcement actions in schools and student safety.

During the day, we got to see a live Senate session, where many representatives from different districts (like Manka Dhingra and Roger Goodman from District 45!) voted on various bills. We then went to many important government buildings, such as the Legislative Building and the Temple of Justice and explored the interior of the buildings.

Additionally, we got to eat lunch, which was catered gyros and shawarma. We learned more about the Washington Legislative Internship Program during our lunch and how students can get involved.

We then visited the offices of Representative Roger Goodman and Senator Manka Dhingra, where we pushed for our support for the bills that prevent ICE from entering University of Washington campuses. Separately, we had discussions regarding schools pushing housing programs for homeless students across all the UW campuses, not just at Tacoma.

Lastly, we rallied outside the legislative buildings to advocate for policy initiatives, which made the whole experience educational and impactful! My favorite part of the rally had to be advocating for the bills I mentioned earlier and seeing Representative Osman Salahuddin support these bills!



Image Credit: IG @uwb\_ceb



Image Credit: IG @cherry.blossom.run



Image Credit: IG @uwb\_stem

March 2026  
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*Special thanks to the rest of the Student Engagement & Activities team for making our work as the on-campus newspaper possible!*

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