Disconnection From UWT

The “W”

What has brought us together is a common decision to attend UWT. We are told we are huskies but it doesn’t feel this way. We have less resources than UW Seattle students, as seen in the graduation debacle that has happened recently. Students are being punished for having big families. We deserve to have the rights and privileges on graduation day that this amazing symbol represents.

Students Are Parents Too

This photograph of a mother and her child represent all of the students at UWT with children and the challenges they face. Many of the events and activities at UWT are geared toward younger students without family. This can cause a feeling of being left out and disconnected. On top of that is the issue of childcare.

The Muse was built as a child care center for students but it is very expensive, around $250/week. A discounted childcare program would be more beneficial. Everyone craves and deserves the “full college experience”, even students who are also parents!

Inclusion

In Tacoma, the military is an important presence. In the military, and at UWT, LGBTQ students are struggling for legitimacy. Completing a college education can be painful, arduous, and improbable for them. These students still have trouble getting equality, recognition, and even employment outside of college. Even if they have served in the military, their service may be undermined by discrimination they face for their sexual orientation. Every student is important and should feel included and celebrated on campus, not marginalized.

Barriers to Succeeding

This picture represents the differences and similarities that bring us together as a UWT and Tacoma community. The fence and grass in the photo are the barriers one may experience trying to make their education or Tacoma work for them. Barriers include parking, commuting, and working or having a family to care for while also pursuing an education here.

8:04 AM

Class starts at 8:00am and the seats remain empty. Each chair resembles a student and a reason.

Not Safe

This image is of a woman’s foot, stepping over glass, as she walks down a sidewalk in an area informally designated as “free student parking”. The glass has been covering 4 feet of sidewalk for over a week now and no one has cleaned it up. It is impossible to avoid, shards are scattered everywhere. UWT students do not feel safe when they leave school. This image is both literal and symbolic of all the dangers surrounding the UWT campus that students have to purposefully navigate around or through in order to be safe.