

# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

April 2, 2003

ASUW Student Government  
P.O. Box 3625 • Room 020, Wyoming Union • Laramie, WY 82071-3625  
(307) 766-5204

To: Judicial Council, Associated Students of the University of Wyoming  
RE: Senate Bill 2043, USA Today Collegiate Readership Program


Dear Chief Justice Davis and Members of the Board:

In the beginning portion of this semester, the ASUW sponsored a pilot version of the Collegiate Readership program developed and sponsored by USA Today. The results of the survey conducted after the pilot was completed showed remarkable support for the Readership Program in its full form. The survey also showed that students were willing to support the program with student fees.

Unfortunately, given the current income generated by the ASUW fee, the ASUW cannot support a program of this size without increasing fees. The ASUW is, however, unwilling to raise student fees again without the official vote of the student body. ASUW Senate Bill 2043 calls for that vote by placing the fee, essentially as a referendum, on the ballot during the ASUW general elections beginning the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>. The bill outlines clearly that if the students vote to "tax themselves" then the fee will be requested by ASUW for the following year, fiscal year 2005.

The issue before you, is whether the ASUW has the authority to place such an issue, as a referendum, on the ballot in order to have students at large vote on a fee. If students were allowed to vote on this issue it would be the first time in the ASUW history.

I apologize for the short notice, but would encourage you to consider this issue promptly as a Council prior to the next session of the ASUW on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Please feel free to contact Ruth Shepherd, so that she might assist you with scheduling a meeting and provide you with any necessary information.

Cordially,  
  
Keith L. Sapp  
President ASUW