Charter for Women’s Advocacy House

Mission of Women’s Advocacy House:

Women’s Advocacy House is open to all students. While we encourage all student to apply to live in the house, preference will be given to people who identify as women (cisgender and transgender) or as gender non-binary.

The purpose of Women’s Advocacy House is:

1. To provide a communal living opportunity for students who wish to reside in a community that focuses on the encouragement of individual and community awareness of the diversity of women and women’s issues.

2. Through programming, faculty/staff interaction and involvement with women’s organizations, members of the house will work collectively to provide educational and social programming both within the house and amongst the campus community.

3. To serve as the official meeting place for the Collective for Women’s Issues (CWI).

Goals for Women’s Advocacy House:

1. To provide a common space for regular discussion and support around issues specifically related to women.

2. To be an intentional living experience through which residents of the house learn from one another and build varying perspectives surrounding women’s issues.

3. To have residents serve as coordinators of educational and social programming addressing a variety of issues relating specifically to women.
   a. Examples of past programing include: Porn and Pad Thai, Orgasms and Orange Chicken, Movie Nights, Facilitated Discussions (Bitch, Body Image, Feminism, Femininity, etc.).

4. To provide a greater connection between students and the Gender and Sexuality Center.

Women’s Advocacy House residents will possess:

1. A strong interest in the unique experience of women in our community.

2. An interest in exploring the variety of women’s experiences through an intersectional feminist lens.

3. An ability to contribute positively to a communal environment.

4. A commitment to the organization of activities/events around women’s experiences and issues.

5. Creativity and enthusiasm.

6. A desire to develop a strong community in the house through communal dinners, events, and other house activities.

House Manager:
The WA House Manager will function as a liaison to the Gender and Sexuality Center and work directly with the GSC Assistant Director for all programming or budgeting needs.

Selection Process:
Applicants will be expected to complete an application and interview with the selection committee. The committee will be comprised of the Assistant Director of the Gender and Sexuality Center and current house manager. Selection of house residents for the upcoming year will be made on an individual basis, as opposed to group selection based on existing friendships.

Conflict Resolution:
If any member of WA House is repeatedly disruptive or fails to meet the goals and expectations of the house, that member will be asked to leave the house. All internal conflicts will be first addressed by the house members. The following procedures will be used when conflict or disagreements arise:

1. All house members will attend a meeting for the purposes of reviewing expectations and resolving conflicts.
2. If conflicts or disruptive behavior continues, a mediation session with a Residential Life or Gender and Sexuality Center staff person can be requested.
3. The staff of Residential Life and/or the house advisor will work with the house to determine how to resolve the conflict, which may include removal of a house member.