

# LETTERS

## ASWSU: How are you voting?

• Continued From Page 4

the same ideas. I'm just going to punch a hole and it will all be the same. If they argued about something there might be someone worth picking."

**Neil Brinson**  
Criminal Justice

• "Wixson. She's the one I know the most about. Her campaign seems pretty strong and from what I've heard she seems like the most qualified candidate."

**Kyle Manning**  
Elementary Education

• "I'm planning on voting for Caires because if you look at his records he has been dedicated to the school. Carlson works hard and is going to Olympia and will be a lobbyist for us, the students. We have our own Pullman City Council member and no one has done that in the last 17 years. Matt gives his all and always does a great job. He is an honor student, a peer mentor for students for color in the College of Education and he has been a diversity educator and ambassador. Basically the bottom line is people love Matt. He's easy to approach and cares about you as an individual. The reason I don't think Wixson/Robinson could support the school well because of his lack of knowledge and awareness on the issues that directly affect him. He correlated the word tolerance and diversity. Those two words should not be used in the same

sentence. We don't tolerate. We not only learn to only appreciate but understand differences. That statement just told me his tolerance his really low."

**Paul Hudgens**  
Psychology/Professional Writing

• "Caires/Carlson because Carlson seems like she has a good personality and good leadership skills to guide the WSU students."

**Javier Salgado**  
Education

• "Wixson because she is a woman and it is a nice new change to have a woman's view."

**Tony Dang**  
Marketing

• "I will definitely vote for Caires/Carlson. It is a natural continuation of what he has already done for WSU as Chief of Staff and a diversity educator. Karen is very qualified because it is a budget year and she has connections in Olympia and she is a good woman."

**Nancie Baine**  
Communications

• "I kind of think it is a waste of time and a way for those people to build resumes so I don't really pay attention."

**Sidney Gilpatrick**  
Bio-Chemistry

## Don't use GLBA for gain

Editor:

I went to the vice presidential candidate debate on Friday with hopes to learn where each stood on issues that concern the students of WSU. Being a woman and ethnic minority, I knew diversity would be a major issue for all of the tickets.

Coming away from the debate I felt that Karen Carlson, a woman and an ethnic minority herself, who has studied abroad and was involved in APASC (Asian/Pacific American Student Center), would have the best insight to WSU's struggle with diversity.

But upon reading the article written by Jeff Nusser on Fri., March 1, I felt that it was biased in John Robinson's favor, and the article itself was not journalism at its best. I do not think that the article correctly depicted what happened at the debate.

First of all, in the article, there were over 10 references to Robinson, while there were only five for Karen Carlson and four for Lora Kriedler. That showed me that Nusser did not write the article objectively.

The question asked to all the candidates if they were involved in any diversity groups. Nusser was correct in saying that none of them were presently involved in any diversity groups, but each had experience in that area. Moreover, some candidates have more experience on the topic of diversity than the others.

He referred to Robinson as a strong advocate for diversity, and that terribly disturbed me! Granted he was a co-sponsor for the

GLBA's bill, but talking with friends in the multicultural circuit, many had not even heard of or seen John Robinson or Aleana Wixson for that matter until a few weeks before they decided to run as a presidential ticket.

Diversity also means different ethnic groups. It is these other "groups of diversity" that make up about 11 percent of WSU's population. Robinson using the word "diversity" as his political crutch offends me a great deal. If he is an advocate for diversity, why isn't he in any multicultural groups?

He also referred to minorities who have entered institutions of higher education, such as WSU, as "people like 'that'" who have taken advantage of the system. Advocated for diversity - I think not!

Nusser's portrayal of Robinson in

the article as an advocate does not really coincide with his track record, nor his stance on affirmative action. He has taken the big picture of diversity and focused it on the GLBA, and neglected a major component of diversity, ethnic minorities.


Please understand that I am an avid supporter of the GLBA, but for Robinson to take on the whole issue of diversity and focus only on the GLBA is to use the organization for political gain in this campaign. Robinson would also be neglecting the rest of the students that fall under the category of "diversity."

If that is the case, then I would be one of those students that the Wixson/Robinson ticket would be neglecting. This really concerns me and makes me wonder about who my advocate for diversity really is.

**Leah Taguba**

ELECT

## Aleana WIXSON



## John ROBINSON

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