

Student Fee Advisory Committee

January 20, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Present: Calvin Sung, Megan Braun, Andres Gonzalez, Sara Bana, Ching-Yun Li, Erin Kelly, Adam Van Wart, Natalie Gourdarzian, Rosemary Busta, Leslie Millerd Rogers

Absent: Nidal Zmily, Payel Chowdhury, David Curry

Staff: Karen Mizumoto

Interns (absent): Karen Wong, Sally Yu

1. Meeting is called to order at 11:15 a.m.
2. Minutes from December 4, 2009 are amended as follows:
 - Andres Gonzalez and Ching-Yun Li were present.
 - Committee strikes items #22, 31 and 34.
 - Minutes will be approved at the next meeting.
3. Chair updates
 - Momentum to merge Ed/Reg fees into one tuition amount (no longer fees) has stalled and will likely not be addressed for the next couple of years.
 - UCOP EVP Nathan Brostrom and VP Patrick Lenz not supportive. EVP Brostrom will send out a memo correcting a previous memo by his staff stating systemwide Reg Fee units are more than healthy, which is not the case.
 - Student Affairs is against merging the two fees.
 - There was no Reg Fee Task Force meeting on 1/15, but the task force will address strengthening the role of SFACs and the issue of separating return-to-aid (RTA) for Reg Fee from the Ed Fee.
 - Currently RTA is calculated on the total Reg + Ed Fee x 33% RTA for undergrads and professionals and x 50% for grad academics, but is funded by Ed Fees that are transferred to UCOP from the campuses; no Reg Fees fund the University Scholarship and Aid Program (USAP).
 - The Reg Fee Task Force would like to examine adding a RTA component directly to Reg Fees to give OP and the Regents more incentive to approve increases to Reg Fees without hurting students.
 - The majority of the committee feels increasing Reg Fee in the current climate would be at conflict with the student standpoint that there should be no student fee increases; supporting an increase in Reg Fees would be sending the wrong message and may not be tolerated by students. Additionally some committee members feel that increases to the Ed Fee are to maintain the academic integrity of the University and the nominal

- increases to the Reg Fee may not be worth the political capital that will be used to raise the Reg Fee.
- Some members of the committee believe it would be better to wait at least another year or so until the climate is better.
 - The issue for the Reg Fee Task Force is that there may not be another chance to revise the Reg Fee policy in the near future if the policy isn't revised now; the Regents may decide not to re-visit the policy again for several years. Also any changes to the Reg Fee policy in regards to RTA and increases affecting students would likely not be implemented for at least another year.
 - The committee briefly discusses what services (e.g., Career Center, Student Health) might be worth increase to Reg Fees. Some members recognize that while the Career Center is understaffed, they do not understand how changing the Reg Fee policy will address this, particularly for students who are being affected by this right now since the policy change would be implemented for a few years.
 - The committee votes to table this discussion.
4. Budget Reductions
 - Karen will provide the committee with the budget reductions %s for 08-09 and 09-10.
 5. Budget Surveys and Assessments
 - Leslie will follow up with any Student Affairs units who have not turned in their budget surveys and assessments; Karen will follow up with Academic Affairs units.
 6. The Second Survey Dilemma
 - The committee discusses sending out a second survey to student services units to find out how much Reg Fee would need to be raised to fully fund student services with Reg Fee (no Ed Fee equivalent funding).
 - Leslie suggests that rather than sending the surveys out to individual departments, perhaps the information can be gathered at a higher level (VC/Dean level) because there are higher strategic issues that are considered when decisions on how departments are funded are/will be made.
 - Karen also says that some of that information may be included in the surveys just received; the committee must be clear on what information the departments are being asked to provide, why they are being asked to complete another survey and how the information will be used. There may be some resistance, perhaps because of workload issues, if the departments don't see the added value of another survey when they just recently completed another survey. Also the committee needs to define what the financial data will be based on (current expenditures, projected expenditures, expenditures before budget cuts, optimal funding, etc.).
 - Calvin will check with his counterparts to see what type of information they will be gathering and how they will conduct their surveys.
 5. The winter quarter meeting time has been changed to 12:00 to 2:00.
 6. Meeting is adjourned.