

Student Fee Advisory Committee

November 6, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Present: Calvin Sung, Megan Braun, Payel Chowdhury, Sarah Bana, Natalie Gourdarzian, David Curry, Andres Gonzales, Adam Van Wart, Leslie Millerd Rogers

Absent: Rosemary Busta, Nidal Zmily, Erin Kelly, Ching-Yun Li

Staff: Karen Mizumoto

Interns: Karen Wong, Sally Yu

1. Meeting called to order at 1:08 pm.
2. Minutes from October 23 are approved.
3. Leslie Millerd Rogers will serve as proxy for Stacey until the new calendar year.
4. Calvin requests comments on the revised Reg Fee policy being drafted by the systemwide Registration Fee Task Force.
5. The committee reviews and discusses Reg Fee financial reports.
 - Calvin raises the issue of limits on the number of students Counseling Services sees. In some cases the number of students seen for counseling services are limited due to the lack of capacity (e.g., funding may be available, but open staff positions may not have been filled yet).
 - Calvin asks how the carry forward for control planning will be used. Karen says that the funding in the control accounts is mainly a reserve for current-year benefits costs and increased employer contribution to the UC retirement system beginning in 4/10. Additional funds will be needed for annualized retirement system costs in 2010-11.
 - Calvin asks for Reg Fee-funded capital reserves project costs for the last five years.
 - Calvin asks what has been done with the savings from cuts to Athletics programs. Megan says Athletics are mostly funded with Reg Fees and nothing from the Ed Fee. Karen says their cut for 2008-09 was \$266,000 in Reg Fees, but Athletics did have the majority of that funding restored for specific budget needs in 2008-09. Athletics also has an on-going operating deficit that needed to be addressed. Karen says that most of the sports programs are considered “self-supporting”/ auxiliary enterprises, but need to be supplemented from other funds including Reg Fees. Calvin brings up how UC Berkeley’s athletics are generating much more revenue than UCI’s athletics programs. Other schools’ athletics programs also generate money by selling licensed apparel in addition to ticket sales.
6. The committee discusses possible fee-funded areas to review.
 - The committee considers reviewing the Athletics budget and possibly bringing in Philip Wang to speak to the committee about Athletics fee-funded operations. However the committee agreed that the budget structure of Athletics programs is fairly clear and the lack of other resources from ticket/gate sales, licensing,

broadcasting rights, etc., make it necessary for the campus to fund Athletics programs with Reg Fees.

- A review of the Library is discussed, but the consensus of the committee is that looking at areas with larger fee-funded budgets could better optimize the committees' efforts. The Library has approximately \$17K in permanent Reg Fee-colored funding; the actual fee (equivalent to ½ Reg Fee) is an archives manuscript fee paid in lieu of Reg Fees. Graduate students who are filing theses and dissertations pay the archives manuscript fee, and the fee specifically funds the cost of processing and archiving manuscripts.
 - Additionally, Megan notes that the Library budget reductions and services were discussed with Library and campus leadership and most of the concerns regarding student services and Library hours were addressed.
 - Calvin suggests forming a sub-committee to look at the Deans of Students and the committee could ask a representative from DOS to meet with the committee and discuss how budget cuts have affected student services, what services are priorities, and how the students have been impacted by operational changes. Megan proposes to look at the DOS to help SFAC make Reg Fee funding recommendations to the EVCP. Calvin says this will help give SFAC more insight to which departments are struggling more than others.
7. Karen provides information about the budget cuts to the academic units. There was a \$7+ million cut in 2008-09 (about 3% to each school) and about a \$10+ million cut in 2009-10; the cuts to the academic units were in the range of 4% to 6.5%. The total budget cuts over the past two years is about \$17- \$18 million. Salaries and benefits, including faculty salaries, represent about 80% of the average school's operating budget. The campus has made a commitment to maintain instruction including maintaining line faculty, although there have been some savings from the hiring freeze and temporary savings from the faculty/staff furloughs. The remaining 20% of operating budget (funds for academic and administrative support, funding for supplemental instructional activities, services, etc.) have had to absorb most of the budget reductions to schools. Student fees do supplement the funding for some of these areas that have been affected by budget cuts.
 8. The committee discusses revising the budget survey templates and the cover letter accompanying the surveys. Sarah and Leslie will incorporate suggestions made by the committee into a revised the cover letter and the survey questions for the committee to review at next week's meeting.
 9. The committee discusses expanding the SFAC website so it can be used as an access point for the members for SFAC binder and meeting information. Megan also suggests the committee chair/vice chair maintain and operating/desk manuals to document the committee's processes, procedures and responsibilities.
 10. Calvin asks the committee to think of topics and questions to ask the EVCP when he meets with the committee on 11/20. Calvin says he will send out the minutes from last year so that the questions aren't repeated.
 11. Meeting adjourned at 2:54pm