

Student Fee Advisory Committee

February 26, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Present: Connor Strobel, Joseph Acevedo, Isabella Blake, Alan Doig, Darlene Esparza, Amihai Glazer, Andrew Hallak, Chico Hill, Nisha Sandhu, “Angel” Hsiao-Yun Tsui,

Absent: Ashkuor Abdulkader, Sarah Alkhatib, Brionna Martinez, Wiley Wilson

Staff: Katherine Warnke-Carpenter, Karen Mizumoto

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Motion to approve the agenda. No objections. Agenda approved.
3. Motion to approve the minutes from the 2/5/2021 meeting. No objections. Minutes approved.
4. Connor provided an update from CSF, which is the Committee on Student Fees encompassing all UC SFACs from all campuses.
 - a. Timeline and forms review for next SFAC to do a deep dive into how the Units are spending fees the committee allocates. This will help transition new members to the committee year over year.
 - b. There are two system-wide student advocacy groups considering a system-wide fee. Not certain how that would run. Would have to be approved by the Regents and UCOP. Plan to model this after the CSU (California State University) fee.
 - c. Units need to give the SFAC a better update on how the funds they received through the committee’s process are being used. Suggestions are:
 - i. More standardized reporting.
 - ii. Understanding the long-term consequences of staffing vs. other temporary items.
 - iii. Some other UC campuses have more funds for SFAC distribution. May help the committee on the UCI campus understand how other UC campuses are prioritizing requests.
5. Review of the prior meeting’s 2/5/2021 discussion of the three Student Fee Referendum items being proposed. There was crossover between UCOP’s recommended changes and the SFAC’s recommended changes.
 - a. Recommendations of SFAC are staying the same.
 - b. Question about MSA (Merage Student Association) – Karen compared UCOP recommendations to UCI SFAC recommendations. Is an explanation of MSA still needed? The committee agreed to ask for it.

- c. WHUB-any new questions or concerns? No. The committee agreed to continue to request a short line be added to clarify the question of external or internal internships.
 - d. Esports-went through an extensive revision based also on UCOP's feedback. Most of the UCI SFAC's comments were addressed. The value language is still included. Summer fee is still not addressed specifically. Karen clarified again that it is a rolling average calculation and could change. It is also not clear whether the fee will roll back if they get more sponsorships. We can ask them to document both and give a sample calculation/methodology to include average overall cost and estimated percent so the students voting on this have as much clarity as possible the amount they are committing to pay.
6. Unit Operating Reports
- a. In the past, committee members would read them on their own time in the Dropbox folder.
 - b. How to do differently in years to come?
 - c. Proposal to do a deeper dive this cycle review due to the unique events this past year, because of the virtual environment. Positions have not been filled. UCDC isn't going on this year, so how is SFAC support for those scholarships being deployed or not – what's going on with those funds - shouldn't SFAC be involved in that conversation about re-use? Karen explained how the Provost typically deploys funds.
 - d. Committee members agreed to review the Unit Operating Reports in the Dropbox this next week on their own. Come back next Friday, 3/5/2021, with questions or information/specifics you wish you had to evaluate the allocation to the Unit. This is so the committee can amend the form to better suit all needs and provide proper oversight to make sure the fees are being used as intended. Question asked: What is the correct channel for funds to be used or returned or re-allocated if the Unit cannot use them as requested/intended? Answer: Unit should simply make contact with the SFAC...either by being proactive or sending funds back. Indication is we should get the Provost's approval. Differing opinions on whether SFAC has legal authority. There are guidelines not policies related to these funds. More to follow on this question at future SFAC meetings after research is done.
7. Guidelines in policy indicate fees should not be used for international students, but our stated themes include international type language in the budget call. The forms should be updated for next year. A further review of the language will be done going forward.
8. No further questions.
9. Meeting adjourned.