



April 9, 2018

Statement from SFC Chairman Peter J. Schwartz on Student Fee Budget Allocation for the Fiscal Year 2019

April 6th saw the culmination of the Student Fee budgeting process with the passage of our recommended fee levels by the Board of Trustees of Oregon State University. Starting in fall term, the Student Fee Committee (SFC) worked with the 10 Student Fee funded units – The Memorial Union, Recreational Sports, Associated Students of Oregon State University, Diversity and Cultural Engagement, Family Resource Center, Athletics, Performing Arts, Orange Media Network, Student Leadership and Involvement, and Human Services Resource Center – to recommend a total Student Fee level which both allows for continued operations of the Student Fee funded units, but which also minimizes adverse financial impact on the students of Oregon State University.

The 10 liaison members of the SFC, who respectively represent each unit’s student advisory board, worked with the four at large members of the SFC to balance growing costs, due to inflationary drivers and prior financial commitments, with our commitment to funding programs which are advantageous to the educational, cultural, or physical development of students as well as the goals of Oregon State University.

The final recommended fee levels for the Fiscal Year 2019 are as follows expressed as dollar amount per student per term (fall/winter/spring):

Unit	Recommended Fee Level FY19
Memorial Union	\$55.15
Orange Media Network	\$19.04
Student Leadership and Involvement	\$36.16
ASOSU	\$22.47
Diversity and Cultural Engagement	\$32.33
Intercollegiate Athletics	\$38.86
Performing Arts Board	\$5.79
Recreational Sports	\$83.22
Family Resource Center	\$9.92
Human Services Resource Center	\$11.91
Contingency Fee	\$0.25
Allowance for Bad Debt	\$0.25
Student Facility Improvement Fee	\$65.00
Fee Level Total	\$381.23

The total fee level represents a fee level increase from FY18 to FY19 of \$6.05 and a percentage increase of 1.59%.

The changes reflect a substantial reorganization of the Student Fee budget, primarily, the removal of the Auxiliary and Activities Business Center fee which will now be distributed among the 10 fee funded units



as an assessment. Additionally, the Human Services Resource Center budget was failed during Joint Congress leading to a mediation session. Members of ASOSU Congress advocated for an increase in the FRC budget from a SFC proposed \$7.78 to \$11.91 per student per term representing a 53% increase in the budget. The fee level of \$11.91 was approved during mediation. Finally, Student Health Services and Counseling and Psychological Services have been moved out of the Student Fee budget and into the Educational and General budget and are assessed through tuition. Taking this reorganization into account, the effective total increase for services previously funded through Student Fees is 3.83%.

Summer fees have also been reorganized with final Fee Levels for Fiscal Year 2020 being as follows expressed as dollar amount per student for summer term. The summer fee levels will be revisited during the Fiscal Year 2020 process to allow for a collective fiscal year evaluation.

Unit	Recommended Fee Level FY20
Memorial Union	\$47.43
Orange Media Network	\$11.09
Student Leadership & Involvement	\$22.63
Diversity & Cultural Engagement	\$8.73
Recreational Sports	\$64.89
ASOSU	\$9.01
Family Resource Center	\$4.07
Human Services Resource Center	\$2.80
Student Facility Improve (Rec Sports, MU, SEC)	\$48.50
Contingency & Bad debt	\$0.50
Summer Fee Level Total	\$219.65

The total Summer Fee level change from FY 19 to FY20 represents a decrease of \$2.99 and a percentage decrease of 1.34%. The effective change, taking into account the relocation of SHS and CAPS, is an increase of \$12.02 and a percentage increase of 7.82%.

Notes:

The Student Fee Committee was pleased with the results of the budgeting process, the overall fee increase was the lowest it's been in over 3 years. In addition, the overall fee increase tracks closely with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate meaning that the rate of increase of Student Fees is similar to the average rate of increase of the cost of most other goods and services purchased in the US.

Outlooks:

Forecasting future needs of the fee funded units is challenging. The SFC's assessment is that long term issues such as funding for equipment and building reserves as well as funding for deferred maintenance projects will likely continue to drive most increases which are not related to adjustments to maintain the current service level (CSL). In the coming years, the SFC will need to consider maintenance costs for several aging buildings and avoid large fee increases in an environment which will likely see either enrollment stagnation or a slight enrollment decrease.