

**April 9, 2019**

**Statement from SFC Chair Theresa Thurston on Student Fee Budget  
Allocation for the Fiscal Year 2020**

April 5<sup>th</sup> 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 including inflationary drivers, prior financial commitments and reduced Corvallis campus enrollment 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 2020 are as follows expressed as dollar amount per student per term (fall/winter/spring):

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Recommended Fee Level FY20</b>
ASOSU	\$23.14
Diversity and Cultural Engagement	\$34.24
Family Resource Center	\$11.04
Human Services Resource Center	\$12.15
Athletics	\$40.71
Memorial Union	\$58.54
Orange Media Network	\$19.71
Performing Arts Board	\$6.97
Recreational Sports	\$89.48
Student Leadership & Involvement	\$36.96
Contingency Fee	\$0.25
Allowance for Bad Debt	\$0.25
Student Facility Improvement Fee	\$65.00
<b>Fee Level Total</b>	<b>\$398.44</b>

The total fee level represents a fee level increase from FY19 to FY20 of \$17.21 and a percentage increase of 4.51%.



Two substantial challenges for Fiscal Year 2020 include decreasing on-campus enrollment and a shift from allocating fees by projected enrollment to real enrollment figures. Enrollment decreased for Fall, Winter and Spring by an average of 5.85% with summer expected to have double digit impacts of 13.27%; as funding allocation would be done by real enrollment figures rather than those projected months before, units for Fiscal Year 2019 received less funding than anticipated and budgeted for similar future pressures for Fiscal Year 2020. These two financial pressures contributed to potentially substantial increases to the overall fee impact (approaching an increase of approximately 7%) but the overall fee increase was limited to 4.51% for FWS.

Diversity and Cultural Engagement (DCE) and Athletics failed the Joint Session of the ASOSU House of Representatives and Senate leading to a mediation session. The initial proposals of \$41.00 for FWS for Athletics and \$33.95 FWS and \$9.04 Summer for Diversity and Cultural Engagement both failed but were set in a Joint Session by ASOSU Congress to \$40.71 FWS for Athletics and \$34.24 FWS for Diversity and Cultural Engagement. The entirety of the incidental fee was then approved by ASOSU President Justin Bennett, sent to OSU President Ed Ray and approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Summer fee levels for Fiscal Year 2020 have been recommended and approved as follows.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Recommended Fee Level FY20</b>
ASOSU	\$9.28
Diversity & Cultural Engagement	\$9.04
Family Resource Center	\$4.21
Human Services Resource Center	\$2.86
Memorial Union	\$47.96
Orange Media Network	\$11.48
Recreational Sports	\$67.16
Student Leadership & Involvement	\$23.42
Student Facility Improve (Rec Sports, MU, SEC)	\$48.50
Contingency & Bad debt	\$0.50
<b>Summer Fee Level Total</b>	<b>\$219.65</b>

The total Summer Fee level change from FY 19 to FY20 represents an increase of \$2.84 or 1.28%.

**Notes:**

The Student Fee Committee was pleased with the results of the budgeting process as it balances two large challenges for this particular year, including decreasing



enrollment and a shift for units from having fees allocated by projected to real enrollment numbers.

**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 decreases.