January 25, 2024

President Elizabeth Cantwell

Utah State University

UMC 1400

Dear President Cantwell,

The Logan Campus Student Fee Board met January 17, 2024 to hear presentations from three fee receiving areas regarding potential increases, and one fee receiving area requesting a new student fee. The board made a final decision on these proposed increases on January 24, 2024. These are the recommendations:

**Logan Main Campus:**

ARC Building Fee: Proposed $3.37 increase, board recommends a $3.37 increase

Campus Recreation proposed a $3.37 increase in fees to cover deficit in funds for their overall operating budget. This deficit is a result of inflating utilities costs, an increase in student wages paid, and decreased overall enrollment. The board appreciated the thorough explanation of how the proposed fee would be used. It was voted unanimously to recommend the $3.37 increase.

Bus Fee: Proposed $1.02 increase, board recommends a $1.02 increase

Parking and Transportation proposed a $1.02 increase in fees to purchase two new shuttle busses for the aging Aggie Shuttle fleet. A feature of the new busses is easier access for individuals in wheelchairs and others with mobility challenges. The board again appreciated the explanation of why a certain brand of bus was purchased and the long-term plan that was laid out. It was voted unanimously to recommend the $1.02 increase.

Athletics Fee: Proposed $5.00 increase, later lowered to $3.00, board recommends a $2.00 increase

Athletics proposed a $5.00 increase. After discussion between the Fee Board and various University Administrators, athletics changed their proposal to a $3.00 increase. This increase will be used to enhance mental health support for student-athletes, provide enhanced nutritional requirements for student-athletes, and to invest in growing the game-day experience of all students attending athletic events. After lengthy discussion, it was voted to not recommend the $3.00 increase. The primary point of contention was that there were members of the board who challenged that some students choose not to attend athletic events and don’t see the value in athletics. Further discussion followed, leading to a vote to recommend a $2.00 increase instead. This vote was 14-7 in favor of recommending a $2.00 increase.

Career Design Center: Proposed $22.00 new fee, board does not recommend accepting the proposal

The Career Design Center proposed a new fee of $22.00 for all students including statewide and online, regardless of number of registered credits. The Career Design Center’s purpose of the ask is to increase its current staff from 9 to 21, and the bulk of the $22.00 fee ($1,095,000) would go to pay the salaries of the new employees. Consistent with the 2019 State of Utah Audit, the USU Student Fee Board Policy states that, “Student fees should not generally be used for programs or services that can be supported by state or auxiliary funds.” This includes employee salaries. It was the opinion of the board that while generally supportive of the mission and purpose of the Career Design Center, this new fee would not be a proper use of student fee income. The vote was 14-7 in opposition of recommending this new student fee.

**Statewide Campuses:**

This year, the Statewide Campus Student Fee Board met on January 12th. During the meeting it was determined that no changes should be made to the current Regional Campus Student Fee amounts. USU Eastern had a small reallocation of fees, resulting in a $10.00 decrease in the Activity student fee and a corresponding $10.00 increase in the Athletics fee. This was approved unanimously by the USU-Eastern Region Student Fee Committee.

Both the Logan Campus and Statewide Campuses Student Fee Boards appreciate the opportunity to receive and provide input regarding the use of student fees. Thank you for your consideration of the above recommendations. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Alyson Cinq-Mars, Chair of both the Logan Campus and Statewide Campuses Student Fee Boards.

Sincerely,

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Alyson Cinq-Mars

USUSA Executive Vice President

Logan Campus Student Fee Board Chairman

Statewide Campuses Student Fee Board Chairman

Cc: Eric Olsen, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Cc: Linda Zimmerman, Executive Director of Student Involvement and Leadership