

The Regents of the University of California

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY**

May 19, 2010

The Committees on Finance and Educational Policy met jointly on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Community Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Representing the Committee on Finance: Regents Bernal, Island, Makarechian, Schilling, and Varner; Ex officio members Gould and Yudof; Advisory members DeFreece and Simmons; Staff Advisors Abeyta and Martinez
Representing the Committee on Educational Policy: Regents Island, Lansing, Marcus, O’Connell, and Reiss; Ex officio members Gould, Yudof, and Zettel; Advisory members Cheng and Powell; Staff Advisors Abeyta and Martinez

In attendance: Regents De La Peña, Kieffer, Maldonado, Nunn Gorman, and Stovitz, Regent-designate Hime, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Provost Pitts, Executive Vice Presidents Brostrom and Taylor, Senior Vice President Dooley, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Broome, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Birgeneau, Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 11:10 a.m. with Committee on Educational Policy Chair Island presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of March 24, 2010 were approved.

2. AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA STUDENT FEE POLICY

The President recommended that the University of California Student Fee Policy be amended as shown in Attachment 1.

[Background material was mailed to Regents in advance of the meeting, and copies are on file in the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff.]

Provost Pitts explained that this item concerned the Registration Fee and suggested policy changes.

Vice President Sakaki informed the Regents that she and Vice President Lenz served as co-chairs of the Registration Fee Task Force, a systemwide group which met over the previous seven months. The Task Force was charged with recommending changes to the Registration Fee policy and practices and addressing issues of accountability, transparency, and funding. These issues were discussed at the May 2009 and January 2010 Regents meetings.

The primary goal of the Task Force was to submit a new policy governing the Registration Fee for approval by the Regents, now presented in this item. Recommended accountability policy revisions include changing the name of the fee to the "Student Services Fee," establishing a return-to-aid component for future increases, specifying factors for consideration when setting fees, defining the role of students in setting fees, requiring campus websites to provide details about fee allocations, and creating Presidential guidelines which will be sent to the chancellors.

Recommended transparency policy revisions include posting annual Student Services Fee reports on an Office of the President website, posting specific campus information on an easily accessible website, and providing itemized fee details on student billing statements. Ms. Sakaki noted that the campuses have already implemented necessary changes.

Recommended funding policy revisions include eliminating the provision authorizing a fee range, eliminating the requirement for development of a multi-year fee plan, establishing a return-to-aid component associated with future increases, and specifying factors for consideration when setting the fee.

Ms. Sakaki thanked the Task Force members and the students who first raised this issue and saw that some changes could clarify the policy and make it more effective. She stated her belief that the Task Force had addressed all the issues raised by former student Regent Scorza and other students. The Task Force process was a model of inclusion, collaboration, and effectiveness. Consensus was achieved in an engaged and respectful process. The present recommendations represented the result of this process.

Regent Bernal stated that the Task Force process was a best practice and model for establishing policies. It was a collaborative process where all parties approached the task reasonably and it produced a good outcome.

Chancellor Drake congratulated the Task Force on its work and noted that the Access and Affordability working group of the UC Commission on the Future had been thinking along similar lines in developing its recommendations.

Regent-designate Cheng echoed Regent Bernal's comments on the collaborative process. He added that the process has built trust between the Board and students. He expressed the hope that this kind of collaboration between the University and students would continue not only on advocacy for UC, but also in the area of policy. Students were satisfied with the outcome of the Task Force's work.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee on Educational Policy approved the President's recommendation and voted to present it to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff

Deletions are shown by strikeout; additions by underscore

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA STUDENT FEE POLICY*

A Student Fee Policy affecting the Educational Fee and the ~~University Registration Fee~~ Student Services Fee is established with the following provisions.

A. The Educational Fee

The Educational Fee is a Universitywide mandatory charge assessed against each resident and nonresident registered student. The Educational Fee is assessed uniformly across all campuses of the University.

In addition to funding programs and services supported by the Educational Fee (such as student financial aid and related programs, admissions, registration, administration, libraries, and operation and maintenance of plant), income generated by the Educational Fee may be used for general support of the University's operating budget. Revenue from the Educational Fee may be used to fund all costs related to instruction, including faculty salaries.

In recommending to the Board the annual Educational Fee level, the President shall take into consideration the following factors:

1. The resources necessary to maintain access under the Master Plan, to sustain academic quality, and to achieve the University's overall mission;
2. The full cost of attending the University, including the cost of housing, food, healthcare, books and supplies, transportation, and other academic and personal expenses;
3. The amount of support available from various sources to assist needy students in funding the full cost of their education;
4. Overall State General Fund support for the University; and
5. The full cost of attendance at comparable public institutions.

The President annually shall solicit faculty and student views on the level of the Educational Fee, through the appropriate consultation processes.

B. ~~The University Registration~~ Student Services Fee

The University of California is committed to providing a supportive and enriched learning environment for all undergraduate, graduate and professional students. To facilitate this intent, all registered resident and nonresident students are assessed the Student Services Fee which is a Universitywide mandatory charge.

~~The University Registration Fee is a Universitywide mandatory charge assessed against each registered resident and nonresident student.~~

Income generated by the Student Services Fee (formerly referred to as the University Registration Fee) shall ~~may~~ be used to support services and programs which that directly benefit ~~the~~ students and ~~which that~~ are complementary to, but not a part of, the core instructional program. These services and programs include, but are not limited to, operating and capital expenses for services related to the physical and psychological health and well-being of students; social, recreational, and cultural activities and programs; services related to campus life and campus community; technology expenses directly related to the services; and educational and career support. These services and programs create a supportive and enriched learning environment for University of California undergraduate, graduate and professional students ~~and provide general student enrichment~~.

Increases in the Student Services Fee should have a return-to-aid component that is the same percentage as the return-to-aid component of increases in the Educational Fee.

~~Given the campus-specific programs and services funded by this Fee, the University Registration Fee need not be uniform across campuses. The Board of Regents shall establish annually a range within which campuses are to establish a specific fee level for the next academic year.~~

Annually the President shall review the Student Services Fee and recommend to the Board the appropriate fee level after considering a variety of factors, including but not limited to: needs and priorities of undergraduate, graduate and professional students; inflation and other budgetary cost increases; creation of new programs or services; and overall budget priorities of the University.

At each campus, the Chancellors or his/her designee annually shall solicit and actively consider student recommendations, with the intent of honoring as much as possible student recommendations on the following: the use of Student Services Fee revenue; and the annual Student Services Fee to be set ~~student views on the level of the campus Registration Fee, for their respective campuses, for the next academic year through the campus Registration Fee Advisory Committees, consistent with the range established by the Regents Board.~~ Student recommendations shall be provided by each campus' Student Fee Advisory Committee recognized by the systemwide Council on Student Fees.

~~Chancellors annually shall submit to the President, for final review and approval, the level of the University Registration Fee for their respective campuses. The President shall inform the Board of Regents what the University Registration Fee level will be, by campus, for the coming year.~~

Each campus will maintain a website that provides details on how the Student Services Fee has been allocated relative to the recommendation of the Student Fee Advisory Committee.

Each campus should refer to administrative guidelines issued by the President that provide additional guidance around the use of Student Services Fee revenue, Student Fee Advisory Committees, Student Services Fee reports, and student fee websites.

C. Notification to Students

To assist students and their parents in planning for future educational expenses, the President shall report annually to the Board the proposed fee levels for the Educational Fee and ~~the range of the University Registration Student Services Fee for the next academic year, and the anticipated fee levels (in the case of the Educational Fee) or ranges (in the case of the University Registration Fee) for the following three years.~~

**Nothing in this policy constitutes a contract, an offer of a contract, or a promise that any fees ultimately authorized by The Regents will be limited by any term or provision of this policy. The Regents expressly reserves the right and option, in its absolute discretion, to establish fees at any level it deems appropriate based on a full consideration of the circumstances, and nothing in this policy shall be a basis for any party to rely on fees of a specified level or based on a specified formula.*