

The University of Texas at Tyler
Student Fee Advisory Committee – FY24

Thursday, April 13, 2023

Voting Members Present: Adan Govea, Beverly Luna, Robert Bennett, Kelsey Niette, Justin Vargas, Cynthia Martinez, Cynthia Sherman, Dr. Adam McGuire, Dr. Leonard Brown

Voting members not present: N/A

Non-Voting Members Present: Ona Tolliver ex-officio, Kris Kavasch ex-officio, Rick McGill ex-officio, and Coby Dillard, support

*Guests at the request of Senior Vice President Kris Kavasch: Marie Adams, Danielle McDonald

I. Updates

- a. Introduction, new committee member – Robert Bennett
- b. Final budgets for committee consideration have been posted to Canvas

II. Budget

- a. Review updates to Revenue Fee Forecast – Kris Kavasch

- i. Student Services Fee

- Recapped fee forecast. Danielle McDonald discussed item types, information obtained related to allocations for academic partnerships vs. the student services fee due to mapping and how allocations will be corrected moving forward.

- ii. Recreational Facility Fee

- Rick McGill provided an income projection and cost center to the FY'24 budget request. Sr. VP Kavasch will ensure that cost center is included on the appropriate Rec Facility fee budget documentation.

- b. Student Service Fee Reserve Overview – Kris Kavasch

- Sr. VP Kavasch confirmed that the university does not have a certain percentage retention for the Student Services Fee Reserve as it would for other type of reserves (e.g. facility).

- Rick McGill questioned the roll forward into the student service fee reserve from previous years and if there was a certain percentage that needed to be retained. Additionally, could budget authorities access any portion of the available funds for the current fiscal year or from reserve as either one time or on-going requests.

Sr. VP Tolliver indicated that university leadership with Presidential approval could grant access to the student services fee for either one time or ongoing requests based upon the evaluation of the budget. If the student service fee projections were realized for FY '23 and there were funds available, the committee could consider additional requests for the current year. If the forecast for FY'24 in the next fiscal year are realized then the committee may entertain additional requests for FY'24. Regarding reserve, the President and Budget will determine if funds may be accessed for either one time or ongoing requests.

III. Canvas updates – Coby Dillard

New committee member will be added to the Student Service Fee Committee – FY'24. Canvas is updated with all budget requests. Let Coby Dillard and Sr. VP Tolliver know if there are any problems.

IV. Review Departmental Budget Requests

The committee reviewed the following budgets and either Approved (A) or Tabled (Tabled) budgets based upon discussion.

a. Student Services Fee

i. Spirit Bands (A)

ii. Dean of Students and Student Conduct (Tabled)

It was brought to the attention of the Committee that DoS and Student Conduct are in the “Red” this year by Robert Bennett. Dean Andy Pettee will be requested to present more information.

iii. Center for Student Financial Wellness (CSFW) (A)

iv. Student Counseling and Wellness (A)

v. Campus Activities (Tabled)

Cynthia Sherman asked to slow down on the approvals to allow more overview time.

Rick McGill asked for clarification regarding c0-sponsorships noted on the budget request. The Budget Authority noted that several departments co-sponsor various events. Mr. McGill inquired about Campus Activities covering the full expense for various initiatives, rather than co-sponsoring with other departments. Sr. VP Tolliver indicated that Campus Activities collaborates with other campus departments specifically on university wide events such as Homecoming because these type of events and programs are meant to be a collaboration and not just facilitated by one department. They are community events intended for everyone to participate and plan. She also suggested we

invite Cameron Richmond, Campus Activities Coordinator or Joshua Neaves, Budget Authority to speak further on the subject.

vi. Intramural Sports **(A)**

The committee asked Mr. McGill explained that the requested .5 FTE would be necessary to maintain the growth of club sports and other departmental programs that support students. Although a flat budget was submitted he wanted to show the committee that the additional FTE is needed for growth.

vii. Student Engagement **(A)**

Robert Bennett asked for clarification regarding the funding for New Student Programs was sought as it pertains to the overall Student Engagement Budget. New Student and Family Programs is funded from a one-time New Student Programs fee collected during their first year.

viii. Student Government **(A, 1 Abstained)**

The discussion of an increase proposal occurred where past issues and future plans with service projects, student events, and the inclusion of distance campuses were brought up by Beverly Luna and Robert Bennett. Ona Tolliver explained that due to the current budget process all budget requests were submitted flat but should the FY'24 forecast exceed the anticipated amount new requests or increases could be an option. This would only occur if the university achieves or exceeds enrollment. Assuming the forecast is met, the committee could reallocate funds the next year by request. A one-time request from the reserve for heavy events such as Midnight Breakfast can also be made if needed.

ix. Greek Life **(A)**

x. Leadership and Service **(A)**

Rick McGill asked for clarification regarding office reporting and confirmed that it is a unit within Student Engagement.

Cynthia Sherman had to dismiss themselves from the meeting, Kelsey Niette asked the committee if there were any motions to adjourn since the hour mark had been reached. Quorum was still met, the committee continued.

xi. Military and Veteran Success Center (MVSC) **(A)**

xii. Title IX **(Tabled)**

A question of where or not Title IX is still frozen was asked and if the positions have been filled. The assumption is that frozen positions can be filled, as of now the duties are being done by other people, for example: 1 admin is being shared with the Counseling Center while the Health Ed Specialist is reflected to still be frozen. There was also a brief discussion of whether or not they will be

experiencing extra costs from moving out of the OAC, an answer will be provided to the committee at the next meeting.

xiii. Vice President for Student Success (VPSS) **(A)**

Committee discussed whether the Division of Student Success should receive Student Services Fees due to the language in the Education Code regarding dual access to both specific fees and Student Services Fees. Mr. McGill shared that the Rec Facility previously also received SSF funds and access was removed because the Rec Facility collected it's own fee.

Sr. VP Tolliver clarified that the Student Success Fee was a separate fee that is not "owned" by the Division of Student Success and that this fee was created in support of the previous, strategic plan. The Division of Student Success does not have it's own dedicated fee.

She also indicated that the University is committed to Athletics and that the university will continue to seek ways to support the athletes and athletics because they bring value to the student experience and to the recognition of the institution. She also noted that the Student Service Fee language in the Education Code was a contradiction to other fees including the Athletic Fee Code. The language at one time was interpreted to mean that Athletics could have access to the SSF. An increase in the athletic fee could lead to its removal from the SSF Budget. The challenges of why this hasn't happened yet relate to meeting enrollment targets and the passing of the athletic fee increase by the student body.

Coby Dillard had to dismiss himself. To avoid quorum challenges the committee decided to adjourn. The following budget requests were tabled for the next committee meeting:

xiv. Student Publications

xv. Cheerleading and Mascot

xvi. Dance Team

xvii. Internet TV Broadcasting

xviii. Athletics

xix. Athletics Marketing

b. Recreational Facility Fee

V. Other items for discussion

Kelsey Niette informed the committee that instead of presentations, they could request budget authorities to present an affidavit. The committee had no strong feelings.

VI. Meeting schedule

Ona Tolliver mentioned that since the committee requested presentations that the committee must

confirm if there are any scheduling problems during Finals Week and if it is still a good meeting time. Committee members confirmed that they have no conflicts during 3:00PM on April 27, 2023, as of yet.

Thursday, April 20, 2023, 3:00 pm, UC 3322

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 3:00 pm, UC 3322 (Tentative)