



Student Fee Advisory Committee

Friday, March 28, 2025 | 7:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Location – Zoom: <https://csuci.zoom.us/j/87525456510>

Minutes

Committee members present:

Andrew Fox, Chair
Manisha Aerra
Mari Riojas-Cortez
Judah Stice
Kayleena Venzor
Allen Monge

Committee members absent:

Trina Darakjy
Susan Kuzminsky
Uday Kiran Jadi

Others in attendance:

Dianne Wei Bobritsky – Associate Director of DSA Budget & Staff Resources
Rosa Bravo – Director of Business Operations for Academic Planning and Budgeting
Dr. Eboni Ford Turnbow – Vice President for Student Affairs

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Chair Fox called the meeting to order at 7:43a.m.
- II. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Action Item: approval of Agenda
 - i. Motion to approve Agenda (M. Riojas-Cortez / J. Stice)
Motion passed 5-0-0.
One member joined the meeting after the vote.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Action Item: approval of minutes from Friday, March 14, 2025
 - i. Motion to approve Minutes (M. Riojas-Cortez / J. Stice)

Motion passed 5-0-0.

One member joined the meeting after the vote.

IV. Public Forum

- a. No public forum.

V. Student Fee Survey Results and Proposed Fee Increase Scenario

- a. Dr. FT shared that she did not have any new information to share, but that the focus of today's meeting was to answer questions and dialogue.
- b. Chair Fox stated that the fee proposals make sense, however he could not support the Orientation fees based on the survey feedback and his experience with Transfer Orientation. He recommended more streamlining of the program as it was a long day for students; especially for students who must sacrifice a workday. The biggest thing that he said he got out of Orientation was meeting students within his major, who are still friends today. He suggested making the program more impactful and not just talking to the students all day.
- c. J. Stice shared his perspective on Freshman Orientation stating that it is beneficial for those who are attending college for the first time. From his experience of coming in as a freshman, not being a local, and coming from boarding school, he enjoyed the Orientation program and activities. Valuable information is gained, but he agreed that more time can be dedicated to building community. How can we create a different way of learning than sitting and listening? How can students connect with each other, doing what they enjoy, and having Orientation built around those activities?
- d. M. Riojas-Cortez stated that she agreed with both Andrew and Judah on their assessments of Orientation. There must be a more efficient way to share information. She attends Orientation as a faculty member, who shares information about her major. She recommends reorganizing the experience and listening to what the students want.
- e. Dr. FT shared that the bulk of the program expenses go towards labor costs associated with having Orientation Leaders. And for Freshman Orientation there is the overnight component. Since fees have remained stagnant, the program has been running in a deficit over the last few years. Efforts to make even minor programmatic improvements, have fallen outside their budget relying on funding from other areas.
- f. A. Monge shared that he was a Resident Advisor in Housing during Orientation and helped facilitate the overnight experience. That component provides the college experience and bonding.
- g. Since there was more agreement on most of the other fees, the committee agreed they were in a good place to vote.

- h. Chair Fox called for a motion to adopt all the fee recommendations excluding the Transfer Orientation fee within the proposed scenario.
 - i. Motion (M. Riojas-Cortez / A. Monge)
 - ii. **Motion passed 6-0-0.**
- i. A few members noted that they were ok with approving the \$12 increase since it is needed. However, they would like to see the program restructured to decrease the time requirement and increase activities/programming that may be more impactful to the students like meeting others and creating that sense of belonging.
- j. Chair Fox called for a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Transfer Orientation fee within the proposed scenario.
 - i. Motion (A. Monge / J. Stice)
 - ii. **Motion passed 5-1-0.**
- k. Dr. FT shared next steps are to meet with the Chancellor's Office to share our proposed plans and inform them of the work that has been done on our campus. We want to seek guidance on the process to move forward with increases and inquire about any guidelines or template preferences. Our staff will draft the memo and package the information for the SFAC to share their recommendations to President Yao. This will be shared at the next meeting.
- l. Chair Fox thanked Dr. FT and staffing for the time they put into this work and planning.
- m. Dr. FT acknowledged Dianne for her work with the committee, and for the coordination of the student fee marketing, as well as the rest of the planning team. Dr. FT informed the committee that she already scheduled a meeting with the Orientation staff to discuss the feedback, concerns and recommendation mentioned during this meeting.

VI. Closing Remarks

- a. Chair Fox thanked the committee for their hard work and volunteer hours towards the campaign. He expressed how proud he is of this committee and the important work that has been completed.
- b. Others also expressed how it has been an honor collaborating with the committee and how that are impressed with their work and leadership.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Chair Fox adjourned meeting at 8:20 a.m.
- b. SFAC's next meeting is April 4, 2025.