



Channel Islands
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Fee Advisory Committee

Friday, February 6, 2026 | 8:00 - 8:55 a.m.

Location - Zoom: <https://csuci.zoom.us/j/83578159107>

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Emily Conde, SFAC Chair, Student Government President
Timothy Walker, Chair, ASI Board
Christell Martinez, Student-at-Large
Evan Grahn, Student-at-Large
Susan Kuzminsky, Faculty
Neomi Basquez, Staff
Mari Riojas-Cortez, Faculty
Joanne Caceres, Chair, Materials, Services, Facilities, & Technology Committee

Committee Members Absent:

Dennise Arriaza, Chair, Instructionally Related Activities Committee

Others in attendance:

Julia Heck, AVP for Student Life & Support Programs and Dean of Students
Dianne Wei Bobritsky, Assoc. Dir. of DSA Budget and Staff Resources
Lainey Cortes, Admin. Coordinator to the VPSA Office
Rosa Bravo, Director of Business Operations for Academic Planning and Budgeting

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Chair Conde called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

- II. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Action item: Approval of the agenda
 - i. M/S (S. Kuzminsky / C. Martinez)
Motion passed 7-0-0
One committee member was not present during the vote.

- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. Action item Approval of minutes from Friday, Nov. 21, 2025
 - i. M/S (T. Walker / C. Martinez)
Motion passed 7-0-0

One committee member was not present during the vote.

IV. Public Forum

- a. No public forum

V. Composition of Committee

- a. Action item: Approve addition of ex-officio non-voting member from BFA

- i. D. Wei Bobritsky shared that this person would attend all SFAC meetings as a permanent member but would not participate in voting.

1. N. Basquez asked for the historical context behind the creation of the ex-officio member role and how this position benefits the committee. Additionally, what is the benefit of calling them a member vs. an expert guest?

- a. D. Wei Bobritsky explained that BFA requested a seat on the committee to stay informed of SFAC discussions, particularly those related to fees and fee increases. Regular participation enables BFA to make informed internal decisions and ensure policy compliance. The ex-officio role also supports increased collaboration, serves as a liaison function, and allows for key takeaways to be shared with appropriate stakeholders. As a member, it would encourage their consistent attendance and participation.

- ii. Action item: Approval of additional ex-officio non-voting member from BFA

1. M/S (M. Riojas-Cortez /S. Kuzminsky)

Motion passed 7-1-0

VI. Category III Fee Notification

- a. Course Fee Update - ESRM 492 (K and S factor)

- i. D. Wei Bobritsky shared that due to routing and approval delays, the course changes could not be implemented for Spring 2026. The update is being shared for committee awareness and as a recommendation for approval. ESRM 492 already has an existing fee of \$0-\$3000. The proposal is to create two versions of the course. Implementation would be Fall 2026.

- ii. ESRM 492(K): routinely includes travel expense components and retains the fee. ESRM 492(S): includes minimal or no costs. It would retain the fee range in case a cost arises.

- iii. Members expressed concern that the change could be confusing for students, and they hoped there is clear communication to and from academic advisors and faculty.

1. D. Wei Bobritsky stated she was unsure of the exact timeline for catalog updates; however, once approved, the change will be posted

and shared with appropriate parties. Faculty will communicate course details to students, particularly sections that include a travel component and associated fee. Faculty will also coordinate with Student Business Services to ensure the correct fee is applied and accurately reflected on student accounts. D. Wei Bobritsky added that, if the committee were comfortable, a motion to approve the course split for recommendation could be made at the current meeting or deferred to the next meeting. The committee proceeded with voting.

- iv. Action item: Motion to Recommend Course Fee Update - ERSM 492 (K and S factor)
 1. M/S (E. Grahn / C. Martinez)
Motion Passed 8-0-0

VII. Housing Fee Presentation

- a. Dean Heck presented slides on Housing & Residential Education (HRE) Fees and provided a high-level overview outlining its financial position, how housing supports essential student success, including programming, social and emotional well-being. Campus housing must remain financially stable to provide a safe, positive living and learning environment.
- b. Housing is an auxiliary that is self-funded by the revenue it generates from occupancy. When housing occupancy drops, which directly reduces revenue, operating costs largely stay the same.
- c. Dean Heck explained occupancy vs. capacity and stated Fall occupancy was around 1,100 students; spring typically drops slightly (this spring is just over 1,000). The total housing capacity is approximately 1,500, including RAs and live-in staff. This means that fewer occupied beds generate less revenue than is operationally necessary. One of the financial structure challenges is housing costs have not changed since 2016, affecting revenue and expense alignment. Housing costs do not decrease proportionally when occupancy declines.
- d. Ongoing adjustments are needed to move toward financial viability. This means that incremental rate increases are necessary to maintain housing quality and meet long-term obligations, including debt service. HRE implemented a 10% rate increase for Fall 2025 to work towards meeting the 1.1 debt ratio in accordance with CSU policy. CSUCI has fallen behind in meeting this ratio for the last several years. Ideally, within 4-5 years, CI will meet the CSU policy through increased occupancy and gradual rate increases that will be continually assessed. Dean Heck opened the floor for questions.
- e. Chair Conde inquired about when new fees would be charged.
 - i. Dean Heck responded that rates are set to increase again in Fall 2026. The goal is accurate pricing—neither undercharging nor overcharging—while remaining compliant with CSU policy and remaining accessible to students.
- f. J. Caceres asked what increases are expected, are increases contingent on enrollment growth, and what can be done to increase enrollment.

- i. Dean Heck responded that there was a 10% increase for this academic year and is projected to increase 8% next year. While higher enrollment would be great, the focus is on increasing occupancy by communicating the value and appeal of living on campus. Housing and Student Affairs are working to clearly communicate the benefits of on-campus living to drive demand.
- g. D. Wei Bobritsky reminded the committee that Housing is a Category V fee as it is a self-supported entity. The campus President has oversight of this fee category and can increase the fees, without a referendum, as needed. Student Affairs worked closely with various campus leadership to conduct an in-depth assessment of the fee, while also considering the other fees charged to students, prior to making a recommendation to increase the Housing rates.
- h. Basquez asked what the current fees for Housing are, if financial aid covers housing, and if an increase in Housing rates also affects the cost of the meal plans.
 - i. Dean Heck stated this is the first increase in the last 10 years and that she can provide that information to the committee. Financial aid can help cover on-campus housing, but it depends on a student's attendance. Meal plans are looked at in conjunction with the Housing rates, so as Housing rates increase, so might meal plans.

VIII. Update from Oversight Committee Chairs

- a. None

IX. Closing Remarks

- a. None

X. Adjournment

- a. Chair Conde adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

The next meeting will be on Friday, March 6, 2026.