



Channel Islands  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

**Student Fee Advisory Committee**

Friday, April 3, 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  
Dennise Arriaza, Chair, Instructionally Related Activities Committee  
Neomi Basquez, Staff  
Joanne Caceres, Chair, Materials, Services, Facilities, & Technology Committee  
Evan Grahn, Student-at-Large  
Susan Kuzminsky, Faculty  
Christell Martinez, Student-at-Large  
Mari Riojas-Cortez, Faculty  
Timothy Walker, Chair, ASI Board

**Committee Members Absent:**

Lisa Woods, Ex-officio, non-voting

**Others in attendance:**

Dianne Wei Bobritsky, Assoc. Dir. of DSA Budget and Staff Resources  
Julia Heck, Assoc. VP for Student Life & Support Programs and Dean of Students  
Mike Gravagne, Asst. VP for Student Wellness  
Rosa Bravo, Director of Business Operations for Academic Planning and Budgeting

- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. 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 (T. Walker / C. Martinez)  
Motion passed 8-0-0  
One member was not present for voting.
  
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - a. Action item: Approval of minutes from Friday, February 6, 2026
    - i. M/S (C. Martinez / M. Riojas-Cortez)

Motion passed 8-0-0

One member was not present for voting.

- b. Action item: Approval of minutes from Friday, March 6, 2026
  - i. M/S (T. Walker / E. Grahn)

Motion passed 9-0-0

IV. Public Forum

- a. No public forum

V. Student Body Center Fee Presentation

- a. J. Heck shared that the Student Union is a self-funded operation, supported by the revenue generated through the Student Body Center Category II fee. This fee was established in 2003/04 to support the repayment of bond obligations associated with construction of the Student Union as well as funding reserves for the future construction and repair and maintenance needs of the facility. This fee also helps to support building operations, staffing, and programming. Students currently pay \$162/semester (\$324 annually). The last time the fee was increased was Fall 2010.
- b. The reasons we are consulting on this fee:
  - i. Enrollment decrease has lowered revenue.
  - ii. Costs to support the Student Union continue to increase.
  - iii. We must address financial instability to continue serving students.
- c. The student union continues to work to evaluate and adjust expenses it can to mitigate financial instability, but many expenses are fixed such as debt, maintenance and repairs, and building operational expenses.
  - i. CSU requires Student Unions to have a minimum Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) of 1.10. We are currently out of compliance.
  - ii. Facilities and equipment continue to age and have both current and deferred maintenance needs.
  - iii. Operational costs continue to rise (i.e., utilities, technology, staffing, etc.)
- d. Proposed phased increase for SFAC to consider.
  - i. 2028/29 - \$40 annually
  - ii. 2029/30 - \$40 annually
  - iii. 2030/31 - HEPI increase (Higher Education Price Index - small % annually applied to account for inflation)
- e. The phased fee increase keeps the fee predictable and transparent for students and ensures student programs and services remain strong now and for future Dolphins.
- f. The deferred increase considers other fee increases that are staggered over the next several years to better support students. HEPI allows for small incremental adjustments, versus large jumps.
- g. In projecting revenue versus expenses, the student union with intentional budgeting can hold steady its current DSCR until the phased increase occurs to support moving the DSCR into 1.1 compliance by 2031.
- h. Making a recommendation to the President for implementing this phased increase:
  - i. Enhanced Student Union Services & Programming
  - ii. Continued Support for Essential Services & Operations
  - iii. Improved Student Spaces & Amenities
  - iv. Expanded Student Job & Leadership Opportunities
- i. Not making a recommendation to the President for implementing an increase:

- i. Each enrolled student at CSU Channel Islands would continue to pay the current fee. Without an increase, maintaining current programs and services may be challenging and could lead to:
      - 1. Fewer or lower-quality student union services & programs
      - 2. Outdated or insufficient student spaces and amenities
      - 3. Fewer student jobs & leadership opportunities
  - j. Pros & Cons
    - i. Financial Aid Coverage: The fee is part of the cost of attendance and may be covered by financial aid for eligible students.
    - ii. Stronger Campus Community: Enhanced funding supports a vibrant campus life with diverse programs and events.
    - iii. Sustained Essential Services: Key resources that support student success and well-being will remain fully funded and accessible.
    - iv. Leadership and Advocacy Opportunities: More funding means more chances for students to take on leadership roles and engage in meaningful engagement on campus.
    - v. Increased Costs: Some students may feel financial pressure, especially if they are ineligible for financial aid.
    - vi. Perceived Unequal Benefits: Students who do not actively engage in ASI programs may question the fee's relevance to their experience.
  - k. Questions from the committee:
    - i. What would the fee increase address immediately? How will this increase be communicated to students? Can you please share the expense breakdown by category over the last few years?
      - 1. J. Heck shared that the increase would help cover fixed costs (debt, building maintenance, utilities, etc. while continuing to provide student leadership and engagement opportunities for students. Students would be notified of the increase through the cost of attendance, campus webpages, and catalog listings. J. Heck will share the expense breakdown report with the committee.

## VI. Recreation & Athletics Presentation

- a. Michael Gravagne presented an overview of the Recreation & Athletics Fee and programs that it funds: Campus Recreation, Boating Center and Outdoor Adventures. He reviewed programs and services, financials, and related impacts.
  - i. M. Gravagne shared that the fee (\$70/semester / \$140/annual) is headcount driven; enrollment declines have reduced total revenue; expenses have outpaced revenue in prior years, but the approved phase fee increases planned for 2028/29 (\$155 annual) and 2029/30 (\$175 annual) will help to stabilize operation expenses.
  - ii. He shared a high-level chart of multi-year financial summary.
  - iii. Reserves serve as our savings account. It is used to replace gym equipment, was used for the shower renovation project and will be used to convert the nearby parking lot into an outdoor exercise space.
  - iv. Questions from the committee:
    - 1. What is the bad debt and how much is maintained within the reserves?
      - a. The bad debt is an annual expense we need to account for based on the student fees that were not paid and could not be

collected from students. For reserves, we try to maintain 50% of the annual operating budget (approx. \$500K).

VII. Update from Oversight Committee Chairs

- a. No updates.

VIII. Annual Report

- a. D. Wei Bobritsky will share the draft report with the Chair, then send it to the committee for feedback. The committee will approve it at the end of the year, and it will be used as a baseline of information for the following year's committee to share what was covered.

IX. Closing Remarks

- a. No closing remarks.

X. Adjournment

- a. E. Conde adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

SFAC's next meeting will be on Friday, May 1, 2026.