

Student Fee Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Spring Quarter Week 3, 4/17/2020
2:00-3:00PM

- I. Call to order
 - 2:05 PM
- II. Roll call
- III. Motion to approve last week's minutes
 - Motion: Provosts; Second: Revelle Representative
- IV. Discussion
 - A. Edit of final report
 1. AS Representative: We'd like to showcase a commitment to a variety of majors and not any particular department, such as increasing enrollment sizes or resources for students with STEM-related focuses.
 - B. Elections Information
 - Typically, elections occur during Week 4 of Spring Quarter. But I'd like to give a chance for students and staff to go over constitutional changes and other information next week (especially for those participating next year)
 - We'll also give time to nominate certain members to run for positions such as Chair and Vice Chair. You can also nominate yourself if you'd like to run. Each participant will have 5 minutes to give their speech. After each speech, an additional 5 minutes will be given for Q&A.
 - Afterwards, only voting members will vote in a breakout room for the positions. Additional relevant information will be available on sfac.ucsd.edu.
 - If you have any questions about job descriptions and other responsibilities, please let the Chair or Vice Chair know.
 - C. COVID-19
 1. Can staff, administrators, or faculty offer any insights on what the school has been doing since we last met?

 1. Warren Representative: We've been told that there are some legal issues with refunding student fees. Our president is looking at options such as discounts on food delivery and such. There's a lot of confusion regarding what will occur in the fall quarter. Additionally, we wonder about the grading system for the coming year as well.
 - Chair: Can you be more descriptive about what fees you're looking to return?
 - Warren: Yes, the college-based fees. The college councils are looking towards doing that.
 - Provost: Are the students generally supportive of the colleges using student fees to give discounts on food delivery services?

- Warren: We thought that was the best way compared to giving a hundred dollar scholarship to a few students.

- Provosts: I don't understand all of the fees and such but I know that the individual college student fees are different from fees utilized for campus construction and such. It's good that you all are looking into that.

2. ERC Representative: A lot of our council didn't have much to say about the online platform of schooling. Some people are frustrated about professors recycling old material and attempting to assimilate to Zoom culture. Similar to Warren, ERC is thinking about issuing codes for food delivery services as well. We're all having that conversation regarding legality. I'm considering doing a Facebook Live regarding what SFAC knows in the midst of COVID-19. It's mainly a Q&A session scheduled for Week 4 Wednesday at 6-7 PM on the SCERC Facebook page. There will be prizes too! If this is something y'all are interested in, it would mean a lot to me if you'd like to assist. For summer session fees, because it's online, will students still be billed for student activities fees?

- John: In terms of recycling old material, is this about reusing old podcasts?

- ERC: Yes.

- John: Is there costs related to student events hosted by the councils over this summer session?

- ERC: If there are going to be prizes then yes there will still be costs but obviously not as great compared to an on-site, large-scale event.

- John: How about student labor? The campus is interested in hiring as many students as possible. For the students involved are we putting them on the payroll or is it just volunteering?

- ERC: For Council, I'm sure different members will have different opinions on that. Members currently do not get paid.

3. Revelle Representative: Especially after seeing how AS has gotten a large amount of information out there, we're trying to host Facebook events or host movie nights. I know that the off-campus housing event will still continue. One of the budgets we're approving is working with Recreation-- where students that participate in exercising may earn medals. Elections occurred in the past weekend and the voter turnout was markedly low. It was very difficult to get feedback on what type of events students would like. We're trying to see how we can assist clubs in hosting events to hopefully get more student feedback.

4. Marshall Shadow: We have a couple of commuter students and they really appreciated the fact that classes are online since they can save a lot of time. From a commuter perspective, some of them may be enjoying this new system and hoping that this option can be available such as having podcasts be mandatory. They're still willing to take exams in

person. There is stress regarding housing in San Diego for fall quarter and the uncertainty is affecting questions of when to buy plane tickets and new tuition costs.

- John: I think those are really great points. I'm meeting with some student leadership on Monday and I'll be sure to bring that to the table.

5. Muir Shadow: I think our college council has been trying to be inclusive and justify the fees going to Muir-specific events. In particular, we've been trying to promote basic needs. On certain social media outlets, they've been posting information about the Triton Food Pantry, CalFresh, etc for financial assistance. There was a lot of concern about the wellbeing and inclusivity of students in general. Muir-based organizations have been not running from what I'm aware of, which is what we're trying to change. (ex: MEC = Muir Environmental Corps)

6. Sixth Representative: We still want to host online events such as movie nights, webinars, etc. We can give students a gift card or ship items to their homes in order to continue having programming.

- ERC Representative: Gift cards cannot be issued out apparently because CBO said you cannot unless you pay out of pocket (cannot purchase from your College's business card)

7. Chair: Besides prize-based events, what else are colleges considering hosting?

- Revelle Representative: There are quite a few games that can be played online. We can provide resources showing card games and such that can be played online so they can have free agency and play with their friends.

- Chair: I've noticed some people hosting Netflix watch parties as well.

8. Grad Representative: One big issue is regarding the parking. Even though lots are continually empty, we have to find parking off-campus. Our GSA has barely been able to meet given everyone's off campus.

- Grad Division: I thought parking and transportation had made it significantly easier to park on campus.

- Grad Representative: I don't have a personal problem and it helped originally. However, it has come up as a more frequent complaint.

9. AS Representative: On Tuesdays AS is still having Triton Dining so that people can eat their meals together. Permanent funding just opened up for student organizations' virtual events in two week periods. Now, you'll get 10 rides at any time and \$2 off each ride. This is meant to help people get groceries. This includes PB and Torrey Pines area.

- Chair: How are AS elections going?

- AS Representative: We're pushing out elections to either Week 7 or 8 alongside the Fee Referendums. A big part of elections is dominated by the idea of tabling on Library Walk. Without that, we'll struggle to get

voting turnout.

- Chair: How is the Fee Referendum going?

- AS Representative: It's still on the ballot and we're still getting the word out. The best we can do is to keep talking to others about it.

- Revelle Representative: For the Fee Referendum, there's a push to lower the minimum voter turnout. Some students found this as the appearance of taking advantage of the situation to push this fee referendum forward.

- AS Representative: That conversation happened to potentially lower the 20% threshold because if we're getting only 2% voter turnout for the colleges, it'll be difficult to reach that minimum for AS. For example, at Berkeley, their Chancellor was the one to undercut the threshold. It's not about shoving an election or putting a bill through, it's about having something to discuss and utilize at this trying time. We need to be cognizant of the fact that it's unlikely to receive 20% and thus come up with other alternatives.

- Grad Representative: Can you set it up so that you need 10% yes to pass it?

- AS Representative: I can bring it up to my counterparts but I don't know the specifics. We aren't the ones setting the number or approving it. Once the campus votes, the Chancellor has to approve it and also decide how low the threshold will be.

- Chair: A lot of campuses have decided to withhold their fee referendums given the situation on this year's ballot. There was discussion about extension of fees that do not include third-parties. I think what the Grad Representative mentioned is an interesting point to bring up.

- John: How can you say that this doesn't advantage one outcome over another? By saying changing rules so that it would pass versus changing rules so that it would not pass...

- AS Representative: I don't know. The reason we're considering a drop is because there's a significantly less amount of students on campus and being engaged.

John: When students log into Zoom classes, they see the UCSD portal. For staff, at least once a day, you have to go through information about campus before we go onto the next thing. If students had to come into class and go through a single UCSD experience before advancing, that would provide an opportunity to market.

- AS Representative: I've had a pretty negative experience and engagement with online classes. There is no Blink or additional page other than SSO. For any class that requires you to be on a UCSD account, you need to go through SSO.

- John: In the interest of student engagement, if we added

information to SSO such as “Marshall Facebook Event at 7 PM” would that work.

- Vice Chair: Definitely, an SSO portal would be a pretty good way to reach students since it's necessary to access any UCSD service. With the Fee Referendum, I would caution against any initiative to lower the 20% threshold. In the space of student fees this quarter, the biggest issue is discontent with paying student fees and challenges with getting information out. Regardless of the merits of the fee referendum, lowering the threshold would have a negative outlook. I don't think having the fee referendum this year is a better solution than having it next year.

- Grad Representative: Does the fees require a vote? Are these fees necessarily democratic? If it's critical, it's critical.

- AS Representative: It's sent to the Chancellor for approval, but it requires a vote. It's a system in place that ensures the students don't vote for something that'll tank the campus.

Provosts: I hope the quality of online courses increases over time. I think faculty are struggling to adapt, but my hope is that they will get better at it. I'm genuinely sorry about the quality of the classes.

- AS Representative: I don't blame faculty or anyone's specific fault. Just a result of circumstance.

2. Student feedback

a) What are student's concerns about fees and school operations?

V. Announcements

VI. Adjournment

- 3:08 PM