

Task Force for Student Fees

New Task Force Members (12 members):

From the Senate (past and present, if considering F12) – the current task force

J. Zuiderveen

B. Schwartz

I. Saltiel

T. Vidal

B. Hunt and J. Owen were also selected but could not attend the meetings

Additionally, representatives (1 each) from:

a) Student Government (president) – Benjamin Long

b) VPBF's Office – Lougene Brown

c) VPSA's Office – Gina Sheeks

d) Admissions Office – John McElveen

e) Athletics – Jay Sparks

f) Dean's Council – David Lanoue

Deadline: Faculty Senate meeting in October

Charge:

1) Make the CSU fee price structure fair for students, competitive to its USG peers and closer to the local competitor's cost for 1-8 hours of class.

Spring 2012 – VPBF Tom Helton suggested cutting all fees except for Institutional and Technology fees for 1-3 hours.

- estimated impact was about 11% on all fees (except Institutional and Technology)

Summer 2012 – USG reduced Institutional fees for all schools by 50% for folks taking 4 or less hours.

Fall 2012 – Three proposed fee reductions made:

a) Reducing all fees (except institutional) by 50% for 1-4 hours (follow the USG model across the board)

- estimated impact about 7% on all reduced fees

b) Same as “a)” but also including a fee gradation up through 8 hours of class (e.g., 5 hours – 60%, 6 hours – 70%, 7 hours – 80% and 8 hours – 90%). Nine hours or more have 100% fees.

- estimated impact about 13% on all reduced fees

c) Graded from 1 hour through 8 hours, starting at 20%, with a 10% rise per hour taken until 9 hours (100%).

- estimated impact about 14% on all reduced fees

Much discussion ensued. The administrative entities were all concerned that there might not be an increase in students taking classes and thus any fee change would amount to a loss (for no real reason other than perceived fairness). The faculty members and student body president argued that folks wanting to take only one or two classes, especially in core classes, would continue to drop, which would greatly affect summer pay for faculty and summer course offerings for students. As an attempt at negotiation, it was proposed that CSU try proposal “a)” for one summer only, to determine if it would draw in

students (estimated impact about 3.3% on all reduced fees). The idea being that if enough extra students signed up for the one class to cover the reduction, we'd keep it going, but if not, it would be discontinued. The vote stayed strictly on positional lines with the faculty and students voting to try it and all 5 administrative representatives voting "no". Thus, we cannot bring a united opinion on how to modify the fees to make it fairer to students. (Incidentally, during last summer the fees went up 28%)

2) Distribute whatever burdens and/or benefits resulting from the change equitably among all the CSU divisions.

Not applicable

3) Develop a PR recommendation statement to help increase the enrollment of students taking just 1-2 classes. (Will probably bring in someone from the PR office to help with this).

Not applicable

4) Develop criteria for assessing whether the changes were successful or not, in order to determine if additional changes are needed to be made in the future.

Not applicable