

Student Success Fee Allocation Advisory Committee

Monday, May 12, 2025

MEETING RECORD

SSFAAC Members Present: Ashleigh Jeanne Spragins Aaron Posternack – (absent)

David Valadez Jerusha Greenwood

Megan Dixon Al Liddicoat
Sofia Buduchina Yukie Murphy

Alexis Kong Prema Windokun – non-voting
Alyson Engel Regan Linderman – non-voting

Evelyn Jaminet - (absent)

Meeting Recorder: Cari Wilson

Call to Order/Introductions

Co-Chair Spragins called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m. Due to the lengthy break between meetings and the presence of a few new attendees, members reintroduced themselves.

Review/Approve Meeting Record

The committee members reviewed the 1/10/25 meeting record, and with no objections, the record was approved.

Base Funding Availability

Co-chair Valadez informed the committee that there are questions about what the budget will look like going forward as we continue to try and expand and noted that an 8% reduction in university funding is anticipated. He stated that while this presents financial challenges, there are currently available funds that have not yet been allocated.

Co-chair Valadez shared that the intent of the meeting was to present a series of initiatives for partial funding in order to maintain transparency and seek committee input. He noted that the proposals presented reflect priorities for FY2025/26. He added that the proposed allocations represent only a portion of the available funds. The remaining balance would remain in the SSF fund to be considered for distribution during the next fiscal year's planning process. He clarified that the funds being discussed are not unallocated surplus from the current year, but rather projected revenue expected to be collected in the coming year.

Base Funding Request Presentations

Co-chair Valadez reviewed the SSF Allocations for FY2024/25 and FY2025/26. He noted that \$1,178,000 is the projected revenue for next year. He explained that the proposed allocations are tied directly to positions and explained that there are historical compensation adjustments and potential upcoming salary increases that must be taken into account, in addition to the increasing cost of employee benefits. He emphasized that even with no increase in staff numbers or operational expenses, the university is still facing rising costs due to these factors.

Co-chair Valadez shared that the current plan includes earmarking a 2% increase in compensation and benefits costs as a placeholder, pending more accurate data. He clarified that this is not an immediate transfer of funds, and they are seeking committee approval to reserve these funds to be allocated with the understanding that nothing will be finalized until after the fall reconciliation provides updated figures.

Co-chair Valadez stated that this earmarks accounts for approximately \$400,000, which is just under half of the available funding. The remaining \$743,000 would be held for several months, with the intention of revisiting its allocation in the fall.

Co-chair Valadez next presented the memo entitled Request Revision of the 2014/15 SSF. He noted that they are continually working to refine and improve their funding allocation process. He reflected on previous funding decisions, explaining that some past allocations were overly prescriptive, which unintentionally made it difficult to achieve the intended outcomes. He emphasized that over time, they have reviewed and revised certain proposals, not by changing the dollar amounts, but by adjusting the language tied to those allocations. These changes were designed to maintain the original intent and impact of the funding while offering greater flexibility in how the outcomes are implemented.

Ms. Murphy reviewed the SSF Allocations for Student Affairs and shared that they would like to make a simple administrative update in line with that past request to expand the use of SSF funds to allow more flexibility to apply the funds toward staffing and operational expenses tied to it while still meeting the objectives of the grants that were originally approved years ago.

She clarified that this is not a request for additional funding, but rather an administrative adjustment. The goal is to better align the use of existing SSF dollars with current needs, without compromising the objectives of the original designations.

She informed the committee that an impact report is produced annually to show students how the fees are utilized and what outcomes have been achieved.

Next Steps

Co-Chair Spragins reminded the committee that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 19th. She requested that the committee members be in attendance to discuss and vote on the base funding proposals.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashleigh Jeanne Spragins, Co-Chair

051225 SSFAAC - Meeting Record

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