FEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2019 | 5:00 PM | TSC Senate Chamber

WELCOME & DINNER

VP Allie Smith: Let’s go ahead and start. I just want to remind everyone that we are recording this so speak loudly and say your name whenever you have a comment. For this meeting we will be voting on each of the fee proposals so the CAPS fee, the new IOGP and the Music & Theatre restructure. We’ll be going through each of those. So when you speak if you would mind stating if you’re in support or not. And then we’ll make sure to get those in the minutes. I just want to say that last meeting went so well. Thank you all for being so concise. What was especially great was when something was already said you commented that the point had already been made, and just focused on new content. Thank you for that.

We also just wanted to thank Sophie for getting all of our food lined up and making sure everything ran smoothly and Brooke for helping Sophie out as well. Thank you guys. Brooke was taking minutes last week but now she’ll be doing the speaker’s list. Last week Jaren stepped in and helped out. So if you want to get on the list get in contact with Brooke, try to make eye contact, and me and Jaren will try and look for that as well. When it comes time to vote you’ll notice you all have these voting slips. We’ll make a motion for how much we want the fee to be and you’ll write that in for what fee it is and the amount that we’re voting on. You can vote yes, no or abstain, but it kind of counts as a no because you’re not voting either way and you’re taking away from the overall votes. I think that’s everything, and if you have already spoken try to give everyone else an opportunity to speak before you comment again. And with that we will hear from Dr. Morales.

James Morales: As directed by Fee Board policy I took a summary of each of the discussion on each of the fees that we had at the last meeting and the results of the straw poll and I shared it with the members of the Executive Committee. This is made up of the president’s cabinet which includes the president, provost, all the deans, VPs, general counsel and a number of executive officers. I ran through each of the fees individually, shared the straw vote, and opened the floor for member input and feedback. We went through each of the fee items and after each one asked for input. What I got from them was one question from the provost. That question was about the CAPS fee. He wanted to know if the CAPS fee applied to all regional campuses, if it was a system-wide fee. I explained to him that it was a Logan campus fee only. And in regards to the global opportunity scholarship fee request Dean Kaluarachchi from the College of Engineering confirmed what Erik Olson said about the near impossibility of engineering students to do study abroads or internships. After I presented the last one, and after each one of them I waited and got no feedback other than those comments. Now feedback in terms of verbal feedback. I could tell that a lot of them were, when I explained CAPS fee there was a sense of there’s nothing to ask. When they heard the straw vote from you all, they aligned with that themselves without verbally saying that. The global opportunity scholarship, again no feedback at all. Neil Abercrombie who is Vice President for Federal and State Relations and who oversees the Institute of Government and Politics
was at the table and didn’t make any comments at all. He didn’t look displeased or disappointed in any way. He just didn’t have any comments about it. Finally with the Music and Theatre restructure it seemed like the CAPS fee almost like a sense of “ok that makes sense.” There was no verbal feedback but based on body language it seemed like they were in line with your straw poll from our last meeting. That’s my feedback from them.

FEE DISCUSSIONS/VOTING

Caps Fee Discussion

VP Smith: Let’s start with a discussion the CAPS fee before we take it to vote. What are your thoughts?

Senator Wise: I spoke with the dean of my college like I said I would last time in regards to funding for a therapist so I could know what the plans were for that. And it was explained to me and confirmed by our financial officer that this money that the college is putting forward is coming from vacant position funding that’s available through the Caine College as well as discretionary funding that the dean has. While I wish that we had come to this solution faster in the Caine College of finding good funding to secure that position I am in favor of the fee as it stands and funding that to the fullest with this money because I feel that the Caine College is doing what we hope the university will do in finding funding that can be allocated toward CAPS and finding creative solutions to make that allocated towards CAPS. I spoke with Sam about if we were to fund this fee whether we fund that fully or partially this year, which it sounds like from our straw poll we are all in favor of. I think it would be appropriate for USUSA to draft a letter and talk about our support of the CAPS fee and politely petition the university and say as they continue to budget we ask that they make CAPS a priority to help bring us up to that compliancy standard so they don’t have to necessarily constantly come back and ask for fee increases. So that was something we brought up today that I am happy to work on.

VP Johnson: I had a chance to sit down and speak with LuAnn Helms this last Friday. From the discussion that I had with her she made it sound as though President Cockett expressed to her and asked why they weren’t already looking for an additional therapist specifically for the Caine College of the Arts especially if they said they’d put forth the money for it. And because of that they were getting ready applications for that position so that’s important to note as well.

Senator Olson: Seeing no further discussion I would motion to vote to approve the full fee request.

VP Jackson: Second

VP Smith: Great we will write in the CAPS fee request and the full amount is $10.46. Indicate yes, no or abstain on your voting slips. Linda will total up the results from that and let us know.

Yes: 22 No: 1 Abstain: 0

VP Smith: That passes. Great. And just so you know we’ll be emailing all of the departments letting them know the results of their fee. So we’ll let LuAnn know that passed.
IOGP New Fee Request

VP Smith: Let’s move on to the IOGP. Any discussion?

Senator Pitt: I had a chance to speak with Dr. Shannon Peterson today for about an hour and a half about the fee and one of my biggest concerns was just how the way it was proposed is to help give access to students who wouldn’t otherwise have the opportunities. And I was really worried seeing as how there’s about 600 students who take currently take advantage of these opportunities, and this would fund 210 scholarships, and it would maybe just go to those who still would have gone on it regardless of the thousand-dollar scholarship or not. And she wanted me to emphasize that the way that they had it envisioned is they’ll have an algebraic equation that essentially favors those who really wouldn’t go otherwise. So they look into seeing if they already have financial aid, scholarships, where they are, if they’re a freshman and maybe it would be deferred to those who are seniors or juniors or leaving and haven’t had those opportunities. And she really wanted to focus on that to make it as equitable as possible for those who really wouldn’t have an opportunity to access these opportunities otherwise. In addition she also talked about the perceived accessibility that we talked about as a group in our discussions last time. About how some of us viewed it as a raffle. Everyone is buying in but it’s benefiting 210 students and she wanted to emphasize that the $5 per student would attract matching fees, donor fees, so that it would provide even more opportunities to more than just those 210 so I told her I would bring it to you guys tonight to explain those things.

Kaden McArthur: I think this is a really neat fee proposal and what it aims to do is positive. However, my concern and the reason I don’t support this fee proposal is it would be the only student fee that isn’t open and constantly accessible to all students.

Tasha Olson: I also think that this is really an interesting idea. International travel is important, but it would be better for this to be funded at the college levels so it’s more representative of the type of opportunities that are available to different fields.

Senator Lake: Seeing how there is no further discussion I would move to end the discussion on this fee.

VP Smith: I would entertain a motion to vote on approving this as a new fee or not and if it passes we will discuss how much.

Motion Passed

VP Smith: So again this is just voting on whether we will create this fee or not.

Yes:1 No: 21 Abstain: 1

VP Smith: Ok that will not go to the student body vote.

Music/Theatre Restructure

VP Smith: Let’s move on to the music and theatre restructure. And again we will open that up for discussion.

Senator Olson: I would like to motion to vote on the restructure.

VP Smith: Great. We’ll motion for a vote.
Motion Passed

VP Smith: Great, we will go ahead and vote on that.

Yes: 23 No: 0 Abstain: 0

VP Smith: Thank you all so very much. This is probably the shortest Fee Board in the history of Fee Board. You’ve all been a pleasure to work with. I entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: VP Jackson: Moved / Senator Olson: Second / Adjourned

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Zimmerman, James Morales, Whitney Pugh, Sophia May

Officers: VP Allie Smith, President Jaren Hunsaker, Senator Mason Kemp, VP Joshua Johnson, Senator Cameron Pitt, Senator Deidra Thomas, Senator McKenna Allred, Senator Dexton Lake, VP Samuel Jackson, Senator Kristin Hall, Senator Abigail Service, Director Braxton Moon, Senator Erik Olson, VP Meghan Tatom, VP Bannon Greer, Senator Sierra Wise, Assistant Brooke Jorgensen

Ketzel Morales, Kaden McArthur, Lucas Stevens, Tasha Olson, Rhett Ballantyne, Paulina Rivera-Soto, Angelia Klein