



MEMORANDUM

Student Fee Advisory Committee
2221 Murphy Hall
141001

September 24, 2018

Student Fee Advisory Committee
A239 Murphy Hall Office
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405

Dear Student Fee Advisory Committee Members,

The Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) is a unique entity on the UCLA campus which oversees over \$40 million in student fees. The Committee promotes collaborative efforts amongst students, staff, and faculty members. Serving on SFAC is an honorable experience where each member is charged to value and uphold the interest of every student on campus.

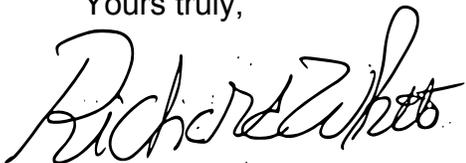
During my tenure on the Committee, I sought to emphasize the importance of addressing issues that minoritized students face, such as food security, affordable housing, parking and transportation costs, and student fee transparency. While SFAC may not manage services directly, it is important for its appointed student representatives, faculty, and staff to be aware of the evolving needs of the campus community. Therefore, per the SFAC Charter, the Committee can fulfill its duties of evaluating initiatives and making informed recommendations on the allocation of student fees. With this practice, it is my hope that UCLA can tackle and solve these important issues that students face.

In addition, I brought attention to the accessibility of leadership positions and I sought to review SFAC's compensation policy. Currently, SFAC undergraduate and graduate representatives receive \$3,000 as a form of compensation for their service on the Committee. While students' participation should not be contingent upon receiving compensation, there needs to be a conversation about ensuring diverse student voices are represented. It is appalling that non-traditional and low-income students may not be able to serve on committees because they have to work multiple jobs in order to maintain their enrollment at UCLA. As a result, such circumstances may discourage students experiencing financial difficulty from serving on committees like SFAC. Therefore, I hope the 2018-2019 SFAC can address this matter. Working class students should not have to forgo opportunities to get involved on campus, largely because of compensation.

This past academic year, SFAC was faced with financial uncertainty and was therefore confined to make strict recommendations. The University was unable to assure the Committee that the Student Services Fee (SSF) would increase. This led the Committee to only recommend one year of SSF funding. In response, Chancellor Block encouraged the Committee to reconsider its recommendation. Although I understand the Chancellor's perspective, SFAC recommended one year of funding so that future committees would have flexibility to address emerging needs. While the University still has not determined whether the SSF level will change, I believe the Committee made the best decision given the circumstances. The 2018-2019 SFAC can consider an approach that ensures future SFACs are able to make funding allocation recommendations.

In all, the 2017-2018 SFAC was a bright cohort that set out to tackle complex issues. When it came time to making funding recommendations with forecasts from Academic Planning & Budget (APB), we felt it was best to sustain departments' functions by granting one year of funding until the University determined the state of SSF. While I hope that the 2018-2019 SFAC is given more information in regards to the budget, I am confident in the leadership of the Committee and I know that SFAC is heading in a good direction. Moreover, I hope SFAC will continue its advocacy and lead UCLA towards promoting student success.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard W. White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Richard W. White
SFAC Chairperson 2017-2018