**Student Fee Advisory Committee**

**12:00-2:00pm**

**Friday, May 7, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Attendees:**

Graduates: **Jackie Markt-Maloney, Gaby Barrios, Laxman Dahal**

Undergraduates: **Atreyi Mitra, Bradley Alvarado, Devanee Matcham, Samantha Solemnidad**

Administration: **Charles Turner,** **Erinn McMahan, Carina Salazar**

Faculty Rep: N/A

SFAC Advisor: **Christine Wilson**

APB Advisor: **David Navar**

Absent: **Paarth Shah**

Guest: **Rebecca Lee-Garcia**, Director of Financial Analysis and Decision Support, Academic Planning and Budget

**Atreyi Mitra** called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

1. **Community Sharing**
   1. SFAC members shared something they are grateful for today.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
   1. **Bradley Alvarado** motioned and **Laxman Dahal** seconded to approve the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes for Winter 2021 Spring Week 3 and 4** 
   1. The minutes were not ready to be approved.
4. **Presentation** 
   1. **Rebecca Lee Garcia** presented two new SSF scenarios recommended by the Office of Academic Planning and Budget based on updated projections and the availability of additional information regarding the actual merit and benefits shortfalls for 2019-2020 and revised projected expenditures for 2020-2021. She explained the revised projection show that if SFAC were to honor the recommendations made by the 2018-2019 SFAC to funding merit and benefits shortfalls with permanent SSF for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, that there would be insufficient temporary funds to honor the commitments for 2021-2022 made by 2019-2020 SFAC. The primary reason for this situation is that merit/salary increases for 2019-2020 were higher than expected because there are more represented staff, primarily in CAPS, than in the past; additionally, the original scenarios presented in the fall of this year assumed no merit/salary increases for 2020-2021 because there was no increases for policy covered staff, but those scenarios did not factor in merit/salary increases for represented staff, which APB is now projecting at $315k. There is no projected benefits shortfall for 2020-2021 because there were fewer SSF-funded staff due to unfilled positions during the pandemic. The two new scenarios presented: 1) showed using permanent SSF to fund the shortfall for 2020-2021 and a reduction in already approved temporary allocations for 2021-2022; 2) showed using $115k of permanent SSF funds and temporary 20002 funds (mental health) to cover the remainder. Rebecca explained that for 2021-2022 there would not be adequate unallocated permanent SSF funds to cover merit and benefits shortfalls going forward if SFAC were to continue to allocate temporary funds of about $1.5m.
   2. **Laxman Dahal** asked for clarification regarding 20000 SSF funds and 200002 SSF funds and requested that SFAC receive a list of what is funded by the 20000 SSF funds and what is funded by 20002 SSF. **Rebecca Lee Garcia** explained that the 20002 allocation made directly to Student Affairs and primarily funds CAPS and said she would provide the information requested.
   3. **Erinn Mcmahan** asked if unit’s carry forward could be to cover any reduction to next year’s temporary commitments. **Rebecca Lee Garcia** explained that in order to do that it would be necessary to forecast the carryforward for all units before the fiscal year has ended and they APB does not do this.
   4. **Erinn Mcmahan** asked if the 20002 mental health funds went automatically to CAPS or if SFAC weight in on how they are used. **Rebecca Lee Garcia** explained that 50% of all increases to the SSF funds – after return-to-aid is taken out – is dedicated to mental health and that since 2014 or 2015, it has been allocated directly to student affairs and primarily funds CAPS. **Erinn Mcmahan** recalled that in the past there had been discussions of Tier 2 and Tier 3 mental health services. **Christine Wilson** added after the 50-50 split of increases to the SSF came on the heels of the 2006 UCOP “Student Mental Health” report, which presented the three-tier model for student mental health initiatives and that initially, SFAC did weight in on the allocation of those funds.
5. **Post-break presentation discussion**
   1. **Atreyi Mitra** summarized the three options available to the committee and opened the floor to discussion regarding choosing scenario #1, which used permanent SSF funds to cover merit and benefits shortfalls, and not honoring all of 2021-2022 temporary commitments; scenario #2, which uses a combination of permanent SSF funds and temporary 20002 SSF funds for the merit and benefits shortfall; and scenario #3, not funding any of the merit and benefits shortfall for 2020-2021, allowing the committee to recommend more temporary funding to units for 2021-2022.
   2. **Laxman Dahal** said that he was in favor of Scenario #3 and suggested there be another source to fund these expenses. **Atreyi Mitra** pointed out that departments have planned as if they would receive funding for 2020-2021 merit and benefits shortfalls and that not getting them is the same as a budge cut. **Gaby Barrios** said she was leaning toward scenario #2 because she worries that departments will cut staff. **Bradley Alvarado** said he was okay with #2 or #3, but thought it was not fair for the committee two year’s ago to make commitment that are empty promises or do not consider what future committee’s will want to do. **Atreyi Mitra** said it looked like the committee was leaning toward scenario #2 which would allow the committee to recommend allocating $1.5m in temporary SSF funds for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. **Christine Wilson** advised the committee that whatever they decision they make, student service units will have less funding for staff and that they committee should look to how these different scenarios will play out in the future.
   3. **Atreyi Mitra** asked for a straw poll of the committee regarding which scenario they preferred. Scenario #2 was the most popular and that committee members should fill out their funding recommendation spreadsheets with this in mind. **Gaby Barrios** added that she is concerned that units ongoing reliance on temporary funding puts them in a very precarious position and wants units to understand the tension between having funding for merit and benefits increases and receiving funding for temporary requests. Samantha Solemnidad agreed that units should understand that the temporary funding is decreasing and to plan accordingly.
6. **Discussion of Unit Review Feedback**
   1. **Atreyi Mitra** reminded the committee to update their unit review feedback to include a discussion of SFAC priorities and to offer more concrete feedback.
7. **Approval of PRG letter to Chancellor** 
   1. **Atreyi Mitra** asked the committee to review the letter to the Chancellor regarding the PRG recommendations. **Gaby Barrios** motioned to approve the letter. **Bradley Alvarado** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
8. **Samantha Solemnidad** motioned and **Gaby Barrios** seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:59pm.