

Student Fee Advisory Committee
Friday, October 21, 2022
3pm-4pm
Virtual Meeting

Attendees

Graduate Students: Sidharth Srivastava,

Undergraduates: Luis Garcia-Chavez, Karina Mara, Kevin Carranza

Administration: Carina Salazar

Faculty Rep: Dr. Alison Chu

SFAC Advisor: Christine Wilson, John Bollard, Burt Harris

APB Advisor:

Absent:

Luis R. Garcia Chavez begins the committee meeting at 3:09pm but does not call the meeting to order.

1. Reviewing Agenda Point 4 (Priorities) from previous SFAC Meeting

- a. Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains to committee that he would like to continue their discussion about priorities from the previous meeting. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** shares his screen with the committee to show and to go over examples that he put together.
- b. Luis Garcia-Chavez** shares with the rest of the committee 2021-2022 priorities. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains to the committee that the primary focus of last year were the following:
 - i.** Material needs for the student body especially with regards to the pandemic and how it directly affected students.
 - ii.** The specific needs of transfer students, non-traditional students, graduate students, and other student bodies that have been traditionally overlooked in university settings.
 - **Luis Garcia-Chavez** continues by stating that these two priorities were interlinked and helped units in responding directly about how they plan/will continue to help students directly through use of SSF Funds
 - iii.** The third priority was to encourage units to expand their methods of assessment of impact
 - **Luis Garcia-Chavez** elaborates by stating that some students have voiced concerns that although there are different centers for different needs, sometimes students' needs are not met.
- c. Luis Garcia-Chavez** continues by touching on inflation which was brought up in the previous meeting by several committee members and reads out the following as potential working language for 2022-2023's priorities in relation to inflation:

going to affect low-income students at UCLA the most. Proposes the idea to find new ways to incentivize different department units to target low-income students so that there is a greater turn-out of low-income students using their services.

- i. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** thanks **Kevin Carranza** for his input and elaborates on points made by **Kevin Carranza** and **Karina Mara**.
 - i. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** specifically highlights that the priority point of transitioning from virtual to in-person is more related to services and student centers rather than classes. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** continues that by moving from virtual to in-person brings on added costs which was highlighted by **Karina Mara** in the previous meeting and **Luis Garcia-Chavez** believes that for this reason it should remain as a priority.
- j. **Kevin Carranza** agrees to the points made.
- k. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** also adds that the committee is not able to incentivize units to take certain actions but, can brainstorm and encourage units to spend money more effectively by highlighting the committees' priorities.
- l. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** asks if the committee has any questions/feedback/specific language that the committee thinks best fits the priorities to later be added to the unit review letter.
- m. **John Bollard** asks whether the funding will be for this year or for the next academic year and suggests that the committee consider that by this time next year, the campus will have been in-person/on-site for a full year. **John Bollard** continues that while this may be a priority this year, it could be less of a priority next year.
- n. **Christine Wilson** remarks that there are already significant temporary and permanent funds allocated for the next year, so most of the funding decisions, if not all, will be for 2024-2025.
- o. **Carina Salazar** suggests that the point of moving from virtual to in-person doesn't necessarily need to be marked as a "priority" but agrees that it should be kept in mind because of the costs associated with this transition.
- p. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** agrees with the points brought up and suggests that the committee finalize their points of priority during Tuesday's meeting. Lastly, **Luis Garcia-Chavez** suggests possibly removing the priority point of virtual to in-person transition entirely and rather ask specific questions in the unit review.
- q. **Christine Wilson** suggests not adding "alleviating the effects of inflation" but suggests using instead "mitigating the effects of inflation".
- r. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** asks if the committee has any other comments/questions/suggestions before moving onto the next topic. No comments/questions/suggestions were brought up.

2. Reviewing Last Year's Funding Recommendations

- a. **Christine Wilson** sent a PDF of the 2021-22 Request for Student Services Fee (SSF) Funds to **Luis Garcia-Chavez**.

- b. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** informs the committee that last year's recommendations have not yet been approved.
- c. **Carina Salazar** asks committee about the timeline of approval.
- d. **Christine Wilson** says it should take a couple of weeks for approval.
- e. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains for new committee members what the Permanent Funding Recommendations document is great detail and how it and the process differs from previous years. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains that last year, the committee prioritized on funding of salaries, adjustments of pay, and benefits that are essential for some units to function. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** continues by highlighting that temporary funds are supposed to be used for direct one-time spending costs. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** also adds that this is why he wants to prioritize units to transition away from relying on temporary funds on things that are essential.
- f. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** then uses an example from the 2021-22 Request for Student Services Fee (SSF) Funds PDF to further elaborate the process, the form itself, and red flags of using temporary funds that should be permanent funds to the committee members and asks if anyone has any questions.
- g. **Kevin Carranza** points out the following as an example before asking his question:
 - i. "Under student affairs it mentions assistant director/perm (which stands for permanent)" and asks if SFAC has to give them permanent funding? What exactly does that mean?
- h. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** answers **Kevin Carranza's** question by clarifying that this is requesting for a permanent fund. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** continues by explaining that this type of funding is year to year. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** provides an example of a unit receiving money from the permanent funds to cover their staff's salary. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** also explains what temporary funds are, which differs from permanent funds as they must be requested every year and are not guaranteed due to the size of the available funds altering on a year by year basis.
- i. **Christine Wilson** adds that if a unit didn't receive a permanent funding recommendation from SFAC, then SFAC could put that unit into the temporary funding pool for consideration there.
- j. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** adds that the committee spent a significant amount of time last year in deciding permanent funding recommendations and allocations. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** notes that the committee had to make several difficult decisions with the high number of requests that they received. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains that this year will be somewhat similar and asks that the committee familiarize themselves with last year's recommendations in order to have a clearer picture of what's going on and where funds should be going this year. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** asks committee if anyone had any questions. No questions were asked.

3. Closing Remarks

- a. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** asks the committee to review/think about priorities before the next committee meeting and what should be included in the Unit Review Letter. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** explains that he would like for the committee to finalize the Unit Review Letter by Thursday.
- b. **Luis Garcia-Chavez** asks for a member of the committee to motion to adjourn the meeting.

Kevin Carranza motions to adjure the committee meeting at 3:33pm. **Karina Mara** seconds that motion. The motion passes unanimously.