**Tuition and Fee Advisory Board of the University of Oregon**

**Meeting Summary | January 18, 2022**

The 2021–2022 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met online at 8:30 a.m. on January 18, 2022. Below is a summary of the meeting; documents discussed during the meeting are available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/updates).

**Attending**: Krista Borg, Isaiah Boyd, Jim Brooks, Josh Buetow, Marcilynn Burke (guest), Pamanee Chaiwat, Donna Chittenden (guest), Robin Clement, Angela Davis, Brian Fox (guest), Patricia Hersh, Saul Hubbard (guest), Kimberly Johnson, Stuart Laing, Aaron Lewis, Kevin Marbury (co-chair), Jessie Minton (guest), Jamie Moffitt (co-chair), JP Monroe, Gabe Paquette, Phil Scher, Shreya Silori, Kathie Stanley, Ray Sykes (guest)

**Staff**: Debbie Sharp (Office of the VPFA)

**Introductions and meeting plan**. Co-chair Kevin Marbury, vice president for student life, welcomed the group and asked people to introduce themselves. Co-chair Jamie Moffitt, vice president for finance and administration and CFO, invited Jessie Minton, vice provost for information services and chief information officer to present an overview of the technology fee.

**Technology fee**. Minton provided an overview of how the tech fee is used, the governance and decision-making process involved in deciding tech fee use, and the cost drivers involved. She shared information on crucial investments in cybersecurity tools, mission-critical software, and infrastructure replacement (such as Wi-Fi access points) as technology ages. Minton and Moffitt explained that the tech fee is currently $51.50 per term and has only had one increase since its inception in 2017. She further noted that there is a $1.50 increase proposed per term for 2022-23, which represents a 2.91% increase to $53 for students (new, incoming undergraduates; continuing undergraduates who started before summer 2020, and all graduate students). Minton shared the proposal review and approval process, the inflationary pressures, and the increasing dependence on technology at the university.

An overview of proposed mandatory fees for 2022-23, including the tech fee, is available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/sites/tuition2.uoregon.edu/files/2022-01/fy23-mandatory-fees-tfab_jan11.pdf). Minton’s presentation is also available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/tech-fee-proposal-jan-2022).

**School of Law**. Marcilynn Burke, dean and Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership and Law, shared an overview of the proposed 5% increase for resident and non-resident students in the 2022-23 JD, LLM, and Conflict and Dispute Resolution Master’s programs. Burke explained that the proposed increases would cover additional staffing in the law school Student Success team, which provides first-year workshops, tutoring, bar support, and academic advising.

The group asked about possible future tuition increases, whether the staffing is new, and how the proposed price increase positions the UO School of Law compared to other law schools. The group also discussed the idea of a cohort tuition model, which Dean Burke explained would put the UO School of Law at a competitive disadvantage because it is not a common model among law schools. There was discussion of the current discount rate, the school’s success in lowering its discount rate in recent years, and the number of students currently receiving scholarships.

The proposed 2022-23 graduate tuition rates, including those proposed from the School of Law, are available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/2022-23-graduate-tuition-summary).

**Course fees**. Moffitt provided an overview of the process for special fees, fines, and penalties, which involves all university departments that charge extra fees going through a centralized process with the office of Budget and Resource Planning (BRP). She gave examples of these fees, including course-specific fees, library fines and fees, and UO parking fees and fines. Moffitt noted that TFAB does not review all of the charges; the BRP office prepares a summary of course fees because they are tied to students’ cost of education, and this summary, as well as any other particularly large increases to fees that directly impact a large number of students are brought to TFAB for discussion. She shared that all of the special fees, fines and penalty fee changes are subject to an annual public input process and are reviewed by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO), after which the fees are reviewed and approved through the VPFA office rather than being sent to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Stuart Laing, director of budget operations in BRP, explained that course fees are different from tuition: course fees are only charged to students in specific courses that have extra expenses associated with them for things such as materials and field trips. Laing noted that departments put in requests for new fees, cancelled fees, and amended fees; a summary of proposed changes is available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/sites/tuition2.uoregon.edu/files/2022-01/fy23_course-fees_summary-changes.pdf).

The group discussed a new proposed fee from the College of Design involving labs techs and art supplies. Questions will be referred to the College of Design for clarification and more information will be provided to TFAB at the next meeting (January 28).

A summary of the proposed course fee changes is available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/sites/tuition2.uoregon.edu/files/2022-01/fy23_course-fees_summary-changes.pdf).

**New student orientation fee**. Laing provided an overview of a proposed increase to the new student orientation fee for incoming students starting in the academic year 2022-23. Laing explained that the fee remained at $280 for first-year students until 2020 when an increase to $300 was approved. He further explained that as Covid restricted in-person sessions in 2020, the fee was never charged. Laing shared that as a result of increases in the Oregon minimum wage and the rates for rentals, supplies, and catering, Orientation Programs requests a $50 increase in the on-campus fee (from $300 to $350); a $150 increase for the off-campus fee (from $300 to $450); and a $30 increase for the transfer/mid-year program fee (from $195 to $225). The reason for the large increase in the off-campus orientation fee is that the department is proposing to cover all of the extra expenses associated with these programs, such as staff travel expenses, with the fee.

The group discussed UO orientation costs compared to other schools, the potential for cost savings based on potential remote orientation programs in future, and whether the increases would cover lost revenue as well as forecast cost increases. The summary statement for the new student orientation fee is available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/sites/tuition2.uoregon.edu/files/2022-01/new-student-orientation-fee-summary-statement.pdf).

**Undergraduate tuition**. Moffitt ran through a number of undergraduate tuition scenarios with the group. Members discussed the potential for extra tuition revenue from graduate students, how the PathwayOregon program is funded, the need to consider impacts on in-state and out-of-state students, other schools with guaranteed tuition programs, and whether scholarship money is targeting transfer and international students.

**Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.