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

**Meeting Summary | January 19, 2024**

The 2023–2024 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met in room 230 (Swindells) of the Erb Memorial Union (EMU) at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 19, 2024. A remote option was available by request; seven participants attended the meeting remotely. Below is a summary of the meeting; documents discussed during the session are available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/updates).

**Attending**: Kersey Bars, Elliot Berkman, Krista Borg, Jim Brooks, Robin Clement, Renée Dorjahn (online), Sorin Dragoiu (guest, online), Brian Fox, Heather Gustafson (online), Jimila (online), Stuart Laing (guest), Laura Lee McIntyre (online), Jamie Moffitt (co-chair, online), JP Monroe (online), Finn O'Donnell, Kerlos Rizk, Hal Sadofsky, Grant Schoonover, Chloé Webster, Kris Winter (co-chair), Ben Young.

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

**Introductions**.Co-chair Kris Winter, interim vice president for student life, welcomed in-person and online participants and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

**Course fees**. Stuart Laing, director of budget and resource planning at the university, provided an overview of course fees. He explained what a course fee is, explaining that they include consumables (e.g. art supplies) and field trips associated with specific courses. Laing shared a document that summarized new, amended, and cancelled fees. This document is [available online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/sites/default/files/2024-01/fy25_coursefees_summary-of-changes_19jan2024.pdf).

TFAB members raised a number of questions related to course fees, including asking for clarification on a new course fee in Planning, Public Policy, and Management; information on what happens when students cannot pay course fees; whether or not federal aid covers course fees; and if course fees are used to pay for instructional FTE. The group voiced concern about the rising cost of course fees, noted the challenges many students face in learning about the fees associated with each course ahead of registration, and discussed how difficult it is to compare the level of fees for different courses. The group noted that course fees are often an attempt to save students money because departments buy supplies in bulk (e.g. goggles for a lab), charging the students for the supplies as a course fee, which is cheaper than individual students buying those supplies.

Finally, TFAB members discussed the idea of making a recommendation for a task force to review course fees at the university.

**Student forum planning.** Co-chair Winter talked about the student forum on tuition, scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, to be co-hosted by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) and TFAB. She noted that students would receive an email from ASUO and Student Life inviting them to the forum, and encouraged TFAB members attending the forum to pay close attention to student input and feedback on student priorities and concerns around tuition and other costs of education at the UO.

**Undergraduate tuition**. Brian Fox, assistant vice president of budget, financial analysis, and data analytics, reminded TFAB members to use the tuition calculator to consider different scenarios associated with undergraduate tuition rates.

**Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.