

The 2020–2021 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met virtually at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 22, 2021. Below is a summary of the meeting; documents discussed during the meeting are available [online](#).

Attending: Melynn Bates, Isaiah Boyd, Connie Brady (guest), Jim Brooks, Lara Grant, Patricia Hersh, Saul Hubbard (guest), Stuart Laing, Joanna Mann (guest), Kevin Marbury (co-chair), Jessie Minton (guest), Jamie Moffitt (co-chair), Juan-Carlos Molleda, JP Monroe, Lynn Nester (guest), Sarah Nutter (guest), Doneka Scott, Aidan Short, Conrad Sproul, Kathie Stanley, Edna Ventura, Whitney Warth, Harry Wonham, Janet Woodruff-Borden, and Laurie Woodward (guest).

Staff: Debbie Sharp (Office of the VPFA)

Introductions. Co-chair Kevin Marbury, vice president for student life, welcomed the group, noted the guests joining the meeting, and ran briefly through the planned agenda for the day.

Overview of mandatory fees. Co-chair Jamie Moffitt, vice president for finance and administration and CFO, shared the overview of proposed mandatory fees to show the aggregate figures. She reminded TFAB members that three sets of proposed aggregate fee increases need to be developed for the following groups: (1) the incoming cohort of undergraduate students (3.76%), (2) continuing undergraduate students (2.99%), and (3) graduate students (2.99%). The overview document is available [online](#).

Technology fee. Jessie Minton, vice provost for information services and chief information officer (CIO), provided an overview of the student technology fee, explaining the uses of the fee, impacts of the fee on students, governance of the fee, and financial cost drivers for information technology. She shared that the tech fee is used for cyber-security tools, mission-critical software, wireless access points, and to expand and replace infrastructure where necessary. Minton noted that the tech fee has not been increased since its inception in 2017 and that the request is for a 3% increase, from \$50 to \$51.50 per term. She explained that current funding levels do not meet the technology needs of the university, emphasizing that there is increasing dependence on technology and that aging technology presents serious risks to the university. Questions from the group included how the UO tech fee compares to other schools in the region, how wireless coverage and reliability have improved dramatically at the UO in recent years, and plans for better coverage in outdoor spaces on campus. The tech fee presentation slides are available [online](#).

College of Business graduate tuition increases. Sarah Nutter, Edward Maletis dean of the Lundquist College of Business, provided an overview of the main reasons for the planned MBA program tuition increases. She explained the planned MBA program increases will help fulfill the college's goals for moving to a guaranteed tuition plan for full-time MBA students; increasing access to experiential learning for all MBA students; and making the program as a whole more attractive to new students coming in. Connie Brady, associate dean for finance and administration at the College of Business, shared a document of key consideration factors and an example showing current MBA tuition costs and the new proposed amounts. Dean Nutter clarified that the proposed tuition increases will only apply to new MBA students entering the planned guaranteed

tuition program. Current full-time MBA students will not see a tuition rate increase. The group discussed the proposed elimination of the seminar fee and the fact that only students participating in trips would pay trip fees. TFAB members also asked for clarifications around the proposed cohort-based guaranteed tuition program and inquired how the new pricing compares to competitor programs. They also recommended that a small group of staff work with the business school to develop more detailed guidelines around the new guaranteed tuition program (e.g., what happens if a student goes on leave or starts the program mid-year?) The overview document is available [online](#).

Recreation center fee and student union fee. Marbury introduced Lynn Nester, director of physical education and recreation, and Laurie Woodward, director of the Erb Memorial Union (EMU). He shared an [overview document](#) showing the cost drivers and revenue for the recreation center and student union, noting that costs are shown for the respective staff salaries, benefits, student labor, general operating costs, utilities charges, overhead expenses, and bond payments. Marbury noted that as a result of Covid-19, both the recreation center and student union have seen dramatic swings in revenue, resulting from issues such as reduced enrollment, far fewer community memberships, a lack of programming and space rentals, and the decision not to charge fees last spring term when the facilities were shut down. The group discussed the difficulty of budgeting based on projected but uncertain student enrollment, as well as factors such as student labor costs and federal work-study. The summary of proposed recreation center fees and student union fees is available [online](#).

Undergraduate tuition. Moffitt spent some time talking through different elements of the undergraduate tuition calculator, emphasizing how much enrollment affects the numbers. The group talked about potential scenarios using current deficit numbers and considering different levels of enrollment, tuition rates for resident and non-resident students, and state appropriations. The group noted that it is important to consider market rates for resident and non-resident undergraduates, the income of families sending students to the university, and heavy student debt burdens overall. To demonstrate competitiveness with schools in California, J.P. Monroe, director of institutional research, shared AAU tuition comparison data for FY2020-21 tuition and mandatory fees for [resident](#) and [non-resident](#) full-time undergraduate students. The group also discussed schools that compete with the UO for students from California, the impact of state appropriations, the importance of returning to in-person instruction, and potential federal funding.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.