

Tuition and Fee Advisory Board of the University of Oregon Meeting Summary | February 13, 2020

The 2019–2020 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met in the Johnson Hall Conference Room on the UO’s Eugene campus at 5:30 p.m. on February 13, 2020. Below is a summary of the meeting; documents reviewed during the meeting are available [online](#).

Attendance: Jessica Brewer (guest), Jim Brooks, Robin Clement, Erica Daley (joined by Zoom), Zack Demars (Daily Emerald), Emily Fenster (guest), Eric Howanietz (guest), Saul Hubbard (guest), Indigo Irving (guest), Nyla Jamison (guest), Kay Jarvis (guest), Randy Kamphaus, Tova Kruss, Stuart Laing, Rocco Luiere (guest), Kevin Marbury (co-chair), Andy Marcus, Ella Meloy (guest), Jamie Moffitt (co-chair), JP Monroe, Ryan Nguyen (Daily Emerald), Sabinna Pierre, Kevin Reed (guest), Vanessa Robles, Hal Sadofsky (joined by Zoom), Doneka Scott, Kezia Setyawan (guest), Kathie Stanley, Janet Woodruff-Borden, other student guests (names not shared)

Staff: Debbie Sharp (Office of the VPFA)

Welcome and introductions. Co-chair Kevin Marbury, vice president for student life, welcomed the group and invited all participants to introduce themselves. He gave an overview of the five-and-a-half-month process that TFAB had gone through to get to this point, which included 11 TFAB meetings, all of which were open to the public. He noted that all TFAB meeting materials were available on the [UO Tuition website](#). Marbury explained the important nature of the final work meeting. He also emphasized upcoming opportunities to express opinions on tuition: an ASUO forum scheduled for February 14 and a President’s Forum on Tuition scheduled for February 24th. Co-chair Jamie Moffitt, vice president of finance and administration and CFO, explained that there have been about 15 hours of meetings and thanked TFAB members for their work on the important issue of tuition at the UO.

Undergraduate tuition. Moffitt provided a [checklist for the guaranteed tuition proposal](#), noting that for new students, the proposal involves a tuition price that is guaranteed for five years. For continuing students, she explained that the proposal involves a series of annual small rate increases to avoid a situation where juniors have a large increase without the multi-year benefits of a guaranteed tuition program. Moffitt then shared [a slide on guaranteed tuition](#) showing various combinations of tuition increases under a guaranteed tuition model, along with the tuition revenue that each scenario would generate. She then used the tuition calculator to show a range of scenarios suggested by TFAB members for tuition rates.

Kezia Setyawan, ASUO senator and Programs Finance Committee Chair, explained that ASUO had a memo to share with the TFAB. She presented a copy to Kevin Marbury for sharing with the group in digital form following the meeting. The memo was distributed to all TFAB members immediately after the meeting. The TFAB co-chairs stayed after the meeting to meet with ASUO representatives to discuss the concerns raised in the memo.

The TFAB discussed various issues, including the budget shortfall, the insurance charge, as well as tuition rates at comparator schools in Arizona, Colorado, and schools in the University of California system. The group also discussed the complexity of communicating tuition rates under a guaranteed system, predictions for PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) increases, and cost drivers predicted to impact the FY2021 university budget. TFAB members discussed the budget deficit and the importance of keeping tuition rates as low as possible to minimize financial barriers to higher education.

The group discussed various options for guaranteed tuition for current UO students as well as for new students. Please see the [February 20, 2020 recommendations memo to the president](#) for a complete summary of the tuition and fee rates recommended by TFAB.

Co-chairs Moffitt and Marbury reminded TFAB members of the option to submit a minority report to express any differences from what was to be shared in the recommendation report.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.