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

**Meeting Summary | February 3, 2023**

The 2022–2023 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met in room 023 (Lease Crutcher Lewis) of the Erb Memorial Union at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, February 3, 2023. A remote option was available by request; two 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**: Molly Blancett (guest), Krista Borg, Jim Brooks, Marcilynn Burke (guest), Deborah Butler (guest), Robin Clement, Renée Dorjahn, Brian Fox, Luda Isakharov, Heather Kingsley, Lauryn Lilly, Laura Lee McIntyre, Marian Mumin (online), Jamie Moffitt (co-chair), JP Monroe, Brad Morin, Cass Moseley, Erick Njue, Sam Schwartz (guest), Kathie Stanley (online), Ray Sykes (guest), 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 the group and invited participants to introduce themselves.

**Tuition and Fee Policy Book**. JP Monroe, director of institutional research, shared the 2023-24 Tuition and Fee Policy, a draft version of which is available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/updates). He noted that the fee book covers policies around tuition and mandatory fee structures, student financial aid, veteran programs, tuition equity, and other programs. Monroe noted that there have only been minimal changes to the fee book over the past couple of years. Co-chair Jamie Moffitt, senior vice president for finance and administration and chief financial officer, explained that the Board of Trustees approves the tuition and fee policy book and any suggestions for edits should be shared with Monroe.

**Undergraduate tuition**. The group spent time discussing historical trends around support for the public universities in the Governor’s Recommended Budget (GRB) and the final Legislatively Approved Budget (LAB) approved by the Oregon legislature. They discussed the impacts of lobbying, the potential impact of recent economic data on state funding, current understaffing levels at the university, challenges around hiring tenure-track faculty, and the importance of maintaining adequate staffing levels to meet growing student demands. The group also discussed the Clark Honors College (CHC) differential tuition, which is part of the guaranteed tuition program, and how the small class sizes and low student-to-faculty ratio increase the cost of programming. Renée Dorjahn, associate dean of finance and administration for the honors college, explained that the CHC is developing a growth plan to respond to the significant increase in students over the past several years and anticipated demand in the coming years. It was noted that CHC reduced its tuition differential several years ago, but the extra cost associated with the differential may present a barrier to increasing diversity within the college.

Moffitt encouraged the group to use the undergraduate tuition calculator to explore various scenarios that include varying levels of state appropriation, student enrollment, tuition rates and inflation. The workgroup evaluated the impact of different state funding levels, among other variables, within the calculator.

**School of Law**. Marcilynn Burke, dean of the law school and Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership and Law, shared that the current tuition revenue of the law school does not cover its fully budgeted expenses. Currently, the significant level of vacancies at the law school is helping balance the budget, but those positions need to be refilled to serve students. Burke shared the three main areas that the tuition increases are designed to help cover in the coming year: scholarship costs, student support, and faculty. She noted that law schools across the country tend to use a high tuition, high aid/scholarship model. Burke explained that the law school is adding resources to the academic support program and has created a new position to work on accommodations and wellness for students; these positions are in response to students’ need for mental health and other support services. Finally, Burke explained that the law school is trying to bolster faculty expertise in business law, environmental law, and Indian law.

The group discussed how many law school students receive discounted tuition, how the law school has been trying to reduce barriers to entry, the budget challenges that the law school has had over the last 10-12 years given market conditions, and the successful efforts to balance the budget while providing a high-quality legal education at competitive tuition rates.

Burke also shared information on the proposed increased event fee for incoming students. She explained that this one-time fee is paid by incoming students to help cover the cost of commencement. Burke noted that the fee has not been increased in over five years despite increasing costs; the decision was made to increase the fee for incoming students because of large increases in event-related costs over the past year.

**Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.