

Safety and Transportation Fee Committee

September 15, 2020 | 4:00pm | [ZOOM](#)

1. Call to Order

Introductions:

Robin Kovis, ASWSUTC President – Present

Dakota Melbihess, at-large student representative – Present

Andreana (Anna) Cervantes, at-large student representative – Present

Scott Tomren, Director of Safety – Present

Randy Slovarp, Campus Facilities Executive – Present

Ray White, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration, co-chair (non-voting) - Present

Ian Jamieson, Director of Student Engagement and Leadership, co-chair- Present

Becky Gubser, Clerk – Present

Guests attending:

Stephanie Warner

Chris Meiers

2. Approval of the Agenda

Robin moved to approved the agenda, Randy seconded, passed unanimously.

3. Overview of the S&T Committee and MOU

Ian provided an overview of the S&T committee and the MOU. The fee was voted on by students during spring 2019 and approved by the Board of Regents. The fee amount as outlined in the MOU was discussed. The fee amount was compared to other institutions and was benchmarked significantly below the comparators, it is about \$1.00 per day. Any adjustment in the amounts would need to follow the ASWSTUC process for voting on fee changes.

Robin pointed out that one reason a fee was created instead of a parking permit process was because a fee adds to the cost of attendance and therefore students can pay for throughing funding/grants received. This fee will also cost less to process and enforce. Ian mented that parking permit funds would have to be used to address only parking related needs, not the other safety or transportation needs. Ray mentioned that parking fees on a number of campuses turn into an overhead cost that comes with the fee – creating permits, mechanical aspect of collecting, parking tickets, appeals process, etc.

Examples of acceptable uses was discussed. Projects to be funded will be detmerined by the chancellor after vetting by the committee. Scott will provide the committee regular updates on projects.

4. Action Items

a. Potential Fee Reduction for 2020-2021 Academic Year

Typical model for this committee will be to review projects, getting feedback on where we are at and what is needed. The deicision about whether to

reduce the fee for this fall has been pushed to the committee level. The recommendation will go up to the chancellor, the president, and the board of regents.

We are in a unique situation being charged with discussing the possibility of a fee reduction for this fall. There are a couple of ways for moving forward. One is to have today's meeting be an introductory meeting, get some basic pieces out there, tomorrow there is a student fee forum with an opportunity to discuss the fee, and announce when our follow up meeting will be held. The forefront will be to give information, encourage students attend the public meeting, then have a full discussion at our October 1 meeting.

Ray shared background on how leadership decided to have the recommendation come from the committee level.

Robin mentioned that students don't want to pay full fees when not on campus. To us it is a safety and transportation fee, but to average student it translates to a parking fee. The disconnect might be resolved by forum.

Janna Kay stated she was in a discussion last week and if we implement a reduction this semester it will cause a nightmare to recertify veteran benefits, certain grants and loans, and possibly other funding. After that discussion she would recommend we have the reduction in spring semester.

Discussion continued –

- No funds collected this semester will have been used as no allocation has been approved
- Electronic lock project has moved forward, project list shared by Scott
- This is not a use fee, it is for building a fund to cover cost of projects.
- About \$65K collect, with about an addition of \$18K for staff/faculty
- Adding financial report to agenda
- Want to see the S&T funds used to give direct benefit to students, administration agree to spend the fee revenue in accordance with the spirit of the fee.

Ian asked what the committee needs, what information, to make a decision regarding reducing the fee, what information between now and our next meeting.

- Would like to hear from Ray about the reasoning behind some of the recommendations being turned down
- Can we recommend the fee be reduced partially, we do have options.
- What on the project list Scott shared is the university willing to share funding on, and what should the university should fund.

5. Open Forum

No Items presented

6. Adjournment – 4:59 PM