



**California State University, Sacramento**  
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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** Sept. 16, 2024

**TO:** Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luke", written over the "TO:" line.

**FROM:** Luke Wood, President

**SUBJECT:** Category II Fee Proposals

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I received the SFAC Category II fee increase proposal memo dated Aug. 26, 2024. Thank you for your diligence over the past months as the alternative consultation process was engaged, and for your carefully thought-out recommendations. After considering your recommendations, student feedback received during the robust consultation process (including a town hall on Sept. 5, 2024), and the information in the fee proposals, I have made final determinations which I outline below. As you know, there was one new fee proposed for non-resident students, and four proposed fee increases.

Let me begin with the non-resident fee, as it elicited strong emotions from our student community.

### **Nonresident Fee**

The *new* nonresident fee proposal asked for a **\$500 per semester** mandatory fee for international and out-of-state students. Sacramento State currently has no nonresident fee, though there was briefly a similar Category IV fee that was suspended then eliminated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Academic Affairs requested this new fee to enhance support programs, events, and scholarships for non-resident students. The scholarship component was especially crucial since international students are not eligible for most financial aid options.

Nonresident fees are normal within the California State University system, and the proposed fee was substantially lower than those at other campuses. Unlike California residents, families of nonresident students have not contributed to state taxes that help to subsidize the education provided at a state institution. Despite this, SFAC recommended by a vote of 7-2 not adopting this fee, noting a clear lack of student support. Though I disagree with this recommendation, the feedback from the open forums, town halls, and the vote of SFAC weigh heavily in my decision. **Therefore, the University will not implement the proposed nonresident fee.**

### **Approved Fee Increases**

SFAC considered proposals to increase four existing Category II mandatory student fees. In each case, I concur with SFAC's recommendation to implement the proposed fee increases. Below, I detail the specific increase to each fee.

**Intercollegiate Athletics: Approved**

As SFAC noted in its recommendation memo, deferred maintenance is an issue across campus, and current funding sources do not allow for improvements to our athletic facilities that allow us to adequately serve all students (including intercollegiate athletes, club athletes, recreation sports athletes, and spectators). The increase to this fee was unanimously supported by SFAC and had clear support from students who participated in the open forums and town halls.

I agree with SFAC's recommendations, and I approve the implementation of the Intercollegiate Athletics fee increase as follows:

- Increase the Intercollegiate Athletics fee to \$256 to be phased in over three years:

Current fee	2025-26 increase	2026-27 increase	2027-28 increase	Total increase
\$181	+50	+15	+10	\$75

- Include a price index escalator beginning in year four (2028-29).
- Update language to the Intercollegiate Athletics fee policy to clarify that revenue can be used for all student athletes, including recreation and club athletes, as well as intercollegiate student athletes.
- Based on student feedback, Athletics will provide alumni with one free ticket to all home sports events for three years after graduation, beginning fall of 2025.

The increased revenues will allow us to address improvements including, but not limited to, a new multiuse stadium for several sports (e.g., football, soccer, rugby), new track and field facilities, training spaces, replacing court flooring, and upgrading AV and restrooms. We anticipate the increased fee will generate approximately \$4 million annually for facility maintenance and improvements and \$460,000 for club and recreational sports scholarships.

**Instructionally Related Activities (IRA): Approved**

The IRA fee has not been increased since 1993 and does not have a price index escalator. As SFAC noted, the revenue from this fee has fallen increasingly short, and as such, the University has not been able to fully support cocurricular activities and cultural centers. The IRA fee increase will expand the types of activities we can support to include student employment opportunities and enhanced services and support for our Cultural Resource Centers, as well as increased funding for cocurricular activities.

This fee increase was unanimously supported by SFAC and had clear support from students who participated in the open forums and town halls. I agree with SFAC's recommendations, but I will add a three-year phase-in of the fee increase. I approve the implementation of the IRA fee increase as follows:

- Increase the IRA Fee to \$310 to be phased in over three-years:

Current fee	2025-26 increase	2026-27 increase	2027-28 increase	Total increase
\$8	+186	+62	+54	\$302

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- Based on SFAC feedback, include a price index escalator beginning in year four (2028-29).
- Internships funded with this fee will be made available to all students, including Dreamers, nonresident, and international students, as allowable by law.
- Based upon the recommendations from SFAC, Greek organizations will be eligible to apply for IRA funds for cocurricular or academically connected activities.

### Recreational Sports: Approved

The Recreational Sports fee has not changed, other than a small annual price index escalator, since 2009. An increase in revenue is necessary to allow the University to better resource items such as operating expenses, club support, student assistants, and staff.

SFAC recommended this fee increase, and it had support from students who participated in the open forums and town halls. I agree with SFAC's recommendations, and I approve the implementation of the Recreational Sports fee increase as follows:

- Increase the Recreation Sports Fee to \$90 to be phased in over three-years:

Current fee	2025-26 increase	2026-27 increase	2027-28 increase	Total increase
\$19	+30	+21	+20	\$71

- Include a price index escalator beginning in year four (2028-29).

### Student Health Services Fee: Approved

The Student Health Services fee was last updated 15 years ago. Major changes to the landscape of healthcare have led to a need for more revenue to provide the services our students need. Current reserves are being spent faster than they are being replenished, and Student Health, Counseling and Wellness Services (SHCWS) will be in a deficit in a few short years at current spending levels. In addition to continuing to provide services such as clinical and pharmacy support and mental health services, increased revenue would enable the SHCWS to provide additional mental health counselors, provide rapid results for STI testing, and hire additional athletic trainers to serve all students.

This fee was unanimously supported by SFAC and had clear support from students who participated in the open forums and town halls. I agree with SFAC's recommendations, and I approve the implementation of the Student Health Services fee increase as follows:

- Increase the Health Services fee to \$212 to be phased in over three years.

<b>Current fee</b>	<b>2025-26 increase</b>	<b>2026-27 increase</b>	<b>2027-28 increase</b>	<b>Total increase</b>
\$152	+32	+14	+14	\$60

- Include a price index escalator beginning in year four (2028-29).
- As recommended by SFAC, SHCWS will create a plan to raise awareness about the services available to all students, particularly that athletic trainers support all students, including intramural, club, and intercollegiate athletes.