

Trustees Present: Jodi Hart Wilson, Eric Schmutz, Michael Wankier, Derral Eves, Lance Hatch, Carson Brown, Sydney Nakken, Caytee Wankier. **Trustees Excused:** Beverly Burgess, Marilee Eyre. **Others Present:** Mindy Benson, Jared Tippets, Mary Pearson, Jon Anderson, Tiger Funk, Daneka Souberbielle, Bailey Bowthorpe, Geoffrey Landward.

Attendees: Jeffrey Hunt, Paul Eberhardt, Colter Bennett, Steve Carpenter, Mary Jo Anderson, Bryce Mecham, Candice Hilleger, Nate Esplin, Carlos Medina, Matt Zufelt, Christine Fawson, Kelly Goonan, Makayla Brown, Grant Corser, Kevin Price, Zach Murray, Katya Konkle, Sarah Hokanson, David McGuire, McKay Steffensen, Ben Joslin, Valaire Olson, Charlene Brewer, Thomas Gubler, Cathay Hart, Jim Shakespear, Amie Hokanson, Maureen Redeker, John Fonseca, Ann Oberhelman, Camille Thomas, Chet Dalton, Jamie Campbell, Paul Schneider.

Welcome and Call to Order by Chair Jodi Hart Wilson

Chair Jodi Hart Wilson called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Oath of Office - Derral Eves

Bailey Bowthorpe administered the Oath of Office to Derral Eves.

ACTION ITEMS

24-25 Tuition Proposal

President Benson contextualized the tuition proposal. SUU has not raised tuition in five years, but we have been talking with our student leaders for 3 years about the need to raise tuition. Feedback from them has been to focus on smaller incremental changes instead of waiting until it has to be a large increase. SUU is proposing a 3% tuition increase. Besides the presidential scholarship, all other academic scholarship dollar amounts will remain the same as they are currently - this will leave a gap that students will have to make up. We looked at raising scholarships to match the increase, but it would mean we would have to increase tuition more in order to cover the scholarships. We also discussed if we should go higher on graduate tuition. We may consider going to differential tuition for graduate programs in the future. We have been very careful to not go above what we need. We are sensitive to the market. 1.9% of the overall 3% increase will cover the mandated costs of the 25% match mandated by the state. The other 1.1% will be invested in faculty and staff support and growth.

The Trustees discussed where SUU will be in comparison with other USHE schools and are working to make sure we are not outpricing ourselves in this market. The president also

clarified that online tuition will remain the same rate as it is currently. This increase will only apply to face-to-face students.

VP Mary Pearson shared slides from the Truth in Tuition hearing that outlined the comparisons to SUU's USHE counterparts.

Trustee Carson Brown said that students are appreciative of an exact percentage number so they can make plans and see that it is not increasing by a large amount. Some USHE schools are only giving their students a range of how much it could increase. Students are not thrilled that tuition is increasing, but appreciate the transparency and that the administration would involve them and talk with them throughout the decision making process.

Trustee Derral Eves added that we need to be creative in our approach and how we look at a hybrid model between online and in-person options. How can we best serve the students in every aspect? Let's get creative and explore possibilities.

Trustee Lance Hatch said that it is important to recognize what we offer at SUU and the cost of that. 3% seems conservative when considering inflation and the costs to maintain the salary of employees. In order to maintain our hands on personalized learning, we need to look at these modest increases.

President Benson also added that SUU has a high discount rate in the state because we know students have more costs (most are living away from home) and that's what it takes to get students to rural Utah, away from home. We scholarship at a higher rate than most of our USHE counterparts. Trustee Carson Brown and President Benson shared about the Truth in Tuition Hearing that happened on March 5. There was a great turnout and students had really good comments and questions.

Trustee Lance Hatch made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Tuition Proposal. Second by Trustee Sydney Nakken. Vote was unanimous.

General Student Fee Recommendations

Trustee Carson Brown shared the general student fee changes including Community Engagement Center, Testing Center, Tutoring Center, Tradition Keeper, SUU Connect. Students saw the need for these services and operations and the fee increases will directly impact students. The Testing Center and Tutoring Center fee increases will help student wages and increase hours for student usage.

Mike Wankier asked about what the total dollar amount increase is between tuition and fees. \$192.50 per year for an undergraduate resident or \$96.25 per semester.

Trustee Carson Brown made the motion to approve the General Student Fee Recommendations. Second by Trustee Eric Schmutz. Vote was unanimous.

Course and Program Fee Proposal

Provost Anderson shared about the Course and Program Fee proposals. Each year, the Deans submit a request for fees to attach to a program or course. There is a committee made up of two deans, the provost, SUUSA Academic VP who meet and discuss these proposals. These fees are charged to a particular program or course - parameters are that the student has to directly benefit from the expenditures from the collection of the fees. Each fee sunsets after 3 years and must be reconsidered by the committee. Some fees are adjusted every year based on the certification assessment costs (like first responder certification). Aviation course and program fees cover the costs of flying the aircraft for each aircraft. We are one of the only institutions that has program fees because of differential tuition. We may move in the future to that model. Chair Wilson asked about how transparent we are with these fees. The Provost answered that these fees are listed on the registrar's website and can be reviewed by a student prior to registering for the course. When they register, they can view their bill and all fees are listed there distinctly.

Trustee Eric Schmutz asked the Provost how many of the fees are reviewed every year and how often they have been raised in years past. The Provost clarified that every fee is reviewed every year, and a dozen or so will change (some going up, some down) each year. This is monitored really carefully.

Trustee made the motion to approve the Course and Program Fee Proposal by Trustee Caytee Wankier. Second by Trustee Sydney Nakken. Vote was unanimous.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Lance Hatch. Second by Trustee Eric Schmutz. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.