

# COSAF Report | Recommendations & Comments

Council on Student Affairs and Fees | Review: The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) Referendum

February 9, 2024

**Action Item #2024-054**

## Timeline:

11/17/24	COSAF meeting. TGIF referendum ballot language presented to COSAF
11/20/24	Via Qualtrics survey, all council members provided feedback on neutrality of ballot language ( <a href="#">ACTION ITEM NO. 2024-028</a> )
2/9/24	COSAF meeting. TGIF presented updated ballot language to COSAF
2/9/24	Qualtrics survey distributed to all COSAF members to provide recommendations on the referendum moving to student body elections in Spring 2024

## 2/9/24 meeting

The proposed referendum has reached the stage where COSAF considers all written materials and presentations it has received from all parties and advises the administration on whether or not to endorse the proposal moving forward.

A 'Yes' vote indicates that you believe it is in the best interest of the campus as a whole to move forward and place the item on the ballot in Spring of 2024.

A 'No' vote indicates that you believe it is not in the best interest of the campus as a whole to move forward and place the item on the ballot in Spring of 2024.

<u>Survey Question:</u> Do you endorse the TGIF initiative moving forward?	<b>Yes</b> , I believe it is in the best interests of the campus as a whole to move this initiative forward.	<b>No</b> , I do not believe it is in the best interests of the campus as a whole to move this initiative forward.
	22	2

**RESULTS:** By majority consensus, COSAF endorses the TGIF referendum being placed on the Spring 2024 ballot.

The following pages include comments provided by council members in support of their recommendation.

## YES comments

Historically, TGIF has been a popular fund receiving majority approval from students. The fund provides for numerous projects promoting sustainability and innovation, two things Davis prides itself in. Even recently, students approved in the majority to pass TGIF. The only issue has been voter turnout. I think TGIF should be given the chance to present the referendum at elections, especially given its major successes in the past, the current approval rating of the student body, and its core being rooted in UC Davis values. The referendum reads well and clear.

Students deserve to vote on the continuation of TGIF, which has a history of making a positive impact on the campus

They would provide more resources to meet more students needs.

I believe TGIF aligns with UC Davis' mission and a lot of the work the university is doing. UC Davis is known for its sustainability practices and this is a great opportunity for students to explore ideas and innovate in the realm of sustainability.

Through the presentation and from what I have seen on campus, TGIF has proven to be a huge part of student life and culture. Its mission and what it is promoting are very positive and funding needs to continue to help the projects continue.

I believe that the goal of the green initiative fund closely aligns with one of the main missions of our campus. I really like the idea that this fund gives an opportunity to our undergraduate students to gain research experience.

TGIF has provided a great number of grants to sustainability projects across campus, and I believe they should continue to do so. The fee is small enough not to impact student's finances greatly.

This program supports the campus initiative to be more sustainable and I hope it gets approved this year.

The Green Initiative Fund plays a vital role in advancing the university's sustainability objectives. TGIF offers undergraduate students a unique opportunity to engage in sustainability initiatives and grants. Advancing the TGIF referendum would benefit the entire campus community.

TGIF continues to show a demonstrated effort and I would love to finally see this initiative back and moving forward. UC Davis prides themselves in sustainability and I think offering a program like TGIF is representative of the type of school we are.

I believe TGIF gives students the unique opportunity to conduct their own research and projects. Past voting cycles have shown that students who are familiar with TGIF want the organization to continue and that more and more students are taking part in elections to help maintain TGIF.

TGIF has provided numerous grants over the years to students and faculty interested in promoting better uses of our resources. The Covid years should not be a reason for discontinuing the program.

I am convinced from current ongoing projects funded by TGIF that these projects have great impact on student body and our community.

## NO comments

I believe funds could be allocated better in other initiatives. While, TGIF spurs student participation and innovation, their projects wouldn't affect students as widely or directly as funds for transportation, health, and maintenance.

I believe this fee would add unnecessary expenses to students during a time when everything is becoming more expensive. Further, it has served largely as a subsidy of programing the campus should be pursuing on their own. Climate change and lack of sustainability is a systematic issue that requires systematic change and prioritization.