

# COSAF Report | Recommendations & Comments

Review: The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) Fee

March 8, 2024

Action Item #2024-057

## TGIF Fee Background

In Winter quarter 2016, the initiative was presented to students and passed. It received final approval by the Chancellor and UC Regents during the summer of 2016.

The TGIF undergraduate student fee of \$3.00 per quarter began in the fall of 2016. There is no Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment on this fee.

The aim of TGIF is to provide funding that enables students to have a greater impact on sustainability within the UC Davis campus and the immediate region. The fund provides grants to projects that improve educational opportunities, promote environmental awareness, engage in sustainability research, advocate for climate and environmental justice, increase energy and water efficiency, and reduce the amount of waste created on campus.

Per TGIF original initiative language, the fee sunset in 2021. COSAF provides oversight for TGIF fee revenue.

## TGIF Presentation to the Council on Student Affairs & Fees (COSAF)

Presentation Date	Department	Name of Presenter(s)
2/23/24	Office of Sustainability	Carla Fresquez, Interim Director, Engagement & Program Manager

## COSAF Survey Results

Following the presentation, the council completed a survey with the following prompt:

**Please provide your comments regarding TGIF’s presentation on the use of the remaining funds from their initial referendum:**

TGIF was very clear that their remaining funds were going to projects that were already approved.

TGIF is an amazing fee for students. It shows that students are in favor of the fee, but due to voting thresholds they have been unable to continue their work. I believe the annual increase is a great idea as it will allow them to keep funding projects and not be put in a position where they cannot afford to maintain operations.

Once again, they been very transparent using their website to communicate what initiatives are getting money, and how much those initiatives are getting funded with TGIF fees. Their presentation is clear and through.

Potentially seeing if there is a small project they could fund completely!

The TGIF's presentation was informative, and I believe that it provides great funding resources for projects on campus.

TGIF currently has no clear plan for the usage of the remaining funds. The funds remaining are likely to be very small. I believe that the TGIF committee can determine its usage if the amount turns out to be inconsequential. Otherwise, I would like to see the remaining funds go to Student Development to help serve the undergraduate community.

TGIF did an amazing job upholding transparency and accountability over the use of their remaining funds. Its evident they are doing everything in their power to uphold day to day operation and using as much of the remaining funds to support student projects, in the event the fee is not renewed. However, I hope to see them succeed!

The presentation was valuable in terms of showing what the remaining funds would be used for and the value added from these implementations/uses.

Everything seems good.

For their remaining funds, they should continue funding existing projects, and also use towards return-to-aid.

I believe in TGIF and its mission, I believe that the use of their remaining funds is appropriate.

It was a very informative presentation, and it's great to see that they're focusing on completing the remaining projects and providing support through check-ins.

UC Davis has such a large focus on sustainability and I think the TGIF program allows students to be a part of the overall sustainability mission by actively participating in projects. I hope that during this year's elections, they are able to meet the voter threshold.

I believe that TGIF provides a unique experience for Davis students to explore sustainability through their respective disciplines. The usage of the remaining funds seems fit until the election where it can be voted on again.

If we as a campus and people believe in global warming and its dangers, TGIF renewal seems like a no-brainer. I vote in favor of renewing the program.

TGIF if being a good steward of their fees, as required of the referenda. I admire their resilience and strategies for program maintain during this time of no fee income. For a lower programatic expense, I was surprised with the administrative costs remaining high.