

Sheila R Bird

From: Madeline Garcia <madgarcia@ucdavis.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Ralph J Hexter
Cc: Jason Lorgan; Sheila R Bird; Kelly M Ratliff; Laurie L Carney; Adela De La Torre; Cory N Vu
Subject: RE: Approval of CPI Adjustments to Student Fee Increases for 2017-18

Dear Interim Chancellor Hexter:

We are writing in response to your June 15, 2017 letter detailing how you intend to respond to the recommendations of the 2016-17 Council on Student Affairs and Fees (COSAF).

First, thank you for taking the time to respond to our council's work. Having spent numerous hours listening to presenters, asking questions, searching for answers, and poring over budget line items, we can't adequately explain the tremendous pride our council feels looking back on all that we've accomplished during the 2016-17 school year. Thank you for acknowledging our hard work.

As we consider how you moved to formal action on June 22, 2017 by approving COSAF's recommendations and additionally approving a CPI increase for a component of CEI that did not pass on council vote (ICA scholarships), we are inclined to highlight our main concerns.

1. While we understand the financial difficulty of not approving a CPI increase for ICA scholarships, we are concerned that overriding COSAF's decision and approving CPI increases for units who did not pass would create a situation in which stagnating departments are able to have their CPI adjusted by riding on the backs of other fees, in this case the other components of CEI. It is COSAF's belief that UCOP has disallowed the bundling of fees in future referenda so each program could be evaluated on its own. This position seems to be in direct contradiction to the suggestion that UCOP believes a bundled fee should not have each program considered on its own.
2. In your June 15, 2017 letter you express concern about the degradation of the spending power for the scholarships the university provides to student athletes. However, the students on our council, who are representative of the student body, do not have the same concern. There is an apparent disconnect between the greater campus community and the administration on how we relate to the athletic program. We understand that UC Davis cannot return to the days of Division II dominance. As such, we recommend forming a committee of students, student

athletes, community leaders, and other stakeholders to work towards improving the popular opinion of UC Davis' athletic program.

Further, COSAF and its predecessors have struggled with the fact that UC Davis' athletic program budget relies on a high percentage of student fee, compared to the other UC campuses. Due to this fact and other grievances that remain unaddressed, our past councils have consistently disapproved of an ICA CPI adjustment. We recommend campus administration consider a model where ICA funding is derived mainly from institutional support and ICA fundraising with less reliance on student fees. This model would demonstrate to future councils that campus administration is listening and responding positively to their students.

We'd like to reiterate our sincere appreciation of your willingness as the top UC Davis administrator to engage in constructive dialogue with the undergraduate leadership of an advisory committee. We hope that our aforementioned concerns and recommendations help shape a future in which UC Davis athletics isn't polarizing but rather the community rallying, powerhouse institution it was intended to be.

Sincerely,

Co-chair Madeline Garcia
Co-chair Brionda Tanner

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Pronouns: she/her/hers