Tuition and Fee Committee Meeting  
September 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes  
9:00 -11:30 am  
JPL 4.04.22 (Assembly Room)

Student Members: Moshood Adams, Vanessa Andrada (absent), Luis Arias, Colton Barton (absent), Joseph Carreon, E’Mon Carson (absent), Carlos Chavez (absent), Kate Falconer, Loy Fong, Maria Frick (absent), Brittany Garcia, Michal Greenwood, Justin Guerra, Tiwa James, Rachel Jendrzey, Simon Karottakuttu (absent), Cynthia Lopez (absent), Richard Martin, Ashley McCowan (absent), Karen Mejia, Aileen Montana, Nicholas Ng, Nyong Emmanuel, Arianna Pulido, Patrick Seaworth, Aija Terry (absent), Marcus Thomas (absent), Joelle Thomas (absent), Deon Turner, Richard Wells

Faculty Members: John Nix, Josh Thurow (absent)

Administration / Ex-Officio Members: Dr. Mauli Agrawal, Kathryn Funk Baxter, Lenora C. Chapman, Sam Gonzales, Jackie Hobson, Anujani Aluwihare, Joseph Izbrand (absent)

Guests: Debra Villanueva, Paula Villagran, Debbie Rappaport, Lisa Blazer

Kathryn Funk-Baxter and Dr. Mauli Agrawal thanked students for their service on this committee and noted that committee members can invite others to attend these meetings. Introductions were made.

Lenora Chapman opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and informed the group that there are four meetings and a student forum scheduled. There is also a website, which can be found at http://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/TuitionFees/proposals.html, and all meeting materials will be posted there including presentations.

Overview and Committee Charge

The purpose of the committee was discussed. Input will be coming from various groups, and a proposal will be given to President Eighmy. Student members were encouraged to take meeting information back to constituents, get feedback and bring information back to the meetings. Participation is very important and input and feedback is needed.

Lenora discussed the Tuition and Fee Proposal Process and the committee role. The Committee will review details of the requests, prioritize and recommend options for the overall proposal to the President. The
proposal establishes the tuition and fee rates for a two-year period, academic years 2019 - 2020. The proposal process will be consultative, open and transparent, comprehensive, align with UTSA’s strategic plan, take into account student affordability and access, and factor in efficiency, sustainability and economic factors.

**Tuition and Fee Structure**

Lenora discussed the three components of Total Academic Costs (tuition and fees):

1. Statutory and Designated Tuition
2. Mandatory Fees
3. Incidental Fees

A list of Incidental fees are in the Information Bulletin online: [http://catalog.utsa.edu/informationbulletin/](http://catalog.utsa.edu/informationbulletin/)

The Total Academic Costs for the fall semester for an undergraduate resident student is $4,885.75.

**Would it be possible to see Incidental Fees by College?** That information is listed in the Information Bulletin.

**Is the new construction for the Science and Engineering building charged proportionately to engineering students?** It is not charged at all to students; funding comes from Tuition Revenue Bonds granted by the Legislature.

**Is the only difference with in state and out-of-state tuition the statutory tuition?** It is the biggest difference, but not the only difference. The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) sets statutory tuition.

**What about International Students?** International students are all considered non-resident students.

**Do other universities use the same system for charging tuition?** Definitely all public four-year universities charge statutory and designated tuition, mandatory and incidental fees. Some universities have “differential” tuition, which bundles certain fees. We are actually looking at differential tuition and will have presentations at the next meeting.

**Tuition and Fee Comparisons**

Lenora reviewed UTSA’s Total Academic Cost trends and noted that we have had relatively no change in fee rates for the past six years.

**Would we be able to review why statutory tuition limits are different for each college?** Just to clarify, statutory tuition is the same for each college; it is only incidental fees that may vary.

Dr. Agrawal stated that the vast majority of our money comes from designated and statutory tuition and formula dollars, which is a reimbursement from the state for each credit hour that we teach. The Legislature decides how much is actually funded from formula dollars.

Dr. Agrawal also clarified the charge of this committee: Presentations will be made at future meetings to talk about proposals, what they would like to do and what the expenses will be. What we have to do is
listen to all of those, ask good questions, put them all together, prioritize them and send different options to the President. The President will then work with UT System and they will decide what to submit to the Board of Regents, who will make the final decision.

**Will we know ahead of time who will be presenting at each meeting?** Yes, agendas will be posted on the website.

**Student Success Trends**

Dr. Agrawal presented on UTSA trends. After many years of staying steady, UTSA’s overall enrollment was up this year, with the vast majority being undergraduate. Degrees awarded was up this year.

International Students have been dropping for the past few years, and is something that is on our radar. We are trying to do more targeted recruitment practices.

Doctoral degrees has remained steady, but we do need to increase these if we are to reach Carnegie classification, which is the highest research classification you can get and where we strive to be. We need at least 200 PhDs graduated per year to reach this.

**Is there data available that shows degrees awarded per college?** Yes, we can get that. NOTE: This data has been added to the presentation posted on the website.

Dr. Agrawal discussed UTSA retention rates. CAP students were discussed. About 1/3 do go to UT Austin, 1/3 leave, and 1/3 stay and graduate at UTSA. CAP students who leave are considered dropouts for UTSA.

**Is that irrespective of whether they go to UT Austin?** Yes.

**How much longer will the CAP program be available?** That decision lies with the Board of Regents. We do know that we will have it for one more year.

**Any student that transfers to another university is considered a dropout for the purpose or our statistics.** Yes, when measured at the national level.

UTSA’s five-year goal for one-year retention rate is 83% and ten-year goal is 90%. While four-year graduation rates are low, we have seen an increase. The ten-year goal is 40%. Moreover, the ten-year goal for six-year graduation rates is 55-60%.

While the metrics for transfer students are good at 84% for one-year retention and 61% for four-year graduation, these metrics do not count since transfer students are not counted. There is a move to try to change that metric.

**UT Dallas is significantly higher in four and six year graduation rates. Is there anything that they do specifically?** Admission standards are much higher at UT Dallas.

Dr. Agrawal indicated that the trends are looking good, but we are not where we want to be.
**Student Success Initiatives**

Dr. Agrawal gave a presentation on student success initiatives.

What specifically are we looking at to increase retention? Dr. Agrawal briefly touched on the GRIP program, which was a UTSA initiative to improve graduation rates. Dr. Agrawal described the need for the UTSA community to “mesh” gears to improve all metrics. We need to focus on a few things at a time in order to make progress. (Do not carry the pebbles; carry only the boulders.)

Dr. Agrawal discussed the success of Georgia State University in Atlanta, and found that UTSA matches many of the profiles of Georgia State University. He had the opportunity to meet the President of Georgia State and took a team there to see what they are doing. Georgia State is using data analytics, working with the Education Advisory Board.

To help students succeed, do not wait until they stumble or fail; use predictive data to predict when a problem may happen and provide the help before they stumble. UTSA is using a Coordinated and Linked Approach to Student Success (CLASS) where the focus will be on students, not graduation rates. However, shifting the focus to student needs should result in improved graduation rates. The focus will be on the following initiatives: onboarding, first-year experience (advising, data analytics, and instruction/faculty), academic pathways (AIS and UMP), tutoring, academic support, financial aid, and leadership skills.

What is the difference between AIS and UMP? How is it determined if you will be in one or the other? Freshman will be required to complete both; however, they will be placed in one or the other based on availability. (If AIS is full, then placed in UPM and vice versa.)

Are AIS courses structured different for Honors College? AIS courses will be slightly different based on the academic pathway. However, not sure about how they will be structured for Honors College.

A suggestion was made to provide a first-year experience where students can meet other students in their same major. This is something that is definitely being considered, where Cohorts move through together.

Another suggestion was made to provide more experiential learning.

Are SI’s offered for upper division courses? We need to look at what we have in terms of resources and tie them in to where they would be most effective. We are not there just yet.

Is there extra money in the budget for more tutors? While there is no extra money, there is realignment that can take place.

Do we know if the cost per student for an SI and a TA are similar? Not sure if all that data is available, but we can look at it.

**Impact on Student Affordability**

Lisa Blazer gave a presentation on student affordability. She indicated that Financial Aid at UTSA is broken out into four categories: grants, scholarships, loans and work-study that are made available through three main resources: federal, state, institutional as well as small amount from “other” resources.
The majority of Federal grants are Pell; majority of state grants are from the Texas Grant Program. Scholarship resources have increased significantly over the past few years.

Tuition set-asides are required portions of statutory and designated tuition that are set aside to go toward needs-based financial aid. These include, statutory set aside for the TPEG Grant, designated set aside for the UTSA Grant, as well as work-study. It is important to keep in mind that about 15% of any increases this committee recommends will be used for set-asides.

As we hear proposals, please keep in mind that we are here to work together to build this Roadrunner nation and it is not about us individually.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 11, 2017 from 9 – 11:30 am in the Denman Room (UC 2.01.28)

Tuition and Fee Committee Website:
[http://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/TuitionFees/proposals.html](http://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/TuitionFees/proposals.html)