

March 30, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval, Ph.D., President

FROM:

Phong Yang, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Chair, Campus Fee Advisory Committee

CC:

Faith Van Hoven, ASI President
Frederick Lisitsa, ASI Vice President
Adam Garabedian, ASI Senator, Lyles College of Engineering
Ashley Pina, Student Representative
Torrance Carpenter, Student Representative
Dr. Amber Crowell, Faculty Representative, Academic Senate
John Fugatt, Assistant Vice President for Financial Services
Dr. Bernadette Muscat, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Academic Affairs Representative
Terre Stevenson, Dean of Students
Dr. Amy Allen, Associate Dean of Student Involvement

SUBJECT:

Recommendations from the Campus Fee Advisory Committee Regarding Proposed Student Fee Increase

On behalf of the Campus Fee Advisory Committee, I am submitting this memorandum to provide our formal recommendations concerning the proposed \$495 annual student fee increase scheduled to begin in Fall 2025.

1. Library Services:

Survey responses from students strongly emphasized the value of the Fresno State Library. Considering this, an assessment of current library services to determine where enhancements or expansions may be necessary. If improvements are identified and warrant additional funding, we suggest you considering a future allocation of the proposed fee to support those needs.

2. ASI Fee Adjustment:

The committee supports the proposal from ASI President Faith Van Hoven to increase the current ASI fee by \$8 (from \$44 to \$52 annually). We recommend incorporating this adjustment into the proposed \$495 annual fee to ensure continued support for student-centered programs and services that reflect evolving student interests and needs.

Should you have any questions or require additional details regarding these recommendations, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phong Yang

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Chair, Campus Fee Advisory Committee

Enclosures:

- ASI Student Fee Memorandum (March 27, 2025)
- Campus Fee Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (March 28, 2025)

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval
CSU Fresno President
FROM: Faith Van Hoven
Associated Students Inc. President
SUBJECT: ASI Inclusion in Student Fee Increase

Introduction

Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) at Fresno State is a student-run organization that serves the student body's needs. ASI advocates for students, ensuring their voices are heard in campus governance and policy decisions. The organization strives to enhance the overall student experience by offering programs, services, and resources that promote students' social, cultural, academic, and physical well-being. ASI oversees student-run programs and activities, including student clubs, leadership development opportunities, and community outreach projects.

ASI also manages student fees and allocates funding to initiatives that benefit the campus community, such as recreational services, student-centric activities, and events. By fostering engagement and providing essential resources, ASI creates a dynamic environment for students to thrive inside and outside the classroom. In collaboration with university leadership, ASI ensures that students' concerns are addressed, working towards improving campus life and promoting student rights. All fee-paying students are automatically members, making ASI an integral part of the Fresno State student experience.

Funding Needs

The **average AS/ASI fee throughout the CSU system is \$177**, making Fresno State **\$108 below the average**. **At \$69, Fresno State has the second-lowest Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) fee**. However, ASI **only retains \$44 per academic year** for its operations, managing an annual budget of just over \$1 million. Additionally, ASI serves as a pass-through account holder for the Collegian and Athletics, which together comprise more than one-third of our total budget. While ASI makes do with its funds, there are always more requests for more funding than is feasible. This financial support would **go directly back to students, and student-centric programs and initiatives, not operating costs, or staff salaries/benefits**. Below is a breakdown of the past three years' budgets, student needs, and our 2024-2025 proposed budget. ASI is asking for **consideration of an \$8 increase per student** before finalizing the new student fees. If we go based on 24,000 fee-paying students, this would **increase our budget by \$192,000**.

Actuals 2021-2022

This is the first year back after COVID, and there is an increase in funds given out and student involvement. Below are all expenses that **go directly back to students**, whether through financial support or services.

1. Total ASI Programs expense: **\$107,072.84**
2. Services Expense: **\$30,763.04**
 - a. Sponsored Activity Grant, New Club Grant: **\$14,698.60**
 - b. Booster Club Grant: **\$4,066.65**
 - c. Club Sport Grant: **\$11,997.59**

3) Supplemental Programs

- a. Publicity and Promotional Events: **\$5,351**
- b. Community Revitalization: **\$5,188**
- c. Senator Constituent Outreach: **\$2,171**
- d. Budget Call Support Programs
 - i. Bulldog Genie: **\$29,500**
 - ii. Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies: **\$3,100**
 - iii. Homecoming: **\$30,000**
- e. Bulldog Blog: **\$1,000**

Actuals 2022-2023

While still recovering from the aftermath of the COVID-19 Pandemic, ASI increased its funding to support various student programs as student life and engagement increased. Although the level of student engagement was unknown, ASI elected to increase programmatic funding to enhance student life in a post-pandemic world. Below are all expenses that go directly back to students, whether through financial support or services.

1. Total ASI Programs expense: **\$359,140.00**
2. Services Expense: **\$100,000**
 - a. Sponsored Activity Grant, New Club Grant: **\$65,000**
 - b. Booster Club Grant: **\$15,000**
 - c. Club Sport Grant: **\$20,000**
3. Supplemental Programs
 - a. Publicity and Promotional Events: **\$36,000**
 - b. Community Revitalization: **\$3,400**
 - c. Senator Constituent Outreach: **\$12,000**
 - d. Budget Call Support Programs
 - i. Bulldog Genie: **\$20,000**
 - ii. Vintage Days: **\$25,000**
 - iii. Homecoming: **\$30,000**
 - iv. CCGC: **\$14,000**

- v. Project Rebound: **\$10,240**
- vi. REC Center: **\$30,000**
- vii. Fresno State Alumni Association: **\$12,500**
- e. Bulldog Blog: **\$1,000**
- f. Intramural Sports: **\$15,000**
- g. Research Project and Grants: **\$10,000**
- h. New Programs: **\$40,000**

Actuals 2023-2024

ASI's Fiscal Year Budget for 2023-2024 represents increased investments in student life, engagement, and activity in certain areas of the campus community. Below are all expenses that go directly back to students, whether through financial support or services.

1. Total ASI Programs expense: **\$293,923.28**
2. Services Expense: **\$100,000**
 - a. Sponsored Activity Grant, New Club Grant: **\$65,000**
 - b. Booster Club Grant: **\$15,000**
 - c. Club Sport Grant: **\$20,000**
3. Supplemental Programs
 - a. Publicity and Promotional Events: **\$55,000**
 - b. Community Revitalization: **\$5,500**
 - c. Senator Constituent Outreach: **\$12,000**
 - d. Budget Call Support Programs
 - i. Maddy Institute: **\$11,000**
 - ii. Vintage Days: **\$10,000**
 - iii. Homecoming: **\$20,000**
 - iv. Project Rebound: **\$10,000**
 - v. Student Cupboard: **\$8,800**
 - vi. The Collegian: **\$5,623.28**
 - e. Bulldog Blog: **\$1,000**
 - f. New Programs: **\$55,000**

Proposed 2024-2025

Below are all expenses that go directly back to students, whether through financial support or services.

1. Services Expense: **\$100,000**
 - d. Sponsored Activity Grant, New Club Grant: **\$65,000**
 - e. Booster Club Grant: **\$15,000**
 - f. Club Sport Grant: **\$20,000**
2. Supplemental Program Funding: **Pending Approval of the 2025-2026 Budget**

Budget Call

Every year, ASI provides student organizations and clubs the opportunity to request additional funds to support and fill budget gaps. As long as the group falls under the approved student fees, they are presented with the opportunity to apply. The ASI Finance Committee reviews each application and recommends projects and initiatives that **benefit the most students, or are deemed an essential service/need for students**. Each year, post-pandemic, ASI has received increased requests for funding, particularly in FY 2024-2025, due to CSU/University budget cuts. **While there is an increased need for supplemental funding, ASI is unable to fund every request received due to budget constraints.**

Our Budget Call requests have grown over the last three years in terms of both the amount requested and the number of campus clubs, organizations, and departments applying, and we can only meet a small fraction of them. Furthermore, **the shortfall in available funding has grown significantly**. We have a duty to meet students' needs, and this funding would directly support them.

2022-2023

- Requests: **\$303,165.00**
- Awarded: **\$158,865.00**

Gap: \$144,300.00

2023-2024

- Requests: **\$212,785.52**
- Awarded: **\$66,520.00**

Gap: \$146,265.52

2024-2025

- Requests: **\$358,058.00**
- Financial Committee Recommendation: **\$54,810.00**

Gap: \$303,248.00

Other Ways ASI Gives Back

Fresno State's ASI plays a vital role in the campus community. This year, we have dedicated **1,400 service hours**, distributed over **5,000 Blue Books and Scantrons** to students, and appointed student representatives to more than **27 campus-wide committees**. All ASI senators and executives receive a stipend that equates to less than minimum wage for their hours of work, recognizing that their contributions serve a purpose greater than themselves. With this funding request, **none of the additional funds would be used for staff salaries, student wages, a new staff position, or office supplies**. Instead, **the money would go directly**.

To students in meaningful ways—expanding club grants, increasing support for programs that currently lack financial resources, and providing more funding for events. **Ultimately, it’s about serving students first.**

Conclusion and Recommendations

1. **Support the Increasing Student Club Needs:** Each year, the requests for club boosters, club sports, and new club/sponsored activities grants grow. At the current pace, ASI cannot fund the complete requests or meet the student body's needs.
2. **Align Fresno State with the Other CSUs:** The student-associated fee at the other CSUs far surpasses Fresno State's, which is not fair regarding what we can provide and support students with. An increase of \$8 will still leave us well below the average CSU fee, but would make us a more effective partner in university projects.
3. **Focus on ASI Longevity:** Fresno State’s ASI can only go so far in providing student clubs and organizations with the kind of monetary support it does, given the current financial climate and inflation. This fee increase will serve tens of thousands of students at Fresno State.
4. **Increasing Budget Call:** Each year, our budget call asks from the campus community grows. Student clubs and organizations need more financial support, and we are responsible for giving back to them. With more budget allocations, we can increase new pilot programs, student initiatives, and club growth, alleviating the university's load.

With the fee increase of \$8, Fresno State’s ASI **could fund 5-7 new projects, 10-20 more budget call requests, and many more club grants.** ASI's purpose lies in service and financial support. With more financial support from this fee increase, students will see a direct benefit through the **only financial support available to student organizations and clubs** on campus.

References:

All references can be found in this Google Drive Folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NtRBcJgEugA-72wJpl9k5XzXkS7mmKXK?usp=sharing>

- ASI 2022-2023 Budget Call
- ASI 2023-2024 Budget Call
- ASI 2024-2025 Budget Call
- ASI Operating Budget 2022-2023
- ASI Operating Budget 2023-2024
- ASI Operating Budget 2024
- California State University Category II Mandatory Fees
- ASI Mission Statement
- ASI Title V Approved Uses of Student Fees



Campus Fee Advisory Committee Meeting

March 28, 2025

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Attendees:

• Saul Jimenez-Sandoval, President (<i>non-voting member</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Phong Yang, <i>Interim VP of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Chair (non-voting member)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Faith Van Hoven, <i>ASI President</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Frederick Lisitsa, <i>ASI Vice President</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Adam Garabedian, <i>ASI Senator for Lyles College of Engineering</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Ashley Pina, <i>Student Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Torrance Carpenter, <i>Student Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Dr. Amber Crowell, Faculty, <i>Academic Senate Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• John Fugatt, <i>Assistant Vice President of Financial Services</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Dr. Bernadette Muscat, <i>Dean of Undergraduate Students, Academic Affairs Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Terree Stevenson, <i>Dean of Students</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
• Dr. Amy Allen, <i>Associate Dean of Student Involvement (Ex-Officio, non-voting member)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not Present

1. Roll-Call (Please see above)

Absent: Ashley Pina, Student Representative

Also in attendance: Juana Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant and Garrett Klassy, Athletic Director

2. Funding Survey

a. Priority Funding slide

Dr. Muscat asked for additional information regarding specific items in the Library students are requesting. It seems thought the physical space of the library is what students are referring to.

Mr. Yang shared during his listening sessions with students they mentioned the importance of the library of space.

Dr. Crowell commented valuable resources are the study rooms used by research students.

Dr. Muscat commented that the library is not configured in a way to provide space for a family. Not a collaborative space for families to learn; limited to respected audiences. Libraries are strong hooks and anchor for students as far as space for them.

President Jimenez-Sandoval commented from the survey parent scholars are asking for additional childcare.

b. Proposal revisions for consideration

c. Additional comments

d. Open Discussion and feedback

i. Faith Van Hoven, ASI President presented ASI Student Fee Memorandum.

John Fugatt concern is that this is a separate fee from the student body fee we are already charging.

Dr. Crowell commented she sees the need with more clubs since Covid times.

Recommendations / Concerns: None

Frederick Lisitsa, ASI Vice President feels with surveys conducted were sufficient.

John Fugatt commended the research that has been done on the additional proposed funding to ASI.

Dean Stevenson is in full support.

Torrance Carpenter, Student Representative commented got involved with ASI after not knowing about it but sees it as a positive for a source of funding.

Adam commented from the ASI side that he will see a lot of requests for student clubs for funding. For general feedback, it lines up with what he saw at Spotlight Event College Field Day.

President Jimenez-Sandoval will be meeting with John Fugatt and his team and will reconvene and schedule a meeting to present his decision.

Meeting adjourned 4:42 p.m.

Minutes taken by:

Juana Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant