WCU Tuition & Fee Committee
11/18/2019

☒ Sam Miller, Co-Chair  ☒ Alison Joseph
☒ David Rhode, Co-Chair  ☒ Kasson Mitchell
☒ Nancy Brendell  ☒ Trina Orr
☒ Colby Deitz  ☒ Donna Reynolds
☐ Amber Flowers  ☐ Alexis Rutishauser
☒ Roya Scales  ☒ Aaron Speyer
☒ Alison Joseph  ☒ Kasson Mitchell
☒ Trina Orr  ☒ Donna Reynolds
☐ Drew Thomas

- Minutes from 11/11/2018 meeting approved as submitted
- Reviewed Tuition and Fee Survey Results
  - Students were supportive of having their book rental fee increased as they see the value. How do we show students the value we provide in other areas as well?
  - MSAT Academic Fee most had no opinion on
  - Education increase, most were not supportive
  - Seems they don’t understand that they are going to pay the fee anyway
  - Bardo Arts Center Fee support was surprising
    - More opinionated on the stand-alone fee than the combined fee
  - Support for the Counseling Center?
    - Is that part of the Student Activity Fee?
      - No that is funded through the Health fee.
    - Several comments about CAPS
  - Several years ago, this section had a lot of comments on WiFi, now they are pretty much non-existent because of the work IT did
  - Other surprising areas?
  - Commuter responses compared to residential responses were very different
  - Several comments on debt
  - Residence hall rates were a resounding no
- Vote on proposed tuition and fees
  - Master of Science Athletic Training
    - Motioned
    - Seconded
    - Discussion
      - All graduate students saw the question; no cohort yet
      - From the presentation, we need to maintain our lead in this program
      - Pretty comparable with other programs of the same type
      - Vote – 8 Yay, 1 Nay, 0 Abstain
  - Student Activity Fee
    - Motioned
    - Seconded
    - Discussion
      - Student support is split down the middle
      - In the spirit of the whole debt aspect, it's a hard one; I see the value in it. Our Intramural Fields are tasked and our buildings are doing many
things. Why are we doing these things? Would like to see more data on UC renovations of who is giving feedback. Are we doing more than we need? How are we in line with other institutions? When we try to do everything, the focus is lost.

- **Is that because of lacking expansion opportunities?**
  - Yes, like the concept going on downstairs but do not like seeing students not being happy with it. Do not like seeing SGA attached to that when students don’t really like it.
  - $500,000 estimate came from Western and Facilities Management to complete.
  - $725,000 estimate based on market rate indices
  - $900,000+ is the actual contract
    - Not a fan of progressing with a project when funds aren’t available. Do not like closing an area and it not being utilized at all.

- **Wait until Facilities has time to finish other projects and do the project cheaper?**
  - Facilities will never have time to complete the project

- Intramural Fields – estimates are several years old and are $4-$5million

- Services and activities and personnel should probably be cut before we put more debt on students backs

- Trying to offer too much
  - Vote – 6 Yay, 3 Nay, 0 Abstain
    - Stand-alone Bardo Arts Center Fee
      - Motioned
      - Seconded
      - Discussion
    - What will happen if we don’t pass the stand-alone fee would we be able to submit the combined fee?
      - Don’t know

- Still surprised at the support

- **Did everyone see that question?**
  - Everyone but Distance

- Did the question mention that they would receive free entrance to events?
  - No

- Brevity of wording did help in the responses received

- Use our knowledge to determine what this means. At one other school the tuition and fee committee is completely students with one administrator.

- One question with 4 options
  - Supportive of stand alone
  - Supportive of combined
  - Not Supportive
**No Opinion**
- Not seeing a lot of creativity coming out of Bardo Arts Center. Could do more work on getting more people here
- Greenville is closer to us than it is to Atlanta
- After looking at Camp Lab changed my opinion on the Athletic Fee for the Track Team. Surprising after seeing the facility that track has performed as well as they have with what they have. Don’t know that Bardo has experienced that pressure to perform.
- Amazed when people don’t know where Cullowhee, NC is and there is a huge institution. We need to start working on explaining where we are, who we are, and what we do well.

- Vote – 6 Yay, 4 Nay, 0 Abstain

**Combined Bardo Arts Fee**
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Discussion
- Vote – 6 Yay, 4 Nay, 1 Abstain

**Athletics**
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Discussion
  - The fee is needed. Do not agree with how the fee is proposed to be used and the order it is going to be used for.
  - Football - indoor practice field is part of the proposal
  - Track Team desperately needs their facility restored
  - Supportive of the fee after seeing Camp Lab but needs to be pointed
  - The discussion was compelling but the question was asked about combining services and the response was “when your services are as good as our services” it changed my opinion on this fee. I don’t think it’s appropriate to say to a general student population
  - If student athletes were combined with general students that general students would care more about athletes and athletics. No one knows who are student athletes are because they are isolated and it breeds resentment.
  - Vote – 4 Yay, 6 Nay, 0 Abstain

**Recreational Therapy Program Fee**
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Discussion
  - Keep up the good work
  - Vote – 9 Yay, 1 Nay, 0 Abstain

**Teacher Education Course Fee Decrease**
- Motioned
- Seconded
## Discussion
- Lower than three times the $72 current course fee
- TK20 and background check originally attached to three courses and now attached to the program

- Vote – 10 Yay, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain

### Teacher Education Course Fee Increase
- Increase was for ITPA cost and stipend
- Student will have to pay ITPA fee out of pocket if not part of the fee
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Vote – 9 Yay, 1 Nay, 0 Abstain

### Residential Living Room Rates
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Discussion
  - Comments are interesting in the survey
  - More demographics on where they are currently living may have been interesting
  - I don’t see this being in line with the outside market. It is more expensive to live on campus. Could provide more on sustainable living over the summer. A 2.24% average increase across the board. The argument wasn’t made for me. Even with two buildings coming down and more going up. I don’t think we have issues with mold that other schools do.
  - Supplies, general operations etc. are still going up.
  - University signed new contract with Natural Science and was told savings would be passed along to the consumer. Not hearing that.

- Vote – 4 Yay, 6 Nay, 0 Abstain

### Meal Plans
- Motioned
- Seconded
- Discussion
  - Like that we are going to fewer meal plans; less confusing to students
  - Like that we are offering a cheaper plan to students; do not like packaging meal kits to students and trying to wrap them into a subscription service. Not packaged well.
  - Transparency is a concern.
  - Did not provide a good enough explanation. Thought they were going to provide them as a service to pick up on campus and not delivered. Not sure they explained that well.
  - After seeing the process online, you don’t get to pick your meals until the very end. Do not like the HomeChef Transparency. After witnessing things on the front lines of Aramark, I do not feel they are living up to the expectations our students have. They know how to do food they
aren’t doing it. Poor service across the board and I don’t think an overall increase is going to fix it.

- *If it fails here and at Board of Trustees what happens?*
  - Unsure, there will be a change but not sure how much.
    - Vote – 4 Yay, 6 Nay, 0 Abstain

- Book Rental
  - Motioned
  - Seconded
  - Vote – 10 Yay, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain

- Student Parking Rate Increase
  - Motioned
  - Seconded
  - Discussion
    - Students feel very strongly about parking. I know we have plans but overwhelming the student body is saying no.
    - *Because this fee is so segregated from other fees what would students like?*
      - Students see parking and they immediately say no. Can’t improve our current situation without charging fees.
    - People aren’t saying they want to reduce services they just want cheaper services.
    - Proposed inequality for the rate. Faculty and staff who are making money are more equitable. I don’t think having students on a different payment model than faculty and staff tells students that we value them. I like that they tell faculty and staff you are valued. Without students, there would be no faculty and staff positions.
      - Until employees get raises we are going to be hard pressed to make that case.
      - I get that you haven’t had raises but the cost of education is continually going up and the cost of living hasn’t increased at the same rate. LPR system isn’t being used to its capacity. CatTran can’t pick up students off campus if they are on the route because they don’t have a stop arm. No enforcement. Solution, make it an incentive for students not to want to bring their cars to campus. Environmental impacts etc.
    - *When is the parking dot supposed to be done?*
      - Having issues with the concrete and weather was heavily impacting. We are over the capacity for Jackson County.
        - Vote – 6 Yay, 4 Nay, 0 Abstain

- Would like to allow Kasson to vote on the first two even though it won’t change the outcome
  - Masters of Science – Athletic Training Differential and Student Activity fee vote will be updated (final table below)
- This is the last meeting; the committee will receive an email after the vote by the Board of Trustees
- Sam will work up a summary memo
- Executive Council presentation tomorrow

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