



## SENATE BILL #2713

**TITLE:** Creation of the ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Standing Committee

**DATE INTRODUCED:** October 6, 2020

**AUTHOR:** Vice President Titus and Chief of Legislative Affairs Swilling

**SPONSORS:** Senators Houghton and Wilkins; Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Madhyanam

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)
2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, student and programmatic fees are an extremely important source of revenue for
4. the University of Wyoming and for ASUW; and
5. WHEREAS, it is the duty of the ASUW to advocate for our fellow students and ensure that
6. their fee dollars are being spent wisely; and,
7. WHEREAS, in the past ASUW has accomplished this through two special committees: the
8. Programmatic Fee Review Committee and the Mandatory Student Fee and Tuition
9. Allocation Review Committee; and,
10. WHEREAS, this process has not been the most effective nor efficient manner of reviewing
11. students fees and making tuition allocation recommendations due to the split nature of the
12. committees; and,
13. WHEREAS, ASUW should serve as a vehicle for students to recommend new fees, assess
14. current fees, and educate the student body on these efforts; and,
15. WHEREAS, ASUW's student fee review process and tuition allocation recommendations
16. ought to include a more comprehensive report of student fee dollar expenditures and an
17. annual passage of legislation regarding a formal list of Student Success Priorities per the
18. Board of Trustee's Tuition Policy, referenced in Addendum B; and,
19. WHEREAS, the creation of a permanent standing committee dedicated to making tuition

20. allocation recommendations and reviewing fees would fulfill these purposes most efficiently  
21. and effectively.

22. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming

23. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the changes

24. outlined in Addendum A; and,

25. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these amendments take effect immediately upon

26. passage of this bill.

**Referred to:** Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning; Steering

**Date of Passage:** 10/13/2020 **Signed:** 

(ASUW Chairperson)

**“Being enacted on** 10/13/2020 **, I do hereby sign my name hereto and**

**approve this Senate action.”** 

**ASUW President**

## **Addendum A**

### **11. Standing Committees**

#### **G. The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee**

- a. Purpose: The committee shall serve as ASUW's oversight board for all university fees, including programmatic, advising, mandatory student and student services fees, as well as tuition dollars. This committee's purpose can be broken up as follows:
  - i. Assessment and recommendation of proposed mandatory student and programmatic fee increases:
    - a. Annual hearing of proposals from units requesting a fee increase with a subsequent recommendation made to the ASUW Senate through legislation and to university leadership.
  - ii. Annual report of all student dollars collected and their usage:
    - a. Conducting a comprehensive and detailed report of all units who collect student fees and their allocation of these fees. Accompanying outreach and education efforts.
  - iii. Outreach and education to the student body regarding tuition:
    - a. Annual outreach and education efforts in partnership with the President's office and the Office of Financial Affairs regarding the Board of Trustees' Tuition Policy and any possible increases.
  - iv. Student Success Priorities:
    - a. Annual creation and passage through the ASUW Senate of a list of Student Success Priorities per the Board of Trustees' Tuition Policy. Accompanying outreach and education efforts.
  - v. Overall assessment of students' needs for their fee dollars:
    - a. Consistent outreach and data collection efforts to the student body in order to assess the merits of new and current fees. This committee should aim to be aware of students' needs and assess whether these needs are being met by current fees and suggest new fees as necessary.
- b. Powers: The committee shall have the power to investigate all fees in a manner they deem appropriate in order to complete an annual report. The investigation may include, but is not limited to: hearing from representatives of University of Wyoming colleges, departments, and programs. The committee shall formulate appropriate feedback which may include recommended changes to any fees. Their recommendations shall be presented to the ASUW Senate in the form of legislation and shared with the appropriate university officials upon passage. The committee shall also hear mandatory fee increase requests from campus fee units and may recommend adjusting the requested fee, giving a vote of non-support for the request, or

endorsing the requested amount. The committee shall follow the same process for the tuition allocation recommendations for the Student Success Priorities. This committee will also conduct general outreach and education efforts to ensure students' needs are being met with current fees and to gather information to accurately assess the merits of new fees.

- c. Composition: The committee shall consist of a minimum of six (6) ASUW Senators, one (1) of whom shall serve as the co-chair alongside the ASUW Vice President and three (3) ASUW Students-at-Large, with at least one (1) being a First-Year Senator. The ASUW Vice President shall have the power to appoint executives to serve as ex-officios on the committee.
- H. Each standing committee shall establish regular meeting times. The regular meeting time and place shall be permanently posted in the ASUW Senate Office and on the ASUW website during the academic year.
- I. Each ASUW Standing Committee shall be responsible for any and all outreach it deems necessary within its jurisdiction.
- J. All standing committees shall endeavor to publicize in advance their meetings and the matters they may have under consideration. Any member of the ASUW shall be entitled to appear before any standing committee and be heard upon any pending matter or upon matters within the functions and duties of the committee under the same procedures as established for any ASUW member to appear before the ASUW Senate.

## 12. Special Committees

### ~~F. The ASUW Mandatory Student Fee and Tuition Allocation Review Committee~~

- a. ~~Purpose: The Committee shall serve as a means by which the ASUW Senate shall formulate recommendations on mandatory student fee requests from university fee units. The committee shall meet every fee year to hear and review the mandatory fee units' proposals with recommendations being made to the ASUW Senate. During the years in which fees are not adjusted, the committee shall meet to review the mandatory fee units' programs, budget, and use of fees to evaluate and prepare for the next year's mandatory student fee recommendations. Additionally, the committee will be charged with exploring any entity's requests and possible merits for new fees. The Committee shall meet to hear and review the university fee unit proposals/requests with a recommendation to be made to the ASUW Senate and Board of Trustees. It shall allocate half of the 4 percent of annual tuition increases to university fee units that it deems will make the most impact on student success.~~
- b. ~~Powers: The Committee shall hear mandatory fee requests from campus fee units and may recommend adjusting the requested fee, give a vote of non-support for the request, or endorse the requested amount for each fee unit. The Committee shall follow the same process for the allocation of tuition gathered for Student Success Priorities. It shall recommend the allocation of the funds to any university fee units that are determined to meet the~~

~~requirement of improving student success. The Committee shall draft legislation supporting a recommendation on a mandatory student fee package, or individual fees, and tuition allocation to the ASUW Senate for a vote.~~

- ~~c. Composition: The ASUW Mandatory Student Fee and Tuition Allocation Review Committee shall be composed of four (4) ASUW Senators, two (2) of which should be returning senators, and three (3) Students at Large appointed by the ASUW Vice President. The ASUW Vice President shall serve as chairperson of the committee.~~

~~H. ASUW Programmatic Fee Review Committee:~~

- ~~a. Purpose: The Committee shall serve as an oversight committee of programmatic fees. The committee shall meet at least one (1) time each academic semester and at least one (1) time during the summer. The Committee shall formulate feedback on programmatic fees to be provided to the Senate for debate before the University budget is passed each year. The Committee shall investigate programmatic fee expenditures and the status and success of advising at the University in order to provide appropriate feedback.~~
- ~~b. Powers: The Committee shall investigate programmatic fees in a manner they deem appropriate. The investigation may include, but is not limited to, hearing from representatives of University of Wyoming colleges, departments, and programs. The Committee shall formulate appropriate feedback which may include recommended changes to programmatic fees. This feedback shall be drafted into legislation, debated in the Senate, shared with students, and shared with University administration.~~
- ~~c. Composition: The ASUW Programmatic Fee Review Committee shall be composed of four (4) ASUW Senators, one (1) of which should be returning Senator if available and one (1) Senator shall be the appointed representative on the University Advising Council or the equivalent committee, and two (2) Students at Large appointed by the ASUW Vice President, one (1) of which shall be a First Year Senator. The ASUW Vice President or designee shall serve as chairperson of the committee.~~

## **Addendum B**

### **TUITION POLICY**

In order to give advance notice to all those affected by prospective tuition increases, the Board of Trustees (Board) adopts the following policy for tuition increases for Academic Year 2020 (FY2021) and later:

A. Unless modified under D or F below, annual tuition, other than programs with differential tuition, the Administration will recommend that tuition be increased by 4% for each academic year.

B. Annually, the Administration will submit recommendations regarding adjustments to differential tuition rates.

C. Revenue generated by the annual tuition increases will be distributed as follows:

2% – Salaries – To be applied first to the cost of mandatory salary increases for promoted faculty, and then second to the University's faculty and staff salary increase policy.

2% - Student Success Priorities – the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) and the Administration will establish priorities that are deemed most impactful or needed to enhance student success at the University of Wyoming, and will make recommendations to the Board to allocate funding accordingly.

Each year when the President submits her/his proposed annual operating budget for the University to the Board, the President shall also provide information to the Board regarding the allocation of the tuition increase funds and the specific unit budgets impacted.

D. The Administration may recommend modifications to the policy specified in Section A or the distribution thereof specified in Section C, but shall consult with students, faculty, and staff prior to submitting such recommendations, and shall make any such recommendations on or before the November meeting of the Board.

E. On or before the November meeting of the Board, the Administration shall provide information regarding the cost of attendance, and how UW's tuition and fee rates compare with peer universities.

F. The Board of Trustees may accept, reject, or modify any recommendation under Sections A and B and may take any action it determines regarding tuition rates and the distribution of revenue generated from modifications to tuition.

G. The Board shall review this policy:

- a. Not later than four years following its adoption; and
- b. Not later than four years following any subsequent review or modification to the policy.

Source: Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David N. Jewell