# Mandatory Fee Recommendations to President for Fiscal Year 2017
## From Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee

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The mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee met on Friday, January 31st to consider mandatory fee increase recommendations for the Transportation and Student Health Fees. No other areas requested changes in the fees. **NOTE**: Please see meeting minutes for comments from graduate students on recommendations.

### Transportation

**Recommendation**: Recommend to the Chancellor a $2 increase in the transportation fee to maintain the current service level. The Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend this level to the President, and the SGA survey indicated strong support for this increase.

**Fee Increase Request:** Parking and Transportation requested a **$5 (6.2%)** increase in fees, from $81 to $86 as follows:

| Increase | Reason | Committee Vote |
|---|---|---|
| $2 (2.5%) | Maintain Current Services | 12-0 in favor |
| $2 (2.5%) | New Express Route Between Tech Square and Clough | 8-4 vote FOR the increase, with graduate students voting against proposal |
| $1 (1.2%) | Stingerette Driver (Night-Time) | Not considered by committee |

**Student Support for Increases:** The results of a student survey conducted by the SGA are summarized below (see attachment):

- Maintain Current Service Levels ($2 increase): Undergraduate students indicated strong support (60%) for a fee increase to maintain current transportation service levels. Only 40% of graduate students supported an increase for this purpose, but 53% of all students supported this increase.
- Express Bus Service for the Trolley ($2 increase): Only half of undergraduate students and a quarter of graduate students supported this increase.
- Stingerette Driver ($1): Only a third of all student supported this increase.

**Fee Increase Justifications**

*Maintaining Current Service Levels ($2 increase):* The transportation fee has been held constant for four years at $81, with the last increase in Fiscal 2013 of $5 (6.6%) to improve nighttime service and student safety. For Fiscal 2016 and 2017 Transportation projects deficits of $3K and $155K, respectively. Transportation costs rose 5% in FY 15 and are projected to increase 16% and 7% in FY16 and FY17, respectively. The largest cost driver is contracted services, which represents nearly three-quarters of the $4.9 million budget. Contracted services costs are projected to increase by 18% in FY16. Continued freezing of the Transportation Fee cannot continue without a service decline.

**Selected Service Data**

|  | FY 15 Actual | FY16 Projected | FY17 Projected |
|---|---|---|---|
| Contract Rate Increase | 3.5% | 3.3% | 3.5% |
| Annual Vehicle Hours | 51,120 | 53,880 | 55,360 |
| Vehicle Hours % Increase over Previous Year |  | 5.4% | 2.7% |
| Contracted Services $ Increase | $193,395 | $541,357 | $272,928 |
| Contracted Services % Increase | 7.0% | **18.2%** | 7.8% |
| $ Contracted Services / Annual Vehicle Hour | $58.07 | $65.14 | $68.33 |
| Passenger Boardings* | 2,894,850 | 2,954,640 | 3,057,400 |

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*Breakdown of FY15 passenger boardings on fixed route service:

| | |
|---|---|
| Trolley weekday | 1,366,900 |
| Stinger – Red Line | 635,300 |
| Stinger – Blue Line | 549,700 |
| Stinger Green Line, Emory shuttle, other | 342,950 |
| **Total Boardings – Fixed Route Service** | **2,894,850** |

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## Student Health

**Recommendation**:  Recommend to the Chancellor a **$3 (1.9%)** increase in the Student Health fee to maintain the current service level and to cover positions focusing on students' mental health needs.  The SGA survey did NOT indicate strong support for this increase.  However, the way that Stamps originally presented their request made it difficult for the SGA to frame fair questions that represented the Health Center needs.

**Fee Increase Request:**  Student Health revised request was for a $6 (3.8%) increase in fees, from $160 to $166 as outlined below.  The department originally submitted the request for a $15 increase but later modified it to $6 on the day before the MSFAC meeting.

| Increase | Reason | Committee Vote |
|---|---|---|
| $1.50 (1%) | Fund two positions previously hired:<br>- Dietician<br>- Marketing/communications officer | Final vote stipulated that new fee revenue to be used for mental health priorities, to include the nutritionist and case managers (below). |
| $4.50 | Three case managers to expand mental healthcare at lower cost than a psychiatrist | 11-1 vote in favor of $3 increase to fund mental health efforts (negative vote based on low student support indicated in survey) |

**Student Support for Increases:**  The results of a student survey conducted by the SGA are summarized below (see attachment).  The questions had to be designed to fit the original $15 request from Student Health, so they are not as clear a choice as for the Transportation Fee.

- Maintain current service level:  Less than half of undergraduate and graduate students supported a $4 increase for this purpose.  More than one-half of graduate students indicated no support for any increase.
- New positions:  One third or less supported other fee increase options noted in survey.

**Fee Increase Justifications**

A recap of the Health Center request follows.

| | Request | | Cost | Fee Needed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Additional Position Funding | Dietician (additional 50%) | | $33,150 | $0.75 |
| | Marketing/Communications officer (additional 50%) | | $38,013 | $0.75 |
| | **Total** | **$71,163** | | **$1.50** |
| New Positions | Case manager | | $71,500 | $1.50 |
| | Case manager | | $71,500 | $1.50 |
| | Case manager | | $71,500 | $1.50 |
| | **Total** | **$214,500** | | **$4.50** |
| | **TOTAL** | **$285,663*** | | **$6.00** |

*Funding of Two Current Positions ($1.50 increase):*  Stamps requested $1.50 to cover two positions already hired:

- Marketing/communications officer who works on social media, printed documents, and website management (previous plan to share with BuzzCard center no longer in place);
- Dietician to address long waiting times for services; current position is half-time, and proposal would expand to full-time.

*Three Case Managers ($4.50 increase)*:  Add case managers to expand mental healthcare capacity without addition additional psychiatrists.  The new positions would address the growing workload, illustrated below: