

Meeting Summary
Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee
Friday, January 29, 2016
Student Center Room 301, 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

1. **Attendance** – All committee members were present or represented. Additional staff members were present per the attendance list on Attachment A.
2. **Review of Meeting Summary (December 2, 2015)** – The Committee reviewed the Meeting Summary from December 2, 2015, and it was approved by unanimous consent.
3. **Budget Update FY17** – Jim Kirk shared the latest information with the Committee members on the status of the University System of Georgia and Georgia Tech budget for FY2017.
4. **Consideration of Mandatory Fee Proposals for Fiscal Year 2017**

NOTE: Fee Participation Forms for all fees are attached (Attachment B).

- a. Vote on Fees not Recommended for Increases: Decker Onken made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Abrams, to recommend to the President that there be no increase in the following fees: Student Activity, Athletics, Recreation/Facility, and Technology. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Student Survey on Mandatory Fees (Attachment C): Decker Onken provided an overview of the survey provided to all undergraduate and graduate students regarding increases in the health and transportation fees. Marc Canellas reiterated the survey showed graduate student perspective was to keep fees low with limited or no increases, despite the anticipated continued reduction in the Special Institutional Fee.
- c. Auxiliary Reserves: Barbara Hanschke and Paul Strouts provided information on uses and a new opportunity for Auxiliary reserve balances. BOR Policy requires reserves in the amount of contract agreements. The new west campus facility requires \$24M in reserves but, based on a new lease with Sodexo, Auxiliary Services has the opportunity to make a 5% return on these reserves instead of keeping them in a money market account. This will be accomplished by pooling the cash from all Auxiliary operations to meet the reserve requirement and at the same time to increase interest earnings. This will have no impact on the reserves available to the various Auxiliary areas. A discussion and clarification on how GAAP adjustments affect reserves balances also occurred.
- d. Transportation Fee: Sherry Davidson and David Williamson provided an overview of the transportation fee and the proposed increases. The presentation was followed by a discussion on the challenges facing transportation services and how increase could help improve services.

Decker Onken presented a motion, seconded by Jennifer Abrams, to recommend to the President a \$2 increase in the fee to maintain current service levels without tapping reserves. The vote passed unanimously.

Anuraag Bahl made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Abrams, to recommend to the President an additional \$2 for the Tech Square Clough Commons express bus. The vote passed 8-4, with support from Undergraduate committee members and all faculty and staff. All four graduate students voted against the additional \$2 increase.

NOTE: See dissenting opinion on the second vote by the graduate students (Attachment D).

- e. Student Health Fee: Dr. Gregory Moore provided an updated presentation to the group to discuss the change from the original \$15 to a \$6 fee increase request, followed by a discussion regarding the new services requested from the fee. Discussions centered on concern regarding the state of mental health care for students and the desire to keep wait times for patients in need of help down. It was noted that while the student body voted against a fee increase to fund additional case managers.

Marc Canellas presented a motion, seconded by Jeff Losse, to recommend to the President a \$3 increase in the Student Health Fee, with the new revenue to be directed to expanding and improving mental health care to students. The motion passed 11 to 1, with only one dissenting vote. Decker Onken indicated that his reason for the dissenting vote which was based on the survey results, which indicated little support for this increase.

NOTE: See opinion of graduate students on the Student Health vote (Attachment E).

5. Student Activity Fee (Tier I Budget Process) – The Committee reviewed and confirmed Tier I budget time line and indicated that firm dates for the review will be provided.
6. Adjourned – The committee adjourned. The next meeting date to consider Tier I budgets will be announced.

Attachment A – Attendance List

MSFAC MEETING ATTENDANCE FISCAL 2016 COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FISCAL 2017 FEES Friday, January 29, 2016	
Member	Attendance
<u>Students (8 members)</u>	
Jennifer Abrams, Undergraduate Student Body President (UG)	Present
Anuraag Bahl, Vice President of Campus Services (UG)	Present
Decker Onken, Vice President of Finance (UG)	Present
Jefferson Losse, Executive Vice President (UG)	Present
Marc Canellas, Graduate Student Body President (G)	Present
Matthew Miller, Executive Vice President (G)	Present
Joy Kimmel, Treasurer (G)	Present
Thomas Gable, Vice President of Academic Affairs (G)	Present
<u>Faculty and Staff (4 members including 2 faculty and the Budget Director)</u>	
Jim Kirk, Exec Dir-Inst. Budget Planning & Administration (Co-Chair, MSFAC)	Present
<i>John Leonard - attending on behalf of</i> Laurence Jacobs, Associate Dean, College of Engineering	Present
<i>Steven Girardot - attending on behalf of</i> Colin Potts, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education	Present
Stephanie Curry, Financial Mgr II, College of Sciences	Present
<u>Support to Committee:</u>	
Michael Cox, Institute Finance Support Team	

<p><u>Other Student and Staff in Attendance:</u></p> <p>Edo Diabaka, Betsey Kidwell, John Scuderi, Gregory Moore, Sherry Davidson, David Moore Lindsay Bryant, Ninh Tran, Rich Steele, Suzy Harrington, John Stein, Sandi Bramblett, Perry Kchao, Tamara Lyons, Michael Edwards, Robert Junko, Marvin Lewis, Dan Taylor, David Williamson</p>
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Attachment B – BOR Fee Participation Forms



Mandatory Student Fee Participation Form

In January 2010, the Board of Regents amended Section 7.3.2.1 of the Policy Manual to expand student involvement in the review of mandatory student fees. According to the amended policy:

Proposals submitted by an institution to increase mandatory student fees and proposals to create new mandatory student fees shall first be presented for advice and counsel to a committee at each institution composed of at least fifty percent (50%) students, except in special circumstances when a general purpose fee is instituted system-wide by the Board of Regents. The committee shall include at least four students, who shall be appointed by the institution's student government association. Institutions and student government associations should make a concerted effort to include broad representation among the students appointed to the committee.

All mandatory student fees collected by an institution shall be budgeted and administered by the president using proper administrative procedures, which shall include the advice and counsel of an advisory committee composed at least fifty percent (50%) students, except in special circumstances when a general purpose fee is instituted system-wide by the Board of Regents. The committee shall include at least four students, who shall be appointed by the institution's student government association. Institutions and student government associations should make a concerted effort to include broad representation among the students appointed to the committee.

Mandatory student fees shall be used exclusively to support the institution's mission to enrich the educational, institutional, and cultural experience of students. All payments from funds supported by student mandatory fees shall be made according to approved business procedures and the appropriate business practices of the institution.

The policy, therefore, requires that:

- (1) The mandatory student fee request and budget for all mandatory student fees must be presented to an institutional committee.
- (2) 50% of the committee shall be students appointed by the student government association (minimum of four students).
- (3) The institutional committee shall serve in an advisory and counseling capacity.
- (4) Approval of the committee is NOT required for review of the fee request by the Board of Regents Central Office. However, no fee request will be reviewed without a completed and signed form.

Please complete this form for all mandatory student fees.

Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Transportation				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount \$83	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee			
		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount \$2				
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
2	Anuraag Bahl	Student	✓			
3	Decker Onken	Student	✓			
4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
5	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
6	Matthew Miller	Student	✓			
7	Joy Kimmel	Student	✓			
8	Thomas Gable	Student	✓			
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
10	Steven Giradot - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
11	John Leonard - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
12	Stephanie Curry	Staff	✓			
Total			12	0		

Signed: Committee Chair

Date

Chief Business Officer

Date



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Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount \$85	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee			
		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount \$4				
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
2	Anuraag Bahl	Student	✓			
3	Decker Onken	Student	✓			
4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
5	Marc Canellas	Student		✓		
6	Matthew Miller	Student		✓		
7	Joy Kimmel	Student		✓		
8	Thomas Gable	Student		✓		
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
10	Steven Giradot - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
11	John Leonard - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
12	Stephanie Curry	Staff	✓			
		Total	8	4		

Signed: *Committee Chair*

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Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Technology				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease		New Fee Amount	\$ 107	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount	\$ 0			
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016			Vote Results	
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
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4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
5	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
6	Matthew Miller	Student	✓			
7	Joy Kimmel	Student	✓			
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9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
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		Total	12			

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Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Student Activity Fee				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount \$ 123	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee			
		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount \$ 0				
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
2	Anuraag Bahl	Student	✓			
3	Decker Onken	Student	✓			
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5	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
6	Matthew Miller	Student	✓			
7	Joy Kimmel	Student	✓			
8	Thomas Gable	Student	✓			
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
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Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Recreation Facility Fee				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount	\$54	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee		
		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount	\$0			
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
2	Anuraag Bahl	Student	✓			
3	Decker Onken	Student	✓			
4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
5	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
6	Matthew Miller	Student	✓			
7	Joy Kimmel	Student	✓			
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Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Health Services				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount	\$ 163	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee		
		Fee Inc./Dec.) Amount	\$ 3			
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
2	Anuraag Bahl	Student	✓			
3	Decker Onken	Student		✓		
4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
5	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
6	Matthew Miller	Student	✓			
7	Joy Kimmel	Student	✓			
8	Thomas Gable	Student	✓			
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
10	Steven Giradot - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
11	John Leonard - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
12	Stephanie Curry	Staff	✓			
Total			11	1		

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Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Athletics				
Select Action: <input type="checkbox"/> New Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease		New Fee Amount	\$ 127	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		Fee Inc./Dec. Amount	\$ 0			
Committee Name: Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee		Vote Date: 1/29/2016			Vote Results	
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Jennifer Abrams	Student	✓			
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4	Jefferson Losse	Student	✓			
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9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
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11	John Leonard - Alternate	Faculty	✓			
12	Stephanie Curry	Staff	✓			
		Total	12			

Signed: *Committee Chair*

Date

Chief Business Officer

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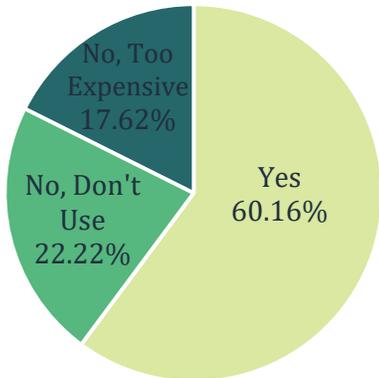
Attachment C – Student Survey on Mandatory Fees

Transportation Fee Survey

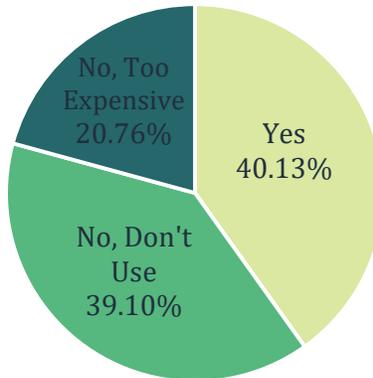
This survey was made available to all current students (undergraduate and graduate) through the elections.gatech.edu site from January 23rd to January 28th. 3087 undergraduate and 1652 graduate students responded, representing a 21.89% and 16.83% turnout, respectively, based on Spring 2016 enrollment figures provided by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning as of January 28th, 2016.

Would you support a \$2 increase in the Transportation Fee to maintain the current level of service?

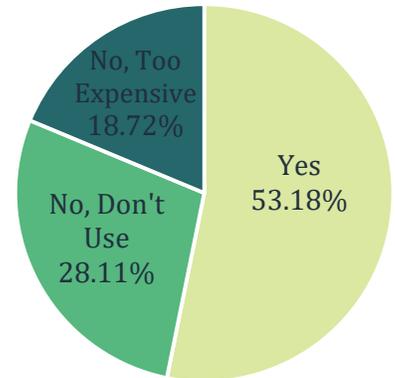
Undergraduate



Graduate

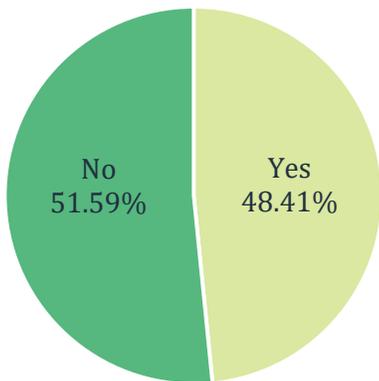


Total

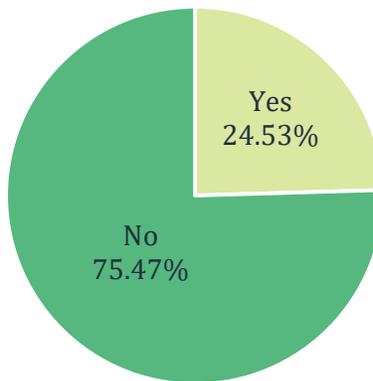


Would you support a \$2 increase in the Transportation Fee to add an Express Bus between Clough and Tech Square?

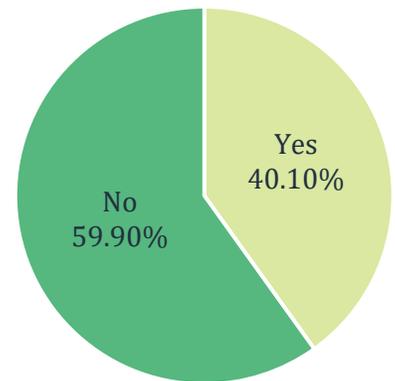
Undergraduate



Graduate

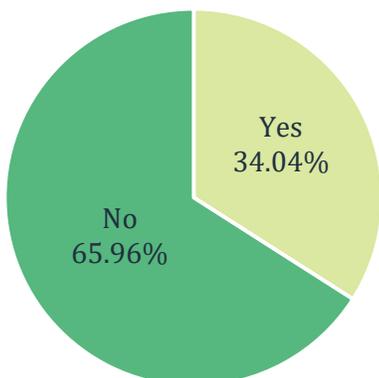


Total

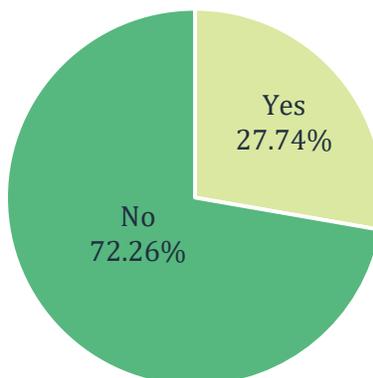


Would you support a \$1 increase in the Transportation Fee to add an additional Stingerette driver?

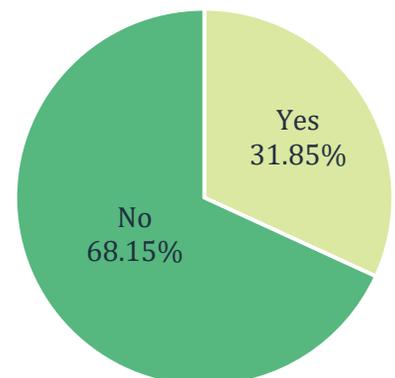
Undergraduate



Graduate



Total

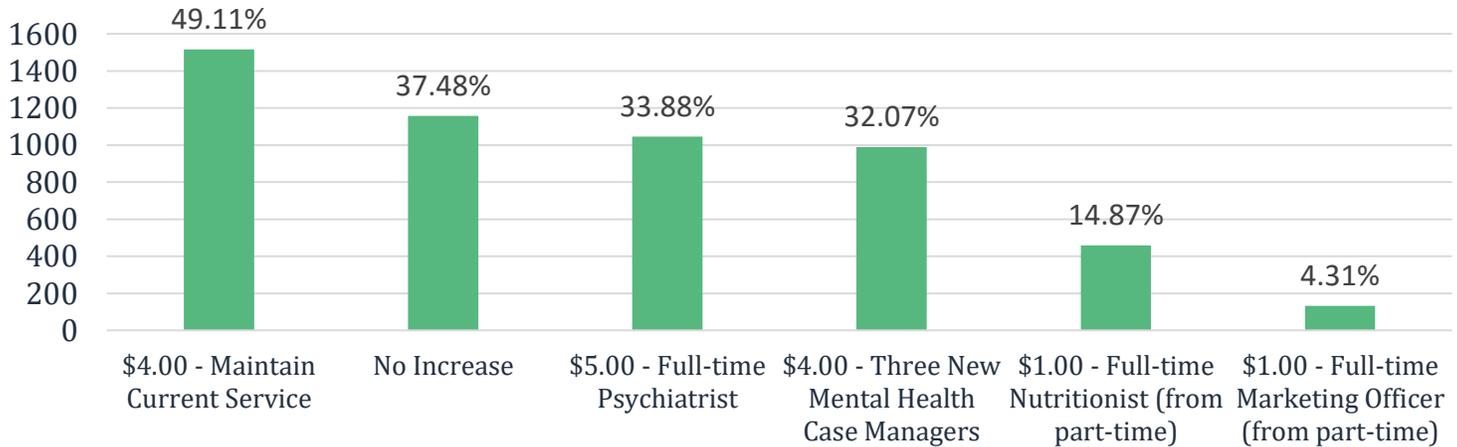


Student Health Fee Survey

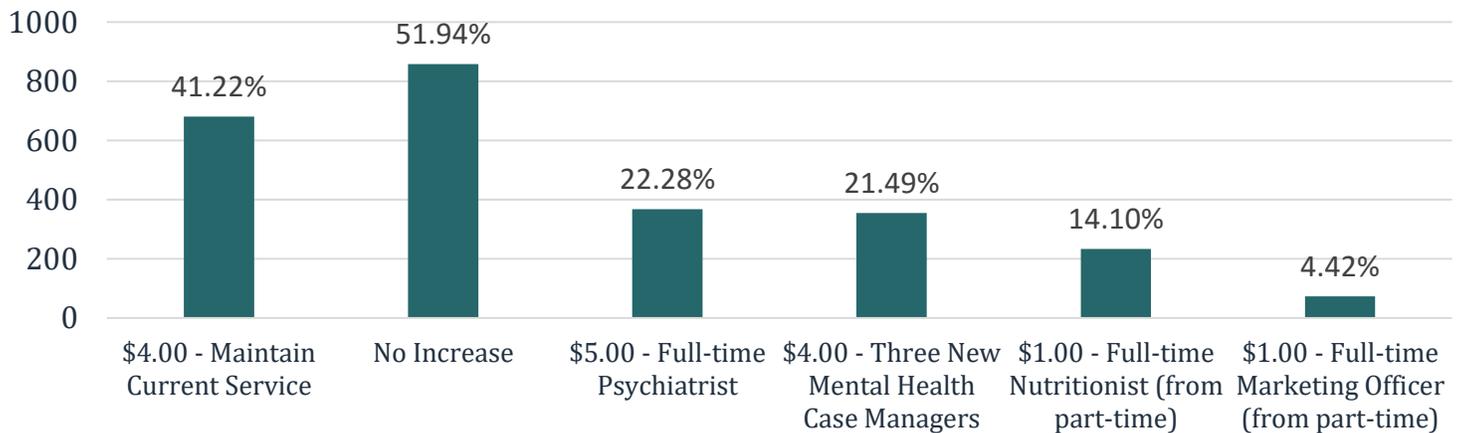
This survey was made available to all current students (undergraduate and graduate) through the elections.gatech.edu site from January 23rd to January 28th. 3087 undergraduate and 1652 graduate students responded, representing a 21.89% and 16.83% turnout, respectively, based on Spring 2016 enrollment figures provided by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning as of January 28th, 2016.

Please select the increases in the Student Health Fee that you would support. Select up to 5 answer choices.

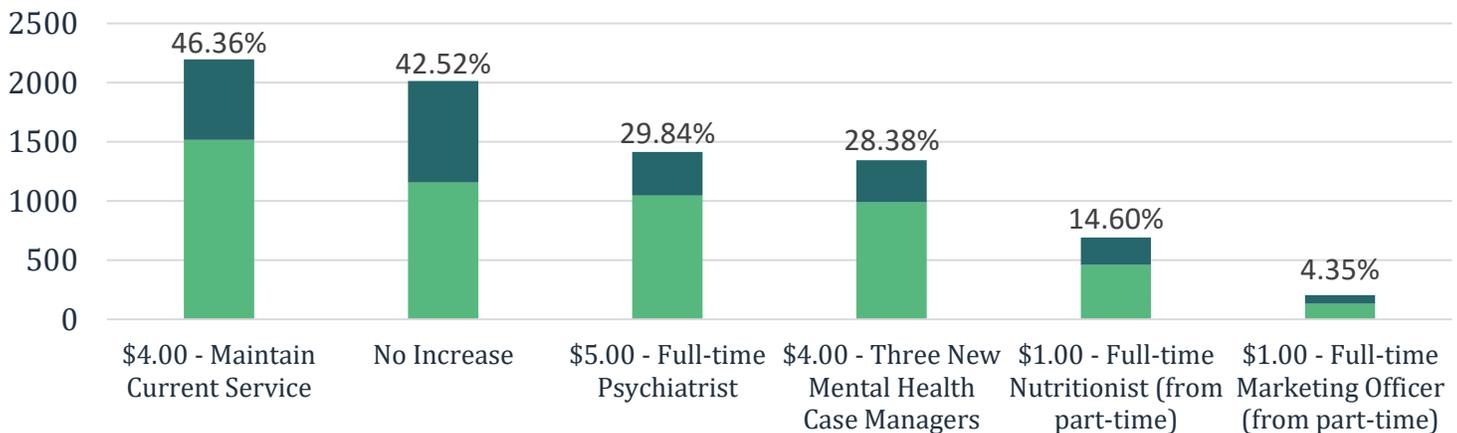
Undergraduate



Graduate



Total



Attachment D

Dissenting Opinion Against the \$1 Transportation Fee for an Express Bus

Written by Marc Canellas, President Grad SGA, on behalf of the 4 graduate students who voted against the transportation increase for the Express Bus: Marc Canellas, Matthew Miller, Joy Kimmel, and Thom Gable.

We disagree with the majority's opinion to request an increase the FY2017 Transportation Fee by \$1 per semester for an Express Bus Route to provide transportation between the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons (CULC) and Tech Square. Our reason for disagreeing is not because we do not think that ideally an Express Bus Route would be helpful for graduate students who need quick transportation between the two locations and who would benefit from alleviation of the congested current bus transportation route. We disagree because we do not believe that this request meets the objective of right sizing mandatory student fee supported programs based on current enrollment levels nor making the necessary adjustments to stay within budget, as stated Chancellor Huckaby regarding in his letter regarding mandatory fee increases received on September 2, 2015.

We specifically find two faults with the majority's request for an Express Bus Route:

1. Decreasing the time of transportation between the two locations is not a necessary service but a convenience service: There is no significant positive impact on the health, safety, or academics of Institute should this request be accepted. Conversely, supposing that the majority's request is denied, the worst outcome is that some members of the Georgia Tech community would be required to wait longer for buses between the two locations or walk/bike instead of taking a bus.
2. Alternative methods can and should be explored before committing to an Express Bus Route: The main argument for an Express Bus Route is that students have trouble traveling between classes in the two locations during the 10 minute passing period between classes without being late. We have two rebuttals to this argument:
 - a. No data was provided as to the percentage of students who have back-to-back classes in the two locations. We are not confident that a significant percentage of students would actually require this express transportation. We are also unsure of how much of the 25% of graduate students surveyed who supported the Express Bus Route were doing so because of class concerns or simply to increase convenience of travel.
 - b. The problem of the 10 minute passing period is already being examined by Institute-wide committees. One option currently being evaluated include a 15 minute passing period which would likely make the main justification for the Express Bus Route irrelevant.

Given these two faults and Chancellor Huckaby's guidance on mandatory student fee requests, we do not believe the majority's request for an increase in the Transportation Fee for an Express Bus Route should be implemented.

Attachment E

Majority Opinion in Support of the \$3 Increase in the Health Services Fee

Written by Marc Canellas, President Grad SGA, on behalf of the 7 students who voted for the Health Services Fee increase for the mental health services: Marc Canellas, Matthew Miller, Joy Kimmel, Thom Gable, Jen Abrams, Anuraag Bahl, and Jeff Losse.

We support a \$3 per semester increase for the FY2017 Health Services Fee toward increasing the quality of Georgia Tech's mental health services. This opinion represents the support of a majority of the students on MSFAC: 3 undergraduates and 4 graduate students out of 8 students. While this vote does request an increase in a fee for FY2017, we believe that this request meets the objective of right sizing mandatory student fee supported programs based on current enrollment levels, as stated Chancellor Huckaby regarding in his letter regarding mandatory fee increases received on September 2, 2015. Specifically this request will help move Georgia Tech towards a mental health program that adequately fits the needs of a student population whose size and stress levels have far exceeded the recent increases in the Health Services Fee.

Mental health has become one of the most important topics at Georgia Tech and across higher education institutions across the country. Georgia Tech's *2015 Undergraduate Student Experience Survey* showed that student stress level was at concerning level. This topic was so important the Provost of Georgia Tech, Dr. Rafael Bras, initiated a Task Force on the Learning Environment to assess the nature of the academic culture and suggest new policies, strategies, and tools to address them. Importantly, graduate students are not immune to mental health issues. The well-known 2014 survey of the graduate population at the University of California, Berkeley, entitled the *Graduate Student Happiness and Well-Being Report*, reported that about 47% of Ph.D. students and 37% of Master's and Professional students surveyed scored as depressed. Georgia Tech is currently conducting the *Graduate Student Experience Survey* to better understand our graduate population.

Given these major issues facing our student populations we believe that the benefits of this \$3 per semester fee for those that may need the mental health services outweighed the monetary costs for those that may never use mental health services. We acknowledge that 37% of undergraduates surveyed and 52% of graduate students surveyed requested no increase in the fee. Our deviation from their request is based on our belief that this fee increase will provide the greatest benefit for those in greatest need.