

# Student Activity Fee

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Mandatory Student Fee Presentation  
Fiscal Year 2022 Request

# Long Story Short.

1. 10,000-foot view of SAF

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2. Where the fee goes

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3. RSO Policy

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4. FY22 Request
  - Benefits & Impacts
  - Expansion
  - Historic View

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5. Increase, Unmoving or Decrease



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# \$40 Per Semester.

\$1.7 - \$1.9 million generated each fiscal year



**Student Organizations**

Annual Budget Process:  
\$1.6 Million

Supplemental Funding  
Process:  
\$0.95 Million

SCPC, ORGT, Student  
Publications, Club Sports,  
Competitive Engineering, and  
so many more



**Professional Development**

Annual Allocation:  
\$130,000

Two Funds:  
Conference Fund & Career  
Development Fund

Graduates and  
Undergraduates, \$250 per  
student per year



**Mental Health Initiatives**

Current Allocation:  
\$350,000

Separate Allocation Process  
and Criteria

WellTrack App, Intercollegiate  
Mental Health Conference,  
Prevention Programs, and  
more

# Brand-New Policy.

As of August of this year the Student Activity Fee is now being allocated under the Registered Student Organization Policy at the Institute level and no longer at the SGA level.



Shift in Procedures,  
Expanded Access



Massive Reduction  
in Liability



More accountability  
across the board



Stronger basis and  
enforcement

# Fiscal Year 2022 Fee Request.

\$10 Increase per Semester

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\$50 Total per Semester

# Fundamental Impacts.

- Direct Community Building
- Professional Development
- Expansion Outside of Classroom
- Traditions
- Mental Health
- Alumni Support

# Immediate Effects.

These benefits are seen instantaneously when the Student Activity Fee is allocated through the various modes of disbursement. Additional examples and sources are included in the attached in supporting documentation.

## Community Building

- Provides outlets, inclusive spaces, social opportunities, & gets students active
- Enriches the college experience
- Helps Tech to be Tech

## Professional Development

- Funds to conferences & professional competitions
- Resume building with proven impacts
- Training ground for professional life & ability to build/prove skills

## Applications of Education

- Hands-on enactment of lessons
- Competitive Engineering teams, Student Publications, etc.
- Provides better understanding of concepts

## Expansion Beyond Classroom

- Greatly broadens students' horizons
- Permits the pursuit of hobbies & possible interests
- Soft skills generation with management & collaboration

# Gradual Effects.

These benefits are seen overtime but can be tracked back to the activities and opportunities supported by the Student Activity Fee. Additional examples and sources are included in the attached in supporting documentation.

## Support & Growth of Traditions

- Funds traditions: Midnight Breakfast, Night at the Aquarium, and more
- Supports Homecoming and Sting Break events
- Encourages RSOs to start new ones

## Improvements to Mental Health

- Funding directly provides sense of belonging to students
- Initiatives are supported to further betterment of Mental Health
- Supports outlets for stress

## Increase Alumni Support

- Provides points of engagement & involvement
- Studies found increased support from students who were involved
- GT Alumni Association shifting model

# Sizable Developments.

- Growing Number of Organizations

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- Increasing Number of Requests

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- Higher Costs Overall

# Growing Number of Student Organizations.

In the past three years there have been almost 100 new student organizations appearing on-campus – increasing the vibrancy and diversity. The new RSO Policy has helped spur this growth.

**528**

Student Organizations  
(as of start of this FY)

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**28**

Organizations Registered  
to Charter

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**13**

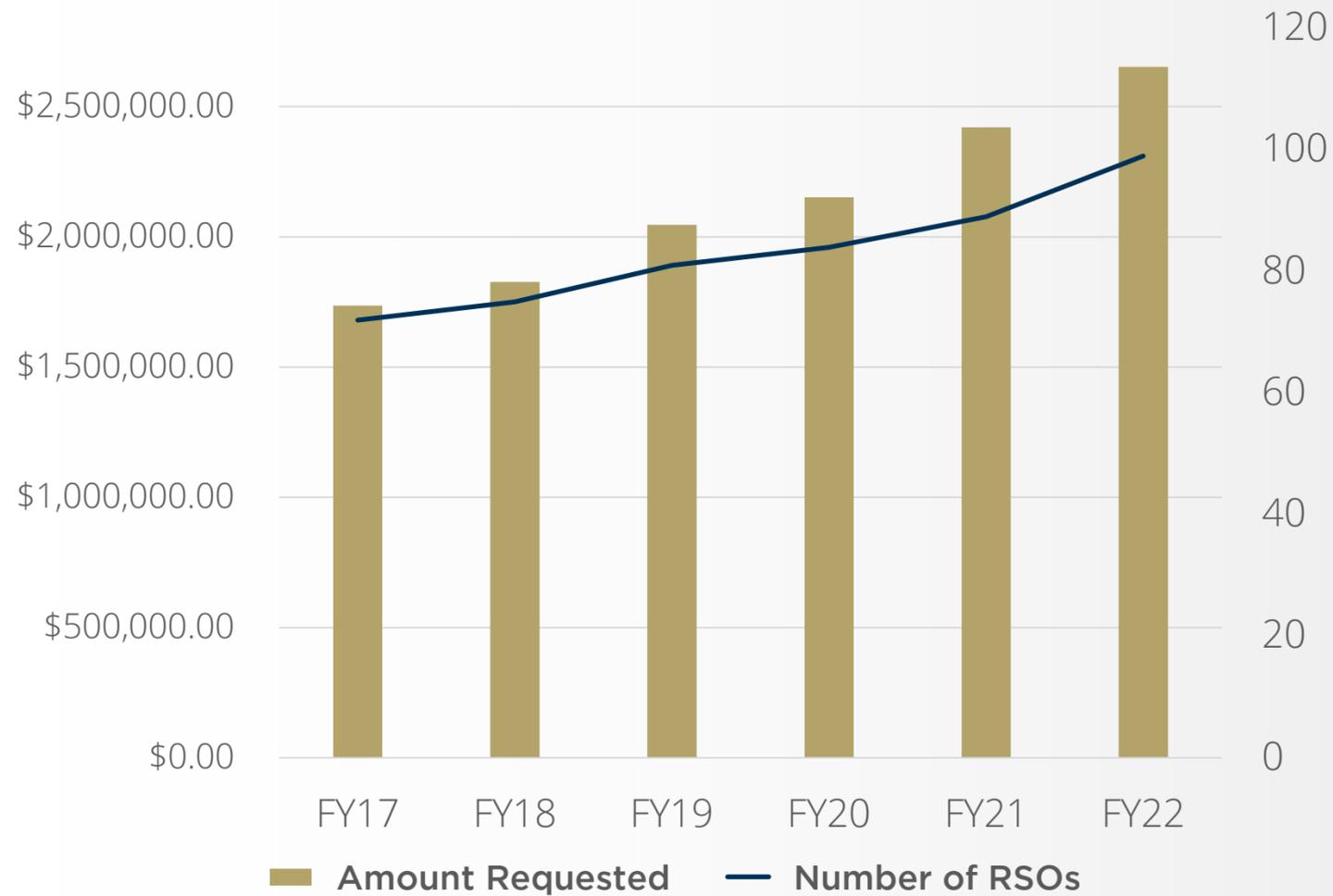
Actively Chartering  
Organizations

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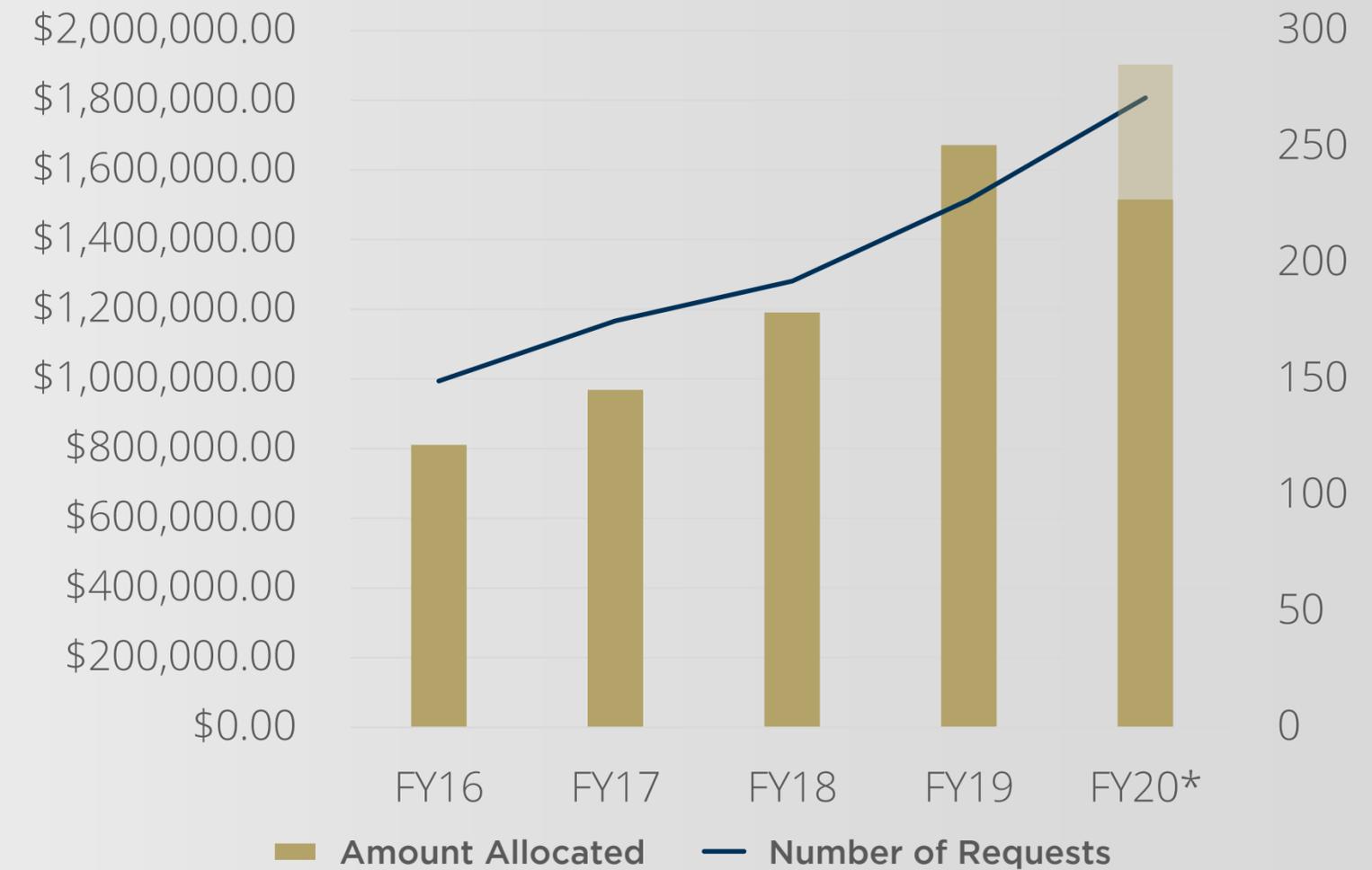
# Increasing Requests.

In the past 5-6 fiscal years, the Student Activity Fee has seen growth not only in the amount being requested but the number of organizations requesting funds.

Annual Budget Request Overtime



Annual Supplemental Requests Overtime



\* Projection of Supplemental Amount Allocated without COVID. Interpolation, 95% Confidence Interval

# Under pressure to Stay Competitive.

While the diversity on-campus organizations and opportunities increase two sectors centered on competition are growing at a rapid pace. These sectors put GT on the map in some case and act as major drawing factors for new students.

## Club Sports

**17.87%**  
5-year Funding Annual Growth

- Registration costs trending upwards – 2% to 5% growth per event per year
- Equipment and venue rental increasing in cost – inflation and current economic impact

## Competitive Engineering

**24.21%**  
5-year Funding Annual Growth

- Equipment, raw materials, and components are much more expensive
- Teams are growing in membership and level of competitions
- Major selling point for GT

# Unmoving Fee.

- Long-term Stagnation

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- Growth to Expenditures

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- Impact on Reserves

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- Singular Point of Revenue

# Complete Stagnation.

The Student Activity Fee has not changed for ten fiscal years. It should be noted that in FY18 the fee split into three to result in the Student Activity Fee we have today as well as the Student Center and Campus Recreation Fee.



# Identical Movement With Enrollment.

As fee paying enrollment grows so does expenditure growth. The Student Activity Fee is attempting to support a student body that needs additional resources than what is available.



# Detrimental Impact on Reserves.

Due to the increase in costs and expansion of Georgia Tech's student communities and organizations the Net Assets Reserves have been used to support the fee.

**-12.98%**

Average Annual Reserve Shrinkage in the Past Three Fiscal Years

- FY21 projected to have a slight surplus due to COVID and reduction of activities
- Confidently expecting expense trends prior to FY20 to continue
- Several large capital expenditures of around \$250,000 from organizations were simply put-on hold
- New RSO Policy and looking beyond COVID opens the SAF to higher than ever seen expenditures

# Only Revenue Stream.

The Student Activity Fee plays a shared role in the campus funding ecosystem but is the only point of revenue for several key areas.

Heavily funds and supports the Student Organization Finance Office

- Incredible amount of work needed to maintain student organization funding and payment beyond SAF
  - Strained operational model as it stands
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Further supports the Center of Student Engagement

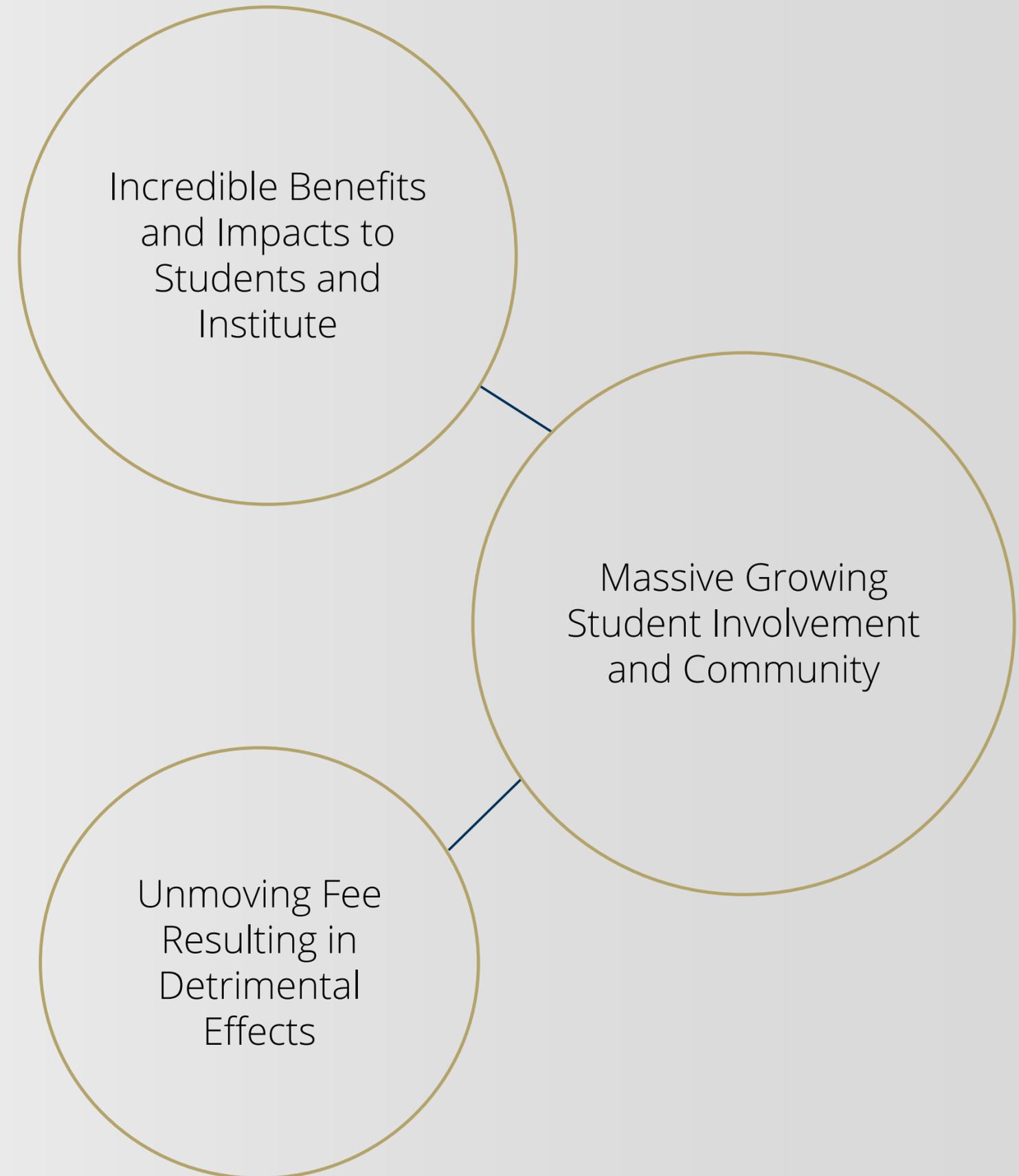
- Directly supports student organizations and resource to groups trying to charter
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Restricted on revenue creation directions/possibilities by USG policy

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Main point of funding for many RSOs and students on-campus

# Summation.



# Fiscal Year 2022 Fee Request.

\$10 Increase per Semester

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\$50 Total per Semester

# Alternate Scenarios.

Playing out the instances where the Student Activity Fee is increased to the level requested verses increased to half of the level requested for FY22.

## \$10 increase

- No shut down of the supplemental funding process
- RSO Budgets would only be cut to meet the funding policy
- Increase to professional development funds would be possible
- No reduction to staff position funding
- No need to pull from capital reserves

## \$5 increase

- Shut down of supplemental funding process during FY24
- RSO Budgets would see a 15%-20% reduction
- Stagnation of professional development funds level
- Slight increase in restrictions for travel and events for all RSOs
- Projected ~\$200,000 FY22 budget deficit overall

# No Change to the Fee Scenario.

If nothing were to happen to the Student Activity Fee, increase or decrease, these are the projected impacts based on the current standing and health of the fee.



Shutdown of Supplemental Funding Process in January/February of FY23



Currently projecting 35%-40% reduction to all RSO Budgets



Reduction of Mental Health Initiatives and Career Development funds



Drastic reduction in allowable expenses for student organizations



Preliminary estimated ~\$400,000 FY22 budget deficit overall

# Reduction Scenarios.

Playing out the instances where the Student Activity Fee is reduced in some way, neither lead to beneficial outcomes for student or the Institute.

## \$5 reduction

- Shut down of supplemental funding process mid-FY22
- RSO Budgets would see a 50% expected reduction
- Reduce professional development funds by at least 30%
- Increase restrictions on travel, hard cap on all events, and introduce harsh cuts to departmental supported student groups
- Possible reduction to staff position funding
- Possible pull from capital reserves

## \$10 reduction

- Shut down of supplemental funding process for almost all of FY22
- RSO Budgets would see a 60%-70% reduction
- Reduce professional development funds by at least 50%
- Cut off funding for all departmentally supported groups
- Switch from a prohibited allocation model to acceptable allocation model - greatly reducing all allocations
- Reductions to staff position funding
- Pull from capital reserves



**Community**

**Growth**

**Experiences**

**Involvement**

**Opportunity**





# Questions?

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