

Meeting Summary
Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee
Friday, January 16, 2015
Student Center Peachtree Room, 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

1. Attendance – All committee members were present or represented with the exception of Brian Shin, who submitted a vote on the for Transportation Fee via e-mail (Attachment 1). Additional student and staff members were present per the attendance list on the last page.
2. Review of Meeting Summary – December 08, 2014 – The Committee reviewed the Meeting Summary from the December 08, 2014, and it was approved by unanimous consent.
3. Budget Update FY16 – Jim Kirk shared the latest information with the Committee members on the status of the Georgia Tech budget for FY2016.
4. Student Input on Fees – The Graduate SGA conducted a survey of graduate students regarding fees. As summary of the results of the survey is contained in Attachment 3 as part of the dissenting opinion on the Transportation Fee vote.
5. Consideration of Motions on FY2016 Mandatory Fee Requests (see attached voting forms)

Dillon Roseen made a single motion, by Laura Burbach, to recommend to the President the following for the Student Activity and Technology Fees:

- Student Activity – Maintain the fee at the current \$123 per semester.
- Technology Fee – Maintain the fee at the current \$107 per semester.

The Committee voted to approve the motion by a vote of 11 to 0, with one member absent.

Dillon Roseen made a motion, seconded by Laura Burbach, to recommend to the President an increase in the Transportation Fee by \$3 per semester, from \$81 to \$84. The Committee voted to approve the motion by a vote of 9 to 3. Justin Eisenberg submitted on behalf of the three graduate students a dissenting opinion to accompany their vote against the proposed increase (Attachment 3).

6. Other Business and Adjournment

With no other business, the committee was adjourned.

Submitted by Jim Kirk
January 29, 2015; Amended March 1, 2015

Attachments:

1. Attendance List
2. Voting Forms
3. Recap of Graduate Student Survey on Fees

Attachment 1 – Attendance List

MSFAC MEETING ATTENDANCE	
Friday, January 16, 2015	
Member	Attendance
<u>Students (8 members)</u>	
Laura Margaret Burbach, (U) Vice President of Academic Affairs, SGA	Present
Justin Eisenberg, (U) Vice President of Campus Organizations, SGA	Present
Macie Whatley, (U) Vice President of Communications, SGA	Present
Brian Shin, (U) Vice President of Finance	Absent (Trans vote by e-mail)
Dillon Roseen, (U) Undergraduate Student Body President	Present
Johnathan Lyon, (G) Graduate President, SGA	Present
Daegene Koh (D.K.), (G) Graduate Executive VP, SGA	Present
Marc Canellas, (G) Graduate VP of Communications, SGA	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
Carla Zachery, Sr. Dir-Business Operations, Scheller College of Business	Present
<i>Steven Girardot - attending on behalf of</i> Colin Potts, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education	Present
<i>Emily Howell - attending on behalf of</i> Laurence Jacobs, Associate Dean, College of Engineering	Present
<u>Support to Committee:</u>	
Dan Taylor, Tina Clonts, Institute Budget Planning and Administration	
<u>Other Students and Staff in Attendance:</u>	
Ahmed Said Issa, John Scuderi, Marvin Lewis, David Williamson, Sherry Davidson, Barbara Hanschke, Paul Strouts, Tamara Lyons, Ninh Tran.	

Attachment 2 – Voting 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 type="checkbox"/> Fee Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> No Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)		New Fee Amount \$ <u>84.94</u> Fee Inc./Dec.) Amount \$ <u>0.00</u> <u>33</u> <u>92</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee			
Committee Name:		Vote Date:		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Laura Margaret Burback	Student	✓			
2	Justin Eisenberg	Student	✓			
3	Macle Whatley	Student	✓			
4	Brian Shin <i>* VOTED VIT NEXT MURS</i>	Student	✓			
5	Dillon Roseen	Student	✓			
6	Johnathan Lyon	Student			✓	
7	Daegene Koh (D.K.)	Student			✓	
8	Marc Canellas	Student			✓	
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
10	Travis Chambers on behalf of Carla Zachery	Staff	✓			
11	Steven Girardot on behalf of Colin Potts	Faculty	✓			
12	Emily Howell on behalf of Laurence Jacobs	Faculty	✓			
Total			9	3		
<i>Justin</i> Signed: <i>Justin</i> Committee Chair		Date: <i>11/16/2015</i>		Chief Business Officer: <i>Justin</i> Date: <i>1.26.15</i>		



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Please complete this form for all mandatory student fees.

Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Technology 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: \$ 107.00 Fee Inc./Dec. Amount: \$ 0.00		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee		
Committee Name:		Vote Date:		Vote Results		
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Laura Margaret Burback	Student	✓			
2	Justin Eisenberg	Student	✓			
3	Macle Whatley	Student	✓			
4	Brian Shin	Student				✓
5	Dillon Roseen	Student	✓			
6	Johnathan Lyon	Student	✓			
7	Daegene Koh (D.K.)	Student	✓			
8	Marc Canellas	Student	✓			
9	Jim Kirk	Staff	✓			
10	Travis Chambers on behalf of Carla Zazhery	Staff	✓			
11	Steven Girardot on behalf of Colin Potts	Faculty	✓			
12	Emily Howell on behalf of Laurence Jacobs	Faculty	✓			
		Total	11			1
Signed: <i>[Signature]</i> Committee Chair		Date: 1/16/2015 Chief Business Officer		Date: 1-23-15		



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Please complete this form for all mandatory student fees.

Institution: Georgia Institute of Technology		Name of Mandatory Fee: Student Activity					
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	\$ 125.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Reviewed by Committee			
		Fee Inc./Dec.) Amount	\$ 0.00				
Committee Name:		Vote Date:		Vote Results			
	Name of Committee member	Affiliation (Faculty, Staff, Student)		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
1	Laura Margaret Burback (U)	Student		✓			
2	Justin Eisenberg (U)	Student		✓			
3	Macie Whatley (U)	Student		✓			
4	Brian Shin (U)	Student					✓
5	Dillon Roseen (U)	Student		✓			
6	Johnathan Lyon (G)	Student		✓			
7	Daegene Koh (D.K.) ((G)	Student		✓			
8	Marc Canellas (G)	Student		✓			
9	Jim Kirk	Staff		✓			
10	Travis Chambers on behalf of Carla Zachery	Staff		✓			
11	Steven Girardot on behalf of Colin Potts	Faculty		✓			
12	Emily Howell on behalf of Laurence Jacobs	Faculty		✓			
		Total		11			1
Signed: <i>[Signature]</i> Committee Chair		Date: 1/16/2015 Chief Business Officer		Date: 1-23-15			

Attachment 3 – Dissenting Opinion on Transportation Fee Increase

NOTE: Justin Eisenburg submitted this dissenting opinion on behalf of the three graduate students on the committee who voted against the transportation fee increase: Jonathan Lyon, Daegene Koh, and Marc Canellas.

The FY2016 proposed transportation fee increase clearly has merit; our dissenting votes are not an indication of a department that is not meeting the needs of the students overall. However, consensus among graduate students is that our specific needs (e.g., Green route service, Bicycle Infrastructure, Evening service, etc.) have not been appropriately addressed and prioritized within the current fee increase request. This pertains to the requested fee increases beyond the \$3 to maintain current level of service. MSFAC did not decide to vote on any of these particular increases, and we (Grad SGA) have addressed this directly with the leadership of the Transportation Department and will work with them on future initiatives to bolster these services and to better survey the graduate student population's needs.

With respect to our dissenting votes on the \$3 increase to maintain current level of service, we based our decision on a survey that captured the opinions of approximately 20% of the graduate population. Consensus is that our overall fee burden is too high to merit ANY increases. The results revealed that 51% of students actually preferred a decrease in the transportation fee, most citing they did not use the services or that their use was not a necessity.

When Graduate Students were asked to prioritize decreases across other fees to meet the increase in transportation, it's no surprise that a reduction of the Special Institution Fee (SIF) was the most desired; 80% for, with a large portion of the remaining 20% citing confusion over what SIF was. SIF is clearly out of the purview of the MSFAC, but is a clear burden to increasing other fees from the perspective of Graduate Students.

Next in priority for reduction in order to increase the Transportation Fee were the Athletic Fee (54% for) and Student Activity Fee (53% for). As members of the Graduate SGA we are empowered to propose a decrease in the Student Activity Fee, and will attempt to lobby such a decrease for FY2017.

With respect to the Athletic Fee, on 12-08-2014, the MSFAC graduate students motioned to discuss the impact of a potential decrease in the Athletic Fee, however, this was met with staunch opposition from the majority of the committee.

It is becoming clear that the graduate population's usage, engagement and benefit with fee-receiving units is markedly different from the undergraduates and it will be important to enact policies/procedures for differential rates in order to ensure equity for all students.

The survey results also indicate there is still a mire of confusion among students as to how the fees are used. We typically send a yearly summary to graduate students, but recommend that renaming fees would also add to clarity, e.g. Athletic Fee -> Athletic Association Fee, Student Activity Fee -> Student Activity and CRC Usage Fee, CRC Fee -> CRC Bond Repayment Fee.

Transportation Fee Survey

The Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee will be meeting this week to discuss a potential increase in the transportation fee. We (Grad SGA) would like your feedback!

FYI, full-time grads currently pay \$81/semester for transportation, which covers buses, trolley service, midnight rambler, stingerette nighttime service, grocery shuttles, nextbus.com, bicycling initiatives and alternative transport initiatives (e.g., Gotcha Bikes, Electric Vehicle infrastructure).

*** Required**

1. Are you a: * *Mark only one*

- Undergraduate Student,
- Graduate Student (Masters)
- Graduate Student (PhD)
- Staff
- Faculty
- Other

2. With which department are you affiliated? *

3. Would you support a \$3/semester increase to maintain current level of service? *

The Transportation Fee has not increased in the past two years, but our new contract for equivalent service will be slightly more expensive.

Mark only one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

4. Would you support an additional \$2/semester to bolster trolley service? *

This would add 4-6 more trolley trips per hour in addition to current service levels?

Mark only one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

5. Would you support an additional \$1/semester to add an express route between Tech Square and Clough?

This would add 2 trolleys with express trips every 7-8 minutes.

Mark only one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

6. Would you support a \$1/semester increase to bolster bicycle infrastructure on campus?

This would create a staff position focused purely on enhancing bicycle transportation infrastructure on campus.

Mark only one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

7. Would you prefer a decreased transportation fee, if that means that we decrease transportation service?

Mark only one.

- Yes (I don't use the services)
- Yes (I infrequently use the services)
- Yes (I use the services, but do not need them)
- No (I want these services to be available for me and other students)
- Unsure

8. Are there other mandatory fees that you would be willing to reduce in order to cover the increase in the transportation fee?

(Select all that would apply)

Check all that apply.

Technology (\$107/semester)

Student Activity (\$123/semester)

Health (\$160/semester)

Athletic (\$127/semester)

Special Institution Fee (\$544/semester)

9. Any comments?

Transportation Fee Survey Results Summary

The poll was open 1/14/2015-1/16/2015

1343 responses, 1330 of those are grads (meaning we're capturing 19.24% of the grad population)

Percentage that do not want a transportation fee increase: 53%

Percentage that would prefer a transportation fee decrease: 51%

(of those that wanted a decrease cited: 50% don't use, 35% infrequently use, 15% use but do not need services)

"" supporting \$3 increase for current service level: 37%

"" supporting \$2 additional for additional trolley routes: 33%

"" supporting \$1 additional for express route: 25%

"" supporting \$1 additional for bicycle infrastructure: 38%

We also asked if they would prefer a reduction in any other mandatory fees to cover an increase in transportation: