

Tuition and Fee Advisory Committee Meeting (TFAC)
January 8, 2021 – Meeting #2
Via Zoom
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Karaman convened the meeting at 3:02 pm.

Karaman asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Karaman asked the Committee to welcome two new members—Quentin Kanta and Lizbeht Marquez Gutierrez.

Karaman provided a brief overview of the meeting's agenda.

Dukes started Admissions' presentation on student recruitment. Enrollment was severely impacted by disruptions in the high school pipeline as a result of the pandemic.

Dukes illustrated the challenges in the most recent recruitment report. Down 22 (~300 students) percent in terms of admitted students from last year. Consistent with prevailing trends across the US, we're seeing fewer number of applications from BIPOC and other historically underrepresented groups.

Housing applications 79 to 183 from last year.

Karaman asked Student Affairs' staff about what students' have planned to do. Rolling admissions is a competitive advantage and may attract new students through Spring and Summer.

Dougherty asked Findtner about the nature of prospective students' reservations. Findtner explained that most of the apprehension is attributed to the housing requirement. There is a concern about the matriculation of Latinx students and how we attract them and what their values are. Some students prefer to be enrolled in in-person courses.

Housing is being extraordinarily flexible with housing arrangements for those students that reside outside a thirty-mile radius of the university.

Weeks asked about the medical needs of prospective students and whether or not the university is equipped to serve those needs. Findtner noted that on admissions applications, students are voluntarily surveyed for those needs. It is an important consideration for Admissions.

Findtner stated that campus visits usually inspire some applications. Dukes mentioned that the university's presence in Hawaii attracts students from the state.

Karaman asked Dukes and Findtner about their recruitment targets and what their aim is. Findtner has been very aggressive to recruit new students.

Karaman illustrated our enrollment challenges using the daily M report. Karaman highlighted the ten percent decrease in undergraduate full-time equivalents from last year.

Weeks underscored how acutely important mental health treatment is in this new environment.

Karaman echoed Weeks' concerns about mental health treatment on campus.

Beth Scroggins was introduced by Karaman. Scroggins briefly reviewed her rate design request and how that request affects the Student Health and Counseling Center's budget.

Scroggins implored the Committee to consider the assessment of the health fee to resident, online students. Resident online students expressed some disappointment that they would not be automatically enrolled in health services. For some Veterans, that could cause a disallowable reimbursement for the fee since it is currently treated as a voluntary election.

Scroggins pointed to the significant consumption of resources and that fee increases are not keeping pace.

Counseling was re-constituted as tele-counseling and medical appointments are subject to triage over the phones.

Licensing provisions proscribe counseling and medical staff to perform telemedicine with out-of-state students that are currently dwelling outside the State of Oregon.

Initial relationship and inception of care matters with respect to interstate treatment under statutory licensing provisions.

SHCC does not serve online students—remote or otherwise—unless those students elected to opt-in to the fee.

Scroggins projected a surplus over one-million dollars if not for the fact that the pandemic severely disrupted operations. Scroggins conceded that SHCC possessed significant reserves but has since deteriorated since the start of the pandemic.

Scroggins illustrated the projected impact of the pandemic, which revealed a 500,000-dollar deficit by June 30, 2021.

If the fee was applied to all students that have been previously assessed the fee and resident online students, Scroggins projects a 1.3-million-dollar windfall.

Scroggins contends that although returning to staff in Spring 2021 is an aspirational goal, Fall 2021 should be far more realistic.

Lucas suggested differential fees for in-person or online courses.

Camarillo asked about the current fee. Scroggins stated that the fee was 145 dollars, up from 139 from last year.

Johnson asked about debt service with respect to Student Health and Counseling Center.

Weeks proposed a robust opt-out option.

Lucas said it would be ideal to have a healthy student body.

Camarillo explored the possibility of introducing fee-for-service.

Scroggins stated that most services can be provided over the phone or online. Some services cannot be offered remotely.

Karaman summarized the design of Scroggins' rate proposal. Scroggins will defer to the Committee on the amount of the new fee for those students that would not ordinarily be assessed the fee.