

California State University, Sacramento Office of the President

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April 23, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Gina Curry, Student Fee Advisory Committee Chair

Interim AVP for Financial Services

Leslie Davis, Executive Director

Union WELL Inc.

FROM:

Alexander Gonzalez

President

SUBJECT:

Approval of Category II, University Union Fee Increase for the University Union &

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WELL Expansions.

As you will recall, after completing the alternative consultation process in the spring of 2014, both the Student Fee Advisory Committee and the Union WELL board of directors recommended that I approve an increase in the current fee that supports these student facilities. In addition, the increase was to include resources that would be used to construct an Event Center that was part of the original plan for the WELL. After considering both recommendations, I decided not to implement the fee at that time but instead to separate that part of the fee that would be used to construct the Event Center and allow for a student referendum. As a result, the referendum was held and failed at the end of last semester, fall 2014.

After attending the February 13, 2015 meeting of the Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) and the February 18, 2015 meeting of the University Union/WELL Inc. Board of Directors, I returned to the original recommendations and have determined that approval of an increase in the current fee is appropriate at this time. This increase will support only the maintenance, improvements, and appropriate expansion of the current University Union and the WELL.

Several factors led to this determination.

- Both facilities are over utilized, currently have little meeting space or group study spaces, and will only be more impacted as the student and campus population increases.
- The University Union's last expansion was in 1998.
- Some current students will be able to utilize the benefits, with the 18 month estimated construction time for completion of the improvements to the Union.
- Both Union/WELL Inc. and the Student Health Center have construction reserves that will help offset the cost to the students.

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- The "controversial" part of the alternative consultation in fall 2013 was the Event Center. The Event Center was separated from the fee proposal and that fee went through a referendum process, which was subsequently voted down.
- The appropriate consultation process has already been conducted in the fall 2013.
- The Student Fee Advisory Committee approved the Union/WELL expansion fee increase last year, which was at a higher rate and also included the construction of an Event Center.

Taking these factors into consideration, this memo serves as the approval for the increase of the University Union Fee by \$99/semester beginning fall 2015 (prorated in summer term). Additionally, this approval includes an increase for an additional \$30/semester (prorated for summer term) beginning with the term that phase II of construction begins. These increases include a Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment to be calculated annually and/or adjusted so all combined campus mandatory fees equal whole dollars. The "San Francisco All Items" will be the CPI used for the calculation.

Clearly, from my subsequent meetings with both groups, the desire is to proceed with the increase in the current fee. I am satisfied that the requisite consultation was conducted in good faith and that the determination of the recommendation to proceed with the fee increase is in the best interests of the students of this university.