FEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2026| 5:00 PM | TSC Senate Chamber

IN ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Executive VP Max Alder, Student Advocate VP Collin Hastings, Logan VP Po'okela Yamakoshi-Singh, Jon M. Huntsman School of Business Senator J.J. Watt, Graduate Studies Senator Jamie Parry, S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Senator Brinley Rhodes, Quinney College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Senator Elijah Manwill College of Education and Humanities Senator Halle Hart, College of Arts and Sciences Breanna Cahoon, Clubs and Organizations Executive Director Mia Bean, College of Engineering Senator Kaylee Shelton, College of Arts and Sciences Senator Lily Takemoto, Athletics and Campus Recreation Executive Director Ben Burdette, Student Events Executive Director Josie Packer, and Public Relations Director Abigail Murcray

Students At-Large: Jackson Capener, Kinsey Hill, Shailynn Spangler, Alex Bodrero, Gabe Cortez, Ariana Garcia Hernadez, Carter Guiness

Staff/Administrators: Interim VP for Student Affairs Krystin Deschamps, Executive Director of Student Involvement and Leadership Office Linda Zimmerman, Staff Assistant for Student Involvement David Higashi

Absent: President Brandon Sorensen, Executive Director for the Budget and Planning Office, Whitney Pugh

Welcome:

VP Max Alder: Welcomes and starts the Fee Board meeting

Interim VP Deschamps: Welcomes everyone and thanks them for being here and taking the time to be a part of the process. Explains her role in the process and the meeting, and that she is the only faculty member who is a voting member.

New Fee: Museum Fee Presentation

Refer to the Nora Eccles Museum Fee Presentation

Katie Lee-Coven – Director of the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art

New Fee: Museum Questions & Answers

Executive Director Packer asks whether the fee is reported as $136,000 per semester or per year.

Director Katie Lee-Coven reported that it is $136,000 per year

Executive Director Packer asked Director Katie Lee-Coven for statistics on current event attendance and the per-capita cost of past events.

Director Katie Lee-Coven replied that she does not have that data. However, they track attendance at the museum from customers, event attendees, and those who attend as part of a class.

Executive Director Packer explains that, in her role as Executive Director for events, she and her office plan many events with a smaller budget than the proposed new museum fee would generate. Josie questions why the cost of the Museum events is so high, given the large fee.

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that the $75,000 would cover honorariums for guest performers and artists who teach classes. The fee would help expand and enhance the museum's activities. This makes it difficult to drill down to where the fee money will go specifically.

Director Katie Lee-Coven clarifies whether Executive Director Packer was questioning the programming or the marketing cost

Executive Director Packer clarifies that both the programming and marketing costs were high.

Director Katie Lee-Coven clarifies that the presentation showing the different amounts for marketing and programming should be combined. The presentation covers the 2026 expenses and how the fee revenue would be allocated in this budget.

Deputy Director Jeff Lambson shares an example of a specialist's costs. He says he spoke with comic artist and writer Jim Steranko, a famous Silver Age artist known for creating Han Solo and Nick Fury; Steranko's appearance fee is usually $20,000. However, Jim loves the student commitment to and would be willing to come to USU for $5,000. When specialists come out, they are not just giving a lecture; the staff takes students to classes, and the specialist holds one-on-one sessions with them.

VP Colin Hastings states that he believes the requested fee does not match the amount the Museum is expected to receive. The current calculations would only result in the museum receiving $72,000 a year.

Director Katie Lee-Coven explains that, in her understanding, $1 (year) is $34,000, which means $2 is approximately $68,000.

VP Colin Hastings asks whether the reported 10,500 people were just counting visits or unique individuals.

Director Katie Lee-Coven reports that the it is 10,500 individuals have visited the Museum.

VP Colin Hastings asks whether the museum charges for K-12 visits?

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that they do not because they receive funding directly from the legislature to cover those costs.

VP Colin Hastings asks if the legislature's K-12 funding changes if they get a student fee?

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that it will not. She clarifies that funding is from the legislature through the Department of Education.

Senator Parry asks what the minimum student fee is to cover the costs of keeping admission to the Museum free for students and to continue the Museum's current operations. She also asks what the hourly student payroll rate is to ensure you keep the free admission, or will it be like the rate for those who teach classes?

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that student workers are required to keep the museum open and host events. The museum is struggling to maintain service quality as it expands hours and offerings. Making it harder for the museum to support student wages.

Senator Parry asks how many hours the museum typically pays its student employees.

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that they spent approximately $60,000 on student employment, but they are over budget this year due to additional events and programs. The other challenge that the museum has two to three student employees working at a time. One at the front desk and two students roaming for security. Events could require more student employees.

Jamie Parry asks whether Director Katie Lee-Coven is looking to hire two to meet the museum’s needs or if the museum needs to hire more people.

Director Katie Lee-Coven replies that she does not have the exact numbers and wants to provide them. They employ between eight and twelve students at any given time. This varies by each student’s schedule; the museum works with students and their schedules to allow their student employees to prioritize their roles as students. The overall objective is to cover the total hours, but the museum is not currently covering them.

New Fee: Discussion

Senator Parry asked whether the fee board will approve the new fee at this meeting and what the best way is to get Director Katie Lee-Coven to address their questions.

VP Alder replied that the agenda can be amended to have the motion voted on next week.

Senator Manwill asks what Senator Takemoto thinks about the museum opportunities for students

Senator Takemoto shares that she has attended several events and taken a class that involved the museum, which helped her learn how different disciplines work together. USU is lucky to have a museum of its size on campus, offering a vast array of pieces and exhibits. Most universities have small art museums. She notes that the museum has a great event space, and the community really appreciates USU for hosting it on campus.

Senator Parry shares that the vote on this fee should be postponed to a later meeting. She agrees with Senator Takemoto that the museum offers many benefits. The museum can provide affordable, highly accessible art classes for both the community and students. Senator Parry notes that it would be helpful to better understand the price per event and price per capita for the museum's events. Senator Parry questions what it means to expand the museum's services beyond merely covering its budget. Further noting that the information provided in the presentation and the Questions & answers portion was not sufficient to answer those questions.

Senator Parry motions to amend the agenda to vote on the new fee request for the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art at the next meeting.

Executive Director Packer Seconds

All in Favor

Aggie Shuttle Fee Increase Presentation

Tracy Hulse, Executive Director of Parking and Transportation,
Carlee Thomsen, Business Manager for the Department of Parking and Transportation, &
Austin Kleven Shuttle Supervisor

Please refer to the Aggie Shuttle Fee Presentation.

Aggie Shuttle Fee Questions & Answers

Senator Watts asks if the parking and transportation Aggie shuttle was up by $48,000 last year, what is causing the department to project a negative $200 ending balance this year?

Director Hulse responds that the reason is to pay off the first two buses. Director Hulse reminds everyone that the numbers he is presenting are projections, not actual budget numbers.

Senator Manwill asks which bus routes are busiest and whether they serve housing areas.

Director Hulse responds that he suspects it is the Housing and the stadium routes, given the yellow parking used by buses to reach the campus. Many residents of the student living center ride the bus to classes.

Senator Manwill asks whether there is data on ridership and whether it is increasing or decreasing.

Director Hulse responds that they look at the data month by month. Usually, increases occur when the weather turns bad, and people are less willing to walk. Some other reasons are dependent on manpower. There are times when it is hard to hire folks with a CDL. USU parking and transportation will help those obtain a CDL and work by driving the mini buses on the water lab route. Director Hulse shares that for routes with high traffic, the department will add another bus to the route. He reminds everyone that most drivers are students and there are limitations due to the individual class schedules.

Executive Director Burdette asks about the average lifespan of the older buses.

Director Hulse says the new Gillig buses are more reliable and better built than the older Thomas buses. However, two 2017 Thomas buses work better than some of the newer 2020 Thomas buses. All the buses are fixed and maintained at the campus motor pool by a bus-certified mechanic. Director Hulse shares that they can get 100,000 miles out of a bus if needed, but since the buses do not have diesel engines, they do not last as long. They do not have diesel engines because the department believes natural gas is better for the environment and has no plans to change.

Austin Kleven adds that Thomas buses have an eight-year service life. While Gillig buses have a service life expectancy of 20 years. Cache Valley Connect and UTA both primarily use Gillig buses, some of which have up to 600,000 miles. Gillig buses will last much longer, especially since the routes are much shorter than those of other companies.

Kinsey Hills asks when buses are replaced, are they sold for profit?

Tracy Hulse responds that they have had mixed success selling these buses for prices ranging from $500 to $5,000. The buses are sold through the university Surplus department. There is very limited interest in the buses because they are at the end of their

lifespan.

Senator Cahoon asks whether there is any expectation that the fee will decrease, as in years past, especially when Aggie Shuttle fully switches to Gillig buses.

Tracy Hulse responds that eventually Aggie Shuttle will be in a position where the bus fee could go down, but there is a long-term time frame till the remaining 10 Thomas Aggie Shuttle Buses are replaced. The hope is to reach a point one day where the fee can be reduced.

Jackson Kaden asks: if the bus fee increase were not approved, would there be any adverse effects on the Aggie Shuttle and the current services provided?

Tracy Hulse responds that the student will not see any kind of decrease in service. Aggie Shuttle will not be able to purchase another minibus. The night route probably will not suffer at all either. The goal with the night route is to transport enough students to make it worth it and find those willing to work those late hours.

Interim VP Deschamps asks: if Aggie Shuttle is unable to purchase the minibus, would there be any consequences for chartering? It was mentioned that you charter the mini buses, and the chartering does garner some revenue.

Tracy Hulse replies that they will not be losing out because Aggie Shuttle still has two minibuses. However, if we do not replace at least one of the two, there will be more breakdowns, more repairs, and more money going into those buses. The worst scenario is if they break down on a charter and that group is stuck on the side of the road.

Campus Recreation ARC Fee Increase Presentation

Spencer Bitner, Executive Director for Campus Recreation
Dan Galliher, Interim Executive Director for Campus Recreation

Refer to the USU Campus Recreation Fee

Campus Recreation ARC Fee Increase Questions & Answers

VP Hastings asks whether they perceive a return for a student fee increase in the near future.

Executive Director Bitner responded that the future is uncertain due to enrollment and other unforeseeable factors, but for now, the answer is no.

Senator Cahoon asks to see another slide

Executive Director Bean asks about the areas that are not looking to be funded by Student Fee money. How is Campus Recreation going to allocate funding to fund those areas?

Executive Director Bitner responds that the average revenue over the last five years was a little under $850,000 from sales and rentals. That can be increased by raising rental costs and by seeking or creating more opportunities. Campus recreation had just finished a new strategic plan for the department, and it includes plans to increase collaborations with other campus groups and increase visibility in the community while maintaining a high level of student accessibility. There are many passionate staff members within Campus Recreation with ideas that could help the department. Another part of the plan is to limit spending, deferring purchases of brand-new machinery down the line.

Senator Parry asks what the interest levels for the additional services that Campus Recreation would provide with the $5.98 of the increase are.

Director Galliher says the biggest current headache at the Aggie Recreation Center is the Climbing wall area. The initial designs for the Bouldering wall were three times bigger, but they would not fit in the building. With the new recreation lockers, Campus Recreation was able to clear out the back storage closet. The idea is to convert the space into a bouldering and climbing facility. This provides a place for the climbing team to conduct training that they currently lack. Currently, the wait times for the bouldering wall and the rock wall at 4:30 pm range from 20 minutes to a full hour.

Executive Director Bitner notes that expanding the bouldering wall and increasing student fitness programs are priorities. Currently, the fitness classes are at about 55-60% of their capacity. Campus Recreation currently sells 400 fitness class passes and wants to sell around 800. There is the capacity to offer more classes than are currently offered, which will increase student employment and access opportunities. Campus Recreation needs to stay on top of student wages to have retention and entice people to work for Campus Recreation. Students want on-campus jobs that fit their schedules, are in a good location, and address their needs. Executive Director Bitner shares that Esports exists and that without the increase, it will be hard to maintain Esports and the program's quality.

Executive Director Burdette asks why the Esports program isn't under Athletics, as some programs are at other Mountain West universities. Whether that might be due to the state of our current esports center, or the other Universities are larger.

Executive Director Bitner responds that those programs are varsity-level, have equal access to athletic facilities and resources, and that some are on scholarship. The USU Esports program is not at that level; it is at the club level, where they can compete as a club while having a space that general students can use for recreation. Maintaining both the team and the space is becoming more difficult without help.

Aggie Shuttle Fee Increase Discussion

VP Alder notes that some points were rushed through in the Bus fee presentation: the buses need to be replaced eventually, and a couple of years ago, there was a proposal to increase the fee significantly to accomplish that goal. However, they decided to spread the increase over several years, and this is the last year under that plan.

Executive Director Burdette moves to limit the discussion to 10 minutes to allocate equal time to both fees.

VP Hastings seconds the motion
All were in Favor

VP Hastings says he has voted yes on the bus proposal for the past two years and plans to vote yes again. The increase provides more ADA-friendly buses that last longer, are more reliable, and are nicer. He also shares that his view of the fee board's purpose is to ensure that students get the most value for their money, and that acquiring new, more reliable buses is a good investment for our students.

Senator Hart shares that she has had the opportunity to sit on this fee for the past two years and is fully in support of the increase. The Aggie Shuttle is a great resource for students. There are multiple routes that serve not only on-campus students but also off-campus students who park by the stadium or in other yellow parking lots.

Senator Manwill shares that many students he knows feel the yellow parking pass costs too much and opt to park off campus and take the city bus in. He asks how the parking fee works with the shuttle fee.

Executive Director Zimmerman states that the parking permits and the money they generate are completely separate from the shuttle fee. The parking permits are an auxiliary on campus, which means the money generated will pay for the new parking terraces and other related costs.

Executive Director Packer invites anyone opposed to the fee increase to share their perspective.

Senator Parry notes that last year, when the board decided not to vote for the fee increase, it was mainly because the Aggie Shuttles could maintain current services without it. However, parking and transportation are what she hears the most complaints about, and she hears the most about providing funding to enhance service. This will also help the Aggie Shuttle stay on top of the payments and the buses before they fall behind.

VP Alder motions to close the discussion.
VP Hastings seconds the motion.
All in favor

VP Alder calls for a straw poll.

21 voted for the Bus fee increase
2 voted against the fee increase

Campus Recreation ARC Fee Increase Discussion

Interim VP Deschamps shares that she oversees the Campus Recreation Department and wants to echo that the person who oversees the aquatics program has done a phenomenal job cutting costs while seeing an increase in users. She works 50 to 60 hours a week. If another person were brought in, there could be more service and more revenue.

Alex Bodrero says he sat on the committee that set this fee. The committee reviewed a lot of data and addressed questions about the fee and budget across two meetings. The concern is that they have been running a small deficit for a while now, hemorrhaging money, and adding more money doesn't seem wise. There are areas where they can make small positive gains, such as salaries and intramural revenue. However, the extra elements, such as the rock wall and other features, are not necessary. He suggests lowering the fee to have their team manage some of the other tasks and to hold off on the larger items they want to do or expand on. There should be requirements that they meet again next year to balance their budget, along with other steps, before they request an increase. Hate to throw money on a fire that might not be subdued yet.

Executive Director Bean notes that she also served on the fee committee and has experience working in Campus Recreation. Campus Recreation has been running a deficit but has consistently made improvements. They have begun hiring student custodians and currently have 200 student employees. The problem is constant turnover, which leads to more training and related issues. She suggests that the board not grant the proposed increase but instead grant a lower amount. She does see a need for a small increase.

Senator Parry notes that maintaining the student staff and the aquatics program coordinator will not only sustain a service used by 87% of students but also increase revenue. The Campus Recreation fee has not increased since 2015, and it is arguably the most frequently used fee among students. There is a strong case for that bouldering area, and I have seen long lines. The low utilization of the group fitness classes might be due to the $35 membership fee for students. The idea of grouping that and increasing wages is valuable and would create more opportunities for students. She further shares that Executive Director Bitner demonstrates in his presentation that he is using students' and staff's ideas and understands where the funding is going. Senator Parry supports the full increase to enhance a highly utilized resource.

Executive Director Packer agrees with Senator Parry and believes the $10.46 request is too high. Especially compared to other universities, which were in the hundreds, while USU is nowhere near that point. Students who engage more with things like Campus Recreation have better retention. The increase will be an investment that benefits 87% of

students.

Gabe Cortez adds that, as a University Ambassador, the main focus is on the enrollment cliff the university is approaching. Having facilities at the highest level that can help set USU apart from other universities and attract new students from both within and outside the state. The other universities shown in the presentation are those against which USU will compete, and that face the enrollment cliff. When recruiting, ambassadors showcase the valley, the opportunities students have to explore, yurts, and available rentals. Gabe shares that having facilities at their highest capacity and the most polished is for the betterment of the future.

VP Hastings says he agrees with everything Gabe Cortez said.

Jackson Capener shares that Executive Director Bitner showed through his presentation how much he cares, which is why he would support the fees that will help student wages. However, Executive Director Bitner is new, and it will be his first year. Jackson suggests they increase funding to help with student wages and get out of the deficit, and then see what happens next year. The esports, group fitness classes, and the bouldering wall can all wait until next year, after the board sees Executive Director Bitner's track record.

Alex Bodrero shares an idea inspired by the state legislature. A mini reinvestment plan in which the board withheld the student fee or passed only a small portion of the fee increase until certain criteria were met. The board wants things to change, but also wants to keep Campus Rec out of the deficit or avoid having promised things not happen. This might make it more likely that the increase will get passed by the president, the board of trustees, and the board of Higher Education.

Senator Parry emphasizes the importance of group fitness classes for Graduate students, as these students take PE credits to be recognized as full-time students by the School of Graduate Studies. However, those credits are expensive; the PE class she signed up for costs $600 to $700. The group fitness classes at the Aggie Recreation Center might be a good alternative. Senator Parry shares that he related the proposed reinvestment plan rather than just voting for the fee increase. It is the duty of the fee board for next year to decide whether to continue the student fee or change it. The Fee Board constantly reassesses fees, but the same people do not sit on it. She prefers to pass a smaller fee increase, as Jackson suggested, rather than develop criteria, because that would overcomplicate and make it hard for the next person to make the decision.

Executive Director Burdette notes that the suggested reinvestment plan would be hard to implement and carry over into next year because the fee board will have a different group of students, and it is hard to expect them to follow the plan proposed by the current board. Executive Director Burdette shares that he has also worked for Campus Recreation in the past and that one of his biggest concerns was that the north entrance had been converted to an exit-only entrance, and he never knew why. However, after the presentation, it was reassuring that students' interests were taken into account. At the end of the presentation, Executive Director Burdette highlighted that the board was shown a

balance sheet showing that, with the $10.46 increase, the budget would be in the positive. He shares that without the full increase, it would only hinder Campus Recreation's progress, and he fully supports it.

Executive Director Bean clarifies that the north entrance was closed to reduce costs before a student was hired to distribute equipment. Campus recreation moved to the rec lockers, allowing students to check out equipment on their own time without paying a student to be present.

Interim VP Deschamps shares that Campus Recreation's operation operating in the black has some ties to a problem with the bond payments and has no reason to believe that there was any fiscal mismanagement on anyone's part. The university's overall budget is complex and difficult to trace, making it hard to see where every dollar goes. Executive Director Bitner and Director Galliher have worked hard over the past couple of weeks digging into this fee. From an administrator's perspective, any program with 87% participation is phenomenal. Interim VP Deschamps shares that another part of her job is to chair the behavioral intervention team, which supports students who work out, exercise, have a community, and are healthier. Those students tend to stay longer and have lower instances of mental health concerns. Campus Recreation is very intentional about how it uses student fees and how those fees impact students. In the university's view, it costs more to retain students than to recruit them. Every student who drops out is a loss of money to the institution. Interim VP Deschamps also notes that the Utah legislature prioritizes workforce readiness and that the largest employer on campus is Campus Recreation. Many students who work in Campus Recreation return for careers in campus recreation, higher education, or community recreation. The dollars spent in this program benefit Utah State University and students at large.

VP Alder motions for a straw poll for the Campus Recreation and gave three options: support a zero-dollar increase, support a partial increase, and support the full increase

VP Hastings seconds the motion.

All in favor

Results from the straw poll

- Zero increase: 0
- Partial increase: 5
- Full ($10.46) Increase: 17

Spousal Pass Discussion

VP Alder shares that the Spousal pass allows spouses of full-time Utah State University students to access most student-fee–supported services for $40 per semester. This includes athletic events, campus recreation facilities, USUSA events, student discounts for music and theater productions, and general student building access, such as the library. Counseling, psychological services, and student health services are excluded. Eligibility requires legal marriage documentation and no outstanding USU financial obligations. The $40 cost is significantly lower than standard student fees, and the funds are distributed in small portions to participating campus areas. The price of the spousal pass has not increased in many years. While recognizing that married students often face financial constraints and that affordability is a priority—especially given the low utilization of the pass—the proposal is to increase the cost from $40 to $50 per semester. This modest increase would provide additional funding to support areas while maintaining accessibility. The item will be discussed today, with a vote proposed for next week

Senator Manwill shares that his wife uses the spousal pass and has just bought it. Many people in Aggie Village have one partner who is a student, usually a grad student. Many moms really cherish the space and the ability to use campus recreation facilities. A great free date to a basketball game on a weekday is as good as it gets when you are very poor and paying for school. Senator Manwill emphasizes the importance of the spouse pass for married students and considers the $10 fee reasonable. Keeping it affordable for young couples or families is very important to him and the community.

Director Murcray asks whether there is data on the use of the spousal pass in previous years.

Executive Director Zimmerman replies that she can get the data for her.

Executive Director Burdette agrees that the $10 increase is reasonable. Executive Director Burdette asks why the spousal pass price has increased. We haven't done this in a long time. Have there been requests from the departments that benefit from the spousal pass to increase their funding?

VP Alder responds that someone approached him regarding the spousal pass this year that it needs a small increase.

Senator Parry asks how much a typical student pays in student fees for the services they receive. Since student fees are credit-based, what does a student taking a one-credit class pay in student fees?

VP Alder asks whether spouses of non-full-time students are eligible for a spouse pass.

Executive Director Zimmerman responds that she does not know and will look it up.

Senator Parry asks about the value of the spousal pass and what benefits it includes. It appears to be a great deal and makes sense because it targets people who need it. She also

supports a spousal pass to increase utilization by allowing students to bring their spouses.

VP Alder responds that he does not know but can get that information.

Executive Director Bean asks for the breakdown and percentage of each department involved.

Executive Director Zimmerman responds that she can get that data for her by the next meeting.

Executive Director Burdette notes that a significant reason people buy the spousal pass is to attend athletic games with their significant other. Also shares that he supports the increase and believes it to be reasonable. A full-time USU student pays about $115 to get access to everything the spouse has access to.

Kinsey Hill asks whether, if the board did improve, the increase would be the last for a while, or whether there would be other considerations over the next couple of years.

VP Alder responds that he does not know with 100% certainty, but the idea would be no.

Carter Guiness asks for clarification on whether the board can identify the organization that approached to raise the cost of the spousal pass.

Executive Director Zimmerman responds that the registrar's office is where people buy the spousal pass. The registrar's office approached because there hasn't been an increase in many years, while student fees keep rising. Executive Director Zimmerman reminds the board that when a spouse claims a ticket, it is used from the student allotment.

Senator Manwill added that there are some determinants for purchasing spouse passes, such as that they must be purchased in person and paid for in cash.
Senator Takemoto reports that 50 to 60% of opera attendees have spousal passes.

Executive Director Burdette suggests that if a fee increases and the spousal pass pays into that fee area, the spousal pass will increase by that percentage of the fee area's revenue from the spousal pass.

Senator Parry asks why the spousal pass is not set at a proportionate rate to student fees, rather than the current flat rate.

VP Alder responds that the short answer is that it was created that way, and when it was created.

Gabe Cortez asks whether the board can see when the last price adjustment was and then track how inflation has affected costs over the years.

Executive Director Zimmerman responds that she can certainly ask for that information.

Senator Manwill shares that the difference is that spouses are not expected to pay student fees. Senator Manwill suggests that the board review which fee areas qualify for the spousal pass and cut the unimportant or non-utilized areas to lower the price and better justify it. The main areas for spouses are Campus Recreation, Athletics, and the Arts. Those married students who pay student fees are not informed that they will utilize all the resources

Senator Parry notes that if proportional pricing were used, both spouses would pay the increase in student fees. Senator Parry suggests that the board could survey people who use the spouse pass and ask what the limit increase would be before they would not purchase the pass, and she guesses that $10 is not that limit.

Arianna Garcia-Hernandez says she hopes those using the spouse pass are not using campus activities as much as a regular student would, and she does not see the need to increase it proportionally, since young families or young couples don't have as much time as a freshman does, who goes to everything every day.

VP Hastings asks about the process for changing the Spouse Pass price. If the board passes, is the final approval Utah State Board of Higher Education, or does President Mortensen have final approval?

Executive Director Zimmerman shares that the decision will be put in a letter to the President, and he will present it to the Board of Trustees and the Board of Higher Education. However, VP Cowley felt that the student fee board has the authority to make that change.

Executive Director Packer asks if she could motion to table the vote to next week to get more information.

VP Alder responds that the vote will take place next week and there will be a discussion prior to the vote.

VP Alder motions to end the meeting

VP Hastings so moves the motion
Senator Parry seconds
Everyone was in favor.



Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art

UtahStateUniversity®

USU's Art Museum, focused on Modern and Contemporary American Art, provides unique learning and social experiences for USU Students.





Annual Onsite Visitation: 22,800

USU student Visits: 10,500
K-12 Onsite Student Visits : 8,000
K-12 Offsite Student Visits: 26,000

We are an academic museum, serving USU faculty and students, and we are the only art museum in an 80-mile radius.









Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art
UtahStateUniversity.









How Does NEHMA Serve USU Students?

Employs 8-12 students at any time.

Has **4-6 interns** at any time.

90 USU classes visit the museum as part of a course-related curriculum experience annually.

36 Events for students

- Dock Sessions
- Night @ NEHMA
- Museum + Music
- Gallery Talks
- Creating Wellness art-making
- Monthly Community Art Days

Student events using NEHMA

- International Student Fashion Show
- Poetry Night
- Native American Student Club

We provide a place for students to learn, socialize, destress, and gather.

“What started out as just a convenient position for my student schedule has become so much more. Working at NEHMA has given me an opportunity to gain skills and knowledge in a vast variety of areas.
In addition to gaining experience with the museum field in general, I've also acquired or improved skills in customer service, education, public speaking, security, events, teamwork, and more.
I've also loved being able to meet so many interesting people that I wouldn't have known otherwise, from artists and curators to collectors and guests. My time at NEHMA really has helped prepare me to handle all kinds of things for my future career and life.”

-Carli Mano, Senior, Visitor Services Supervisor



What are your thoughts on events at NEHMA as part of your student life experience? What have you enjoyed?

“I especially enjoy when exhibits highlight different cultures, and love seeing how NEHMA works with students.
Some of my favorite events are the concerts put on, where students perform pieces in relation to works on display, as well as seeing design students create clothing inspired by pieces.”

Would you have interest in the museum hosting additional student-focused events such as art classes for non-majors, more concerts and date nights?

“Art classes for non-majors would be a great idea, as many of my non-art major friends have expressed wanting to take an art class, but being unable to due to limited space in art classes currently. Concerts are also always an awesome way to connect two disciplines within the world of fine arts.”

Shahaley Brandt, USU Junior



Academic Resources









Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art
UtahStateUniversity.

Why does NEHMA need Student Fee support?

We are **requesting $2/semester fee** for Logan students with 12-18 credit hours to generate approximately $136,000 **to help cover student staff as well as a wide range of programs and events for students**. Students would continue to receive free admission to the museum and programs, and can expect more programs.

Since 1984, we have been able to provide free admission and access for learning and social events/programs, but with expanded facilities, providing more exhibitions and programs to students, we are struggling to financially support our student staffing, necessary to help run the museum, and associated costs for exhibitions and programs.

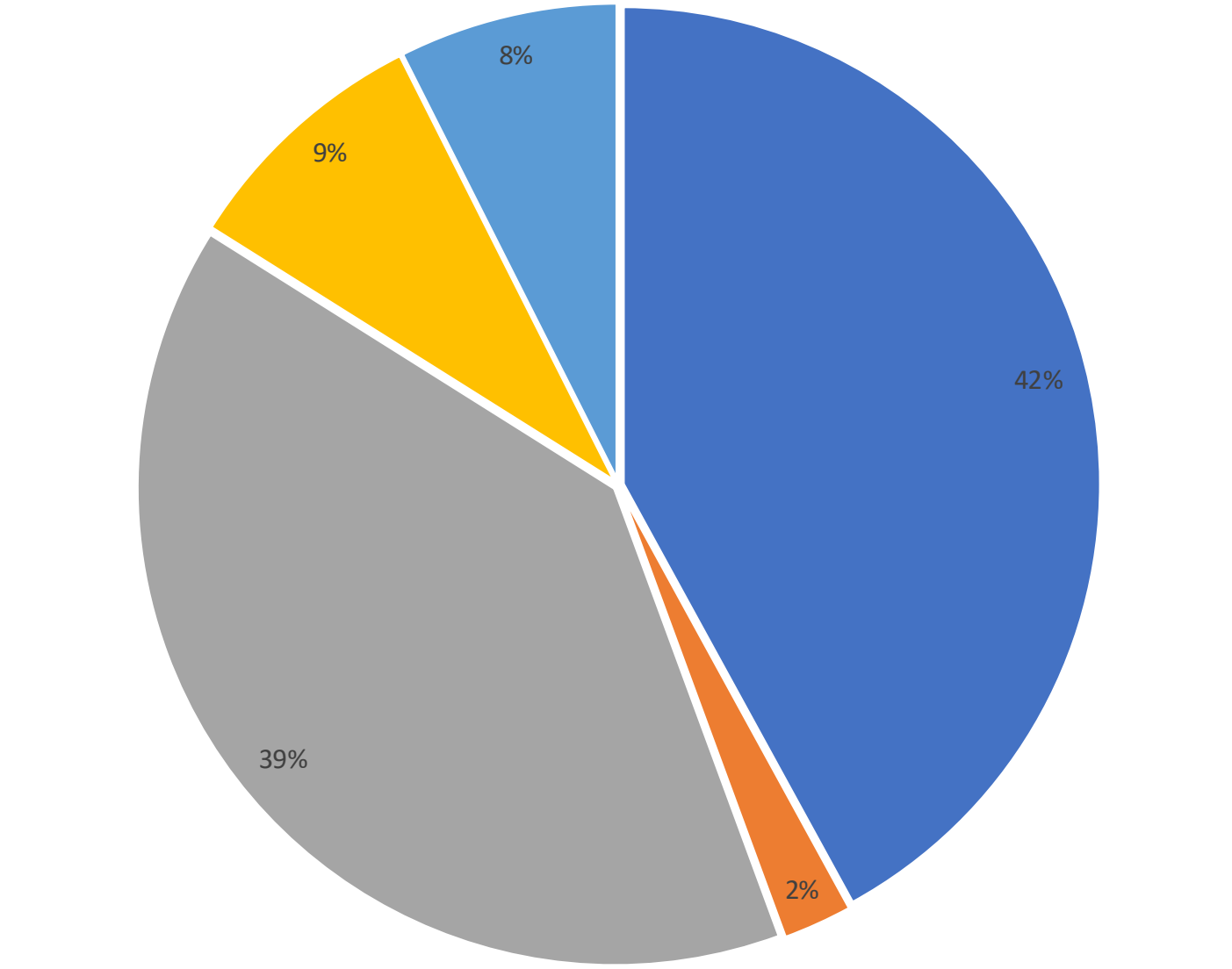
With the new Wanlass Center, we **want to offer art classes for non-majors** and other fun programs like **Date Nights and concerts** for students to take advantage of. We started the Dock Sessions to host local bands that students follow.

University of Utah's Art Museum receives a portion of their "Fine Arts Fee" of $18.50 per student to support student employee staffing and events, providing free admission to students. Their Fine Arts Fee also supports theatre and music, because their museum is part of their college of art. Since USU already has a "Music and Theater Fee"($13.98) separately for the School of the Arts, we are requesting a "Museum Fee."

NEHMA Budget w/ Proposed Student Fee

FY2026 Income				FY2026 Expenses	
State Education and General Funds - Unrestricted				Operating Expenses - Salary, Wages, and Benefits	$ 1,124,551.00
Art Museum E&G - Operating	$ 50,790.00				
Salary and benefits	$ 652,273.00			**Operating Expenses - Other**	**$ 124,539.00**
Student Hourly Payroll	$ 61,515.00				
Art Museum Unrestricted (Space Rental/Usage)	$ 4,000.00			**Collection Expenses**	**$ 218,874.00**
		$ 768,578.00	42%		
				Exhibition	**$ 145,774.00**
Earned Income (rentals, store)		$ 43,274.00	2%		
				Public Programs and Events	$ 104,000.00
Grant/Donor Income - Unrestricted		$ 231,000.00	13%		
				Educational Programs	**$ 58,834.00**
Grant/Donor Income - Restricted		$ 492,151.00	26%		
				Marketing	$ 55,028.00
Endowments Spendable		$ 157,832.00	9%		
				Board & Donor Meetings	**$ 827.00**
Student Fee Income ($2/semester, $4 per year, $1 fee equates to $34,000 Logan)					
Hourly Student Payroll	$ 61,000.00				
Programming Support	$ 75,000.00				
		$ 136,000.00	8%		
Total		**$ 1,828,835.00**		**Expenses TOTAL**	**$ 1,832,427.00**

NEHMA Annual Income FY25 w/ Proposed $2 Museum Student Fee











We provide something for everyone, and we would love to offer more!

Thank you!

NEHMA | Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art
UtahStateUniversity.

Aggie Shuttle Fee Request



UtahStateUniversity

January 14, 2026


AGGIE
SHUTTLE


GET ROOTED
AGRONOMY
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
A GO AGGIES! A
AGGIE SHUTTLE
2356


UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
AGGIE
SHUTTLE
2356
2356

History of Aggie Shuttle Fees

Year	Fee	increase	% Change	Total Rev.
2005-06	$11.00	$0.00	0.00%	$352,797
2006-07	$11.00	$0.00	0.00%	$309,771
2007-08	$11.00	$0.00	0.00%	$338,805
2008-09	$11.50	$0.50	4.55%	$353,148
2009-10	$12.15	$0.65	5.65%	$362,247
2010-11	$16.99	$4.84	39.84%	$518,925
2011-12	$16.99	$0.00	0.00%	$628,392
2012-13	$16.99	$0.00	0.00%	$632,848
2013-14	$20.00	$3.01	17.72%	$617,808
2014-15	$20.92	$0.92	4.60%	$634,046
2015-16	$20.92	$0.00	0.00%	$668,397
2016-17	$20.92	$0.00	0.00%	$777,368
2017-18	$20.92	$0.00	0.00%	$775,973
2018-19	$20.92	$0.00	0.00%	$757,275
2019-20	$20.95	$0.03	0.14%	$751,203
2020-21	$20.98	$0.03	0.14%	$731,263
2021-22	$19.52	-$1.46	-6.96%	$687,744
2022-23	$19.52	$0.00	0.00%	$684,910
2023-24	$19.52	$0.00	0.00%	$682,174
2024-25	$20.54	$1.02	5.23%	$739,440
2025-26	$22.27	$1.73	8.42%	$801,720
2026-27	$24.00	$1.73	7.77%	$864,000
2027-28	$24.00	$0.00	0.00%	$864,000

Parking is requesting an increase of $1.73 which will bring the student Fee to $24.00.

Aggie Shuttle Fees and Revenue

Shuttle Revenue							
	2024-25 Actuals			Projected FY26			
	SBF	Other	Total	SBF	Other	Total	
Charter Revenue		$ 75,889.25	$ 75,889.25		$ 67,380.12	$ 67,380.12	**-11.88%**
Van Training		$ -	$ -		$ 930.00	$ 930.00	**200.00%**
Insurance Recovery/Equip Surplus		$ 431.25	$ 431.25		$ 1,440.00	$ 1,440.00	**107.82%**
	$ -	**$ 76,320.50**	**$ 76,320.50**	**$ -**	**$ 69,750.12**	**$ 69,750.12**	

Aggie Shuttle Expenses

Expenses							
	2024-25 Actuals			FY26 Budget			
	SBF	Other	Total	SBF	Other	Total	Var.
Labor	$ 272,511.76	$ -	$ 272,511.76	$ 281,453.40	$ -	$ 281,453.40	3%
Operating	$ 636,668.56	$ -	$ 636,668.56	$ 790,724.57	$ -	$ 790,724.57	-21.59%
	$ 909,180.32	**$ -**	**$ 909,180.32**	**$ 1,072,177.97**	**$ -**	**$ 1,072,177.97**	**16.45%**

Thank You



UtahStateUniversity

Aggie Shuttle Expensive

	2024-25 Actuals			FY26 Budget			
PERSONNEL	SBF	Other	Total	SBF	Other	Total	Var.
Wages	$272,511.76	$0.00	$272,511.76	$281,453.40	$0.00	$281,453.40	36.55%
Benefits	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Subtotal	**$272,511.76**	**$0.00**	**$272,511.76**	**$281,453.40**	**$0.00**	**$281,453.40**	**36.55%**
OPERATING EXPENSES							
In-state Travel	$2,710.91	$0.00	$2,710.91	$340.80	$0.00	$340.80	-8.84%
Out-of-state Travel	$3,805.05	$0.00	$3,805.05	$1,902.53	$0.00	$1,902.53	91.76%
Telephone Recurring	$358.20	$0.00	$358.20	$59.70	$0.00	$59.70	-100.00%
Telephone - Non-Recurr	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Data Processing	$31,522.15	$0.00	$31,522.15	$37,336.75	$0.00	$37,336.75	25.77%
Printing	$925.16	$0.00	$925.16	$624.00	$0.00	$624.00	-63.66%
Commuting/CNG Fuel	$56,916.03	$0.00	$56,916.03	$58,623.51	$0.00	$58,623.51	-8.90%
Contract Agreement/Drug Testing	$1,398.00	$0.00	$1,398.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Rentals (Excl Autos)	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Insurance	$21,500.00	$0.00	$21,500.00	$22,145.00	$0.00	$22,145.00	10.76%
Operating Supplies	$7,928.00	$0.00	$7,928.00	$6,548.83	$0.00	$6,548.83	40.58%
Tools & Equipment	$8,377.91	$0.00	$8,377.91	$17,379.41	$0.00	$17,379.41	7.50%
Office Supplies	$33.99	$0.00	$33.99	$35.01	$0.00	$35.01	-71.58%
Uniforms & Apparel	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Repairs/Maint. Facilities	$55.86	$0.00	$55.86	$1,104.00	$0.00	$1,104.00	22.02%
Facilities Materials	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Repairs/Maint. Other	$43,849.41	$0.00	$43,849.41	$39,716.86	$0.00	$39,716.86	-19.88%
Vehicle Maintenance	$116,231.83	$0.00	$116,231.83	$96,364.63	$0.00	$96,364.63	3.70%
Awards	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	-200.00%
Registration Fee	$300.00	$0.00	$300.00	$1,836.00	$0.00	$1,836.00	-123.08%
Receptions	$135.78	$0.00	$135.78	$571.30	$0.00	$571.30	-1.12%
Adver/Promotion	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Other Current Expense	$1,178.00	$0.00	$1,178.00	$816.00	$0.00	$816.00	8.00%
COG's	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Zions Loan Payment	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Transfers		$0.00			$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
(2) Mini Bus Puchase	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
CNG Compressor	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
2023 Loan - down and payment	$170,367.63	$0.00	$170,367.63	$157,509.62	$0.00	$157,509.62	-1219.07%
2024 Loan - down and payment		$0.00		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
2025 Loan - down and payment	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$347,810.62	$0.00	$347,810.62	200.00%
Subtotal	**$467,593.91**	**$0.00**	**$467,593.91**	**$790,724.57**	**$0.00**	**$790,724.57**	
Total Expenditures	**$740,105.67**	**$0.00**	**$740,105.67**	**$1,072,177.97**	**$0.00**	**$1,072,177.97**	
			$48,000.32			**-$200,707.85**	

USU Campus Recreation Fee Proposal

Utah State University

1/14/2026

- Spring of 2015 was the last time the Campus Recreation Fee was increased
- We are asking for a $10.46 fee increase in 2026
- $4.48 to cover salaries and create a new staff position generating new revenue-generating opportunities
- $5.98 to improve student access, increase student wages for retention, remove barriers to fitness, and establish eSports hardware replacement

TL;DR

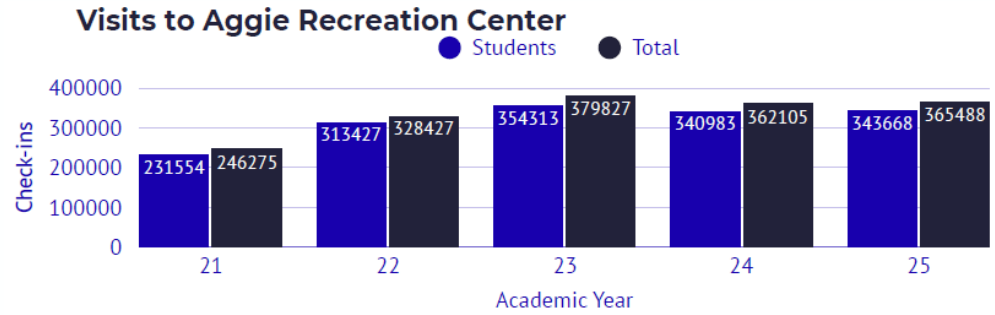


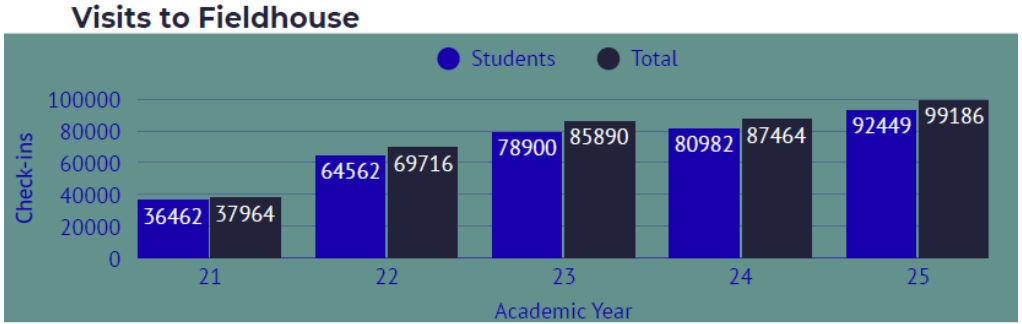
- Campus Recreation creates opportunities for students to enhance the college experience through play, wellness and adventure!
- Campus Recreation Overview
  - 4 indoor facilities
  - 4 outdoor facilities
  - 13 professional staff & over 200 student staff
  - 87% engagement of the enrolled students in 2024-2025

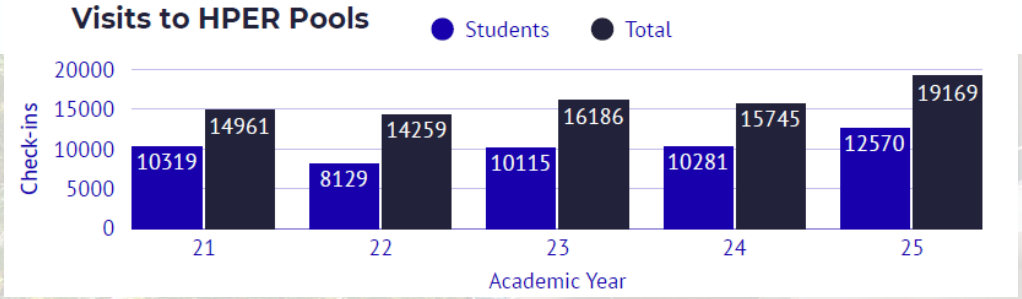
Mission of Campus Recreation



Value of Campus Recreation at USU, NIRSA: Leaders in Collegiate Recreation







FY25 Check-ins

- Upward Trend

- ARC Building Fee VS Campus Recreation Fee
  - The ARC Building Fee covers the bond/debt service for the construction of the ARC
  - According to policy it must cover 110% of the bond each year
  - A portion of the fee collected was pledged to cover O&M of the ARC
    - This amount is $775,000.00
- Last year the fee board proposed for $22.28 to be taken from the $85 ARC Building fee and transferred over to the Campus Recreation fee ~ request from State Legislature

Fee History

- Only $14.46 was actually shifted from the ARC Building Fee to Campus Recreation to cover salaries, this is part of the pledged $775,000.00
- Current fees
  - ARC Building Fee = $70.54
  - Campus Recreation Fee = $52.16
- $14.46 covers ~$482,964.00 of the Pledged $775,000.00
- This was not an increase, it was a reallocation

Fee History

- Utah State University $52.16
- Boise State University ~$55-72.00
- Colorado State University ~$143.56-$161.13
- University of Nevada, Reno ~$55-$75.00
- Fresno State University ~$66.66
- Utah Valley University $63.80
- Washington State University $191.00

University Fee Comparisons

- The Campus Recreation Fee has not received an increase since 2015 when the Aggie Recreation Center opened
- This 2015 increase was mostly to shore up the new programming demand for the additional facility
- According to bls.gov, inflation has increased 35% from July 2015 – July 2025
- Cost-of-living increases that are instituted by State Legislature have been added yearly to the Campus Recreation Fee

Need for Fee Increase

FY25 Budget Details

- FY25 Campus Recreation revenue was $3,736,247.50
- Student Fees account for 56% of the total revenue
- Most of the revenue-in is directly tied to covering costs
  - Registration, apparel, memberships, intramurals, club sports, etc.
- For FY25 the department had a negative balance
  - $(345,184.56)
- Reason
  - General inflation/tariffs caused an increase to cost of sourced items, wages and equipment
  - Expected a higher fee amount for FY25 Ratio
    - $1 = $36,000 vs $1 = $34,989

FY25 Campus Recreation Fee Data	
Total Revenue (Fees, Sales, Sponsorships)	$1,656,743.19
Student Fee	$1,304,504.31
Pledged Amount from ARC Building Fee	$775,000.00
Minus	
Total Salaries/Wages/Benefit Expenses	$2,046,260.65
Total Operating Expenses	$2,035,171.41
Net	$(345,184.56)

FY25 Budget Report

Proposal to cover needed $345,184.56		
Increase in Sales, Sponsorships & Rental Revenue Needed	$195,552.56	57%
Student fee Increase Needed	$149,632.00	43%

Total covered with Non-fee Revenue or Budget Reductions			
		Fee Equivalent	Dollar Amount
Operational Equipment		$0.92	$30,728.00
Marketing		$0.11	$3,622.00
Outdoor Programs		$2.95	$98,555.00
Aquatics		$1.23	$41,059.00
General Operations		$0.28	$9,352.00
Intramurals		$0.37	$12,358.00
	Sub Total	$5.86	$195,674.00

Non-fee Adjustments

- Removing Graduate Assistant Positions
  - + $21,139 from two dissolved GA positions
- Reducing three full-time custodians and employing students part-time
  - + $37,023.34
- Creating elevated aquatics/safety position and hiring a new aquatics coordinator staff member
  - Estimated +$25,000 revenue from trainings and programs
  - Additional revenue from increased aquatics programming



Solution

Proposal to cover needed $345,184.56		
Increase in Sales, Sponsorships & Rental Revenue Needed	$195,552.56	57%
Student fee Increase Needed	$149,632.00	43%

Breakdown of proposal portion covered with Student Fees		
	Fee Equivalent	Dollar Amount
Staff Wages Aquatics Program Coordinator	$1.52	$50,768.00
Campus Recreation Salaries	$2.96	$98,864.00
Sub Total	$4.48	$149,632.00

Proposed Fee Increase

- The fee committee met on October 24, 2025 and discussed the following subjects and outcomes
  - Yearly cost increase and lack of income
    - General expenditures and utility system cost increase
  - Student and staff wages
  - Equipment operations, part supply chain
  - Student Programs
  - Expansion of climbing wall
  - Increase of student satisfaction



Initial Fee Meeting

Fee Increase for Improved Student Experience		
	Fee Equivalent	Dollar Amount
Expansion of Bouldering Wall, Ongoing O&M	$0.32	$10,688.00
Student Fitness Programs	$0.80	$26,720.00
Wages for Group Exercise	$1.41	$47,094.00
Student Wages	$2.40	$80,160.00
Esports R&R	$1.05	$35,070.00
Sub Total	$5.98	$199,732.00

Fee Increase Proposal

Increase Student Access

Direct to Student Employees

Guarantee Future Student Access

- Increased access and opportunities
- You can have great facilities but without great staff and programming it doesn't matter
- The $10.46 increase is only 16%, half of the inflation rate over the past 10 years
- We employ over 200 work-study and part-time students
- Employed students are retained and persist at a higher rate
- Student employees go onto successful careers



Why?

"When I started my job at Utah State Campus Recreation, it was just meant to be a convenient part time-job that worked around my campus classes and was near my dorms. Over the years, it became so much more! I found a group of people who are passionate about providing welcoming spaces and programs. I met a lot of longtime friends and a career field that I didn't know was an option..."

- Rachel Rayburn, class of 2023



Why?

"I started at the Rental Shop as a freshman and quickly became more involved as a Trip Leader. Being a Trip Leader, I had the opportunity to learn technical skills and earn industry-standard certifications that propelled my career in the outdoor industry. My last couple of years at USU, I was the Student Manager of the Trips program, which gave me a better understanding of program administration and further developed my leadership skills. These skills and experiences set me up well for my current position as the Outdoor Program Coordinator at Weber State University"

- Matt Barry, class of 2024



Why?

FY27 Fee Proposal Increase for Salaries		
	Fee Equivalent	Dollar Amount
Staff Wages Aquatics Coordinator	$1.52	$50,768.00
Campus Recreation Salaries	$2.96	$98,864.00
Sub Total	$4.48	$149,632.00

FY27 Fee for Proposal Increase for Improved Student Experience		
	Fee Equivalent	Dollar Amount
Expansion of Bouldering Wall/Ongoing O&M	$0.32	$10,688.00
Student Fitness Programs	$0.80	$26,720.00
Wage Hourly for Group Exercise	$1.41	$47,094.00
Student Wages	$2.40	$80,160.00
Esports R&R	$1.05	$35,070.00
Sub Total	$5.98	$199,732.00
Total	$10.46	$349,364.00

First Priority

Second Priority

Direct to Student Employees

Increase Student Access

Guarantee Future Student Access

Summary

FY27

FY27 Budget Balance Proposal With Fee Increase 52.16 + $10.46 = $62.62		
Total Revenue (Fees, Sales, Sponsorships)		$1,758,000.00
Campus Recreation Fee $62.62 x 33,400		$2,091,508.00
Pledged Amount From ARC Building Fee		$292,036.00
	Revenue Total	$4,141,544.00
Minus Expense		
Total Wages, Salaries and Benefits Expenses		$2,121,377.11
Total Operating Expenses		$2,020,000.00
	Expense Total	$4,141,377.11
	Net	$166.89

Thank You



Appendix

Campus Recreation Benefits

https://nirsa.net/impact-of-campus-recreation/

Peck, A., Cramp, C., Croft, L., Cummings, T., Fehring, K., Hall, D., Hnatusko, P., & Lawhead, J. (2015). Considering the Impact of Participation and Employment of Students in Campus Activities and Collegiate Recreation on the Development of the Skills Employers Desire Most. [White paper]. Corvallis, OR.

Kampf, S., & Teske, E. J. (2013). Collegiate recreation participation and retention. Recreational Sports Journal, 37(2), 85-96.

Appendix

University Fees

USU - https://www.usu.edu/student-affairs/student-fees
Boise State - https://www.boisestate.edu/vpfa-budget-and-planning/wp-content/uploads/sites/351/2023/11/Campus-Recreation.pdf
CSU - https://thehub.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2025/07/General_Fee_Schedule-1.pdf
University Nevada - https://www.unr.edu/fitness/memberships
WSU - https://urec.wsu.edu/about-urec/urec-funding/src-and-stephenson-funding
UVU - https://ushe.edu/wp-content/uploads/pdf/agendas/2025/03272825/UVU_2025-26_Tuition_Fee_Adjustments.pdf
Fresno State - https://auxiliary.fresnostate.edu/association/src/faq.html