

Measure 14: Campus Sustainability Program Fee Increase

QUESTION

Shall the undergraduates of UCSC increase the existing Campus Sustainability Programs Fee (Measure 9) from \$3.00 per student, per quarter to \$6.00 per student, per quarter to provide the Student Union Assembly (SUA)/Campus Sustainability Council additional funding for new and evolving UCSC student organizations that facilitate collaboration between students, the administration, faculty, and the community to create, implement and monitor sustainability practices on campus, via the Blueprint for a Sustainable Campus?

Note: If Measure 14 passes, it will supersede all language, conditions and distribution of funds from the previous Campus Sustainability Programs Fee (Measure 9) passed by students in Spring 2003. If Measure 14 passes, all funds generated from Measure 9 will be combined with Measure 14 funds and legally bound by Measure 14 ballot language.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Increases the existing Campus Sustainability Programs Fee from \$3.00 per student, per quarter to \$6.00 per student, per quarter.
- Fee increase begins Fall Quarter 2005 and is a permanent fee with no ending date.
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates enrolled in the fall, winter and spring quarters, and to undergraduate students enrolled in state-funded summer session.
- Fee will generate approximately \$125,955 additional dollars in AY 2005-06, the first year it is in effect, with no return to Financial Aid.
- Fee is sponsored for placement on the ballot by a vote of the Student Union Assembly.

BALLOT STATEMENT

The \$3.00 fee increase will provide funding to the Campus Sustainability Council (CSC), which is a task force of the Student Union Assembly (SUA).

The CSC will distribute funds from this fee on an annual basis to UCSC registered campus organizations that facilitate collaboration between students, the administration, faculty, and the community to create, implement, and monitor environmentally, socially, and economically sound practices on campus, as established through the protocol outlined in a Blueprint for a Sustainable Campus.

The CSC will collaborate with the campus in building tangible pieces of the collective vision for a more sustainable campus. The CSC will strive to keep focused on the collective vision to ensure that students, and registered campus organizations support each other together as the groundwork of sustainability on our campus.

This new total of \$6 per student, per quarter fee will provide funding for (but is not limited to) the following:

UCSC's annual Campus Earth Summit - a forum for students to set the agenda and collaborate with university administration to advocate for the implementation of, and monitor the University for accountability to the Blueprint for a Sustainable Campus. Such efforts will encourage the university to reach environmentally, socially, and economically responsible benchmarks such as:

- Reducing or neutralizing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increasing sustainable transportation alternatives.

- Promoting Green Building design.
- Promoting the use of Renewable Energy.
- Promoting the use of Sustainable Food Systems that utilize sustainable production, distribution and acquisition procedures.
- Conserving water and energy.
- Ensuring comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, and composting.
- Reducing the use of toxic pesticides and encouraging biological alternatives.
- Improving processes facilitating long range planning.
- Promoting environmentally, socially, and economically just purchasing of products and commodities.
- Experiential and service learning programs, which directly make the lives of our community more sustainable.

UCSC's annual Campus Earth Festival encourages student involvement in campus sustainability initiatives that facilitate collaboration with the University. Its purpose is to provide education with celebration of initiatives that lead to campuswide reduction of negative externalities on the environment and practices that have positive repercussions among the communities inhabiting UCSC's ecosystems.

This fee will also support:

- Additional education/networking events, which facilitate communication among diverse members of our community, including administration, students, faculty and community members.
- Stipends for student leaders, interns and advising
- staff who would be responsible for facilitation of the above mentioned events, supporting grant-writing efforts, and promoting the educational and institutional protocol within the Blueprint for a Sustainable Campus and the language to be established in a campus sustainability plan.

1% of the funds generated by this fee will be reserved for the operation of the CSC. These are funds that can be spent internally on the CSC's accountability for financial tracking, organizational capacity, and communication including a quarterly newsletter to the campus, which informs people regularly with the implementation status of sustainability practices. CSC operational expenditures cannot exceed this percentage. Any remaining operational funds can be added to the allocation for registered campus organizations.

The CSC, a task force of the SUA, consists of a voting body comprised of one undergraduate representative from each respective college sustainability organization (college governments can send a representative if there is no representative who comes forth during elections), two campus community representatives, one representative from the SUA general body, two representatives from the SUA/Student Committee on Committees (SCOC). Council membership can be changed by amendments to the CSC bylaws.

The CSC shall have full and sole decision-making power over all funding allocation and programming decisions so long as those decisions are consistent with this referendum, the SUA constitution, University policy and the law.

ENDORSEMENTS

Student Environmental Center (SEC), Campus Sustainability Council (CSC), Students for Organic Solutions (SOS), Education for Sustainable Living (ESLP), California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC), UC Build Green (UCBG), Move UC (MUC), UC Foods (UCF), Chancellor's Sustainability Action Council (CSAC), Program In Community and Agroecology (PICA), Comercio Justo, Homes on Wheels (HOW)