

the

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Today's forecast

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## Student Fees Committee shifts funds, makes recommendations

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Students fees could increase by 55 cents per credit hour if the proposed 2013 budget receives approval by the Student Government Association Feb. 22.

SGA is scheduled to hear about the budget tonight. Anyone wanting to make comments to the association can do so during the meeting that begins at 6:30 p.m. in Rhatigan Student Center.

The recommended amount is almost \$10.9 million, an increase of \$184,800 compared with last year.

The Spirit and Dance Squads' budgets were moved from a non-fixed line item in fiscal year 2012 to a fixed-line budget item under the Inter

Collegiate Athletic Association for the 2013 fiscal year.

"It used to be overseen by Center for Student Leadership, under athletics," University Budget Director Paul Werner said. "They've just kind of moved it to where you'd normally find it at a university."

Forty-five thousand dollars of the ICAA \$100,000 request was recommended, including \$15,000 for student activities, \$10,000 for medical expenses and \$20,000 in discretionary funding.

"We're trying to keep student fees very flat," Student Government Association Treasurer Chris Hall said.

The Student Activities Council was moved into the

Rhatigan Student Center operations budget as a permanent budget item and the CSL budget was moved into the same account.

"The goal of the SAC/CSL merger was that the student fees per credit hour would not increase," Werner said.

A permanent budget item, according to Vice President for Campus Life and University Relations Wade Robinson, undergoes final recommendation and approval at the first student fees hearing and is not subject to further discussion or debate by SGA members.

Casey Donnell suggested moving the Heskett Center budget to a permanent budget item.

Due to the dissolution of

### Student Fees Committee Recommendations

Organization	FY 2013 request	Committee recommendations	Change from FY 2012 budget
Intercollegiate Athletic Association	\$3,150,701	\$3,095,701	+\$167,082
Rhatigan Student Center	\$5,098,935	\$5,098,935	+\$341,169
Heskett Center	\$895,221	\$843,482	-\$18,991
CDC Asst. Teacher Program	\$160,200	\$160,200	+\$45,200
Safe Ride	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$0
Sunflower	\$185,160	\$158,000	\$0
Student Health	\$747,947	\$747,947	+\$37,076

For the rest of the Student Fees Committee recommendations see page 3

CSL, \$51,739 from general use funds—normally for CSL—were allocated to the Heskett Center, freeing up some student fee money.

While the Collegiate Readership Program was recommend for the full amount for fiscal year 2013, SGA will be collecting information about the

usefulness of the program on campus and reviewing the findings.

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“What are the metrics,” Hall said. “If it’s not well used or utilized, we need to look at making adjustments.”

Donnell also addressed the issue.

“I never see students reading more than one newspaper,” he said. “Do we need USA Today? The Eagle? We could give more responsibility to the Sunflower.”

The funding request for the Sunflower, the student newspaper, remains the same as last year’s \$158,000.

“One of the trends is that departments have been encouraged to dip into reserves,” Hall said.

SGA allocation requests for student groups were reduced from \$40,000 to \$30,000 because they will be using reserve money.

A recommendation for SGA individual allocations, however, could increase funds from \$12,500 to \$18,750.

This suggestion would compensate for an increased number of

students applying for the \$550 capped amount available for travel for competitions, seminars and similar activities. There has been an increase in requests for international travel, Hall said, which causes the costs—and need for more funding—to increase.

The recent economic downturn resulted in a few adjustments as well.

The Basketball Band, which is no longer able to waive the tuition of graduate teaching assistants, was recommended an additional \$7,000.

An increase of \$45,200 was recommended to the Child Development Center to offset increased costs for student employees.

With a 2.5 percent salary increase recommended to Health Services during the middle of last year, \$37,076 of additional student fee dollars were recommended.

There was debate about the extent of funding for Baja SAE as there is no fall competition and “not

the best track record for membership,” according to SGA President Matthew Onstott.

Of the \$29,612 Baja SAE requested, \$22,737 was recommended.

The Formula Team was recommended \$21,355, with a supplemental fee allocation of the remaining requested amount of \$32,605 recommended to encourage the teams to accelerate the current two-year car building cycle into a one year.

The Formula Team is to report the results of additional funding at next year’s hearings.

“SGA is not saying they’ll make it part of the permanent budget until they see the results,” Werner said. “It’s a way to encourage them to utilize funding as requested.”

The committee approved requested funding for the arts without much debate.

The committee also recommended \$5,200—up from last year’s \$3,200—to bring a new piece to the Ulrich

## Student Fees Committee Recommendations

Organization	FY 2013 request	Committee recommendations	Change from FY 2012 budget
Baja SAE (Engineering)	\$29,612	\$22,737	+\$4,232
Basketball Band	\$61,251	\$61,251	+\$7,000
Collegiate Readership Program	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$0
Cooperative Education	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0
Crit-O-Rama	\$5,200	\$5,200	+\$2,000
Educational Opportunity Fund	\$202,789	\$202,789	\$0
Formula Team (Engineering)	\$53,960	\$21,355	\$0
International Scholarship Fund	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Mikrokosmos	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Model UN	\$17,660	\$17,660	\$0
SGA Allocations	\$30,000	\$30,000	-\$10,000
SGA Individual Allocations	\$18,750	\$18,750	+\$6,250
SGA Office Expenditures	\$100,000	\$100,000	-\$1,061
Shift Space Gallery	\$47,102	\$47,102	+\$7,802
Shuttle Bus	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Student Advocate	\$11,000	\$11,000	-\$679
Student Legal Aid	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Collegiate Readership Program	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$0

Museum’s “Crit-O-Rama” exhibit.

An additional \$7,802 was recommended for the Shift Space gallery in Old Town. The increase would provide a part-time salary and benefits for an eligible worker and

student employee.

“It’s part of major community outreach,” Donnell said. “It is guaranteed exposure for the university.”

The first reading of the student fee recommendations is scheduled for

SGA’s meeting tonight with no action to be taken. Anyone with questions can address the association. The second reading, including discussion, debate and a formal vote, is scheduled Feb. 22.