

Campus Elections Commission

Voters Guide & Sample Ballot 2023

April 24-27, 2023

studentlife.sa.ucsb.edu/units-initiatives/campus-elections

NEW FEE: UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE

RECREATION CENTER OPERATIONS FEE

Do you approve a mandatory fee of \$41.60 per undergraduate and graduate student per fall, winter, and spring quarters (\$27.74 in the summer) to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance of the Recreation Center and to replace the current Rec Cen I fee, which is expiring after summer 2023? (Breakdown: \$29.17 goes to the Rec Cen, \$10.39 is for return-to-aid, \$2.04 is for administrative assessment. In summer: \$19.45 goes to the Rec Cen, \$6.93 is for return-to-aid, \$1.36 is for administrative assessment.)

Recreation currently collects \$71.49 per undergraduate per quarter (fall, winter, spring; \$50.13 in summer) and \$41.50 per graduate student per quarter (fall, winter, spring; \$20.97 in summer), (current Rec Cen I fee has been omitted from these totals because it is ending before the proposed fee begins). The Recreation Center Operations Fee would be in addition to these existing quarterly fees. Additionally, a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)* will be applied on a 5-year basis beginning fall 2030, and every five years after (i.e. fall 2035, fall 2040, fall 2045 and so on).

If approved, this fee will be subject to reaffirmation every four years, beginning in spring 2027.

___ YES ___ NO ___ ABSTAIN

The proposed fee will replace the current Rec Cen I fee, which will discontinue after summer 2023.

The UCSB Recreation Center is the first student fee funded facility in the UC system to reach the milestone of paying off its bond (mortgage). This proposed fee will ensure the Rec Cen is open and available to current and future students by funding ongoing operational expenses. Students can then continue using the Rec Cen with no additional membership cost.

The fee will also allow Recreation Center management to refresh and expand fitness equipment, complete maintenance projects, and continue offering extensive operating hours.

This initiative is sponsored by the student-led Recreation Center Governance Board, which maintains policy oversight of the facility.

*Fees subject to a COLA remain stagnant for five years. After five years, the compound rate of inflation/deflation (CPI) over the previous five years is calculated and applied cumulatively to the fee. If approved, this fee would remain stagnant initially for seven years with the first COLA in 2030 based only on the previous five years of CPI data. After that, a 5-year pattern would continue.

REAFFIRMATIONS: UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE

CAREER SERVICES OPEN ACCESS FEE

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$17.09 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (including summer) to support Career Services?

Breakdown: \$12.82 is for Career Services and \$4.27 is for return-to-aid; of the \$12.82 for Career Services, a 3.69% administrative assessment is charged to all non-capital expenditures.

Per original passage of this fee, the fee will be subject to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)* in fall 2025 and every five years after that.

Additionally, Career Services currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$3.16 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (including summer) through a separate campus lock-in fee, for a total of \$20.25 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Career Services Open Access fee will continue to be collected until subject to reaffirmation again in spring 2027.

_____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTAIN

With this fee, Career Services will be able to continue services at current levels. These services include: access to major and career exploration resources, connection to local and national internship opportunities, and access to the full range of services for students seeking employment after graduation (e.g., career fairs, on-campus interviews, and employer networking opportunities). The fee also funds staff positions that support a career education program for student success in specific industries (e.g., health professions, entrepreneurship, education, business, STEM, as well as public and social service, etc.).

*Fees subject to a COLA remain stagnant for five years. After five years, the compound rate of inflation/deflation over the previous five years is calculated and applied cumulatively to the fee.

UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S CENTER SUPPORT FEE

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$3.00 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (including summer) to maintain UCSB student family tuition subsidies, funds for UCSB student employee wages, and to provide facility operating funds to support the Orfalea Family Children's Center (West Campus) and the University Children's Center at the Student Resource Building?

Additionally, the University Children's Centers currently collect (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$7.56 per undergraduate per quarter (\$6.56 in summer) through an A.S. lock-in fee, and, \$3.00 per graduate student per quarter (\$2.00 in summer) through a GSA lock-in fee for a total of \$10.56 per undergraduate student per quarter (\$9.56 in summer) and \$6.00 per graduate student per quarter (\$5.00 in summer).

If reaffirmed, the University Children's Center Support Fee would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in 2027.

_____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTAIN

Over 400 children, ages 3 months to 5 years, attend the University Children's Center in the Student Resource Building and the UCSB Orfalea Family Children's Center on West Campus year-round. The accredited Centers provide full-day, high quality, early care and education, and family support services. Approximately 35% of the parents are UCSB students. Fee revenue supports facility operating funds for the two children's centers and UCSB students in the following ways:

- The fee allows UCSB student parents to receive substantial discounts off the faculty, staff, and community family child care tuition rate.
- The fee allows the Centers to employ approximately 150 undergraduate students each quarter, who gain valuable work experience and knowledge in education and child development.
- The Centers directly support UCSB students through opportunities in undergraduate and graduate research, course projects and observation assignments, and volunteer positions.

COASTAL FUND INITIATIVE

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$3.00 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (excluding summer) to fund sustainability projects and awareness for the campus-adjacent coast?

Additionally, Coastal Fund currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$4.56 per undergraduate per quarter, through an A.S. lock-in fee, for a total of \$7.56 per undergraduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Coastal Fund Initiative would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in 2027.

_____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTAIN

First passed in 1999, this fee provides funding for paid internships, projects, and programs relating to the coastal ecosystems in and around UCSB. Funding proposals are reviewed by the all-student Coastal Fund Board and must center around the Coastal Fund values of community, exploration, opportunity, joy, protection, and trust. Campus organizations, student researchers, departments and local non-profit organizations are all welcome to apply, and examples of recently and/or regularly funded projects and programs include:

- Paid restoration internships and student org volunteer opportunities with CCBER at the North Campus Open Space, the campus lagoon, and other areas of campus.
- Increased accessibility for historically marginalized communities through programs such as The Sea League, a new Black-led organization in Santa Barbara that seeks to engage youth and communities of color in ocean sports, and programs that provide wheelchair users with all-terrain devices to explore our local beaches and trails.
- Field studies and research projects run by graduate and undergraduate students.
- Support for UCSB students working in environmental and outdoor education via the Kids in Nature program with CCBER, and NatureTrack.
- Support for students to work in paid positions on the Snowy Plover Docent Program at Coal Oil Point.
- Funding for the Coastal Media Project with the Carsey-Wolf Center/Film Studies, a new nine-week intensive environmental media production and documentary studies program.
- Paid summer diving internships with PISCO/MSI where students gain valuable career experience as scientific divers by running underwater transects and collecting long-term monitoring data.
- Funding to offset the cost of students taking the scientific diver certification course.

The fund is administered under the auspices of Associated Students with the oversight of the Coastal Fund Board and A.S. Senate.

REAFFIRMATIONS: UNDERGRADUATE ONLY

ARTS & LECTURES SUPPORT FEE

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$6.24 per undergraduate student per quarter, including summer, to support Arts & Lectures (\$5.18 goes to Arts & Lectures, \$1.06 is for return-to-aid. Of the \$5.18, only \$3.18 is subject to a 6% administrative assessment charged on all non-capital expenditures)?

Additionally, Arts & Lectures currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$3.65 per undergraduate student per quarter through an A.S. lock-in fee, and
\$5.68 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter through a separate campus lock-in fee, for a total of \$15.57 per undergraduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Arts & Lectures Support Fee would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in spring 2027.

___ YES ___ NO ___ ABSTAIN

Each year, Arts & Lectures presents over 150 events including films, lectures, residency workshops, and performances by world-class artists and influential speakers. Notable figures have included: Joe Biden, Jake Shimabukuro, Trevor Noah, Yo-Yo Ma, Jeff Goldblum, Tarana Burke, and Samantha Bee.

With continued support, Arts & Lectures can maintain:

- An array of events to students with discounted ticket prices (up to 65% off the general ticket price)
- A selection of performances, lectures, and films (approximately 20 events a year) at no additional cost to students
- Student employment opportunities
- Classroom visits, master classes, meet-the-artists discussions, and workshops with visiting artists and lecturers.

EVENTS CENTER SUPPORT FEE

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$4.00 per undergraduate student per quarter (excluding summer) to help meet the ongoing maintenance and facility improvement costs of the Events Center ("The Thunderdome")?

Additionally, the Events Center currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$5.49 per undergraduate per quarter through an A.S. lock-in fee, for a total of \$9.49 per undergraduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Events Center Support Fee would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in 2027.

_____ YES _____ NO ___ ABSTAIN

The Events Center, better known as the "Thunderdome," is the largest indoor venue available on the Central Coast and hosts a variety of activities including intramural sports, Exercise & Sport Studies classes, intercollegiate basketball/volleyball, career fairs, and Associated Students Program Board concerts. It was built in 1979 and requires ongoing upkeep and improvement. The support fee has provided funding for a new sound system, a new scoreboard and video board, interior/exterior painting, a new ticket booth, ADA-compliant restrooms, replacement of the main hardwood playing floor, replacement of the fire alarm system, termite treatment of wood structures, and an almost full replacement of heating and ventilation systems. If reaffirmed, future projects may include replacement of existing upper hardwood playing courts, renovation of restrooms, and improved seating. Reaffirmation of this support fee will continue to help pay for facility upgrades, capital improvements, and ongoing maintenance costs. The student-majority Events Center Governance Board approves all support fee expenditures.

The Events Center fee collected through Associated Students and this Events Center Support Fee collectively represent 75% of the annual Events Center budget.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP (SEAL) SUPPORT FEE (FORMERLY OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE SUPPORT FEE)

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of \$1.75 per undergraduate student per quarter (\$1.00 in summer), for Student Engagement & Leadership (SEAL) (formerly the Office of Student Life, OSL)?

Additionally, SEAL currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments):

\$2.73 per undergraduate student per quarter through an A.S. lock-in fee, for a total of \$4.48 per undergraduate per quarter (\$3.73 in summer).

If reaffirmed, Student Engagement & Leadership Support Fee would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in 2027.

_____ YES _____ NO _____ ABSTAIN

This fee provides funding for one full-time staff position and programming money to support a variety of campus activities open to all students, including first-year programs, leadership development, Registered Campus Organizations (including fraternities and sororities), After Dark, and University Awards. First-year programs assist freshmen, transfers, and new graduate students in making a successful transition to university life at UCSB. Leadership development provides theoretical and practical leadership development opportunities for students. SEAL provides advising and administrative support to more than 450 Registered Campus Organizations and fraternity and sorority chapters. Funds from After Dark are awarded to groups who host student-initiated, non-alcohol centered, alternative social programs. University Awards were established to recognize graduating seniors and graduate students who have demonstrated excellence during their time at UCSB. These awards recognize outstanding scholarship and extraordinary service, innovative contributions to student and community life, and students whose persistence and integrity have made exceptional contributions to campus life.

VOTING OPEN APRIL 24-27, 2023

THE ELECTION IS ONLINE!

How to vote: Go to <https://vote.as.ucsb.edu>, and follow the directions. The link is also provided on the UCSB GOLD system when you log in. Any difficulty voting should be reported to votehelp@as.ucsb.edu. These campus-wide measures will be on the ballot along with candidates for A.S. offices and A.S. new fees and fee reaffirmation items. Graduate students will vote on a separate ballot. Be sure to be a registered student by April 19, 2023, to be eligible to vote!

PRO/CON STATEMENTS

All registered students are invited to submit written statements of support or opposition for publication during Week 3. Pro/Con statements must include the author's name and be submitted electronically to emmeparker@ucsb.edu by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023. Statements are limited to 150 words and will be distributed via e-mail, on the Campus Elections Commission Website, and elsewhere on campus.

VOTER TURNOUT REQUIREMENTS

A minimum 20% voter turnout is required in order for the election to be considered valid. A reaffirmation passes if 50% + one of the voters vote "yes."

A sliding scale based on the 5-year average voter turnout (28.45% for undergraduates and graduate students combined) is used to determine whether a new initiative passes. If there is a 20% voter turnout, two thirds of those voting must support the measure. If the turnout is 28.45% or higher for measures voted on by both undergraduates and graduate students, a 50% + 1 voter approval is needed for the initiative to pass.

Definition of RETURN-TO-AID: The return-to-aid surcharge, 25% of the total fee charged, is assessed to every campus-based, student-initiated, new mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally passed 2006 or later. The surcharge is used by the campus to cover need-based financial aid for UCSB students whose financial aid awards would not otherwise cover student-imposed mandatory campus fees. The surcharge applies to undergraduate and graduate student fees.

Definition of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT: The administrative assessment, currently 7% of the base fee charged, is assessed to non-capital expenditures for every campus-based, student-initiated, new mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally passed 2009 or later. The assessment is issued by the campus to cover the administrative costs of collecting, accounting for, and disbursing the student-imposed mandatory campus fees. The assessment applies to undergraduate and graduate student fees.

Passage of the referenda on the ballot does not constitute final approval of the project. The chancellor and the University of California Office of the President must approve all referenda. In addition, all major capital building projects must be certified by the Regents for design, financing, and verification of the Environmental Impact Report, and are subject to review by the Campus Planning Committee, the Design Review Committee, and the California Coastal Commission. Fees for capital projects are based on an average undergraduate enrollment. Should enrollment drop unexpectedly, the mandatory student-imposed fees may have to be increased in order to maintain funding at a level to meet bond financing (loan repayment) requirements.

This voter information guide has been produced by the Campus Elections Commission. The commission, which comprises students, faculty, and staff members, is a neutral body that advises the chancellor (or designee) on all matters pertaining to campus-wide elections and conducts elections in such a way that the interests of the voters and the institution are well served through the process. The Campus Elections Commission is NOT affiliated with Associated Student or Graduate Students Association elections.