

The Usual Place, February 21, 2017,

The topic of tonight's discussion was on increases in student fees & tuition.

The conversation revolved around the \$282 increase after the tuition freeze. Fellows emphasized the importance in finding a balance between raising tuition and providing financial aid packages. Many Fellows encouraged student and alumni participation in the Regents' meetings. One Fellow asked that some of this funding be allocated for disabled student services.

Some Fellows were concerned with an increase in student fee referendums. One Fellow explained that the current process is left to student voting and is done haphazardly. This Fellow suggested that the process be more intentional and participatory. They added that many departments were beginning to rely on ASUC fees for their own funding. This Fellow stressed that there need to be better regulations and require more than 10% approval. Many Fellows agreed that there should be more of a holistic review of upcoming fees. A few Fellows also noted that these funds should be more accessible to students. Another Fellow shared that these fees have increased as a response to the state budgetary cuts.

Fellows also discussed alumni giving which is currently at its lowest. One Fellow suggest alumni to be included in a conversation and to have a way for them to see the direct impact of their contributions. Another Fellow noted that the current students, which are greatly affect by the higher costs, who will not feel motivated to give any money in the future. Another Fellow said that often the young alumni will start getting requests for money. They shared that often recent alumni have yet to pay their loans, do not have stable jobs, and do not feel indebted to the school. This Fellow suggested increased student engagement, lowering the costs of student housing and

books, and increased wellness resources as ways to provide a home to current students. Another Fellow noted that Resident Assistants in the dorms are hosting events but that they consistently have low attendance which often lead to increased food wastes.

Another Fellow highlighted the Senior Gift Campaign as a great way to incentivize giving back. This Fellow noted that much of the funding returns to individual departments, the Student Learning Center, and the Disabled Students Programs. They were also concerned that a tuition hike will impact students further and students will no longer feel inclined to give a gift. Other Fellows agreed that with fees increasing every year they would not feel inclined to support.

Many Fellows provided suggestion on how fundraise more effectively. Some Fellow suggested building a community with alumni and current students. One Fellow noted that the Regents' and Chancellor's Scholarship program has meet and greets with some of the donors and students which creates a personalized relationship. Many other Fellows agreed that there should be a way for alumni to see there their funding goes and to see an impact.

Lastly, Fellows urged conversation with state legislators and voters to demand increased funding of the University of California. Fellows asked that we look at how other universities are continuing their state funding and to understand that value on continuing an accessible model for California residents.