



University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees

**Student Affairs Committee
Special Public Meeting
June 17, 2022
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. [Resolutions to Change Certain Student Fees](#)
 - A. An Increase to the Student Wellness Fee at the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Campus)
 - B. A New Campus Recreation and Wellness Center Facility Fee at the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Campus)
 - C. An Increase to the Student Health Fee at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg
 - D. An Increase to the Student Recreation Fee at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
 - E. The Elimination of the Student Health Fee at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville
- III. New Business/Adjournment

Resolutions to Change Certain Student Fees

**BACKGROUND STATEMENT
TO RESOLUTIONS OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PERTAINING TO INCREASES IN
MANDATORY STUDENT WELLNESS FEES**

The University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh)

The annual revenue currently generated by the Student Wellness Fee on the Pittsburgh Campus is \$12,824,110. This revenue funds the operating costs for all wellness-related programs and services. These programs and services include the University Counseling Center (UCC), Student Health Service (SHS), Office of Campus Recreation, and Student Care Support Services. The annual operating costs for these departments total \$13,798,775. Student Health Service (Pharmacy and Clinic billing) generates an additional \$1.9 million in revenue. This existing budget model will sustain wellness operations, staffing, and programming on the Pittsburgh Campus, status quo, but it will not help us meet the rising demand on student mental health resources, expansion of student health services, or support the debt service and operating expenses of the new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center. To keep pace with rising demand on student mental health resources and increased acuity of student mental health concerns, we need to continue to invest in student wellbeing, including adequate mental health support, retention of physicians, psychiatrists, and COVID support. In addition to sustaining high-quality mental health and medical services, Student Affairs must proactively increase the size of our Campus Recreation staff to support the new 270,000 square foot Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, including operations and programming, enhanced fitness, wellness, and recreation offerings.

The projected cost of the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center is \$249M. Student Affairs is responsible for \$239M. Business and Auxiliary Services is responsible for \$10M to support the new dining center. The projected annual debt service for \$239M is \$13,821,394. The debt service assumes a 4.0% interest rate with a term of 30 years.

The estimated debt service requires that we increase the Pittsburgh campus Student Wellness Fee from \$460 per year to \$1,003 per year (a difference of \$543) by Fall 2024 (FY2025). The \$543 fee increase includes a projected \$443 for debt service and \$100 for projected new operating expenses for the UCC, SHS, Student Care Support Services, and Office of Campus Recreation (e.g., expanded staff and increased operations expenses in the new center). Benchmarking indicates Pitt's current Student Wellness Fee of \$460 per year for full-time students and \$230 per year for part-time students is toward the very bottom of peer and aspiration institutions. (See Appendix A)

The following is our proposed wellness fee increase model to be executed over the next three fiscal years (FY2023 to FY2026). We are committed to managing our fee increases intentionally, judiciously, and equitably. We are aware that fee increases financially impact our students and families, while also providing the necessary resources to support a world-class student experience and to support student success. **The proposed fee increase model is informed by a commitment that students will only pay for services, programs, and facilities that they will benefit from, use or access while enrolled.**

We propose that we **delay imposing a debt service charge to undergraduate and graduate/professional students until FY25 (Fall 2024),** or the scheduled opening of the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center.

We propose **two consecutive Student Wellness Fee increases (unrelated to debt service) of \$50 in FY23 and FY24**. The revenue generated by the student wellness fee increases for FY23 and FY24 will provide additional revenue to support continued investments in our student health and counseling centers, care support services, and additional staff in preparation for the new campus recreation and wellness center. These actions will have a direct and immediate impact on students who are currently enrolled. The proposed Student Wellness Fee increases will generate an additional \$2,719,875.00 of revenue by FY24.

We propose that we **establish a new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center FACILITY FEE beginning in FY25 of \$443 per year based on** the current projected cost of the new recreation and wellness center to pay the projected \$13,821,394 annual debt service. Creating a **separate** debt service or facility fee from the Student Wellness Fee is clear and increases transparency.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITEE
APPROVING AN INCREASE IN THE
STUDENT WELLNESS FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH (PITTSBURGH CAMPUS)**

WHEREAS, to keep pace with rising demand on student mental health resources and increased acuity of student mental health concerns, and to continue to invest in student wellness services and programs, including high-quality medical services, counseling, health education, psychiatric, recreation, and care support services; and

WHEREAS, the programming and operations of the new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center (to be completed in the academic year 2024-2025) will be funded by the Student Wellness Fee; and

WHEREAS, Student Affairs must proactively increase the size and expertise of its Office of Campus Recreation staff over the next two academic years to support existing campus recreation and intramural programs and services at the new 270,000 square foot Campus Recreation and Wellness Center,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Wellness Fee at the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Campus) will be increased by \$50 per year per full-time student and by \$25 per year per part-time student, effective Fall 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the fee will be increased by an additional \$50 per year per full-time student and by \$25 per year per part-time student, effective Fall 2023.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROVING A NEW
CAMPUS RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER FACILITY FEE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH (PITTSBURGH CAMPUS)**

WHEREAS, the projected annual debt service on the \$239 million Campus Recreation and Wellness Center is \$13.8 million; and

WHEREAS, the debt service, programming and operations of the new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center to be completed in the academic year 2024-2025 will be funded by mandatory student fees,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, a new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center Facility Fee will be established by the Division of Student Affairs for the sole purpose of funding the annual debt service payment for the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center construction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the projected per semester Facility Fee per full-time student beginning the fiscal year 2025 (or Fall 2025) is \$222 and \$111 per part-time student; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Facility Fee will be charged to all full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate and professional students enrolled at the Pittsburgh Campus effective the fiscal year 2025 (Fall 2025) until the retirement of the debt.

**BACKGROUND STATEMENT
TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PERTAINING TO THE INCREASE IN THE
STUDENT HEALTH FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT GREENSBURG**

The purpose of the Student Health Fee at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is to support the staffing and operations of the campus Health Center. The Student Health Fee provides funding for the salaries of the Director, Campus Physician, student workers, temporary nursing staff, equipment, supplies, medical records software, and educational programming. The Counseling Center also receives approximately 10% of the Student Health Fee. The Student Health Fee was last increased in 2014, and the fee currently generates revenue totaling \$75,540.00 per year.

However, a recent decline in student enrollment has resulted in a 10% decrease in revenue from AY15 to AY22. The current Student Health Fee of \$30 per term is no longer sufficient to fund the existing programs and services. Student Services recommends an increase of \$10 per term, for a total fee of \$40 per term for full-time students, effective Fall 2022.

Projected revenue for AY23 generated from the increased Student Health Fee would total \$100,720.00 per year. The proposed Student Health Fee increase was approved by the Pitt-Greensburg Student Government Association on December 7, 2021, was approved by the Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board Student Affairs Committee on January 12, 2022, and was approved by the Greensburg Campus Advisory Board on April 5, 2022.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITEE
APPROVING AN INCREASE IN THE
STUDENT HEALTH FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT GREENSBURG**

WHEREAS, the Health Fee of \$30.00 per term is paid by each full-time student to provide funds for the Health Center; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association recognizes that the Health Center is a vital part of the campus community; and

WHEREAS, the costs of operating the Health Center continue to increase, including the cost of an electronic medical record software system, equipment and supplies, a campus physician and support of the Counseling Center; and

WHEREAS, the proposed fee is similar to the fees charged at other regional campuses,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Health Fee be increased to \$40.00 per term for full-time students effective for the Fall Term 2022.

**BACKGROUND STATEMENT TO THE
RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITEE
PERTAINING TO THE INCREASE IN THE
STUDENT RECREATION FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN**

The University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown Student Recreation Fee was initiated when the campus Wellness Center was completed in 2010. This fee allows us to operate a full-service fitness facility for students. The Recreation Fee in 2010 was \$65 per semester for full-time students and was increased to \$76 per semester, per full-time student for AY20. Currently, the Recreation Fee generates \$314,032.00 per year.

Student Affairs requests that the fee be increased to \$90 per semester per full-time student for AY23, generating \$371,880.00 in projected revenue. This increase would allow Student Affairs to continue to increase physical recreational opportunities for the student population while also investing in an eSports program to meet the recreational needs of students interested in gaming.

This increase was discussed in April with leaders of the Student Government Association, who agreed that increasing the Student Recreation Fee is appropriate and not an undue burden on students. Students are excited about the introduction of a campus eSports program.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITEE
APPROVING AN INCREASE IN THE
STUDENT RECREATION FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN**

WHEREAS, the Recreation Fee of \$76.00 per term is paid by each full-time student to provide funds for the Wellness Center; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association recognizes that the Wellness Center is a vital part of the campus community; and

WHEREAS, the costs of operating the Wellness Center continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, the planned eSports program requires funding; and

WHEREAS, the current fee has not been increased since Fall 2020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Recreation Fee be increased to \$90.00 per term per full-time student, effective for Fall Term 2022.

**BACKGROUND STATEMENT
TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PERTAINING TO THE ELIMINATION OF THE
STUDENT HEALTH FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT TITUSVILLE**

The purpose of the Student Health Service Fee at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville was to support the staffing and operations of the campus Health Center. The Student Health Service Fee provided funding for the salaries of the part-time Nurse and Director (nine-month), Campus Physician (nine-month), full-time Counselor (nine-month), temporary nursing staff, equipment, supplies, medical records software, and educational programming.

However, effective August 3, 2020, student services offices on campus were closed as the campus transitioned to a non-residential campus and, more specifically, to the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville's Education and Training Hub. This transition included a teach-out process for students enrolled in the physical therapy assistant major, the subsequent closure of that program, and continued offering of the associate degree in nursing. With this transition, no on-site student or health services were provided. Remote services through tele-health and tele-counseling were offered to Pitt-Titusville students by the Bradford campus throughout AY21, but records show no utilization. The Student Health Service Fee was manually waived during AY22.

The current Student Health Service Fee of \$50 per semester is not justified given the lack of on-site student and health services. Student Services offices at Pitt-Titusville and Pitt-Bradford therefore recommend the elimination of that fee.

Projected revenue for AY23 generated from maintaining the Student Health Service Fee would total \$2400.00 per year.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
APPROVING THE ELIMINATION OF THE
STUDENT HEALTH FEE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT TITUSVILLE**

WHEREAS, the Student Health Service Fee of \$50.00 per term was paid by each full-time student at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville to provide funds for the Health Center; and

WHEREAS, effective August 3, 2020, student services offices on campus were closed as the campus transitioned to a non-residential campus; and

WHEREAS, no on-site health services are provided; and

WHEREAS, the current Student Health Service Fee of \$50 per semester is not justified given the lack of on-site services and the lack of demand for tele-health and tele-counseling services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Health Service Fee will be eliminated for full-time students at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville, effective for the Fall Term 2022.