

2022-2023 Student Fee Advisory Committee Report

Funding Priorities for 2023-2024 Budget Requests

*Submitted on behalf of the committee by,
Jonathan Chase Hickey, Chair*

Executive Summary

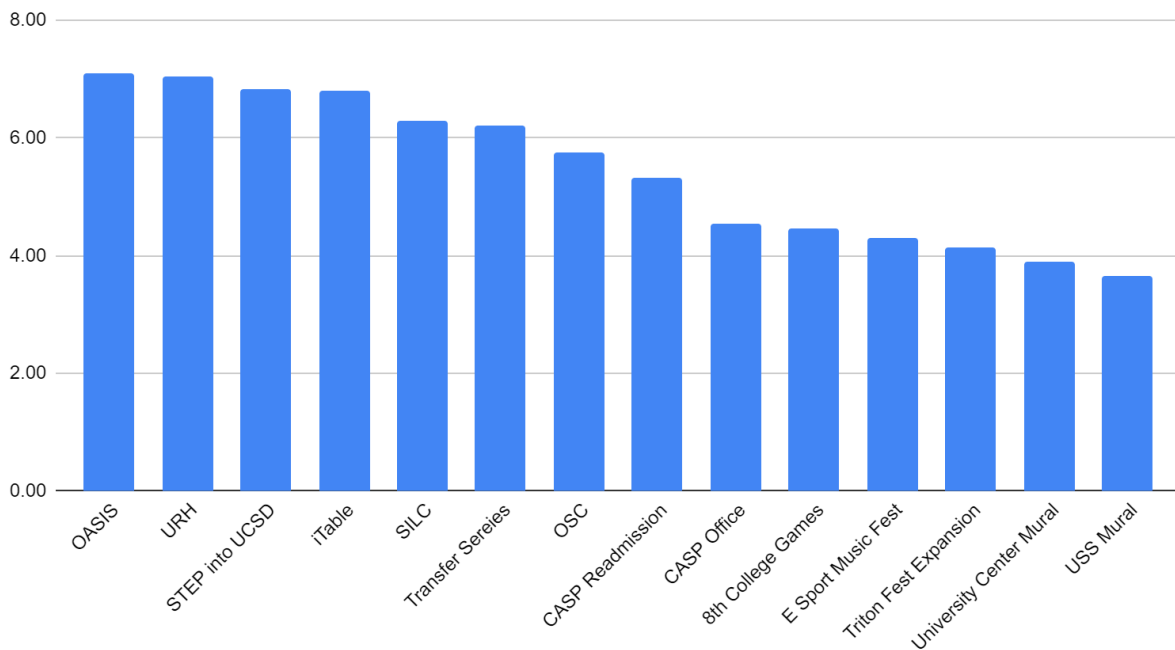
This year the Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) undertook the review of fourteen proposals under a new “Innovation Grant” framework in response to no new or re-allocations of permanent student fee dollars. The purpose of this alternative method was to develop a framework for piloting new programs in a future where year over year growth of the student fee is no longer a guarantee. Over the winter quarter, we holistically reviewed and evaluated each program to determine how well it would serve the student interests in an ever changing university environment. **The results, listed below, are the committee's recommendations of funding, with the first six units listed receiving full funding.**

1. OASIS: Social Justice & Holistic Support Innovations
2. Undergraduate Research Hub: Assessment of URH Programming
3. Transfer Student Services: STEP into UC San Diego
4. ISPO: iTable
5. CSI: SILC Expansion/CSI Virtual Front Desk
6. CPEO: Grad & Transfer Series
7. OSC: Restorative Justice Program
8. CASP: Retention & Readmission Work
9. CASP: Office
10. CPEO: 8th College Games
11. CPEO: E-Sports Music Festival
12. CPEO: Triton Fest Winter Series
13. UCEN: University Center Mural
14. USS: Undocumented Student Services Mural

In the subsequent pages of this narrative the reader will find a detailed description of the committee’s process, methodology, motivating principles, and detailed descriptions of each proposal.

Unit	Program	Amount Requested	Score
OASIS	Social Justice & Holistic Support Innovations	\$50,000	7.11
Undergraduate Research Hub	Assessment of URH Programming	\$40,000	7.06
Transfer Student Services	STEP into UCSD	\$30,000	6.83
International Students & Programs Office	iTable	\$32,000	6.81
Center for Student Involvement	SILC Expansion/CSI Virtual Front Desk	\$41,000	6.30
Campus Performances & Events Office	Grad & Transfer Series	\$30,000	6.20
Office of Student Conduct	Restorative Justice Program	\$50,000	5.75
Chancellor's Associates Scholars Program	CASP Readmission	\$50,000	5.33
	CASP Office	\$50,000	4.56
Campus Performances & Events Office	8th College Games	\$50,000	4.47
	E Sport Music Fest	\$50,000	4.30
	Triton Fest Expansion	\$40,000	4.14
UCEN	University Center Mural	\$40,000	3.89
Undocumented Student Services	USS Mural	\$50,000	3.65
Total Amount Funded: \$243,000			

Final Cumulative Scores



Introduction

In undertaking SFAC’s responsibilities this year, a principle goal from the outset was to serve all students with our recommendations. From planning how to review the proposals down to the individuals taking part in these discussions, we were intentional in our setup. This year we brought back a process that the committee has utilized in the past and one that served us well before -- the subcommittee.

Every unit we review was assigned to one of three subcommittees for review, with each subcommittee receiving four to five proposals to review over the winter quarter. These subcommittees were intentionally created to bring a diversity of perspectives from student representatives across the University. These subcommittees functioned as “little SFACs”, meeting with each unit with a proposal, hearing their presentation and gathering more information for the main committee, becoming experts on their five proposals. As well as this, they also underwent a process of reviewing, scoring and presenting on each proposal they reviewed to the main committee. This process freed up the main committee to spend more time on discussion of the merits of each proposal and how they would improve the student experience on campus. This had

incredible results, with wide ranges of input on proposals from not only those members on the subcommittee who was assigned said proposal, but feedback from other student government bodies on campus. We feel that this year the discussion on each subunit was detailed and evolving, with the committee working to paint a full picture of each one all year.

Each proposal was reviewed and scored by the assigned subcommittee and committee at large. The committee reviewed each of the proposals, based purely on the merits of the written proposal, and scored them at the beginning of our process. From here, we conducted our interviews and then rescored after a subcommittee presentation to the committee followed by a discussion of the new information. The scoring metrics that were used this year remain consistent with the metrics in years past. Each proposal had a whole number score assigned to the following categories: breath, value, depth, and equity.

Breath: An overarching score looking at a proposal's reach to the student body as a whole. This score exists to quantify the amount of unique students a proposal will attempt and feasibly serve. These values are relative, not explicitly tracked by a fraction of the undergraduate population but rather judged on how "big" a proposal is. For example, a proposal which serves 300 unique students could be scored as a 4, where a proposal which serves 2,000 could be scored as a 9. Scores vary by individual, but generally fall within this metric.

Value: Similar to breath, this is a quantitative measurement of how much "bang for our buck" a given proposal has. A simple, first approximation of this score can be calculated as price per student served. For example, a program that aims to serve 500 students for fifty thousand dollars would have a price per student value of \$100. Roughly, this could result in a score of 4. A higher value score equates to a lower price per student.

Depth: A more qualitative score focusing on how critical a proposal is to a student's experience at the University. For example, a proposal who seeks to expand mental health services could receive a score of 8, whereas a proposal planning a concert could receive a score of 3.

Equity: A score whose purpose is to attempt to address existing inequities or serve populations traditionally underserved on campus. A program attempting to

help undocumented students with legal services could be ranked a 9 whereas a program attempting to help students with legal services could be ranked a 6.

Unit Commentaries

OASIS: Social Justice & Holistic Support Innovations - 7.11

The Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services (OASIS) is seeking \$50,000 funding to pilot a three-part project intended to increase art partnerships within the community, recruit professional development for program facilitators, and continue a partnership with the San Diego Food Bank. The OASIS proposal houses 5 transition and support programs that will grow in capacity; 3 academic support programs-easily serving over 2,500 students/yearly.

Due to the circumstances of the recent Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a demonstrated increase in inflation, increase in tuition, lack of basic needs, and food and housing instability. The implementation of the continued partnership with the San Diego Food Bank, including increased access to fresh foods and basic need resources, would alleviate these disadvantages and allow high need student populations to meet their basic needs and increase their safety net through OASIS. Additionally, over the past few years there has been a particularly demonstrated increase in a lack of sense of belonging amongst the African American community on campus, compared to other racial categories. The funding of this proposal would allow funding for Black Student Ambassadors that will take a strong lead in the planning and implementation of the UMOJA Overnight Program, a program aimed at increasing a sense of community for undergraduate transfer African American students. More specifically, it would allow experiential opportunities for students to directly impact the access for communities they originated from. This will aid in pipeline building for outreach to future scholars by using an exothermic approach to campus climate. Lastly, the community art partnership request would utilize funds to put collective and intentional artwork that is reflective of student identities, experiences, values, and hopes. It would serve as a service-learning and community engagement opportunity for UCSD undergraduate students to give back and make a long-lasting positive impact in local schools and communities.

If this proposal is not funded, the University would risk losing access to increased food and housing security resources as well as opportunities to culturally represent and demonstrate diverse categories of belonging on campus. There would also be a loss of an opportunity to institutionalize the demonstrated need of a sense of belonging for Black undergraduate students.

With their core values of community, social justice, empowerment, education, and unity at hand, this proposal strives to eliminate barriers and provide critical services for students who are historically underrepresented and marginalized. Their funding request has specific and intentional goals of improving student experience and academic success amongst UCSD undergraduate students. OASIS is actively seeking funding from different grants throughout campus to ensure funding going forward. The proposal further shows great potential for attaining sustainable funding going forward through their low-cost, high-yield allocation of funds. Thus, SFAC unanimously strongly recommends funding this three-part proposal in an effort to support OASIS in piloting expansive opportunities for community-building and belonging amongst underrepresented communities at UCSD.

URH: Assessment of URH Programming - 7.06

The Undergraduate Research Hub has requested funding to conduct a six month long assessment of undergraduate research opportunities for UC San Diego students. They seek to hire an outside evaluator to prepare a summary of all paid, volunteer, and credit-bearing options as well as academic-year and summer programs, and on-and off-campus opportunities.

The committee believes that this would be an excellent use of student funds and has the potential to greatly impact a wide number of students on campus throughout their undergraduate experience. Many students, when choosing to attend a world class research university, wish to involve themselves with said research. Involvement as an undergraduate researcher can positively impact a student's academic or professional career, bolstering their resume or preparing them for competitive graduate programs. By funding an assessment whose goal is to learn how to encourage more opportunities for students, the university can aid in a student's journey to academic and professional

enrichment. It is the opinion of the committee that this is a great way to further ensure that the University is student centric and research focused.

TSS: STEP into UC San Diego - 6.83

Transfer Student Success, more formally known as the Triton Transfer Hub, is requesting funding to pilot the Triton Transfer, STEP into UC San Diego. STEP, which stands for Summer Transfer Enrichment Program, aims to offer incoming students academically enriching experiences by providing a range of workshops, mentorships, and programs that would work to acclimate transfer students to UC San Diego prior to arriving on campus. The proposal request set forth by the Transfer Hub follows an inclusive model, allowing students to attend both in a virtual and physical space. Encompassing a range of events, funding would allow the program to onboard peer coaches and graduate assistants to support students beginning in the summer into the academic year. Ultimately, the proposal works to support the underserved student population of transfer students, as the program's primary objective is to mirror the systems in place that are traditionally catered to first year students at UC San Diego. Thus, SFAC believes that the necessity of its services and its contribution to a more equitable campus greatly outweigh the cost per student.

If funding were not obtained for the proposal made by Transfer Student Success, the program would be limited to virtual options, rendering the office's ability to provide social components. Therefore, prospective students' ability to facilitate a sense of community and access academically enriching resources would be negatively impacted and halted in response. As the university seeks to increase its transfer student population, it is imperative to implement a comprehensive program that fosters the integration of these students. Such a program would play a critical role in supporting and securing their academic and personal success, thereby uplifting the UC San Diego institution as a whole. Thus, SFAC highly prioritizes securing the funding resources necessary to maintain the program's projected services to all prospective transfer students.

ISPO: iTable - 6.81

The International Students and Program Office (ISPO) is requesting funding to onboard a specialized administrative position to support the iTable Basic Needs Program. In recent years, following the Covid-19 Pandemic and growing inflation rates, there has been a surge of international applicants who are otherwise restricted from utilizing CalFresh and other federal and state assistance due to their visa status. The funding request set forth by the program would allow for the continued support for international students by providing immediate care, one on one meetings with students, and further support regarding administrative logistics (which would encompass assessing applicants, visas, following up with Student Affairs Needs, etc). In doing so, working to provide not only critical access to food security resources but also emergency basic needs at both an undergraduate and graduate level. While this proposal works to serve a select group of students, SFAC believes that the importance of its services, its impact on students, and its contributions to a more equitable campus, warranted a high depth and equity score. Ultimately, the programs' primary goal is to facilitate the uninterrupted academic pursuits of international students at UC San Diego by offering a centralized point of contact and access to a wide range of resources.

If funding were not obtained for the proposal made by the International Students and Program Office (ISPO), there would be a probable risk to international students who are looking for consistent administrative support, especially when facing an urgent need to access critical basic necessities. As the number of international student applicants increases, providing limited services would exacerbate disparities in service levels. Therefore, funding this initiative would help to bridge the gap for international students who otherwise do not have access to federally funded programs. Thus, SFAC highly prioritizes securing the funding necessary to maintain the program's continued service to the international student population attending UC San Diego.

CSI: SILC Expansion/CSI Virtual Front Desk - 6.30

University Centers (UCEN) and CSI combined during the Price Center expansion 15 years ago. UCEN oversaw more spaces and got busy with work, and UCEN and CSI split into separate desks. Student organizations grow in number every year and UCEN helps with supporting these organizations, with the number of organization events

growing by 79% since the inception of the Price Center expansion.

SILCs (Student Involvement Leadership Consultants), are peer advisors that help undergraduate and graduate students with involvement in clubs, student organizations, Greek Life, and community service. SILCs also provide resources on how to connect with all these social organizations and also fund venues for clubs. Furthermore, SILCs can also help student organization leaders establish new organizations and/or run their current organizations. There will be a virtual and in-person desk available.

Funding for the SILC expansion will expand the number of SILCs trained for the program, therefore allowing more students to be involved in events run by SILCs, such as the MLK Jr. Fair or Dogs on Library Walk, and allowing for more student organizations to be advised, helpful for the expanding number of student organizations. Due to the high scores of Breadth and Value that this proposal had, funding for SILC expansion would allow for an ease of access for a wide array of students to have easy access to become involved with social events around campus. If this proposal weren't funded, although the events done by SILCs would still carry on, there would be less ease of access for student advisory regarding social events around campus, and the workload for current SILCs would become overbearing and potentially be capped due to the heavily increasing number of student organizations. Thus, SFAC prioritizes funding this program in order to serve a huge amount of students and allow them to choose whether they need advisory for social scenarios.

CPEO: Grad & Transfer Series - 7.20

Campus Events is seeking to pilot an event series targeting graduate and transfer students. In collaboration with GPSA and Triton Transfers, this series would engage these underserved student populations through professional and social events. The vision is to expand beyond the extensive first and second year student events and cater to transfer students, older undergraduates, students with families, and 21+ students.

Following the increasing transfer student presence, these events offer an opportunity to demonstrate the university's continued commitment to serving the transfer student population's interests. Of the programs, two target transfer students and another

focuses on graduates. However, the impact on these students ripples throughout. Undergraduate students benefit from the career and mentorship opportunities that these experienced students create for the university. This program bridges the gap of underserved student populations and undergraduates. Inability to fund this request would result in an inability to pilot the transfer programming. In funding this request, we ensure that this pilot has the best chances at creating a space for grad students, transfer students, and undergraduate students to interact and benefit collectively going forward.

OSC: Restorative Justice Program - 5.75

The OSC Restorative Justice initiatives proposal is focused on incorporating Restorative Justice into the fabric of their office. The effects and mission of this program has been ongoing for years now and the office has been able to hone their approach to educating students and staff in Restorative Justice practices. It has been an intentional innovative effort by the office of student conduct to cultivate a more productive approach to conduct cases and prevention through workshops. SFAC sees the importance of this program but we are unable to fund this proposal at this time.

The current state of SFAC given the financial limitation is to provide one time funds for programs. The funding OSC is asking for is to make up for a deficit between where they want their programming to be and where it is at the moment. Recurring funding is the solution to this problem not one time innovation grant funding. We want to underscore the importance of this program and that this should be something that receives permanent funding from another source. Furthermore, with the continued growth in enrollment and on campus housing at UCSD the OSC will see more work on their plate, and should receive recurring funding.

CASP: Retention & Readmission Work - 5.33

The Chancellor's Associates Scholars Program (CASP) provides financial aid, academic counseling, and other benefits to help low-income, high-achieving undergraduate students thrive in their college experience. CASP is requesting student fees to fund

two, part-time temporary positions that would advise CASP recipients who are not in good academic standing. This includes students who are at risk of academic disqualification, or students who have been disqualified but would like to return to UC San Diego.

SFAC unanimously agreed on the positive impacts of the Retention & Readmission program, but concerns were raised about the limited number of students that the program would reach—as it is open to only about 1,700 CASP recipients (out of roughly 30,000 undergraduate students). The program emphasized individualized, high-touch personal and academic counseling for struggling students, and directly identified issues that students commonly face in the readmission process. While the proposal received a lower recommendation, SFAC acknowledges its potential and strongly recommends that it is funded by another source on a larger scale—one that is accessible to the entire student body. Doing so would widen the scope of students who serve to benefit from the program, and reinforce student centrality at UCSD.

CASP: Office - 4.56

The Chancellor's Associates Scholars Program (CASP) provides financial aid, academic counseling, and other benefits to help low-income, high-achieving undergraduate students thrive in their college experience. CASP is requesting funds to furnish its new office space and expand the study lounge, conference room, and dry kitchen. The office averages 50-75 unique student visits per week and is used for a variety of purposes, including CASP programming, printing and computer services, studying, and eating.

The 2023-24 Innovation Grant intends to highlight innovative ideas that directly concern the student body. With this definition in mind, this proposal scored low on the breadth and depth scales because an office space is unlikely to leave a lasting impact on the student experience. Moreover, the office is primarily visited by CASP recipients—a very small, select subset of the UC San Diego student population. SFAC would like to prioritize proposals with a larger, more tangible impact but still acknowledges CASP's goals of creating a strong community and providing resources for talented, low-income students.

CPEO: 8th College Games - 4.47

The Campus Events Office is requesting funding to pilot 8th College Games, a college to college competition intended to highlight all students' competition abilities, interests, and passions. The Campus Events, as stated by their proposal, would “sponsor and produce a tournament style set of games for each college to compete in over a series of day(s), mini games culminating in a ceremony”. While striving to incorporate a diverse range of events tailored to students' interests, the committee discovered that the proposed events bore a striking resemblance to Unolympics, an event which is already hosted at UC San Diego. While bringing new aspects to events such as Unolympics, the event did not spark outstanding interest when surveyed amongst the student population. Notably, the committee saw potential in the number of students that could be eligible to participate (breadth) and the unit's ability to create equitable cost per student. However, in the categories of depth and equity, the program had room for improvement as the events do not assume responsibilities for eliminating inequities.

Certain drawbacks that were encountered during the deliberation process were that the proposal lacked clarity, development, and sufficient information regarding the timeline of events. Although innovation grants are intended to support various proposals aimed at enhancing the student experience at UC San Diego, this does not imply that the SFAC committee will provide recurring funding or accept proposals that resemble events already established by the campus. To clarify, this does not indicate that SFAC's decision reflects a distaste for new innovations regarding events catered to expanding the student experience, as the committee highly values creating memorable and lasting impressions for students during their time attending UC San Diego. Ultimately, proposals that effectively demonstrate clear goals and actionable plans for their events, as well as prospective funding resources, allow the committee to better assess their potential for enhancing the student experience. While events do not necessarily need to be fully developed at the proposal stage, units should be able to provide sufficient information regarding the logistics of their events.

CPEO: Esports Music Festival - 4.30

The Esports Music Festival proposed by CPEO is a campus wide event open to all students whose main goal is to promote the awareness and interest in Esports by providing a platform to showcase the growing industry. This would be accomplished

through the use of an annual festival geared towards bringing many different groups of people together to enjoy not only all the fun that is associated with a music festival, but also to relax and destress through gaming which has become a much more competitively based system in the last couple years. This event, which is something they hope to build to, it becoming an annual event that people look forward to that is on par with Triton Fest and the Sun God Festival is projected to be so with proper funding. Which would be coming from SFAC for a total of fifty thousand dollars and three thousand dollars coming from Campus Events. With the prospect that after receiving funding for this pilot, if successful, a door would be opened to sponsorship opportunities from outside vendors that would serve the dual purpose of expanding the festival to greater heights and lightening the need for allocations of school funds. The pilot estimates a rolling attendance of 4,500 people with a static attendance of 3,000 in Liontree Arena. Which, when broken down averages to a cost of \$12 per student if this were not a school associated event.

The value brought to each student is why the value score for this proposal was the highest ranked. This is because of the lack of clarity as to the process in terms of actual execution as there wasn't really any sense of a plan during the presentation with a lot of hypotheticals and no real sense of direction. As is reflected in the other scores with breadth, the committee did not see it as reaching a very wide demographic of people especially when it was compared to reaching levels of Sun God. While equity also scored lower because there was no real insight given how it helps to better serve a marginalized community. Finally there's depth, which also scored low because there was no solid information given as to how it would impact the student experience on a deeper level, especially when taken into consideration all the other concerts and semi-festivals that go on. Where the issue of really differentiating this festival from others wasn't made as clear plan-wise. As it seems like the attempt to do so, which is where the Esports aspect comes into play, came more as an afterthought.

Without funding, CPEO has made it clear that this event will not take place this coming academic year and time will be spent revising some of the aspects of their proposal in the hopes of presenting once again next year to try and receive funding.

CPEO: Triton Fest Expansion - 4.14

The CPEO has requested funding to expand the widely popular Triton Fest series for the Winter quarter. Triton Fest can bring together students in a positive way that promotes a safe learning environment about important topics such as substance abuse, mental health, and sexual responsibility. Furthermore, Triton Fest's ability to work with other departments and student organizations allows for an expanded reach on campus and promotes learning about different areas of the campus community.

SFAC believes this allocation would allow for an expansion of meaningful events on campus. However, SFAC also believes that the increase in events would not increase the number of new students attending the series. Furthermore, although SFAC believes that Triton Fest can reach many students on-campus positively, we don't think it will have a deep impact on the students it serves or promote equity on campus compared to other proposals. This proposal also lacked a plan for permanent long-term funding as this grant is only meant to be used once. Although SFAC believes in what the Triton Fest series hopes to achieve, SFAC does not recommend funding this proposal as SFAC hopes to prioritize ideas with the potential to impact an extended number of students on campus deeply.

UCEN: University Center Mural - 3.89

University Centers has requested funding to install a mural in the Student Center Courtyard as part of the ongoing renovation of the space. University Centers has already invested \$210,000 to partially reconstruct and refurnish the proposed site of the mural, and this first phase of the project is already completed. Part of the funding from this proposal would go toward hosting workshop events for conversations about design feedback, and the rest would be used for purchasing art supplies and commissioning an artist to create the mural. University Center's goal for the renovation project is to promote placemaking and belongingness for everyone who uses the space by incorporating individuals' feedback in its visual design.

Unfortunately, SFAC is unable to fund this proposal at this time. SFAC recognizes that installing a mural tailored to community members' feedback would contribute to feelings of belongingness. Arguably the most important function of an art proposal is to bolster spirit and community, and University Center's proposal addresses that goal directly and effectively. However, while retrieving feedback is important, SFAC would like to see the funding for an art proposal be focused on the art-making itself. The

proposal's value score was lower than others for this reason. Nonetheless, this proposal has many great ideas, and SFAC would like to see this proposal submitted again with some revisions and fine-tuning.

USS: Giving Voice to USS Students Mural - 3.65

The Undocumented Student Service (USS) has requested funding for the planning and creation of a mural with the purpose of telling the stories of undocumented students on campus in the USS space. The USS plays a pivotal role on campus by ensuring continued access to students who make up a crucial part of the UC, San Diego community. Furthermore, USS provides a safe space for undocumented students to speak and share their stories and struggles.

SFAC believes the mural would be able to tell the stories of undocumented students at UC, San Diego and engage undocumented students meaningfully. However, this proposal scored low on the equity criteria as the limited visibility by students on campus would hinder the ability of the mural to create discussion around the struggles and triumphs of undocumented students at UC, San Diego. Furthermore, SFAC also scored the breadth and value low, compared to other proposals, because the mural's location would be, although accessible to everyone, mostly only seen by the limited in-person visitors to the USS office. Although SFAC does not recommend the funding of this proposal this year due to the above reasons, we believe this mural could be an important addition to the campus if the mural's location was more accessible and visible to the general campus population.

Conclusion

Trends

The committee's approved requests were diverse and unique this year. The common thread amongst them though is that these proposals were well thought out and presented with a clear vision in mind. SFAC is grateful to have had the opportunity this year to have a direct impact on the student experience in ways that we had not in the past. One time funding is interesting to see what exciting ideas various units have to innovate their process. In our work this year it was disconcerting to come across proposals that should receive recurring funding and not be able to take that action. Another trend we noticed this year is that the two art focused proposals placed last. This is not due to any intrinsic value judgements by the committee but rather were rooted in the shortfalls that were significant in our decision lay in the location of the respective murals. The mission and focus of both of these were compelling but matching that to a direct positive student impact was difficult. We look forward to seeing more art proposals in this form in the coming years.

Chair Remarks

It was a pleasure to work with the units and with the committee this year. Having been on the committee for the past three years, working with a highly efficient and dedicated team this year was a great way to close out my time on the committee. I feel safe in saying that this year the committee achieved the high goals it set out and did so in such a way that incorporated the student voice in budgeting priorities in new and dynamic ways. I also want to thank John Hughes for the assistance and guidance that he has given myself and my vice chair this year. He has been an excellent mentor and guide to the SFAC process, helping the committee in countless ways. Lastly, I want to thank every committee member for their time and valuable input in our review. They are truly the soul of the committee and always brought productive thoughts and lively discussions to every meeting.



Jonathan Chase Hickey, SFAC Chair 2022-2023