



Referendum to Increase the ASUSF Student Activity Fee
Resolution 22-23-06

Whereas: The University of San Francisco undergraduate students currently pay a \$121 Student Activity Fee every semester in order to fund student organizations for open and inclusive events and services for all students; and

Whereas: The need for student organization financial support and overall student involvement on the USF campus has grown since 2016, when USF students last voted to increase the Student Activity Fee, with the number of active organizations growing from 111 to 142; and

Whereas: Well-anticipated annual events including, but not limited to, Philippine Cultural Night, Black Cultural Dinner, Ho'ike, Dia de la Mujer, Holi, and Culturescape have grown in numbers of participants and requests for new events have increased, hence the growth in event funding figures requested; and

Whereas: More organizations have been utilizing allocated funds to attend leadership and professional development conferences in order to prosper individual and organizational growth, hence the growth in travel funding figures requested; and

Whereas: The Student Activity Fee goes towards funding promotional items for organizations as well such as t-shirts, banners, and stoles, hence the growth in internal development funds being requested; and

Whereas: In addition to funding many anticipated events, items, and services, Chartered Student Organization executives are compensated hourly wages; and

Whereas: Hourly wages have increased the number of on-campus job opportunities to all undergraduate students who otherwise would be forced to work elsewhere. These opportunities also create a sense of accountability in order to ensure organizational growth; and

Whereas: The hourly minimum wage in San Francisco was \$13 in 2016, when USF students last voted to increase the Student Activity Fee, and is currently \$16.99 with additional increases expected annually; and

Whereas: San Francisco is one of the most expensive cities in the world to live in and the cost of providing activities on our campus is highly correlated to that extreme expense; and

Whereas: Many current students and prospective students are drawn to USF because of its inclusivity and wide range of organizations on campus to participate in; and



Whereas: The current Student Activity Fee will be unable to sustain the current level of events, services and jobs that are provided to and for students; and

Whereas: One of the goals of the university is to support its student organizations and provide the staffing to do so; and

Whereas: Without this staffing and the ability to pay such staff, student organizations and their possibility for growth on the university's campus will diminish; and

Whereas: Even with this increase, the Student Activity Fee of the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco will still be lower than other Jesuit institutions similarly located in highly expensive urban areas such as Boston College (\$320/semester)¹; and

Whereas: The Student Activity Fee is about the same as other Jesuit institutions such as Gonzaga University (\$125/semester)² and Loyola Marymount University (\$128/semester)³ where the cost of living is less expensive; and

Whereas: In order to keep and maintain the growth in the events and services that are provided to students, there is a need for the Student Activity Fee to be increased; therefore be it,

Resolved by ASUSF Senate of the University of San Francisco, representing all the undergraduate students of the University:

Resolved: ASUSF Senate proposes a referendum to be placed on the next election calling for an increase to the Student Activity Fee; furthermore, be it

Resolved: ASUSF Senate supports an increase of \$10 in the Student Activity Fee for three consecutive years (to increase to \$131/semester in 2024-25, \$141/semester in 2025-26, and \$151/semester in 2026-27) to maintain the current and growth level of services.

Submitted By:

Nadine Tabucao, *ASUSF Vice President of Finance*

Supported By:

Zoe Binder, *Editor-in-Chief, San Francisco Foghorn*

Jada Commodore, *President, Culturally Focused Clubs Council*

Triniti Nguyen, *President, Campus Activities Board*

Calixta Lehman, *Executive Producer, USFtv*

Fen Wright, *Executive Producer, College Players*

¹ ("Tuition & Fees - Office of Student Services")

² ("Tuition and Fees - Course Catalog")

³ ("Undergraduate Tuition and Fees 2022/2023 - Loyola Marymount University")



Emely Rico Garcia, *President, ASUSF Voices*
Leo Tafoya, *Manager, Graphics Center*

Presented to the Senate on:
November 30, 2022

Passed by the Senate on:
December 7, 2022

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ethan Lee-Bellows'.

Ethan Lee-Bellows,
ASUSF President