



Spring 2023 Town Hall Statement
Resolution 22-23-13

Dear USF community,

On Friday, December 9, 2022, the USF Board of Trustees voted to increase the traditional undergraduate comprehensive fee by 4.7%, which includes a 4.9% increase in undergraduate tuition. This increase is occurring amidst a dire cost of living crisis in San Francisco.

Students' trust in the administration has decreased in recent years, and the insufficient explanation regarding the recent 2023-24 academic year tuition increase does not inspire confidence. Students are angry and frustrated at the consistent increases. Although student leaders have been appointed to the University Budget Advisory Council and the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, the filling of these positions and a semesterly tuition email does not substitute for direct communication and dialogue from the administration.

Students deserve a better explanation of the increase and the allocation of their tuition dollars. They do not see the extra amount paid being reflected in the infrastructure or general improvements. Echoed year after year, we hear stories of our fellow students skipping meals, working multiple jobs, and still financially struggling. This has detrimental impacts on our academic success and the cultivation of *cura personalis*. Our concerns deserve to be heard and answered by the administration.

As past and present ASUSF Senate Presidents, along with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges¹ have declared, the University cannot continue to rely on tuition. Coupled with the expected enrollment cliff in 2025², perpetual tuition increases are part of an unsustainable business model that will continue to burden students. We welcome the 2027 Strategic Plan, but the University needs to be proactive in finding other ways to support the University's operating costs apart from tuition.

We, the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate, standing as the sole representative body of the undergraduate students of the University and in pursuant of Resolution 22-23-09, have called on the University administration to attend the ASUSF Spring Town Hall, and provide students with a direct, comprehensive, and well-deserved explanation. In addition, the ASUSF Senate is resolved to exercise its mandate to organize further collective student action shall the student body find the explanation unsatisfactory.

¹ [WSCUC Review Team Report, Fall 2018 Accreditation](#)

² [2027 Integrated Strategic Enrollment Plan](#)



Submitted by:

Ryan Mak, *At-Large Pre-Law Representative*
Stefan del Puerto, *Junior Class Representative*

Presented to the Senate on:

March 29, 2023

Passed by the Senate on:

April 5, 2023

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ethan Lee-Bellows'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'E' and 'L'.

Ethan Lee-Bellows,
ASUSF President