

# Poll Results Report

## 2014 STUDENT FEE REFERENDUM

Report date: Friday 28 February 2014




### Proposal to Increase the ASI Fee

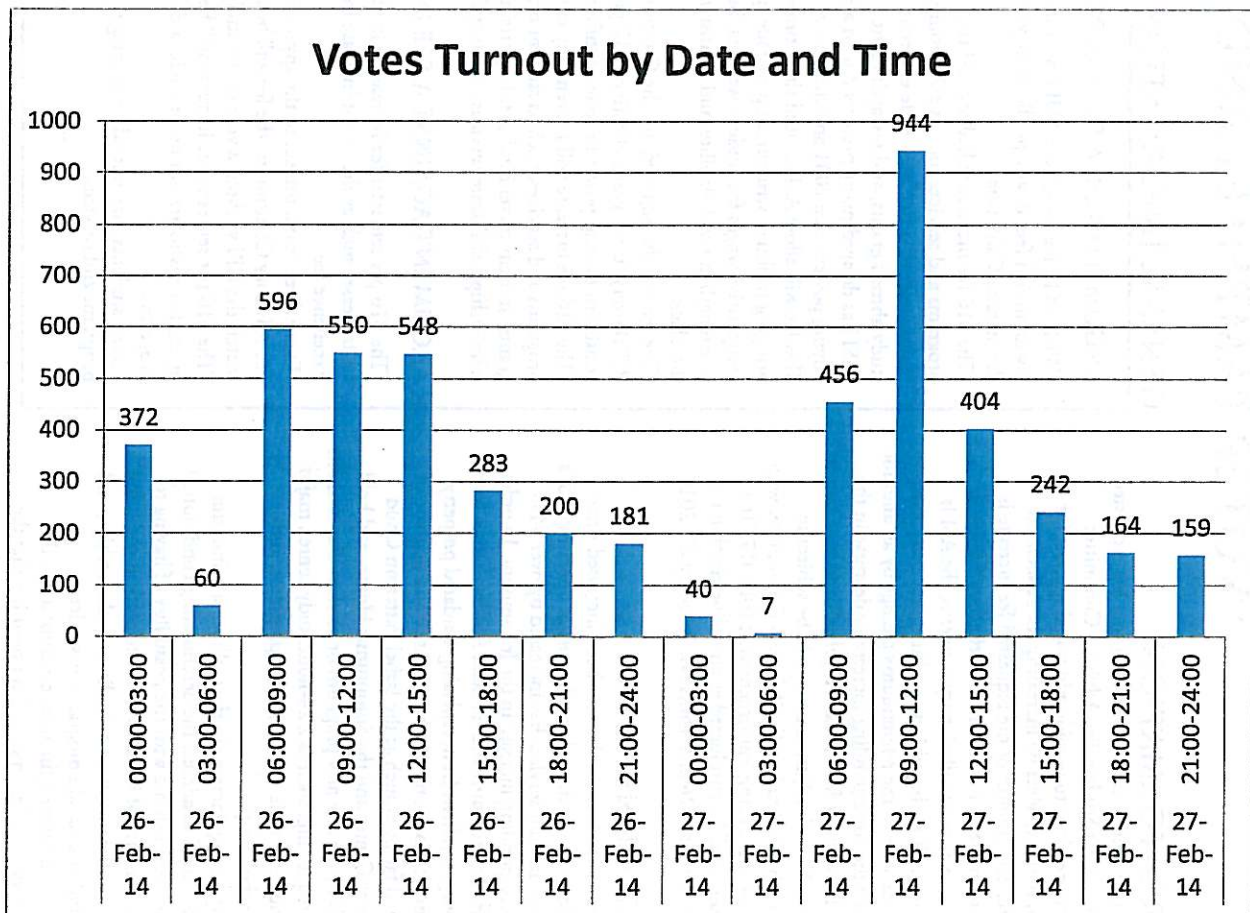
As at Poll close: Thursday 27 February 2014 23:59 PST

Number of voters: 5027 · Group size: 34357 · Percentage voted: 14.63%

Number of blank votes: 179

Ranked by votes

Rank	Answer	Votes	%	
1	Yes, I vote for the increase to the ASI fee.	2,822	56.14	
2	No, I vote against the fee increase.	2,205	43.86	



# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC. FEE VOTER PAMPHLET AND SAMPLE BALLOT

## VOTER INFORMATION

The Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) has requested that the university's Student Fee Advisory Committee conduct a referendum to provide additional support for ASI programs and services by increasing the Associated Students fee. The amount of the requested fee increase is \$16 per semester (\$12 in the summer) effective fall 2014. Additionally, to address inflationary concerns, the ASI is requesting the ASI fee be subject to adjustment every three years from the date of the referendum's passage by an amount not to exceed the corresponding increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County area. All such adjustments would be subject to authorization by the Student Fee Advisory Committee, with the first adjustment being implemented in fall 2017. The fee referendum will be conducted as an online election on Wednesday, February 26 and Thursday, February 27, 2014.

## BACKGROUND

The Associated Students fee has not been increased since fall 2000. In the years since then, the cost of operating ASI's various programs and services has increased by over 44% with no corresponding increase in the fee amount. In order to keep offering programs and services, ASI has had to freeze employee wages, refrain from replacing outdated property and equipment, postpone the maintenance and upgrade of ASI-operated facilities such as the Isabel Patterson Child Development Center and the Soroptimist House, and hold off on establishing any new programs or services that students have been requesting, such as a 24-hour study center, major concerts and large-scale entertainment programs, and additional scholarships.

With the upcoming increase in the California minimum wage and the need to address the deteriorating condition of ASI facilities, ASI is faced with the possibility of having to decrease the amount of funds awarded to student clubs and organizations, discontinue the funding of scholarships, and possibly eliminate certain programs or services.

Due to these challenging financial circumstances, the Associated Students, Incorporated is proposing that the Student Fee Advisory Committee conduct this referendum, allowing students to vote on increasing the Associated Students fee.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ARGUMENT FOR A FEE INCREASE

- With a \$16 fee increase, CSULB will still be among the lowest in ASI fees of any public, four-year institution in the State of California.
- The \$16 fee increase will allow ASI to provide new programs and services such as a 24-hour study center, a major concert, other large-scale entertainment programs, study abroad grants, and research grants.
- ASI has delayed many projects due to a 36% loss of buying power since 2001 and thirteen years of inflation. This fee will allow ASI to fund these projects, including bringing facilities' structures up to code, providing competitive wages for student workers, building reserves to strengthen fiscal viability, and consistently operating in the black.
- The fee will be adjusted to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) every three years, effective 2017 giving ASI consistent buying power in spite of inflation.
- The \$16 fee increase will prevent any cuts in ASI programs and services, such as student organization grants, student travel funds, club sports funding, scholarships, childcare services, and recycling services.

### ARGUMENT AGAINST A FEE INCREASE

- The \$16 per semester fee increase is in addition to other fee increases such as the recent increase in the Student Excellence fee.
- Every three years, subject to the approval of the Student Fee Advisory Committee, the fee will be adjusted to match the CPI without a vote of the student body.
- The \$16 per semester fee increase will be especially felt by students who are not on financial aid or scholarship programs.
- Some students may not take advantage of the new programs and services.

## SAMPLE BALLOT

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
LONG BEACH

### STUDENT FEE REFERENDUM SPRING 2014

SHOULD THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC. FEE BE INCREASED BY \$16 PER SEMESTER (\$12 IN THE SUMMER) EFFECTIVE FALL 2014 TO SUPPORT ASI AND STUDENT PROGRAMMING? THIS FEE WILL BE INDEXED TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(CPI) AND WILL BE ADJUSTED EVERY THREE YEARS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE STUDENT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

**YES** I VOTE FOR THE INCREASE TO THE ASI FEE.

**NO** I VOTE AGAINST THE FEE INCREASE.

END OF BALLOT

*The Beach*

CSULB

Spring 2014

SAMPLE BALLOT FOR DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.  
ONLINE FORMAT WILL DIFFER.

*This notice is issued by the Student Fee Advisory Committee.  
California State University, Long Beach  
January 13, 2014*



## Category II - Request To Modify or Cancel An Existing Fee

### General Information

**Department / College** Associated Students (Dept ID: 00139)

**Division** SSD

**Fee Name** Associated Students Fee

**Purpose of the Fee** Support the programs, services, and operations of the Associated Students, Incorporated

**Detailed Fee Description** \$44 per semester mandatory student body membership fee paid by all students of CSULB. The fee supports the operations of Student Government, the Isabel Patterson Child Development Center, the Recycling Center, Club Sports, Student Organizations, K-Beach Radio, the Union Weekly and ASI Administrative Services. It also provides for over \$350,000 in scholarships and other forms of financial assistance for CSULB students.

**Reason for Changing** The fee was last increased in 2000. Since that time inflation has eroded the purchasing power of the fee so that today, the \$44 fee only has the buying power of \$28. We are also requesting that the fee be indexed to the CPI so that it is adjusted for inflation every three years, subject to SFAC review.

**Effective Date** Fall 2014

### Contact Information

**Name** Richard Haller

**Contact** Phone: 54996, Email: richard.haller@csulb.edu

### Request Status

**Date Requested** 5/3/13

**Last Modified** 5/3/13

**Request ID** 250

### Account Number

**Fund Code**

**Status** In Review (Bursar)

### Calculation of Fee Level

Personnel Services Cost

	Last Year	Min (Year 1)	Max (Year 2)
Salaries and Wages	1435716	1721345	1870412
Temporary Help Cost			
Student Assistants Cost	831321	968190	997236
Staff Benefits Cost	668510	779965	814348
Other Personnel Services Cost		77750	77750
Supplies and Services			
Tangible Consumable Materials	605606	623774	642487
Services	980856	1010282	1040590
Insurance	53571	56439	59260
Rentals	106983	112332	120757
Other Supplies and Services	641573	705730	776303
Other Costs			
Any Other Costs		500000	500000
Description	Deferred maintenance, capital replacement, reserves		
Total Costs (A)	\$ 5324136	\$ 6555807	\$ 6899143
Number of Students/Year (B)	73794	75343	76850
Calculated Cost per Student (C) = A / B	\$ 72	\$ 87	\$ 90
Current Fee per Student (D)	\$ 44		
Increase/Decrease in Fee (E) = C - D		From \$ 43	To \$ 46
Recommended Fee	\$ 60		

Authorization to Submit Request

Division VP/Appropriate Admin.	Douglas W. Robinson	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Division AVP/College Dean	Jeff Klaus	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Department Chair/Manager	John Habertroh	Signature: _____	Date: _____
ASM	Richard Haller	Signature: 	Date: 5/3/2013

Please contact us at [sfac@csulb.edu](mailto:sfac@csulb.edu) if you have any additional questions.



THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

**Bill Number:** Senate Resolution #2014-22  
**Title:** Referendum to Increase the A.S. Fee  
**Sponsored by:** Senator-At-Large Dominique Noble, Senator for the College of Engineering Tuan Nguyen, Senator for the College of the Arts Greg Ruiz, Senator for the College of the Arts Danny Hargreaves, Senator for the College of Natural Science & Mathematics Anh Tran, Senator for the College of Natural Science & Mathematics Rhea-Comfort Addo, Senator for the College of Education Christina Vasquez, Senator-At-Large Vanessa Mendoza, Senator for the College of Health & Human Services Allyson Roach, Senator for the College of Business Administration Allison Ernst, and Senator-At-Large Rain Gregorio  
**Date Submitted:** November 26, 2013  
**Date Approved:**

- 1 **WHEREAS** the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Senate of California State University, Long Beach  
2 (CSULB) is the recognized voice for over 35,000 students; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** it is the mission of ASI to provide the necessary resources for students to succeed both  
4 inside and outside of the classroom; and
- 5 **WHEREAS** despite the recurring state and university budget crises over the past decade, ASI has done  
6 everything possible to maintain a consistent level of services to the student body of CSULB; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** despite budgetary constraints, ASI has actually increased funding for student organizations,  
8 club sports, scholarships and other student programs and activities; and
- 9 **WHEREAS** in order to maintain this level of service, ASI has had to defer maintenance on its facilities,  
10 freeze wages and salaries, and abstain from allocating funds for capital outlay and replacement projects;  
11 and
- 12 **WHEREAS** roughly 60% of the Associated Students' operating budget is derived from a student body  
13 fee (AS fee) that has not been adjusted since 2001; and
- 14 **WHEREAS** the Associated Students' operating budget allocates expenses to programs and services  
15 where over 80% of such expenses are fixed costs; and
- 16 **WHEREAS** the AS fee is static and is not currently indexed to the consumer price index, which results  
17 in the AS fee losing its value over time; and
- 18 **WHEREAS** according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the AS fee would need to be \$60 today in order  
19 to have the same buying power as \$44 in 2001; and
- 20 **WHEREAS** since 2001 ASI has cumulatively lost over \$6 million of buying power due to the effects of  
21 inflation; and
- 22 **WHEREAS**, recent studies of the Soroptimist House and the Isabel Patterson Child Development  
23 Center alone have identified over \$750,000 in facility repair, maintenance and renovation projects that  
24 need to be funded but cannot be funded under ASI's existing budget; and

THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH



25 **WHEREAS** continuing to operate in this fashion in unsustainable, and ASI is reaching a point where it  
26 will no longer be able to sustain current operations and the upkeep of its facilities while maintaining the  
27 current level of funding for student programs and activities; and

28 **WHEREAS** a fee increase is necessary to maintain the fiscal viability of ASI's operations; and

29 **WHEREAS** without additional revenue, ASI will have to make significant cuts to the services it  
30 provides to the students such as student organization grants, student travel funds, club sports funding,  
31 scholarships, childcare services, recycling services, and many other programs; now, therefore be it

32 **RESOLVED** that upon passage, this resolution be forwarded to the CSULB Student Fee Advisory  
33 Committee requesting that a student fee referendum be placed on a special election ballot in February  
34 2014; and be it further

35  
36 **RESOLVED** that the student body will decide with a simple majority if the ASI fee is to be raised;  
37 and be it further

38  
39 **RESOLVED** that the above request seek an AS fee increase of \$16 to restore ASI's loss of  
40 buying power since 2001 due to inflation; and be it further

41  
42 **RESOLVED** that to ensure that the AS fee keeps pace with the rate of inflation, the request will  
43 include a provision that the fee be hereafter tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and be adjusted  
44 accordingly every three years; and be it further

45 **RESOLVED** that this resolution be distributed to Interim President Don Para, Interim Vice  
46 President Mary Anne Takemoto, Dean of Students Jeff Klaus, Director of Student Life and  
47 Development Brett Waterfield, and the 2013-2014 Associated Student body.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathon Bolin, Vice President &  
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Haberstroh, Associated Students President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

###