ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
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PROGRAM FEE REQUEST - NEW

University: University of Arizona

College/School: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Department: School of Natural Resources and the Environment

Program: BS Natural Resources

○ Both ○ Graduate ◉ Undergraduate Both

Choose One Option

Resident: $ 150 /semester
Proposed Fee

Effective Date: Fall 2021
(this field you may enter other option just by typing it in box)

Non-Resident: $ 150 /semester
Proposed Fee

Effective Date: Fall 2021
(this field you may enter other option just by typing it in box)

Other Applicable Fees in School/Program	Resident:	Non-Resident:
Applicable Differential Tuition:	0	0
Number of classes within the program with a fee:	3	3
Percent of classes within the program with a fee:	39%	39%

Purpose (Please provide a brief statement detailing the purpose of the tuition, including the anticipated expenditures of tuition revenue and benefits the tuition will provide students.)

The proposed program fees will be used to support student services and engagement opportunities inside and outside the classroom. We currently pay a 0.5 FTE academic advisor out of our discretionary funds to support the majors as they progress through the degree programs. We would like to enhance the role of our advisor by having them spend more time with 'at risk' students, as well as expand their role in helping to retain and increase diversity within our major. Discretionary funds are also used for classroom enhancements, poster printing services, student clubs, and general IT support. Program fees will enable us to address emergent needs deriving from steady SNRE program growth and an aging pedagogical infrastructure in one of our buildings. Funds are required to enable internships and improved student engagement in research, enhanced methods of instruction, securing and maintaining of upgraded technology and applications, increased laboratory sections for key courses, provision of laboratory computer lab refresh and staff support, and increased availability of field trips, including a field-based summer capstone course. The use of special equipment, technology and field studies in SNRE presents demonstrably higher costs of instruction delivery. Advising and educational improvements will boost undergraduate retention and competitiveness for positions.

Justification (Please provide a brief statement on what the proposal is intended to pay for and how much of the costs will be covered by the incremental revenue)

Today's job market seeks students with leadership and critical thinking skills as well as strong academic records. Students in the SNRE programs will develop these skills that enhances their competitiveness. The proposed fee will be used to enhance educational technology in the classroom, student experiential learning, career preparation, leadership experiences, and professional advising to ensure that our students are top candidates in the natural resources management job market. We expect that these existing SNRE programs and a proposed new ecotourism program will lead to continued growth in enrollment over time. We will need part time advising immediately as well as technical/computer support for the students in our programs The following provides detailed expenditures:

Academic Advisor II: Salary + ERE = $30,401 ; Technical support: Salary +ERE = $9,000 ; The balance of the program fees will be used to fund student engagement activities; such as attending the annual Range and Ecological Conferences at which they will present posters that SNRE will print at cost ($8,000). Classroom improvements including camera's sound and projector systems need to be upgraded in older teaching facilities ($7,500).

The University will assess administrative service charge to recover overhead costs incurred by the University. The revenues generated from the Administrative Service Charge (ASC) are used specifically to support overhead costs and administrative services that benefit the entire University, but are not easily assignable to any one unit. Examples include utilities, payroll processing, human resources, information technology, budgeting and procurement.

SNRE currently receives about $20,000 in undergraduate course fees every year that exclusively are for field trips and a computer refresh for the ENR2 N250 computer lab (every 3-4 years). One of the three course fees will be deleted if this program fee is approved as it covers the cost of poster printer services.

Student Consultation (Please describe the method and outcomes of student consultation)

We conducted an on-line survey to poll students about their satisfaction with advising, instructional services and technology, IT services that we currently provide. In total, 63 students replied to the survey. All students are exceedingly satisfied with these services (advising 84%; instructional services and technology 70%; IT services 83%) and like to keep these. Since the majority of these services come form discretionary funds, we would like to implement a program fee to sustain these services. 57 percent of them would likely pay a program fee and 43 percent were not interested in paying for these services. Financial hardship was one of the reasons. About 90 % of the respondents would be interested in offsetting the program fee costs with a scholarship. Other degree programs across the University have annual program fees that are generally between $400 and $700.

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona (ASUA) and the Graduate Professional Student Council (GPSC) are the student government on the University of Arizona campus that is comprised of students who are willing to go above and beyond and serve their school and peers. ASUA and GPSC executive officers attend the annual university fees meeting and review fee proposals to ensure the benefit to the students paying the fee. They also voted to put this fee forward for ABOR review/approval.

MARKET PRICING

Institution	Degree	Annual Price		
		Resident	Nonresident	Online
Penn State Univ Park		$ 18,454	$ 35,984	
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS U-C		16,862.00	34,312.00	
UC DAVIS		14,597.27	44,351.00	
University of Arizona		12,600.00	36,600.00	
Univ of Washington		11,659.00	39,028.00	
Univ. of Maryland		10,778.00	36,890.00	

BUDGET

Financial Aid Set Aside (FSA) Amount: 14.0%

Proposed Annual Revenue

Program Fee	$	$ 300.00
Number of Students	#	$ 250
Total Revenue	=	$ 75,000.00

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside	$	$ 10,500.00
Administrative Service Charge	$	$ 9,958.80
Advising Personnel	$	$ 30,401.00
Technical support	$	$ 9,000.00
Operating expenses	$	$ 7,500.00
Student engagement activities	$	$ 8,000.00
	$	
	$	
	$	
Total Program Costs	=	$ 75,359.80