

Measure #: 64

Referendum Title: Physical Education - Amendment to Measure 32

Ballot Type: Increase to an Existing Fee

Ballot Author: Physical Education Department

Contact: Dustin Smucker

Question: Shall the undergraduate and graduate students of UCSC provide additional funding to sustain and enhance the Physical Education department offered through the Office of Physical Education, Recreation and Sports (OPERS) by increasing Measure 32 by \$8.00 per student per quarter?

Summary Points:

- Adds \$8.00 to the current \$4.50 fee to create a fee totaling \$12.50 per quarter (“Fee”).
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates and graduates enrolled in Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters. A reduced fee will be charged in summer quarter based on the level of services available and consultation with the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- Fee increase will generate approximately \$428,784¹. 33% of this amount, \$141,498, will go toward the Return-to-Aid component that will help students who receive financial aid pay for this fee.
- Fee increase begins Fall quarter 2016 and will be assessed with no end date.
- The OPERS Student Advisory Committee, comprised of six undergraduates, one graduate, one faculty and one staff, will provide ongoing oversight of the fee.
- Students were consulted regarding this Fee through six focus groups in Fall 2015.
- The Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) does not take a position on this proposal. The committee fully understands the benefits of physical education for students. However, the committee has concerns with the fee increase in proportion to the amount of services being provided by the Physical Education department.
- The fee is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by resolution of the Student Union Assembly and a petition signed by at least 10% of undergraduate students; the fee is sponsored for graduates on the ballot by petition signed by at least 10% of graduate students.
- In 2014-2015, 2,021 students participated in Physical Education (PE) courses, and 223 sections were offered in 41 different courses. Total enrollment in 2014-15 was 3,249.
- Without this additional Fee, PE would need to eliminate approximately 53 sections annually to balance the budget.
- The revenue generated from this Fee will fund additional sections of high demand classes such as Sailing, Swimming and Scuba; a portion of these additional sections will be graduate student only classes.
- The revenue generated from this Fee will help sustain the PE budget, primarily to maintain the salaries of instructors who teach the classes.

¹ Based on the 2014-2015 fall, winter and spring undergraduate and graduate student enrollment average of 17,866

Ballot Statement:*Background Information:*

In Spring 2007, UCSC students voted to pass Measure 32, the Physical Education Program Fee. The current fee level for Measure 32 is \$4.50 per student, per quarter, with a 33% Return-to-Aid component. This amendment would increase Measure 32 by \$8.00 per student, per quarter to a total of \$12.50. Other funds that support Physical Education include the Student Services Fee, course fees and UC Santa Cruz General Funds.

In 2014-2015, 2,021 students participated in Physical Education (PE) courses, and 223 sections were offered in 41 different courses. More than one of every ten UCSC undergraduate and graduate students joined a PE class last year. Because many students enroll in more than one PE class each year, total enrollment in 2014-2015 was 3,249. Of the 2,021 students, 212 were graduate students.

Physical Education courses at UCSC, which are elective and without academic credit, are offered in a wide variety of activities. Courses include:

COURSE SUBJECT	2014/15 STUDENT ENROLLMENT	2014/15 SECTIONS
Swimming	225	19
Scuba	193	22
Boating (Sailing, Rowing, Kayaking)	517	53
Court and Field (Basketball, Racquetball, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball)	390	25
Dance (Ballet, Folk, Jazz, Modern)	590	33
Fitness, Yoga and Strength Training	936	43
Martial Arts (Tai Chi, Self-Defense, Aikido, Karate)	398	28
TOTALS	3,249	223

The courses consist of instruction, practice, and full participation consistent with each student's ability. While many of the courses are for students at the beginning level, some are designed for the more advanced student. Most courses meet for ten weeks, twice each week and one hour per class. Students may enroll in as many courses as they desire and are permitted to repeat any course.

How will the fee be used?

The fee will be used to offer 8-14 additional sections of high demand Physical Education classes each year, such as Sailing, Swimming, Yoga, Martial Arts, Dance, and Scuba. 2-4 of these sections will be graduate student only. The fee will pay for equitable salary and benefit costs for PE instructors who will teach these additional classes.

The fee will also allow for a sustainable PE budget. Since Measure 32 was passed in 2007, costs have increased significantly. However, Measure 32 is a fixed fee. 87% of PE's budget goes toward class instructors' salaries and benefits. Salaries have increased on average 3% annually, while benefit costs have increased on average 5% annually. Assuming salary and benefit costs continue to increase in similar amounts, this fee increase would be adequate to cover the cost of current and additional sections for at least the next three to five years. Absent a fee increase, the number of PE courses and instructors would need to decrease in order to fit within the existing budget.

Why is the fee needed?

Numerous PE classes fill up quickly, resulting in many students being unable to enroll in their desired classes. For example, during the entire 2014-2015 year, only one section out of six Swimming Level I sections was not 100% full. These are foundational classes that give students with limited to no swimming abilities the opportunity to learn an essential life skill. Basic swimming abilities are required for nearly 40% of all other PE classes.

This measure will allow PE to strategically add high demand sections to the existing schedule of classes. The graduate-student only sections will be selected based on recent graduate student enrollment data and through consultation with representative graduate student bodies.

How will students benefit?

UCSC as a campus is deeply concerned about and invested in the well-being of its student body. This well-being is available through a balanced approach to personal health, involving substantive commitments in academic, social, personal and physical engagements. Remove any of these commitments, and well-being declines.

Physical Education is the only program of its kind at UCSC. PE values student well-being and healthy community connections. PE offers an accessible schedule of classes that profoundly contributes to students' abilities to sustain physical activity and maintain a balanced lifestyle.