

# Measure 38: Amend the Renewable Energy Fee passed in Spring 2006

## Ballot Question

Shall the undergraduates and graduate students of UCSC amend the Renewable Energy fee passed in Spring 2006? The Measure is being amended to provide funding for on-site renewables and energy efficient projects that will directly reduce our campus' carbon footprint, in combination with supporting a local offset program and purchasing renewable energy certificates to offset campus emissions. This is not a new fee, but a continuation of the existing \$3 per quarter fee established by Measure 28 . The amended terms will be effective Fall Quarter 2009.

## Summary Points

- Maintain undergraduate and graduate compulsory fee of \$ 3.00 per quarter, per student with no ending date.

Amend usage of fee to include: purchase of renewable energy credits, invest in energy efficiency projects on campus, and participate in a local offset program, effective Fall Quarter 2009.

- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates and graduates enrolled in the fall, winter, and spring quarters, as well as State-funded summer quarter.
- Fee will generate approximately \$ 137,214\* in AY 2009-10.
- This fee includes a 25% Return-to-Aid component, in which 25% of all fees collected will go to financial aid to help those students who are on financial aid, cover the expense of the fee. This will be approximately \$ 34,304 per year.
- Fee is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by Petition.
- Fee is sponsored for graduates on the ballot by Petition.
- Student consultation method: Student meetings with students involved in sustainability on campus, SEC meetings with Campaign Coordinators, student surveys given to general members and Campaign Coordinators of the SEC.
- This measure will also allow the reserve money to be spent on energy efficiency projects or on-site renewables.
- Every Energy efficiency project on campus must present the cost, CO2 reduction, payback period and expected savings of the project. The project must payback 50% of the expected savings back to the Measure 38 funds within an allowed period to determine by the payback period.
- On-site renewable projects must enter in a Power Purchase Agreement with the committee.
- A Power Purchase Agreement provides secures funding for the project, maintains and monitors the energy production, and sells the electricity to the host at a contractual price for the term of the contract. The term commonly ranges between 5 to 25 years. In some renewable energy contracts, the host has the option to purchase the generating equipment from the PPA provider at the end of the term, may renew the contract with different terms, or can request that the equipment be removed.

Based on 2007-08 three-quarter average enrollment of 15,246 FTE students.

## **Background**

In Spring Quarter 2006 students voted to create a \$3 per student per quarter Renewable Energy Fee, effective in Fall Quarter 2006. The measure was approved by 69% of the student who voted. The measure included an allowance that 25% of the income generated would be used for financial aid. The purpose of the fee was to allocate funding to Physical Plant to purchase renewable energy certificates in order to offset campus use of electricity. If the price of electricity did not increase, the measure allowed up to \$1 of the fee to be saved in a reserve to pay for possible future price inflation. In 2007-08, \$136,279 in revenue was generated by the fee. \$94,620 was used to purchase the certificates and \$34,070 was dedicated to financial aid. Currently, there are adequate funds to purchase the certificates and a modest reserve of approximately 50 cents existed as of June 30, 2008.

## **Ballot Statement**

This measure seeks to amend Measure 28 to reduce our energy usage and offset our GHG's related to energy purchased. The amended measure would expand use of the funds to include installing renewable energy sources and energy efficient projects on campus to directly reduce our campus' carbon footprint and participate in local offset programs. The local offset program will allow local community programs to apply for funds for projects that will reduce GHG's emission. We would provide them with the funds, and in return we will be able to claim all GHG's reduction from the project. In order for local community programs to apply for funds, the project must demonstrate a clear social justice component in their project and provided with the total number of GHG's reduction mainly CO2. In fighting climate change it is crucial to have support from both UCSC as well as the county of Santa Cruz. This is shown through our campuses' decision to sign the Climate Action Compact with the city of Santa Cruz. By supporting this local offset program we are taking the climate action compact seriously, and are pushing forth new fronts of sustainability together.

The allocation of funds will be decided by a committee of both students and staff, with at least one student member from each organization. The committee includes but is not limited to:

- Members of the Student Environmental Center
- Member of the Green Campus
- Student member of the Chancellor's Council on Climate Change
- Member of CalPIRG
- The campus Energy Manager, Sustainability Office and Purchaser

Recommendations will be made to the Chancellor's Council on Climate Change and the Energy Manager.

Physical Plant will continue to be responsible for purchasing the renewable energy credits.

If this measure does not pass, the existing \$3 fee will continue for the purposes specified in the original ballot language.

## **Endorsements**

Student Environmental Center

# Measure 39: Provide Funding for the Sustainable Food, Health and Wellness Initiative

## Ballot Information

Shall the undergraduates of UCSC provide funding for The Sustainable Food Health and Wellness Initiative by establishing a new compulsory fee of \$3.75 per quarter, per student, beginning Fall 2009?

## Summary Points

- New undergraduate compulsory fee of \$ 3.75 per quarter, per student.
- Fee begins Fall Quarter 2009 and is a permanent fee with no ending date.
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates enrolled in the fall, winter, and spring quarters, and to undergraduates enrolled in State-funded summer quarter.
- Fee will generate approximately \$ 156,195\* in AY 2009-10, the first year it is in effect.
- This fee includes a 33% Return-to-Aid component, in which 33% of all fees collected will go to financial aid to help those students who are on financial aid, cover the expense of the fee. This will be approximately \$51,544 per year.
- Fee is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by Petition.
- Student consultation method: Our process began with a student directed survey of 2,000 randomly sampled undergraduates in 2003-2004 that gauged student interest in sustainable food options on campus and their interests in learning more about such systems. This was conducted through Students for Organic Solutions/Student Environmental Center and the University Center for Research & Analysis. In 2004-2005 a collaborative of student organizations (including the Student Environmental Center, Comercio Justo, and Students for Organic Solutions, amongst others) gathered over 2,000 signed postcards from undergraduates stating that the students supported greater availability of sustainable food options in campus food services (i.e., direct fair trade coffee, organic and local food, etc.) as well as increased programming and experiential learning opportunities on these issues. In 2004-2005 the Student Union Assembly (SUA) signed a proclamation that was also endorsed by the statewide University of California Student Association (UCSA) supporting a process to increase the availability of sustainable food, set up campus structures to support that process, and build greater educational initiatives. In 2005-2006, the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at UCSC (CASFS) conducted a student interest survey sent out to randomly selected 1,500 students and 400 faculty that confirmed students' interest in greater academic and extracurricular learning opportunities (e.g., garden-based learning), as well as increased access to sustainable food options at UCSC. This survey also demonstrated students' willingness to contribute financially to the costs of these developments (e.g., through cost-per-meal increases). The UCSC Food Systems Working Group (FSWG) has hosted student input forums on these fees during their last three quarterly meetings (announced across campus in print and electronic media with at least one month notice prior to the meeting). FSWG has also solicited input from existing student organizations and other stakeholders through numerous meetings and discussions.

\*\*Based on 2007 – 2008 three quarter average enrollment of 13,884 undergraduate FTE students.

## **Ballot Statement**

The fee will be used by the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) to fund programming and educational support for on-campus and off-campus students at UCSC. This fee will promote greater student health and wellness through programming on food choices for students, shifts in institutional food service practices for more healthy and fresh options in campus eateries; support for student-centered experiential learning programs, classes and events on the farm and in gardens; quarterly and annual educational publications; and provide funding for staff to oversee and expand current and future programs.

In support of the purposes outlined above, the Sustainable Food Health and Wellness Initiative fee will provide funding to CASFS for the following:

- Increasing support for student research and program development on issues of nutrition, health, sustainable food systems, garden and farm based learning at UCSC
- Providing co-sponsored activities for Registered Campus Organizations, Residential Life, and International Living Center
- Hosting a monthly forum on campus, featuring professionals, scholars, and youth leaders working towards a more just and sustainable food system.
- Preserving the tradition of the annual Fall Harvest Festival, which is attended by over 2,000 students and campus community members; and preserving the annual Sustainable Food Interactive tent at the Fall Festival, which is attended by over 3,000 students. In addition, host cultural food and community events on the CASFS farm.
- Supporting student organizations by providing student scholarships and helping Registered Student Organizations sponsor special events and activities related to the food system.
- Partnering with the Recreation Department to sponsor and provide scholarships for quarterly field trips, classes, and student activities related to the Food System Learning Journey programs featuring experiential and hands-on learning; building upon successful previous activities.
- Publishing the annual Campus Food Guide which serves as a resource and educational tool for the student population at UCSC, on and off campus.
- Providing staff funding at CASFS for enhancing student-centered hands-on learning on campus farm and gardens, at CASFS, and in partnership with other campus-based classes and programs such as the Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA).
- Working with dining services and campus food system vendors to create interactive learning spaces on sustainability, health, and wellness related to our food system and to develop innovative programs to create healthy, fresh, and sustainable options.

In addition to sponsoring the above programs and activities, CASFS will also include a quarterly call for funding requests from students and registered student organizations for research and program activities.

The funding will be governed by CASFS with an oversight committee comprised of two staff, two students and two faculty members. The committee will review programs and proposals to ensure they meet funding requirements. A yearly report will be submitted each March by the committee to review all funded activities. The yearly report will be available for review by the campus community.

## **Why is the fee needed?**

The fee is needed to build greater support for successful programs and activities that have emerged over the last 40 years at UCSC and received necessary feedback and input from students over the past 5 years. The fee will ensure that all students have access to education and programs that enhance their understanding of the food system and their food choices to increase opportunities for an enriched lived experience.

**Who will benefit?**

The entire student body at UC Santa Cruz and the campus community as a whole. Specifically through CASFS, current registered student organizations, classes, and campus units the aforementioned activities and programs will be carried out to further enrich students and engage them in creating the learning and institutional support structures. Campus food guides and publications will be available for all students, distributed in a fashion that includes campus mail boxes, student org boxes, freshman mailings, and ready availability in public spaces.

**Endorsements**

UCSC Student Environmental Center, UCSC Campus Sustainability Council, Students for Organic Solutions, Program in Community & Agroecology, Friends of the Community Agroecology Network, UCSC Recreation Department, College 8 Sustainability Office, Education for Sustainable Living Program

**Measure 40: Provide funding to increase OPERS facility hours by two hours each day.**

**Shall the undergraduate and graduate students of UCSC provide funding for increasing the OPERS facility hours by two hours each day by establishing a new compulsory fee of \$2.25 per quarter, per student beginning fall, 2009?**

**Ballot Information**

Shall the undergraduates and graduate students of UCSC provide funding for increasing OPERS facility hours by two hours each day by establishing a new compulsory fee of \$2.25 per quarter, per student, beginning Fall 2009?

**Summary Points**

- New undergraduate and graduate compulsory fee of \$2.25 per quarter, per student.
- Fee begins Fall Quarter 2009 and is a permanent fee with no ending date.
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates and graduates enrolled in the fall, winter, and spring quarters, as well as State-funded summer quarter.
- Fee will generate approximately \$91,476\* in AY 2009-10, the first year it is in effect.
- This fee includes a 33% Return-to-Aid component, in which 33% of all fees collected will go to financial aid to help those students who are on financial aid, cover the expense of the fee. This will be approximately \$30,187 per year.
- Fee is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by petition signed by 10% of undergraduate students.
- Fee is sponsored for graduates on the ballot by Graduate Student Assembly.
- Student consultation method: student survey.
- The fee amount shall be increased on a periodic basis to fund increases in student labor costs, with such increases based on the percentage increase in the U.S. Consumer Price Index.

\* Based on 2007-08 three-quarter average enrollment of

## **Ballot Statement**

Due to budget reductions, campus recreational and sports facilities (OPERS) have reduced hours of operation. Currently, facilities are generally open from 7:00 am through 10:00 pm Monday through Friday and from 10:00 am through 6:00 pm on weekends. This measure seeks funding to support student wages and additional utility costs to support increasing hours of operation by 2 hours per day, Monday through Sunday. All East Field House facilities (Pool, Wellness Center, racquetball, tennis, gym, etc.) would be affected. Additional hours of operation will be determined by student input and the OPERS Advisory Committee, made up of students, staff and faculty.

**Why the fee is needed:** 1. With budget cuts, recreational and sports facilities have reduced their hours of operation. This has created disappointment among students and student groups. 2. Current facilities cannot accommodate the increases in the student population, thus there is over-crowding and an inability to provide sufficient access. 3. Recreational and sports programs and facilities are crucial to the co-curricular development of students and important to maintain balance and wellness. 4. The student lifestyle requires more flexible operating hours and increased opportunities for utilizing recreational and sports facilities.

## **Endorsements**

Office of Physical Education, Recreation & Sports

## **Measure 41: Provide continued support and funding for the campus Sustainability Office**

### **Ballot Information**

Shall the undergraduate and graduate students of UCSC provide funding for the continued support and function of the campus Sustainability Office by establishing a new compulsory fee of \$3.75 per quarter, per student, beginning Fall 2009?

### **Summary Points**

- New undergraduate and graduate compulsory fee of \$3.75 per quarter, per student.
- Fee begins no sooner than Fall Quarter 2009 and is a temporary fee with an ending date of summer Quarter, 2017.
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates and graduates enrolled in the fall, winter, and spring quarters, as well as State-funded summer quarter.
- Fee will generate approximately \$171,518\* in AY 2009-10, the first year it is in effect.
- This fee includes a 33% Return-to-Aid component, in which 33% of all fees collected will go to financial aid to help those students who are on financial aid, cover the expense of the fee. This will be approximately \$56,600 per year.
- Fee is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by 2/3 of College Governments (7 of the 10 Colleges).
- Fee is sponsored for graduates on the ballot by approval of the Dean of the Graduate Division.
- Student consultation method: In addition to recent consultations with students and administration that encouraged such a fee, students voted in favor (2,569 voted yes versus 903 who voted no) of a 2005 opinion poll that asked "Would the undergraduates and graduate students of UCSC support the creation of an Office of Sustainability, which will facilitate collaboration between students, the administration, faculty, staff, and the community to create, implement and monitor sustainability practices on campus to be outlined in an official campus sustainability plan?" Students also voted in favor (1,065 voted yes versus 304 who voted no) on a similar 2004 opinion poll that asked "Do the students of UCSC support funding for two Campus Sustainability Coordinators who will work with students, staff, faculty, administration, and the community (specifically University Dining Services) to reduce energy usage, improve resource conservation, and increase the overall sustainability of the UCSC campus through education, outreach, data collection, and program implementation?".
- The fee will be assessed only in coordination with an agreement from the administration to contribute funds to the Sustainability office that equal no less than 75% of those funds contributed by the student body through the proposed measure after the return to aid component is removed. Currently, the administration has agreed to contribute funds for a Sustainability Coordinator's salary, benefits and office operations costs estimated at \$150,000 a year for three years. (2012) This commitment would fulfill the aforementioned request for an administrative contribution. In following years until summer 2017, the fee will be assessed in each year that the administration contributes funds equaling no less than 75% of those contributed by the student body through the proposed measure after the return to aid component is received. In years in which the administrative contribution is not met, the fee will not be assessed.
- The funds would be used by the Sustainability Office which is currently housed in the Division of Business and Administrative Services.

\*Based on 2007-08 three-quarter average enrollment of 15,246 FTE students.

### **Why is the Fee Needed?**

UCSC students have a history of publicly supporting sustainability measures and have shown a willingness to devote student fees to the support of a Sustainability Office. In light of budget cuts, particularly to operations, such a fee would be an important step in preserving the Sustainability Office, encouraging administrative action, promoting student involvement, and of critical importance, furthering sustainability. Funding the office is a critical step towards achieving sustainability, especially as the Sustainability Office is quickly growing towards filling a particular need for institutional change and working with administration and the UC system. Having such a central office encourages collaboration and organization, and office staff provides an important informational and advisory resource. Already the office has played a role in creating important evaluation documents such as the Campus Sustainability Assessment, coordinating key groups such as the Committee on Sustainability and Stewardship and related working groups, and in advising campus actions to achieve the most sustainable results. Interns may also help foster these efforts by providing a valuable student connection, workforce, and will receive important training as well. Many other UC and college campuses maintain or are establishing Sustainability Offices and staff/coordinating positions to support the ever increasing need for sustainable practices. Current examples in California alone include: Stanford, Chico, Humboldt, Asusa Pacific, California Institute of Technology, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC riverside, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego and UC San Francisco.

**Who Will Benefit?**

Students, faculty and staff concerned about furthering sustainability and preserving the natural environment of UCSC and the surrounding area will benefit. Funds will go towards to support not only sustainable projects that could lower costs for both students and offices alike, but may also go to directly fund student positions and education.