

**Measure #:** Measure 55

**Measure Name:** Slug Shuttle Fee

**Ballot Type:** New Fee

**Ballot Author:** Max Hufft, Internal Vice Chair of the Student Union Assembly

**Contact:** Max Hufft

**Sponsor:** College Governments: College 9, College 10, Crown, Kresge, Merrill, Oakes, Porter, Stevenson

Question: Shall the undergraduates of UCSC provide funding for a free shuttle service that will help bring undergraduate students to Diridon Station and San Jose Mineta International Airport during the end of the quarter and holiday traffic by establishing a new compulsory fee of \$1.50 per quarter, per student, beginning Fall 2014?

Summary Points:

- New undergraduate student fee of \$1.50 per student, per quarter effective Fall 2014 with no end date
- Fee will be assessed to all undergraduates enrolled in Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters.
- Fee will generate approximately \$69,187.50 annually.<sup>i</sup> Of this 33%, or \$22,831, will go toward the Return-to-Aid component that will help students who receive financial aid pay for this fee.
- The Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) was unable to reach consensus, and therefore neither supports nor opposes this referendum.
- Students were consulted regarding the interest and benefits of this fee via the following methods: consultation with the 10 college governments, open town hall event at Stevenson Event Center on November 28, 2012, attended by 30 students. In addition, UCSC's Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) ran a pilot Slug Shuttle on December 12th, 13th and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012, shuttling students to San Jose Diridon and San Jose Mineta International Airport; of 217 participants who responded to a survey, 97% believed that this service was beneficial.
- Fee amendment is sponsored for undergraduates on the ballot by resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the College student governments.

**Background Information:**

The purpose of the fee is to provide an affordable, sustainable and safe shuttle service for undergraduate students for end of the quarter traffic to Diridon Station and the Mineta San Jose International Airport.<sup>ii</sup>

The funding from this fee will be exclusively used to fund and support affordable transportation services during end of the quarter and holiday traffic. The funding will go toward costs for bus drivers, gas, bus maintenance, online reservation system costs, and logistical/miscellaneous costs within TAPS.

Why is the fee needed? Students need affordable, safe and sustainable transportation to Diridon Station and the Mineta San Jose International Airport during end of the quarter and holiday traffic. A problem has been recognized which relates to students having to wait hours in line for the Highway 17 bus at Pacific Station, or missing their flights due to the overwhelming traffic using public transportation which is a continuous problem when you have an undergraduate body of more than 16,000 trying to get home for the holidays or at the end of each quarter. One of the main reasons this fee is needed is due to student safety; students have expressed that they feel unsafe taking public transportation from UCSC to the airport. This fee will ensure that all undergraduate students have a viable transportation system that will take them straight from UCSC and drop them off at either the Diridon bus Station or Mineta International Airport.

Students will have a convenient and reliable transportation service during end of the quarter and holiday traffic through Slug Shuttle. Students will be picked up from Quarry Plaza and will be taken to both of the drop off locations without having to transfer onto another bus/train as is the case through public transit.

Other relevant information: The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), in consultation with the Student Union Assembly (SUA), will be engaged to review this fee annually. Fees for “no shows”/cancellations, late arrivals, or late cancellations (less than 24 hours before a scheduled trip) will be pursued through the campus miscellaneous fee process.

It is expected that the proposed Slug Shuttle fee will service approximately 800 number of students quarterly. The Slug Shuttle schedule will be established by TAPS, in consultation with the SUA and based on feedback from students.

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<sup>i</sup> Based on average 2012-2013 undergraduate student enrollment of 15,375

<sup>ii</sup> If it is not possible to service Diridon Station or San Jose International Airport, TAPS will identify a suitable alternative in consultation with the Transportation Advisory Council and the Student Union Assembly.