

University of Connecticut Office of the Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

February 27, 2013

TO:

Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM:

Richard D. Gray

Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

Mun Y. Choi

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE:

Fiscal Year 2014 Adademic Materials Fees for the University of Connecticut,

Storrs and Regional Campuses

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve a schedule of Academic Materials Fees for Fiscal Year 2014 as follows: creation of new major or course fees (Fine Arts, Agriculture & Natural Resources and Liberal Arts & Sciences) and adjustments to course fees (Agriculture & Natural Resources and Law School).

BACKGROUND:

The University has an established student fee review process that categorizes the fees as follows: (1.) Institutional Fees, which require central administrative approval, such as Tuition, Room, Board, Infrastructure Maintenance Fee and self-supporting programs; (2.) Academic Materials Fees, which are for consumables and instructional materials that are specific to a particular course or major; and (3.) Student Fees, which include the General University Fee and student activity and service fees. Senior Management charged permanent committees with promoting a fee structure for the academic and student fees that supports excellence, provides comprehensive procedures, and is uniform without sacrificing efficiency and flexibility. The committees are comprised of students, faculty, and administrative representatives. These fee proposals were presented to and approved by the Provost and Executive Vice President and the Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

See attached schedule for summary of recommended Academic Materials Fees.

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University of Connecticut (Storrs and Regionals) Summary of Recommended Academic Materials Fees Fiscal Years 2013-2014

Academic Materials Fees are assessed for essential consumables, instructional materials and other direct costs (such as equipment rentals and field experiences) that are specific to particular courses and majors. These fees were recommended by the Academic Materials Fee Committee to the Provost and Executive Vice President and the Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

	Fee Per Semester		
	FY 2013 Current	FY 2014 Proposed	Notes
Major Fees			
Fine Arts			
Digital Media and Digital Media & Design	\$0	\$45	New
Law School			
Technology Fee ^A	\$136	\$150	Increase
Course Fees ^B			
Nutritional Sciences (NUSC 3234 and 3271)	\$25	\$50	Increase/Level 4
Plant Science and Landscape Architecture (PLSC 3210)	\$0	\$50	New/Level 4
Geoscience (GSCI 1050 and 1052)	\$0	\$10	New/Level 1

^A This and future increases will follow the University-wide Technology Fee and will not be listed as an Academic Material Fee.

^B Course Fees are assessed at pre-determined levels unless the fee existed prior to the Academic Materials Fees process. There is flexibility at level 3 and below to charge actual cost upon approval by the committee. Level 1 = \$10, Level 2 = \$20, Level 3 = \$35, Level 4 = \$50, Level 5 = \$75

University of Connecticut (Storrs and Regional Campuses)

Academic Materials Fees Fiscal 2014

The Academic Materials Fees Committee has reviewed and, by consensus, endorsed the following recommendations and adjustments for FY 2014. The following recommendations are forwarded by the Provost and Executive Vice President and the Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer for your consideration.

Major Fees

Fine Arts

Digital Media and Digital Media & Design

Recommendation: To approve new \$45 per semester major fees in Digital Media and Digital Media & Design.

Purpose: To fund necessary materials and software within these majors.

Justification: The actual cost per student is approximately \$46. Without this fee, the students would have to purchase the materials and software individually. The University is able to take advantage of volume discounts and control the quality of the materials purchased.

Law School

Law School Technology Fee

Recommendation: That the Law School Technology Fee becomes part of the University-wide Student Technology Fee. With all students paying the same technology fee, there is no reason to separate out the Law School's Technology Fee as an Academic Materials Fee.

Course Fees

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

Nutritional Sciences

Recommendation: To approve an increase from \$25 to \$50 for NUSC 3234 and 3271.

Purpose: To cover consumable laboratory supplies.

Justification: The cost of required lab supplies has increased to over \$304.76 per student over the last 5 years.

Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

Recommendation: To approve a new course fee of \$50 for PLSC 3210.

Purpose: To cover the cost of consumable laboratory supplies.

Justification: The cost of consumables provided in the course is \$99.38 per student.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Geoscience

Recommendation: To approve a new fee of \$10 for GSCI 1050 & 1052

Purpose: For consumable laboratory supplies.

Justification: The approximate cost per student is \$10.15.