

International Student Fee Recommendation

Dear Ana Mari,

PACS spent a lot of time this year discussing the role of international students in the University of Washington community and as a result wanted to make some comments and recommendations regarding the international student fee. Though this fee is relatively new, it effects many students and sends a message to both those students and perspective students about the kind of schools the University of Washington is.

PACS firmly believes that having international students at UW brings a special measure of diversity to the campus community and is part of a world-class education. Especially in light of the lack of international students at the high schools from which most of us came, this is a new and important experience for most students. **PACS would like to recognize the vital contributions of international students to our UW community and the diverse perspectives that they bring to our educational experiences.** Whether it is through having an international student as a TA, as a group member on a project, as a classmate, or simply as a friend, PACS sees the deep value that international students bring to learning and growing as a student and global citizen.

We are, however, aware that some international students require extra services in order to succeed in their education at UW, as well as to comply with Department of Homeland Security reporting requirements. These services are important, yet international students are required to pay for them on their own. Other students who require the services of CLUE or the D-Center do not bear the burden of those costs alone, but instead share the expense with the rest of the student body. Keeping in mind that international students also do not receive financial aid, means that this fee is an added burden to a select group of students.

PACS believes that having international students on campus is worth more than the sum of their service costs and those groups likely to require extra services above and beyond what the university already provides are likely to be those groups that add to the diversity of the student population. Therefore, PACS recommends that the costs associated with those services should be collectively born rather than directed only to international students.

Thank you for taking the time to read our recommendation. We look forward to hearing any feedback or discussion from you.

Thank you,

PACS 2013-2014:

Elise Randall, Graduate Student Evans School of Public Affairs (**Chair**)
Emma Van Inwegen, Junior, Mathematics and Economics (**Vice Chair**)
Rachel Arteaga, Graduate Student, English
Jane Tianzhen Guo, Senior, Accounting
Grant Kollet, Graduate Student, Educational Leadership
Michael Kutz, Senior, Economics and Computer Science (**ASUW President**)
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Jared Miller, Senior, Computer Science and Engineering
Luke Picking, Junior, Biology and Microbiology
Elizabeth Pring, Sophomore, Political Science
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