A RESOLUTION ON DECREASING STUDENT FEES TO ALLOW FOR A
MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL AID

WHEREAS

the student fees at Southern Methodist University are
among the highest in the nation ($5,904.00), and

RECOGNIZING

that in many circumstances financial aid and other awards
only apply towards “tuition” and not “fees”, many students
are left with a disproportionate financial burden of items
that have been bundled into the category of fees, and that
specifically transfer student’s on the North Texas
Community College Scholarship and the Honor Transfer
Scholarships receive scholarship solely based off of the
tuition, and

UNDERSTANDING

that the vast majority of Student Fees are currently
allocated into an account for General Fee Income which
currently has the same uses as Tuition income; meaning
that the General Fee Income has no direct use that students
are able to track or allocate themselves; this differs from
the rest of the Student Fees that have directed destinations
for the income such as the "Student Senate Scholarship
Fund", "Dedman Center for Lifetime Fitness", "Student
Association Programs" and others, and

ACKNOWLEDGING

the contentious subject of increasing “tuition” has been
distorted and separated from that of increased student
“fees”; to remedy such conflation tuition indeed would
increase, yet the net cost of attending SMU in whole would
stay the same; rebalancing tuition and student fees will
allow for a more progressive and equitable disbursement of
financial aid,

BE IT THEREFORE
RESOLVED

that the Southern Methodist University Board of Trustees
and Office of Business and Finance for FY2019-2020 and
from this point forward move the General Fee Income out
of the General Student Fee and into Tuition in order to
allow for a more equitable distribution of financial aid, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said office also partake in an information campaign to inform University stakeholders of the importance of this reapportionment and the ultimate effects therein.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Shirzad
Student Body President

Arthur Troy
Membership Committee Chair

Cameron Farr
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