



ASI Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Students Vote to Support the Student Opportunities Initiative

The Student Opportunities Initiative was brought forward in the fall of 2002 by the ASI Executive Board and the ASI Senate. The Initiative is a long-term solution that covers the cost of providing quality student programs and services to a rapidly growing Cal Poly Pomona Campus. This past November, the ASI Senate, comprised of elected student officers representing all of the colleges and schools, and at-large students, voted unanimously to present this initiative to the students for a vote. Following the ASI Senate's decision, the Campus Fee Advisory Committee also voted unanimously in support of this referendum vote. President Suzuki then approved a special student election for the Initiative.

The Student Opportunities Initiative is both a forward and comprehensive plan to provide more programs, services, employment and internships to current students and provide a high quality college experience for future Cal Poly Pomona students. Those benefiting from the ASI fee increase include student parents, students involved in diversity programs, academic councils, the Greek/Multicultural/Academic and Service Learning Councils, student tutors and tutees, student leaders and volunteers, recreational sports participants, student employees and interns, student athletes, commuter students and students who reside on campus.

An information and education campaign began on Monday, January 13 and continued until the election ended on February 6. Information on the campaign was shared broadly by ASI student leaders through meetings with student clubs and organizations. In addition special fee meetings with student constituencies and an evening open forum were held. These meetings were hosted by President Suzuki and ASI President Uwaifo Obanor. Printed materials were made available to students including weekly advertisements in The Poly Post, posters staked on key pedestrian paths around campus, and information packets distributed to all the Academic Councils. Open meetings were held in the residence halls, and a Student Opportunities website was created and hosted by ASI.

The election for the Student Opportunities Initiative special election took place on Wednesday, February 5 and Thursday, February 6. Students voted in support of the Initiative. 358 students voted in favor and 327 voted in opposition. Polling locations were set up in the University Park, the University Quad, the College of Environmental Design, and the Collins School from 10am-7pm on Wednesday and 10am-6pm on Thursday.

The ASI fee will be adjusted up by \$7 per quarter and each year the fee will be adjusted by the rate of inflation. The fee increase will be effective annually beginning Fall Quarter 2003. The assurance of a stable fee structure that is sensitive to the annual inflationary impact on costs to provide these programs and services is vital to all current and future students of Cal Poly Pomona.