

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>TUITION: MASTER OF NURSING – NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM</b>
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>APRIL 13, 2017</b>

Forwarded to the Board of Governors on the Recommendation of the President

**APPROVED FOR  
SUBMISSION**



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 Santa J. Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor

<b>DECISION REQUESTED</b>	<p><b>IT IS HEREBY REQUESTED that <i>the UBC Board of Governors approve:</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. <i>An increase in tuition for new incoming international students in the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, effective May 1, 2017, and for the following two academic years, with the tuition per instalment being increased by:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>160.1% to \$7,171.23 per instalment in 2017-2018;</i></li> <li>• <i>61.6% to \$11,585.62 per instalment in 2018-2019;</i></li> <li>• <i>38.1% to \$16,000.00 per instalment in 2019-2020;</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>2. <i>A 3% increase in tuition for continuing international students in the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, effective May 1, 2017, for students who entered this degree program on or after May 1, 2016;</i></b></li> <li><b>3. <i>A 2% increase in tuition for continuing international students in the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, effective May 1, 2017, for students who entered this degree program prior to May 1, 2016; and,</i></b></li> <li><b>4. <i>Setting the minimum number of instalments for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program to 5 instalments with continuing fees to be applied after the 5th instalment (for both domestic and international students), effective May 1, 2017.</i></b></li> </ol>
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<b>Report Date</b>	February 22, 2017
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<b>Presented By</b>	Angela Redish, Provost and Vice-President Academic <i>pro tem</i> Louise Cowin, Vice-President Students
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UBC's *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program has never admitted international students, and without a specified international tuition rate, the rate specified in the Academic Calendar defaulted to the international tuition rate for Standard Master programs (research-oriented programs). Consequently, the effective international tuition of UBC's *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program is lower than that of comparable programs offered by peer institutions and other UBC professional graduate programs that are not research oriented. Having international students' tuition that is lower than that of peer institutions is inconsistent with the Board's 2015 resolution and limits the program's ability to make investments to strengthen its teaching and learning, and student support services.

The proposed increases, introduced over the next three years, will bring the program's international students' tuition in line with the tuition for international students in similar programs at UBC's peer institutions by 2019-20. It sets the international student tuition at a level comparable with peer institutions', reflecting UBC's standing as a global university and the value of a UBC professional graduate degree program. The proposed increase includes:

1. An increase in tuition for new incoming international students in the *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program, effective May 1, 2017 and for the following two academic years, as specified in Appendix A:
  - 160.1% to \$7,171.23 per instalment in 2017-18;
  - 61.6% to \$11,585.62 per instalment in 2018-19;
  - 38.1% to \$16,000.00 per instalment in 2019-20;
2. A 3% increase in tuition for continuing international students in the *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program, effective May 1, 2017, for students who entered the program on or after May 1, 2016;
3. A 2% increase in tuition for continuing international students in the *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program, effective May 1, 2017, for students who entered the program prior to May 1, 2016; and,
4. Setting the minimum number of instalments for the *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program to 5 instalments with continuing fees to be applied after the 5th instalment (for both domestic and international students), effective May 1, 2017.

## INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES SUPPORTED

- Learning
  Research
  Innovation
  Engagement  
 (Internal / External)
  International
- or  Operational

## DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE

International students' tuition is an important contributor to ensuring that the University's ambitions in teaching and learning, and research, are met. Historically, a 2% increase in tuition for international students was proposed for all graduate programs, per annum. As a result, the advertised international tuition of the *Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner* program has fallen well behind that of peer programs. Having international students' tuition that is lower than that of peer institutions limits the program's ability to strengthen its teaching and student support services.

In June 2015, the Board of Governors approved a policy to set international tuition of most non-thesis-based graduate degree programs at levels comparable to those of peer institutions, reflecting the value of a UBC degree and UBC's standing as a global university. This policy established a consistent and transparent approach to international students' tuition setting that is responsive to changes in the international education landscape.

The proposed program-specific tuition was determined through a rigorous process of benchmarking against peer institutions. The analysis took into consideration the international demand for UBC's program, the quality of the student applicant pool, and labour market prospects for graduates of the program. Any English-speaking public institution within UBC's ranking band (+/- 15 spots from UBC's placement in the 2016-17 *Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings*) offering a comparable program was considered a comparator. The list of comparators was fine-tuned based on faculty members' feedback about this specific program.

As demonstrated by the benchmark findings shown in Appendix B, UBC's international tuition for its Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program is behind major peer institutions' program-specific tuition, assuming a 3% annual increase across the board, from 2016-17 to 2017-18.

To date, domestic students enrolled in this program were assessed the Standard Master's program tuition and the minimum number of instalments was 3 for full-time students. Because international students have never been admitted, a program-specific international tuition rate was not stated in the Academic Calendar. The program has a 20-month schedule, or 5 terms, which equates to 5 instalments. It is not possible to complete the program in less time. Consequently, it is proposed that 5 instalments, as the minimum number of instalments, for both domestic and international students be required with a continuing fee amount, equal to the Standard Master's rates, be assessed after the 5<sup>th</sup> instalment.

Details of the proposed increases and the benchmark analysis are provided in Appendix A and Appendix B, respectively.

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<b>BENEFITS</b> Learning, Research, Financial, Sustainability & Reputational	<p>As part of the University Operating budget, tuition revenue contributes to investments in several areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Student Experience</b> with the goals of enhancing the quality and impact of teaching, strengthening efforts to promote student success, expanding educational enrichment opportunities, and supporting student well-being, personal development, and an outstanding campus life.</li><li>• <b>Research Excellence</b> with the goals of increasing the quality and impact of UBC's research, and being a world leader in knowledge exchange and mobilization.</li></ul>
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**SCHEDULE**  
Implementation  
Timeline

The proposed increases in the international tuition for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, if approved, will apply to new international students as set out in Appendix A, for the academic year of 2017-18, effective May 1, 2017 and for the two subsequent academic years of 2018-19, effective May 1, 2018, and 2019-20, effective May 1, 2019.

Once the new international students commence their Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, an annual increase of 3% will be implemented for the subsequent years.

Currently enrolled Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner international students, admitted before May 1, 2016, will have their tuition increased by 2% per annum (there are no international students currently enrolled).

If a student completes an undergraduate program and enrolls in the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program, the graduate program enrolment will be considered a new enrolment and the new tuition will apply.

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**CONSULTATION**  
Relevant Units,  
Internal &  
External  
Constituencies

Consultation with the Alma Mater Society (AMS), the Graduate Student Society (GSS), Nursing Undergraduate Society (NUS) and the International Students' Association (ISA) took place over the period between January 3 and February 10, 2017. A face-to-face meeting with AMS representatives took place on January 30, 2017. The consultation report is attached.

Consultation with the School of Nursing faculty and students, regarding this proposal, occurred during regularly scheduled faculty meetings:

- School of Nursing Graduate Programs Committee – representation from all graduate programs as well as student delegates from the Graduate Student Nursing Association (GSNA)
- School of Nursing Faculty Caucus – attendees include all faculty and staff, and undergraduate and graduate student representatives from the Nursing Undergraduate Society and the Graduate Students Nursing Association.

No issues were raised about the tuition increases by the student representatives at these committee meetings.

The School of Nursing's initial proposal (not included in this report) had the international tuition reaching the benchmarked level over a two-year horizon and student financial assistance for incoming international students to include several UBC School of Nursing awards and UBC funded awards. The AMS found the two-year increase to be too steep and the student financial assistance to be insufficient. In response to the AMS concerns, the School of Nursing revised the proposal to a three-year horizon and committed to allocate 7.5% of international tuition to support international student financial awards. In response, the AMS submitted a second letter, as part of the consultation process (please refer to appendices C2 and D2 for the two AMS letters).

**Previous Report Date** February 15, 2016 (Non-Thesis-Based Graduate Program Tuition Increases for International Students for 2016-17, 2017-18, & 2018-19)

**Decision** The Board of Governors approved:

- An increase in tuition for new incoming international students effective May 1, 2016 and for the two succeeding academic years for seven non-thesis-based graduate programs by:
  - A range of increases from 13.8% to 35.0%, for seven programs for 2016-17
  - A range of increases from 13.8% to 35.0%, for seven programs for 2017-18
  - A range of increases from 13.8% to 35.0%, for seven programs for 2018-19.
- A maximum 3% increase in tuition per year until graduation from their current degree program for continuing international students, in seven non-thesis-based graduate programs, effective May 1, 2016, for students who entered their degree program on or after May 1, 2016.
- A 2% increase in tuition for continuing international students, in seven non-thesis-based graduate programs, effective May 1, 2016, for students who entered their degree program prior to May 1, 2016.

**Action / Follow Up** N/A

## Appendix A

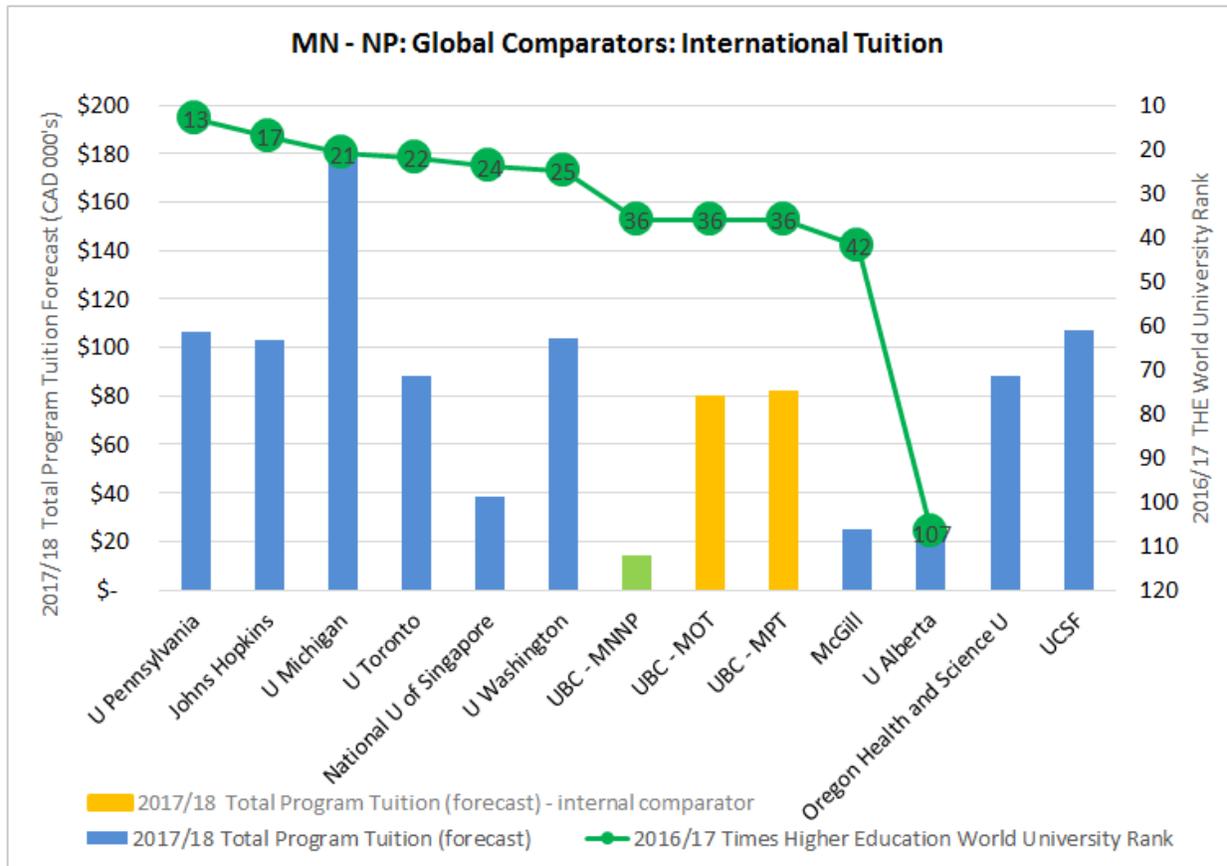
### New Students - Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner

Student	Program Code	Degree Program	2016-17		2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
			Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment	Proposed Increase in %	Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment (New Students)	Proposed Increase in %	Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment (New Students)	Proposed Increase in %	Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment (New Students)
International	MN	Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner	3	\$ 2,756.85	160.1%	5	\$ 7,171.23	61.6%	5	\$ 11,585.62	38.1%	5	\$ 16,000.00
Domestic	MN	Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner	3	\$ 1,569.22	2.0%	5	\$ 1,600.60						

### Continuing Students - Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner

Student	Program Code	Degree Program	2016-17			2017-18	
			Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment	Proposed Increase in %	Min. No. of Instalments	Per Instalment (Continuing Students)
International	MN	Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner (began between 2016S and 2016W)	3	\$ 2,756.85	3.0%	5	\$ 2,839.56
International	MN	Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner (began 2015W or earlier)	3	\$ 2,756.85	2.0%	5	\$ 2,811.99
Domestic	MN	Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner	3	\$ 1,569.22	2.0%	5	\$ 1,600.60

**Appendix B – Master of Nursing – New Practitioner: Competitive Landscape for Global Comparators**



- 2017/18 tuition assumes 3% annual increase over last published fees for all universities, based on Statistics Canada’s findings indicating that on average, international graduate students experienced a 3% increase in fees attending programs within Canada.
- Durations range from 8 to 24 months with most programs being 12 months.
- Exchange rate based on monthly averages for Nov 2015 – April 2016 (Bank of Canada).

**MASTER OF NURSING – NURSE PRACTITIONER  
STUDENT TUITION CONSULTATION REPORT**

The Vice-President Students Office, in partnership with the School of Nursing, conducted a student consultation regarding the international tuition increase for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (MN-NP). This report outlines the consultation process and summarizes student feedback including the student representatives' submission verbatim in Appendix 2.

**Student Representative Bodies Invited to the Consultation**

- Alma Mater Society (AMS)
- Graduate Student Society (GSS)
- Nursing Undergraduate Society (NUS)
- International Students' Association (ISA)

**Mode of Consultation**

The consultation consisted of an e-consultation and a face-to-face meeting. Student representative groups were invited to the consultation through email, and asked to distribute the invitation to their constituents as they felt appropriate. Student representative groups were also offered a face-to-face meeting to discuss the tuition proposal. A meeting with student representatives and faculty representatives occurred on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Basis of Consultation:** The consultation was based on a tuition proposal and rationale document created by the Faculty. Please see Appendix 1 for the invitation and tuition rationale document.

**Timelines:** The e-consultation was conducted over the period of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 to February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Summary of Student Feedback:** A submission was received from the AMS. The verbatim submission is in Appendix 2.

Organization	Summary
AMS student submission	<p><b>SIZE OF TUITION INCREASE:</b>                      “AMS finds this increase timeline to be quite steep, and the two year period to be quite short for a transition from just under \$20,000 to \$80,000.”</p> <p><b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID:</b>                      “We also find that the School’s promise to create new awards...exclusively offered to International students enrolled in the program to be quite minimal as a commitment to support these students, regardless of their expected income upon graduation.”</p>

No individual student submissions were received.

## APPENDIX C1: INVITATION TO CONSULTATION AND TUITION RATIONALE DOCUMENT

Good afternoon,

There is a submission by the School of Nursing to increase the international tuition for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program.

In order to inform the program leads and the Board of Governors with regards to the **tuition increase proposal** for this program, the University is undertaking a consultative process to get your comments as student representatives, and provide an opportunity for students to provide individual comments on the tuition proposal if they wish. **Please note: the scope of this consultation process is limited to the tuition increase proposal.**

The consultation will consist of:

### 1. e-consultation

Please find attached a document which outline the details of the tuition proposal, including:

- an overview of the program,
- the tuition increase rationale for the program, and
- the proposed tuition increase.

Please share the document and this email as you see appropriate. **Comments on the tuition proposal and student submissions can be provided confidentially to: [jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca) (Jenna Omassi, Advisor, Vice President Students Office).**

### 2. Face to Face meeting

If requested by student representatives, we can arrange a face-to-face meeting with the program leads regarding this tuition increase proposal. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like us to arrange a meeting.

**THE CONSULTATION PROCESS WILL END ON FEBRUARY 3, 2016**

### Confidentiality

Comments will be collected by the Vice-President Students Office, and only staff within that office will know the identity of individual students submitting comments. At no time will anyone outside of the Vice President Students Office know the identity of individual students who submit comments to this consultation. Your comments will only be used for the purposes of the tuition consultation.

Comments from individual students will be stripped of any identifying information to ensure confidentiality, but otherwise will be provided to the responsible program leads and Board of Governors verbatim.

Comments received from student organizations will be reported as coming from those organizations, and provided to the responsible faculty and Board of Governors as received. There will also be a summary report of the consultation developed for the Faculty and Board of Governors.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the process.

Thank you.

Jenna Omassi  
Advisor, Strategic Support Team  
Vice-President Students' Office  
University of British Columbia - Vancouver  
[jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca)

## PROGRAM TUITION CONSULTATION

### Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner

#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (abbreviated MN-NP) is an existing program, offering a full-time, two-year program to students in the School of Nursing.

More information about this program can be found here: <https://nursing.ubc.ca/graduate-program/master-nursing-nurse-practitioner>

#### TUITION AND FEES RATIONALE

For the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner, the Faculty of Applied Science and the School of Nursing is proposing to alter its international tuition to meet the Board Directive regarding international tuition, passed in 2014, which stated:

*“The UBC Board of Governors requests that Administration set international student tuition fees at levels that reflect UBC’s standing as a global university and the value of a UBC degree. While ensuring that the university maintains healthy enrolment of international students and attracts a diverse range of students, the fees should support the mission and excellence of the university and should be comparable to those at peer institutions.”*

#### **Costs of comparable programs**

The Faculty and School have undertaken a benchmarking process to identify the appropriate tuition. The proposed program-specific tuition was determined through a rigorous process of benchmarking against peer institutions. The analysis took into consideration international demand for UBC’s program, the quality of the student applicant pool, and program-specific labour market prospects for UBC’s graduates. Any English-speaking public institution within UBC’s rank band (+/- 15 spots from UBC’s placement in the 2016-17 *Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings*) offering a comparable program was considered a comparator. The list of comparators were fine-tuned based on faculty members’ feedback about this specific program.

Out of this process, the faculty identified the following as the most appropriate comparators:

- University of British Columbia’s Master of Occupational Therapy
- University of British Columbia’s Master of Physical Therapy
- University of Toronto
- McGill University
- University of Alberta
- University of Pennsylvania
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Michigan
- National University of Singapore
- University of Washington
- Oregon Health and Science University
- University of California, San Francisco

**PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES**

As a result of this benchmarking process, the proposed international program tuition for incoming international students is being set at **\$80,000 for 2018/19**, to be reached over a two year period as follows:

- 2017/18        \$46,892.15
- 2018/19        \$80,000.00

International tuition for continuing students is proposed to increase by 3% over the prior year for those international students who entered the program on or after May 31, 2016 and before May 31, 2017, and by 2% for those international students who entered the program prior to May 1, 2016.

***Student Financial Aid***

Student support available includes a number of UBC School of Nursing awards, as well as UBC funded awards.

## APPENDIX C2: STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

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There was one submission from the AMS.



### Submission to the UBC Board of Governors Regarding the Proposed Tuition Increase for the Master of Nursing – Nursing Practitioner (MN-NP)

On Behalf of  
Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Dear Board of Governors,

This submission is being made on behalf of the Alma Mater society (AMS) of UBC Vancouver in response to the request for feedback from the Vice-Presidents Students Office sent to these groups on January 3rd, 2017 for the proposed increase in international tuition for the Master of Nursing, Nursing Practitioner program.

The tuition for international students is set to increase to \$46,892 in the 2017/18 academic year, and then \$80,000 for the 2018/19 academic year.

Acknowledging that the funding level from the Ministry is below enrolment levels currently, the AMS recognizes the need for this increase in order to accept a greater number of students, or accept international students while retaining the level of domestic enrolment.

However, AMS finds this increase timeline to be quite steep, and the two year period to be quite short for a transition from just under \$20,000 to \$80,000.

We also find that the School's promise to create new awards (stated in the consultation to be estimated at "around 3 - 6%" of International tuition for the academic year that the awards are given) exclusively offered to international students enrolled in the program to be quite minimal as a commitment to support these students, regardless of their expected income upon graduation.

We think that there has not been adequate consideration made for the impact that raising tuition will have on the quality of applicants for this program, nor any acknowledgement that the program's strong reputation may partly be due to its comparatively lower tuition than its peer institutions.

As such, the AMS opposes this proposed increase to international tuition for the Master of Nursing, Nursing Practitioner program.

Regards,

Samantha So  
Vice President Academic and University Affairs  
AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver  
vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca

**MASTER OF NURSING – NURSE PRACTITIONER  
STUDENT TUITION CONSULTATION REPORT**

The Vice-President, Students Office, in partnership with the School of Nursing, conducted a student consultation regarding the international tuition increase for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (MN-NP). This report outlines the consultation process and summarizes student feedback including the student representatives' submission verbatim in Appendix 2.

**Student Representative Bodies Invited to the Consultation**

- Alma Mater Society (AMS)
- Graduate Student Society (GSS)
- Nursing Undergraduate Society (NUS)
- International Students' Association (ISA)

**Mode of Consultation**

The consultation consisted of an e-consultation and a face-to-face meeting. Student representative groups were invited to the consultation through email, and asked to distribute the invitation to their constituents as they felt appropriate. Student representative groups were also offered a face-to-face meeting to discuss the tuition proposal. A meeting with student representatives and faculty representatives occurred on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Basis of Consultation:** The consultation was based on a tuition proposal and rationale document created by the Faculty. Please see Appendix 1 for the invitation and tuition rationale document.

**Timelines:** The e-consultation was conducted over the period of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 to February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, with an extension until February 22<sup>nd</sup> to respond to changes in the proposal.

**Summary of Student Feedback:** A submission was received from the AMS. The verbatim submission is in Appendix 2.

Organization	Summary
AMS student submission	<p><b>DISTRIBUTION OF TUITION INCREASE:</b>                      "...the AMS would like to recognize the Faculty and School for addressing our concerns regarding the steepness of the initially proposed increases and the short timeline within which it would increase. The faculty then extended and redistributed the increases across 3 years as opposed to 2 years."</p> <p><b>SIZE OF TUITION INCREASE:</b>                      "Such a large jump in tuition, even over the newly extended 3 years, is still an incredibly large change in incoming funding, and for these additional international students to see no change in the number of faculty members despite an increased number of students may result in reduced quality of learning."</p>

No individual student submissions were received.

## APPENDIX D1: INVITATION TO CONSULTATION AND TUITION RATIONALE DOCUMENT

Good afternoon,

There is a submission by the School of Nursing to increase the international tuition for the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner program.

In order to inform the program leads and the Board of Governors with regards to the **tuition increase proposal** for this program, the University is undertaking a consultative process to get your comments as student representatives, and provide an opportunity for students to provide individual comments on the tuition proposal if they wish. **Please note: the scope of this consultation process is limited to the tuition increase proposal.**

The consultation will consist of:

### 1. e-consultation

Please find attached a document which outline the details of the tuition proposal, including:

- an overview of the program,
- the tuition increase rationale for the program, and
- the proposed tuition increase.

Please share the document and this email as you see appropriate. **Comments on the tuition proposal and student submissions can be provided confidentially to: [jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca) (Jenna Omassi, Advisor, Vice President Students Office).**

### 2. Face to Face meeting

If requested by student representatives, we can arrange a face-to-face meeting with the program leads regarding this tuition increase proposal. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like us to arrange a meeting.

## THE CONSULTATION PROCESS WILL END ON FEBRUARY 3, 2016

### Confidentiality

Comments will be collected by the Vice-President Students Office, and only staff within that office will know the identity of individual students submitting comments. At no time will anyone outside of the Vice President Students Office know the identity of individual students who submit comments to this consultation. Your comments will only be used for the purposes of the tuition consultation.

Comments from individual students will be stripped of any identifying information to ensure confidentiality, but otherwise will be provided to the responsible program leads and Board of Governors verbatim.

Comments received from student organizations will be reported as coming from those organizations, and provided to the responsible faculty and Board of Governors as received. There will also be a summary report of the consultation developed for the Faculty and Board of Governors.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the process.

Thank you.

Jenna Omassi  
Advisor, Strategic Support Team  
Vice-President Students' Office  
University of British Columbia - Vancouver  
[jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca)

## PROGRAM TUITION CONSULTATION

### Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner

#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (abbreviated MN-NP) is an existing program, offering a full-time, two-year program to students in the School of Nursing.

More information about this program can be found here: <https://nursing.ubc.ca/graduate-program/master-nursing-nurse-practitioner>

#### TUITION AND FEES RATIONALE

For the Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner, the Faculty of Applied Science and the School of Nursing is proposing to alter its international tuition to meet the Board Directive regarding international tuition, passed in 2014, which stated:

*“The UBC Board of Governors requests that Administration set international student tuition fees at levels that reflect UBC’s standing as a global university and the value of a UBC degree. While ensuring that the university maintains healthy enrolment of international students and attracts a diverse range of students, the fees should support the mission and excellence of the university and should be comparable to those at peer institutions.”*

#### **Costs of comparable programs**

The Faculty and School have undertaken a benchmarking process to identify the appropriate tuition. The proposed program-specific tuition was determined through a rigorous process of benchmarking against peer institutions. The analysis took into consideration international demand for UBC’s program, the quality of the student applicant pool, and program-specific labour market prospects for UBC’s graduates. Any English-speaking public institution within UBC’s rank band (+/- 15 spots from UBC’s placement in the 2016-17 *Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings*) offering a comparable program was considered a comparator. The list of comparators were fine-tuned based on faculty members’ feedback about this specific program.

Out of this process, the faculty identified the following as the most appropriate comparators:

- University of British Columbia’s Master of Occupational Therapy
- University of British Columbia’s Master of Physical Therapy
- University of Toronto
- McGill University
- University of Alberta
- University of Pennsylvania
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Michigan
- National University of Singapore
- University of Washington
- Oregon Health and Science University
- University of California, San Francisco

**PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES**

*Note: This section was changed following the original tuition consultation submission by the AMS:*

As a result of this benchmarking process, the proposed international program tuition for incoming international students is being set at **\$80,000 for 2019/20**, to be reached over a three year period as follows:

- 2017/18           \$35,856.15
- 2018/19           \$57,928.10
- 2019/20           \$80,000.00

International tuition for continuing students is proposed to increase by 3% over the prior year for those international students who entered the program on or after May 31, 2016 and before May 31, 2017, and by 2% for those international students who entered the program prior to May 1, 2016.

***Student Financial Aid***

Student support available includes a number of UBC School of Nursing awards, as well as UBC funded awards.

**APPENDIX D2: STUDENT SUBMISSIONS**

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There was one submission from the AMS.



**Submission to the UBC Board of Governors Regarding the Proposed Tuition Increase for the Master of Nursing – Nursing Practitioner (MN-NP)**

**On Behalf of  
Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017**

Dear Board of Governors,

This submission is being made on behalf of the Alma Mater society (AMS) of UBC Vancouver in response to the request for feedback from the Vice-Presidents Students Office sent to these groups on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 for the proposed increase in international tuition for the Master of Nursing, Nursing Practitioner program, and updated to reflect the alterations made on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The tuition for international students has been updated since January 3<sup>rd</sup> and is now set to increase to \$35,856 in the 2017/18 academic year, \$57,928 in the 2018/19 academic year, and then \$80,000 for the 2019/20 academic year.

Acknowledging that the funding level from the Ministry is below enrolment levels currently, the AMS recognizes the need for this increase in order to accept a greater number of students, or accept international students while retaining the level of domestic enrolment.

As well, the AMS would like to recognize the Faculty and School for addressing our concerns regarding the steepness of the initially proposed increases and the short timeline within which it would increase. The faculty then extended and redistributed the increases across 3 years as opposed to 2 years.

However, the AMS still finds the final number, \$80,000 to be too high, particularly because the number of additional international students is set at a number wherein the School will not need additional Faculty to teach this expanded cohort number. Such a large jump in tuition, even over the newly extended 3 years, is still an incredibly large change in incoming funding, and for these additional international students to see no change in the number of faculty members despite an increased number of students may result in reduced quality of learning.

We think that there has not been adequate consideration made for the impact that raising tuition will have on the quality of applicants for this program, nor any acknowledgement that the program's strong reputation may partly be due to its comparatively lower tuition than its peer institutions.

As such, the AMS opposes this proposed increase to international tuition for the Master of Nursing, Nursing Practitioner program.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samantha So'.

**Samantha So**  
Vice President Academic and University Affairs  
AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver  
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