



SUBJECT	Student Affordability Task Force - Update
SUBMITTED TO	Finance Committee
MEETING DATE	June 15, 2022
SESSION CLASSIFICATION	Recommended session criteria from Board Meetings Policy: OPEN
REQUEST	For information only - No action requested
LEAD EXECUTIVE	Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students
SUPPORTED BY	Karamjeet Heer, Interim Vice-President Finance Samantha Reid, Executive Director, Office of the Vice-President Students Dale Mullings, Associate Vice-President Students, UBC Okanagan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2022, the Board of Governors approved the Student Affordability Task Force (SATF) report. The final report included ten recommendations to advance student affordability, including proposals for housing, food, textbooks, tuition, student aid, and continued research on affordability.

The Task Force was co-chaired by Ananya Mukherjee Reed, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan, Andrew Szeri, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver, and Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students. The Task Force included student, faculty, and staff representatives from both campuses.

This briefing aims to: (a) provide a progress update on recommendations and (b) establish a reporting timeline for updates.

Progress

- 1. Implementation team.** An SATF implementation team has been assembled. The team includes representation from Vancouver and Okanagan campuses. Team meetings will begin meeting this summer 2022. The team will focus on implementation steps and timelines for the ten recommendations.
 - The implementation team will be co-led by Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students, Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic pro tem, UBC Vancouver, and Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic pro tem, UBC Okanagan. The membership of the implementation team includes:
 - Samantha Reid, Executive Director Office of the Vice-president Students
 - Dale Mullings, Associate Vice-president Students, UBC Okanagan
 - Bert Annear, Deputy Registrar, UBC Okanagan
 - Heather Berringer, Associate Provost, Learning Services
 - Adrienne Vedan, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Affairs
 - Annie Yim, Deputy Registrar
 - Andrew Parr, AVP Student Housing and Community Services
 - Lesley Charter-Smith, Strategic Decision Support
 - Stephanie McKeown, Institutional Research
 - Simon Bates, Provost Office
 - Matt Boydston, Finance

2. **Food insecurity.** The FY23 UBCV budget included \$325,000 to support food insecurity. The FY23 UBCO budget also included \$98,500 in funding to support food insecurity initiatives. The Food Insecurity Action Team has outlined a plan for using those funds in FY23. A long-term plan for food insecurity will be developed.
3. **Cost of educational materials.** Progress has been made on reducing the costs of educational materials. Across both campuses, funds have been made available to faculty to create, extend, and reuse open educational resources to reduce the cost of learning materials to students.
4. **Need-based Aid.** Development & Alumni Engagement has developed a multi-year plan to raise \$100 million for need-based aid. The plan is included in the upcoming capital campaign.
5. **Tuition engagement.** The Office of the VPS and AVPS will work with student governance to structure a new model of ongoing/ year-round student engagement on matters related to affordability.

Reporting Timeline

Since recommendations will be implemented over time, the Responsible Executives will report progress on implementing the recommendations twice per year for the next three years. One update will occur in Winter Term 1; the second update will coincide with Board approval of the University budget.
