

University of Idaho Vandal Marching Band
Student Activity Fee Proposal for FY 2016
January 20, 2015



A. Overview of unit and how student activity fees are used:

The marching band currently receives \$6.25 from each full time student and \$1.25 from each part time student. These funds support the operation of the Athletic Band Program which operates within the Lionel Hampton School of Music and is administered by Assistant Professor Spencer Martin.

The Athletic Band Program includes the marching band (football) as well as pep bands for women's volleyball, men's basketball, and women's basketball. These ensembles perform at 45+ athletic events and over 55+ other venues annually. These 100+ performances are seen by approximately 200,000 people per year. It is one of UI's most visible, active, and successful student groups.

It is also one of the campus' most academically diverse groups, bringing together over 200 students from nine of the ten UI colleges (no law students currently), and representing over 55 major programs of study. The group includes national merit scholars, athletes, veterans, and other non-traditional students.

The athletic band program is an active recruiter for the University of Idaho. Band events bring approximately 2,000 high school students to campus during Homecoming events and Future Vandal Game Day. The band also performs at high schools while on tour.

Student fee revenues are currently used to cover the operating expenses of the band program. Major expenses include part time professional staff, student logistical staff, instrument purchase/repair, rehearsal equipment, equipment truck (fuel, maintenance, etc.), uniforms (formal and informal), sheet music, printing, event food, band camp (on campus in August before classes begin), marching band travel to one away football game or NFL performance (not annual), pep band travel to the conference basketball tournament, and administrative/office supplies.

The Marching band receives support from CLASS and the School of Music by providing the band director salary. Financial Aid provides scholarship support from central administration. It also receives \$2,500 annually from the Athletics Department.

B. Have you received an increase to your student activity fee in the past three years and if so when, how much and for what purpose(s)?

We had preliminary approval for a \$1 increase last year to fund band scholarship obligations, however, our student fee was reduced by \$1 because scholarships were moved to centrally allocated funds. (It was previously \$7.25 and is now \$6.25.) The current rate was established in 2001!

Band Fee History:	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Full-Time</u>	<u>Part-Time</u>
	1977-1990	2.00	-
	1991	3.00	-
	1992-1998	4.00	-
	1999-2000	5.00	0.50
	2001-2010	6.25	1.25
	2011-2014	7.25	1.25
	2015	6.25	1.25

C. What opportunities do you see for other funding sources and what are your plans in the future to find other revenue?

We have asked Athletics nearly every year to increase their support above \$2,500, but they are not able to support us further. CLASS has recently hired a Director of Development to facilitate fund raising in our college. He has shown great interest in the marching band but we have only one director for our whole college, the UI's largest, and he is not able to commit the time we need to this activity. We expect some increased donations but the amount and regularity is unpredictable at this point.

D. What changes do you see happening to your program in the next 5 years – what is your vision and how does it fit in the university's strategic plan?

We expect continued growth, especially in light of the President's decree to grow enrollment by 50%. Our costs are directly proportional to band enrollment so our expenses will continue to increase. We have grown over the last decade and are well beyond our budget resources. We are a valuable recruiting tool for UI and our activities clearly fit into every goal of the Strategic Plan – teaching/learning, creative activity, outreach, and community.

E. What opportunities do you see for your unit and what challenges are you facing

We see opportunity for growth (noted above) and are challenged by a lack of financial support from our campus partners who benefit most from our services. We will continue to grow as the University grows so our expenses will continue to increase.

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Request for Student Fee Increase for FY2016

The current fee rate of \$6.25 was implemented in 2001. We respectfully request a **\$2.25** increase for full-time students. These new funds will be used to:

- (1) Maintain our current operations (approx. \$20,000). We experience a continual shortfall due to band growth and higher expenses due to inflation. Our current income is not sufficient for a 200+ member band. We are regularly short to cover our commitments. This will also allow the band to travel on behalf of UI annually. Travel has been irregular in recent years.
- (2) Purchase marching instruments (approx. \$25,000). We need to replace sousaphones (\$7,500 x 18 = \$135,000) and percussion instruments (\$40,000). This will fund a long-term plan to finance the replacement of instruments over seven years. Our current equipment was purchased between 1998-2000 and is held together with duct tape. Many of the instruments are now beyond repair.

This fee increase will allow the band to continue to represent UI in the best possible way.

Proposal Request:	<u>Student</u>	<u>FY2015 fee</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>FY2016 fee</u>
	Full Time	6.25	2.25	8.50
	Part-Time	1.25	0.00	1.25

Marching Band budget source breakdown:

Student Fees	66%
Central Administration	21%
School of Music	12%
Athletics Department	1%

Approvals:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Spencer Martin".

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Director, Vandal Marching Band

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Torrey Lawrence".

Torrey Lawrence (torreyl@uidaho.edu, 208-885-6231)
Director, Lionel Hampton School of Music

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Kersten".

Andrew Kersten (andrewkersten@uidaho.edu, 208-885-6426)
Dean, College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences