

UC Irvine

Student Government Student Media

March 6, 2026

BRICE KIKUCHI
ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR
STUDENT AFFAIRS

RAMEEN A. TALESH, ED.D.
ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR, STUDENT LIFE & LEADERSHIP
DEAN OF STUDENTS

RE: Pre-Election Approval of the *Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum*

On behalf of Student Government Student Media (SGSM), I am submitting the Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum pre-election packet for review and subsequent final approval to be eligible for ballot during the 2026 ASUCI Spring Election to be held April 13-17, 2026.

At your earliest, please have the Vice Chancellor review, and if he approves, I would like to request the Vice Chancellor's signature on the noted letter. Thereafter, at your earliest convenience, please send the letter to the Chancellor for his review, and if he approves, I would like to request his signature on the noted letter.

I have a firm deadline of Friday, March 13, at 5:00pm to ensure the student representatives have submitted the approved packet to the official Election Commissioner to declare on the official ballot. I would appreciate receiving the final packet by Friday, March 13, at 12:00pm.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,



Stephanie N. Van Ginkel, Ed.D.
Executive Director
Associate Dean of Students
Student Government Student Media

UC Irvine

Student Government Student Media

March 6, 2026

HOWARD GILLMAN
CHANCELLOR

Re: Approval of the *Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum*

In accordance with the "Guidelines for Compulsory-Based Fees," your approval is requested for the following student fee referendum approved by the ASUCI Senate accordingly:

ASUCI Senate: Approval of the *Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum* for the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Election on March 5, 2026, by a vote of 17-0-0.

The Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) reviewed and provided any necessary feedback on February 13, 2026, with full Board approval.

Attached is the final & approved ballot language for the student fee referendum, which outlines the fee's purpose, amount, and ballot wording. The fee will be effective in the Fall Quarter of 2026, if passed and approved.

Balloting will take place during the 2026 ASUCI Spring Elections, which will be held April 13-17, 2026, and in accordance with the 2026 ASUCI Spring Election procedures. In order to pass, this referendum will require a 20% affected, eligible, total registered undergraduate student body voter turnout rate ("voting pool") by submitting a ballot, of which at least a majority (50% + 1 vote) of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on this referendum must have voted "yes."

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Stephanie N. Van Ginkel, Ed.D.
Executive Director
Associate Dean of Students
Student Government Student Media

On behalf of the lead student representing the *Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum*:

Skylar Maile Paxton
Editor-in-Chief
New University Newspaper
paxtons@uci.edu

Recommended for Approval:

Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D. 3/6/2026
Willie L. Banks, Jr., Ph.D. Date
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Howard Gillman 3/10/2026
Howard Gillman Date
Chancellor

- Attachments:
- Final Ballot Language - *Support the New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum*
 - Accompanying Documents for the Referendum
 - Guidelines for Compulsory Campus-Based Fees (Current October 2025)
 - SFAC Review Documentation
 - Passed ASUCI Senate Resolution 61-93

**SUPPORT THE NEW UNIVERSITY'S:
SUPPORT STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER STUDENT FEE REFERENDUM**

Do you approve the creation of a \$2.00 per undergraduate student per quarter fee (\$6.00 annually), effective fall quarter 2026, and with annual inflationary increases starting in fall quarter 2027 to support the expansion of New University's resources and bi-weekly print?

The New University (New U) is the student-run official newspaper at UCI. Founded in 1968, the New U has sought to provide coverage of UCI and local news to the UC Irvine community. The paper formerly published its print issue once-a-week during the regular academic year; however, it has transitioned to being a fully digital publication since Fall 2018. Within the New U, a team of 100+ student journalists reports, edits, and publishes weekly articles for 10 sections: News, Features, Opinion, Sports, Arts & Entertainment, Graphics, Social Media, Copy, Photo, and Video.

Since 2024, the New U has committed itself to keeping up with the journalism industry and keeping content up-to-date with the surrounding community. From the reintroduction to our Features section to an all-encompassing rebrand to video storytelling, the New U has actively provided UCI students and staff with consistent and various weekly content.

The introduction of the bi-weekly printed newspaper will allow UC Irvine students to have a piece of UC Irvine history, acting as a memento that can be tangibly held. Additionally, the proposed bi-weekly newspaper maintains the fundamental legacy of a newspaper — a return to an era of UC Irvine student journalists who utilize print to inform students of the breaking stories of the month. Sustainability would be upheld with an online edition and a bi-weekly newspaper would be offset by the appeal from new readers: a distinctive printed campus newspaper, which has been absent since 2018 at UC Irvine. Furthermore, revenue from the student fee will offer valuable resources in preserving the New U student journalism at UC Irvine.

We hope the undergraduate student body will invest in the New U's operating costs and bi-weekly print. Currently, all members of the New U staff devote 10+ hours a week to their duties. The student fees raised from this referendum will be used to support bi-weekly printing costs and items such as new equipment and article compensation in order to support the life of student journalism and articles, podcasts, photos, and videos created. A student fee raised by undergraduate students is an investment in student journalism and a staff dedicated to supporting its readers. Investing in a well-equipped printed publication and a dedicated newspaper team fosters a sense of community on campus; the New U is dedicated to ethical and meaningful involvement with the audience it serves.

If the referendum does not pass, the following would have to be considered until more permanent funds can be established: no bi-weekly print issues, insufficient resources for student journalism, and a lack of news coverage serving the larger UC Irvine community.

- The fee will be assessed to all undergraduate students.
- The fee will be assessed during the fall, winter, and spring quarters, starting fall 2026.

- An audit of the use of these fees will be provided by the New University via a professional staff designee of Student Government Student Media upon request.
- The proposed fee level is intended to fund student services as described in this referendum. However, in the event there is a year-end balance, the balance will be carried forward to the next year. The New University Editorial Board will make recommendations on how the carryforwards should be used, consistent with the scope of this fee.
- In accordance with University of California policy requiring a minimum return-to-aid of 25% for new or increased campus-based fees, a portion of this fee will be provided for aid. This fee will have 33% of the fee returned to financial aid to help offset the cost of this fee for undergraduate students who are eligible for financial aid.
- Starting fall 2027, the fee will increase annually based on the California Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI will be taken from the California Department of Finance's calendar year annual average of all urban consumers' CPI-U. CPI-U is a measure of the average change over time in prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.
- The New University is responsible for providing an annual report to the Chancellor on its programming and operations to ensure the proper and effective use of the fees collected. In addition, the report will be presented to the ASUCI Senate. Upon request, this report will be available.
- The majority student New University Editorial Board, with assistance from Student Government Student Media, will make recommendations regarding the operating budget and administration of the fee-funded activities, and will be responsible for writing and distributing an annual report on the activities funded by this fee initiative.
- This fee will sunset (expire) on its 30th year (2055-56) unless the undergraduate student body reaffirms this fee. This fee can be reaffirmed as early as the 26th year (2051-52); otherwise, if there is no vote to reaffirm this fee by the end of its 30th year (2055-56), the fee will terminate.
- In order to pass, this referendum will require at least a 20% eligible, affected total registered undergraduate student body voter turnout rate by submitting a ballot during the 2026 ASUCI Spring Elections, of which at least a majority (50% plus one vote) of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on the referendum in question must have voted "yes."

☐ Yes, I support a new per quarter fee, as described in this referendum, starting at \$2.00 per undergraduate student for the Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum.

☐ No, I do not support a new per quarter fee, as described in this referendum, starting at \$2.00 per undergraduate student for the Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum.

☐ Abstain (I do not wish to vote on this item)

**Guidelines Governing the Distribution of the
New University's: Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum**

With the projected enrollment of 28,850 undergraduate students, the New University's: Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum is projected to generate approximately \$173,100 per year annually at a total of \$6.00 per undergraduate student (\$2 per quarter per student). Of that, 33% will go to Return-to-Aid, leaving approximately \$115,977 annually to fund the New University and its activities.

The preliminary budget is as follows:

EXPENSES

BUSINESSES SERVICES EXPENSES - \$15,000

- Maintenance fees - including but not limited to: administrative support, bank fees, credit card fees, website hosting and management
- Subscriptions - including but not limited to: AP Stylebook, Shutterstock, Google Workspace, and other platforms relevant to coverage
- Contingency – including unexpected costs

STAFF SERVICE EXPENSES - \$15,000

- Travel - including but not limited to: air and hotels to cover men's and women's basketball teams at the Big West Conference, cost of entry for at-home and away UCI-related sports events, miscellaneous travel costs for other UCI sports' team coverage
- Supplies - including but not limited to press passes, cost of entry for UCI-related events
- Program Costs – including, but not limited to, boothing for outreach

EQUIPMENT EXPENSES - \$10,000

- Photo-video equipment- including but not limited to: microphones, cameras, and other equipment for the photo and video teams

BI-WEEKLY PRINT - \$70,000

- Print costs of the newspaper fifteen (15) times per Academic Year (minimum print amount)

TOTAL - \$110,000

Student Media - New University 10-Year Proforma

		<u>FY 2026-2027</u>	<u>FY 2027-2028</u>	<u>FY 2028-2029</u>	<u>FY 2029-2030</u>	<u>FY 2030-2031</u>	<u>FY 2031-2032</u>	<u>FY 2032-2033</u>	<u>FY 2033-2034</u>	<u>FY 2034-2035</u>	<u>FY 2035-2036</u>
	<u>INCREASE/DECREASE</u>										
<u>EXPENSES</u>											
Business Service Expenses	Inc 5% per year	\$15,000.00	\$15,750.00	\$16,222.50	\$16,709.18	\$17,210.45	\$17,726.76	\$18,258.57	\$18,806.32	\$19,370.51	\$19,951.63
Staff Service Expenses	Inc 5% per year	\$15,000.00	\$15,750.00	\$16,380.00	\$17,035.20	\$17,716.61	\$18,425.27	\$19,162.28	\$19,928.77	\$20,725.93	\$21,554.96
Equipment Expenses	Inc 5% per year	\$10,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$10,920.00	\$11,356.80	\$11,811.07	\$12,283.51	\$12,774.86	\$13,285.85	\$13,817.28	\$14,369.98
Printing Expenses	Inc 5% per year	<u>\$70,000.00</u>	<u>\$73,500.00</u>	<u>\$75,705.00</u>	<u>\$77,976.15</u>	<u>\$80,315.43</u>	<u>\$82,724.90</u>	<u>\$85,206.64</u>	<u>\$87,762.84</u>	<u>\$90,395.73</u>	<u>\$93,107.60</u>
	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$110,000.00</u>	<u>\$115,500.00</u>	<u>\$119,227.50</u>	<u>\$123,077.33</u>	<u>\$127,053.56</u>	<u>\$131,160.45</u>	<u>\$135,402.35</u>	<u>\$139,783.79</u>	<u>\$144,309.45</u>	<u>\$148,984.17</u>
<u>INCOME</u>											
Print Advertising	Inc 2% per year	\$4,500.00	\$4,590.00	\$4,681.80	\$4,775.44	\$4,870.94	\$4,968.36	\$5,067.73	\$5,169.09	\$5,272.47	\$5,377.92
Online Advertising	No Increase	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Student Fees at 28,850 attendance (Per UC Budget)	Inc 2.8% per year estimated CPI average	<u>\$115,977.00</u>	<u>\$119,224.36</u>	<u>\$122,562.64</u>	<u>\$125,994.39</u>	<u>\$129,522.23</u>	<u>\$133,148.86</u>	<u>\$136,877.03</u>	<u>\$140,709.58</u>	<u>\$144,649.45</u>	<u>\$148,699.64</u>
	<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>\$122,477.00</u>	<u>\$125,814.36</u>	<u>\$129,244.44</u>	<u>\$132,769.83</u>	<u>\$136,393.18</u>	<u>\$140,117.22</u>	<u>\$143,944.76</u>	<u>\$147,878.67</u>	<u>\$151,921.92</u>	<u>\$156,077.55</u>
	<u>NET INCOME</u>	<u>\$12,477.00</u>	<u>\$10,314.36</u>	<u>\$10,016.94</u>	<u>\$9,692.50</u>	<u>\$9,339.61</u>	<u>\$8,956.77</u>	<u>\$8,542.41</u>	<u>\$8,094.88</u>	<u>\$7,612.47</u>	<u>\$7,093.38</u>
	RESERVES 2025-2026		\$55,386.00								
	<u>PROJECTED RESERVES 2035-2036</u>		<u>\$147,526.32</u>								

Student Fees assessed after the removal of Financial Aid (33%) of the original amount of \$6.00 yearly/\$2.00 quarterly (3)

Printing reflects a 24-page newspaper at 2,000 distribution; print advertising only a conservative minimum but not the priority for revenue due to bi-weekly print (not normally a heavy selling-type of paper)

Percentages are based on average overall increases over the 10 years

Hold student population as is

Advertising revenue kept constant due to this being a print bi-weekly with theoretical online updating 9 months out of the year, daily at 1-2 articles per day, and with current advertising trends

Net Income will be placed in Reserves to build for future use and use for unexpected/increase costs

CPI increase based on average rate of past 5 years

Budget only valid if all parameters kept constant

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
GUIDELINES FOR COMPULSORY CAMPUS-BASED FEES

This memo supersedes the memo entitled "Guidelines for Compulsory Campus-Based Fees" signed by Chancellor Gillman on January 9, 2025.

These guidelines apply to the establishment, increase, decrease, modification, or cessation of student compulsory campus-based fees for supporting student-related programs and services. Examples include sports programs, child care programs, and student fee-funded facilities. These guidelines apply to all compulsory campus-based fees for student fee-funded facilities, student-related programs and services, or student governments.

These guidelines are provided in accordance with the University of California Policy 80 on Compulsory Campus-Based Student Fees, which states, "Chancellors shall establish in-campus implementing regulations, prior to any student referendum, procedures that meet at least the ... minimum system-wide standard for such referenda."

- I. Establishment or increase of a compulsory campus-based fee:
 - a. A proposal for the establishment or increase of a compulsory campus-based fee initiative may be submitted to the Chancellor for approval from one of the following sources:
 - i. Enrolled student or group of student sponsors who have received approval from:
 1. ASUCI Senate for undergraduate student compulsory fees;
 2. AGS Council for graduate student compulsory fees;
 - a. a graduate professional Council, in addition to AGS Council, for compulsory fees affecting only that specific student group;
 3. both ASUCI Senate and AGS Council for compulsory fees affecting all students;
 - ii. Enrolled student or group of student sponsors who petitioned the student body with:
 1. the petition signed by at least 8% of registered undergraduate students for undergraduate student compulsory fees only;
 2. the petition signed by at least 8% of registered graduate students for graduate student compulsory fees only;

- a. the petition signed by at least 8% of the registered graduate students from a graduate professional school for compulsory fees affecting only that specific student group;
 3. the petition signed by at least 8% of the total registered student body compulsory for fees affecting all students;
- iii. Directive of the Chancellor.
- b. Prior to submission to the Chancellor, the proposal shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, who will work with the Budget Office for further review by Campus Counsel and relevant campus administrative departments that may be impacted by the proposed fee (e.g., Capital Planning for facility-related proposals). The Budget Office will coordinate with the Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) and the Office of the President for review.
- c. The content of the compulsory fee initiative shall be submitted to the Chancellor for approval. Information shall include, but not limited to the: student sponsor, their title, purpose of the fee, amount of the fee, return-to-aid percentage, the effective date of the fee, reaffirmation date (with the exception of compulsory fees serving debt), wording on the ballot, and voting procedures. Balloting for an initiative shall not take place without prior approval of the Chancellor.
- d. Should UC Irvine administrative office(s) spend funds to produce printed materials in support of a fee initiative, it shall make available, through student government, an equal amount of funds to produce printed material against the fee initiative. The amount of the funds shall be limited to the cost of printing these materials. A neutral "Information Brochure" about the initiative shall be exempt from this policy. Expenditures shall be administered through the student government's business office.
- e. Fee initiatives:
 - i. For undergraduate fee initiatives, at least 20% of registered undergraduate students affected by the fee must submit a ballot;
 1. At least a majority (50% plus one vote) of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on the referenda in question must have voted "yes."
 - ii. For graduate fee initiatives, at least 20% of registered graduate students affected by the fee must submit a ballot;
 1. At least a majority (50% plus one vote) of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on the referenda in question must have voted "yes."
 - iii. For initiatives that are a joint-action proposed by both undergraduates

and graduates, at least 20% of the total registered student body affected by the fee must submit a ballot;

1. At least a majority (50% plus one vote) of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on the referenda in question must have voted "yes."

iv. For fee-funded facilities, at least 20% of the total registered student body affected by the fee must submit a ballot;

1. At least 60% of those students who voted "yes" or "no" on the referenda in question must have voted "yes."

v. If approved by students, the results shall be sent to the Chancellor for approval. The Chancellor will then forward the compulsory fee recommendation to the Regents for their approval.

II. Decrease or Elimination of an existing compulsory campus-based fee:

- a. Compulsory fees not tied to debt services or necessary to meet legal requirements and contractual obligations may be reduced, eliminated, or increased by amending referenda governed by the above guidelines. In addition, all proposals for elimination, reduction, or increase shall be submitted to the Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) and relevant campus administrative departments for review and recommendation before submission to the Chancellor by applicable student government(s) for final review and approval.
- b. Prior to submission to the Chancellor, the proposal shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, who will work with the Budget Office for further review by Campus Counsel and relevant campus administrative departments that may be impacted by the decrease or elimination of the fee (e.g., Capital Planning for facility-related proposals). The Budget Office will coordinate with the Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) and the Office of the President for review.
- c. If referenda fees are tied to debt service, those fees must end when the debt obligation has been retired. If fees are not tied to debt service, the fees must be reaffirmed through referenda starting at a maximum of 26 years after the fee is enacted. If there is no vote to reaffirm a fee by the 30th year after the fee's initiation, the fee will sunset. If referenda debt is refinanced, it should be done so in good faith, and the fee tied to that debt should be reduced or adjusted accordingly.

III. Waiver of an existing compulsory campus-based fee:

- a. Compulsory fees may be considered for a waiver if the following conditions are met:
 - i. The campus has a vested interest in students taking a course or set of courses and/or requires students to take a course or set of courses

that trigger a compulsory campus fee; and

- ii. The purpose of the campus requirement or reason for students to take the course(s) includes the explicit expectation that students not be charged for the activity. In particular, there needs to be no other costs to the student imposed by the campus for taking the course(s).
- b. If these two conditions are met, a proposal for waiving the compulsory fees may be sponsored by:
- i. Academic Senate Chair;
 - ii. A Vice Chancellor or a Vice Provost; and/or
 - iii. Directive of the Chancellor
- c. Any proposal shall include the justification of the activity, including what it is a requirement for and how it services the mission of the University and a justification of the activity not having any associated charges. The proposal will be submitted to SFAC and relevant campus departments for review and recommendation prior to submission to the Chancellor for a final decision.
- d. Any waiver of compulsory fees under this provision shall only apply to the specific course(s) required by the activity. If additional activity or courses on the part of a student triggers compulsory fees, the student will be responsible for the fee.

The Chancellor has the authority to change this process as per PACAOS 85.00.

Recommendation for Approval:

DocuSigned by:
Alondra Elena Arevalo
E1E7C376996242F...

Alondra Arevalo
ASUCI President, 25-26

DocuSigned by:
Amelia Roskin-Frazee
CEB830323E0A444...

Amelia Roskin-Frazee
AGS President, 25-26

DocuSigned by:
Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.
4F3D62343273419...

Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Approved:

Howard Gillman
Howard Gillman
Chancellor

10/15/2025
Date



RE: Spring referenda at UC Irvine

From Katherine Warnke-Carpenter <kcarpent@uci.edu>

Date Fri 2/13/2026 5:13 PM

To Brice Ken Kikuchi <brice@uci.edu>; Stephanie Noëlle Van Ginkel <svangink@uci.edu>

Cc Tricia Yumi Saito <tysaito@uci.edu>; Andrew Michael Shigenaga <shigenaa@uci.edu>; Kristina Doan Strottman <kstrottm@uci.edu>; Katherine L Gallardo <klgallar@uci.edu>; Kyong Salmons <ksalmons@uci.edu>

 4 attachments (12 MB)

UCI DREAM Center Student Fee Referendum - UCOP_SFAC.docx; Safeguarding Our Cultural and Identity Centers Student Fee Referendum - UCOP_SFAC.docx; Undergraduate Basic Needs Student Fee Referendum - UCOP_SFAC.docx; Support the New University's_Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum - UCOP.docx;

Hello,

SFAC reviewed and added comments at this afternoon's meeting to the 4 attached referenda. They also voted to support as revised by Stephanie, so these would not need to go back for SFAC re-review. They did add some clarification questions they hope UCOP will answer, but nothing that would require them seeing these again. They didn't have any additional comments for New University.

These 4 were sent as attached to UCOP this afternoon at 5pm at the conclusion of the meeting. I had given them a heads up yesterday. I have requested to have the graduate student ones (2) returned by 2/20 and the undergrad only (2) could follow early the following week, if necessary but no later than 2/27 to meet elections deadlines.

KWC

Katherine Warnke-Carpenter (KWC)
Assistant Director, Academic Resources Planning
Division of Finance & Administration | With U • For U
Budget Office
(949) 824-5473
kcarpent@uci.edu



University of California, Irvine
455 Aldrich Hall, 415H
Irvine, CA 92697-3025

From: Brice Ken Kikuchi <brice@uci.edu>

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 9:22 AM

To: Stephanie Noëlle Van Ginkel <svangink@uci.edu>; Katherine Warnke-Carpenter <kcarpent@uci.edu>

ASUCI Senate Legislation

Legislation: R61-93 Senate Approval of New University's Support Student-Run Newspaper Student Fee Referendum for the ASUCI Spring 2026 General Elections

Item #: **102** Author: **Skylar Paxton – Editor-in-Chief of New University, Gabriel C. Mutsvangwa – At-Large Senator** Second: **Kelsey Djan – Biological Sciences Senator** Date of Presentation: **March 5, 2026**

Whereas, Article XIII, Section 2.a. of the ASUCI Constitution provides the undergraduate students the power to “create self-assessed fees” (1);

Whereas, Article XIII, Section 2.c. of the ASUCI Constitution establishes that “[f]ee initiatives may be proposed by. . . [the] approval of a proposal by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Senate” (1);

Whereas, Article XIII, Section 2.e. of the ASUCI Constitution establishes that “fee initiative[s] must also be reviewed and approved by the Student Fee Advisory Committee, the UC Office of the President, and other campus bodies as necessary, in addition to complying with University policies on student fees” (1);

Whereas, New University (New U), founded in 1968, is the official student-run newspaper of the University of California, Irvine;

Whereas, New University has consistently served the UC Irvine community with accurate, timely, and ethical journalism;

Whereas, the team behind New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum has submitted the necessary administrative paperwork to the Student Government Student Media Executive Director to run the referendum this academic year;

Whereas, if the referendum is approved by a majority (50% + 1 vote) of the eligible undergraduate students who vote in the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections, following an overall voter turnout of twenty percent (20%) of the undergraduate student body, New University will use the fee to “support the expansion of New University's resources and bi-weekly print” (2);

majority (50% + 1 vote) of the eligible undergraduate students who vote in the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections, following an overall turnout of twenty percent (20%) of the undergraduate student body, thirty-three percent (33%) of the fee will be returned to financial aid to offset the cost of the fee for undergraduate students eligible for financial aid (2);

Whereas, if the referendum is approved by a majority (50% + 1 vote) of the eligible undergraduate students who vote in the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections, following an overall voter turnout of twenty percent (20%) of the undergraduate student body, the fee will be implemented in Fall 2026 (2);

Whereas, the approval of the New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum by the ASUCI Senate is a procedural action to place the referendum on the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections ballot and not a formal endorsement of the referendum;

Therefore, be it resolved that, the ASUCI Senate approves the New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum to be placed on the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections ballot with the final language of the referendum as attached (2);

Therefore, be it ordered that, the ASUCI Elections Commissioner place the New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum on the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections ballot;

Therefore, be it finally resolved, that the ASUCI Senate recognizes Skylar Paxton, the Editor-in-Chief of New University, as the official representative of the New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum for campaigning during the 2026 ASUCI Spring General Elections.

References:

1. ASUCI Constitution

(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TaL7w9lb02Z0npHkfa4kx8nJQ6JlF6OP/view?usp=sharing>)

2. New University's Support Student Journalism Student Fee Referendum Final Language

(https://drive.google.com/file/d/12dx7-jcIT5YHr-p1mjzi2G7wTsYQFNdd/view?usp=drive_link)

Attachments:

<https://internal.studentgov.uci.edu/wp-content/uploads/formidable/35/referendum-newu26-1.pdf>,

<https://internal.studentgov.uci.edu/wp-content/uploads/formidable/35/referendum-language.pdf>

Vote Required: **Majority**

Nay: **0**

Date Voted On: **March 5, 2026**

Abs: **0**