

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: UB-61001

Date introduced: July 24, 2024

Author(s): Chair Ortega

Sponsor(s): Sen. Nieto, Sen. Zeidat

Committee: Administration and Finance

Draft: Vote

Student-Athletics MOU Oversight Committee

Whereas, The Detail of Commitments related to the Student Service Fee Increase Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Student Government Association (SGA) on behalf of UH Students and UH Athletics was signed and recognized by all relevant parties on February 18, 2015, at the request of the 51st Student Government Association (SGA); and

Whereas, The MOU was designed to articulate the University of Houston Athletics' commitments to the students and student groups in exchange for a \$45 per semester increase in the student service fee for 25 years, beginning in the fall semester of 2012, with the proceeds used to support the construction of a new football stadium and the renovation of Hofheinz Pavilion; and

Whereas, The term of this Memorandum of Understanding began upon the full execution of the parties and is set to end on December 31st, 2037; and

Whereas, It is crucial to ensure proper oversight and management of these commitments and benefits for the student body;

Therefore, be it enacted by the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

A University Committee named the "Committee for Honoring Athletics Responsibilities and Legislative Established Standards" shall be established to oversee the implementation and compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding, ensuring all commitments and benefits outlined above are fulfilled.

Be it further enacted, The Committee shall be comprised of seven voting members, appointed by the Student Government Association, with the following structure:

- Chair and Vice Chair elected from among the members
- Three members serving two-year terms
- Four members serving one-year terms

Be it further enacted, The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that SFAC dollars are used effectively for the student experience and to provide feedback on how to enhance it with the allocated funds.

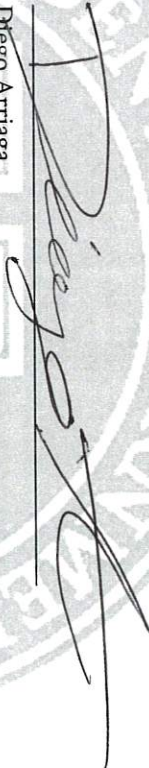
Be it further enacted, The Committee shall preside over matters outlined in the memorandum of understanding including:

- The University of Houston Students, through the Student Government Association, had the opportunity to host two events per year in either the stadium or arena, with approved events not incurring facility rental fees and all associated event and overhead expenses provided at cost; and
- Scheduling priority was to be given to events associated with the annual Frontier Fiesta or homecoming activities; and
- The Student Government Association received four all-access passes for UH home football and men's basketball games for the term of this agreement, to be issued and utilized exclusively by the SGA President, SGA Vice President, SFAC Chair, and Speaker of the Senate unless otherwise agreed upon by the SGA and Athletics; and
- The Student Government Association could appoint a student committee to meet with Department of Athletics representatives at the conclusion of football and basketball seasons for the purpose of reviewing overall facility usage, financial performance, student events and corresponding financial performance, student ticket allocation, and the student tailgate area; and
- The Department of Athletics allocated 5,000 complimentary student tickets per game in the stadium and 1,000 complimentary student tickets per game in the arena for the term of this agreement, with the student allocations to be evaluated on an annual basis or as requested by SGA during the season and amended as necessary based on student attendance at events; and
- Student Government Association recognition in the football stadium and arena was to be mutually agreed upon; and
- The university provided the student body a space adjacent to the stadium for the purpose of student and student organization tailgating beginning with the 2015 season and for as long as is feasible possible, but not to exceed the term of the MOU; and
- The space provided included the southbound lanes of Cullen Boulevard from Cougar Place Drive to Entrance 14, as well as the grassy areas in front of that same section of Cullen Boulevard; and
- The allocation of space for tailgating was to be evaluated regularly during each season and amended as necessary based on student attendance and other conditions in the tailgating area; and
- The university was to provide prominent signage designating the tailgate area and was to analyze and provide, as feasible, power outlets along the length of the grassy areas and/or from existing power poles; and

Be it further enacted, The Committee shall meet at least once per semester and as needed to address issues and provide reports on the utilization of funds and fulfillment of commitments.

Be it further enacted, The Committee shall submit an annual report to the Student Government Association, the Student Fee Advisory Committee, and the Department of Athletics detailing the review and recommendations regarding facility usage, financial performance, student events, ticket allocations, and tailgating areas.


LET IT BE ENACTED THAT, The 61st Student Government Association establishes this University Committee and shall appoint the first members to serve their respective terms starting August 21st to oversee the commitments and benefits outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding, ensuring accountability and proper utilization of student service fee increases for the betterment of the University of Houston student body.



Diego Arriaga

Student Government President

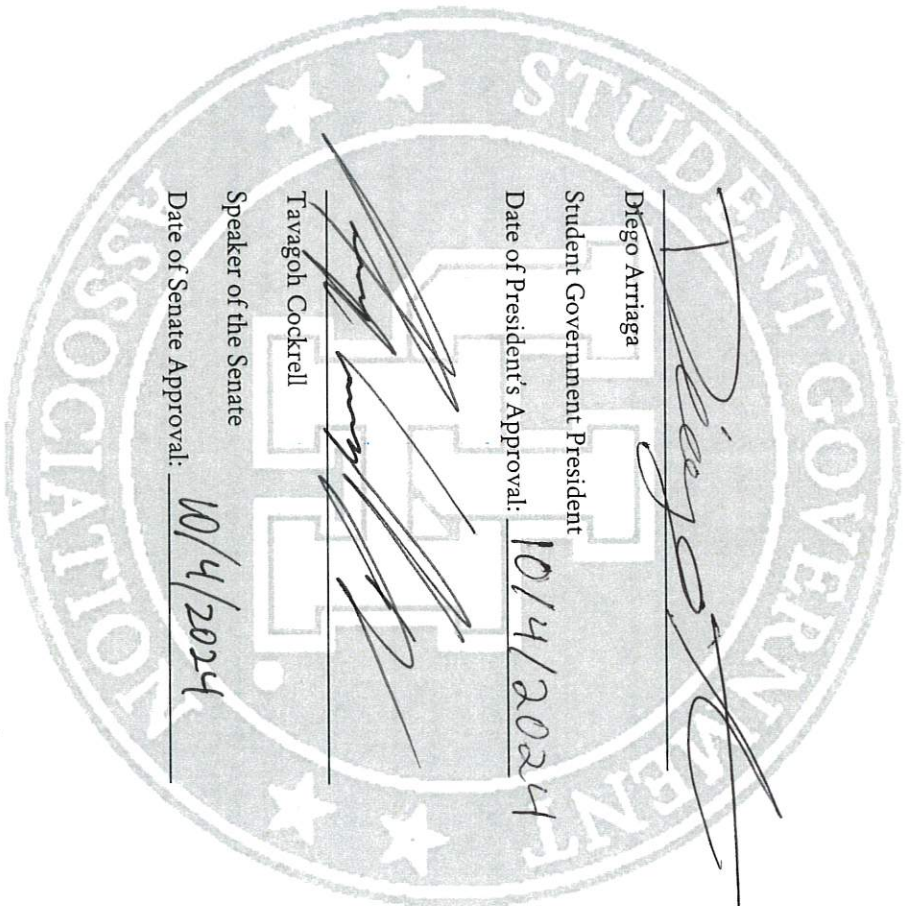
Date of President's Approval: 10/4/2024



Tavagoh Cockrell

Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate Approval: 10/4/2024



APPROVED