



Dolly Huitron <dollyb@mail.fresnostate.edu>

IRA Spring Supplemental Call Update

1 message

Campus Communications <universitycommunications@mail.fresnostate.edu>

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Reply-To: do_not_reply@mail.fresnostate.edu

To: Fresno State Employees and Students <frs-students-and-employees@mail.fresnostate.edu>



Dear Campus Community,

The IRA Committee — composed of students, faculty, and administrators — has decided to pause the IRA Spring Supplemental Call this fall due to limited funds. While IRA benefited from a temporary surplus during the COVID years, that cushion is no longer available. The budget now reflects its normal pre-COVID level, but requests for funding have grown significantly and far outpace the resources available.

Although Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) does not oversee the IRA fund directly, ASI appoints student representatives who participate in the committee's review and decision-making process. Historically, ASI staff managed the application process, while the Academic Resources Office (ARO), under the oversight of the Provost, was responsible for disbursing the funds, with final approval granted by the University President before disbursement. Together, students, faculty, and administration work to ensure allocations are made as fairly and transparently as possible.

Recognizing the gap between available funding and campus needs, ASI and the University are working on new opportunities to support students and organizations, including:

- Restructuring to bring both the application process and award management under ARO for a more seamless process.
- A proposed research grant is currently in draft, pending ASI Student Senate consideration.
- Expanded budget lines towards ASI Club Grants.
- Restructuring the IRA process with a defined rubric and updated policies to make funding allocations more equitable and transparent moving forward.
- Joint fundraising workshops to help student organizations strengthen resources beyond IRA.
- Ongoing discussion within the IRA Committee regarding future call cycles, with the intention of maintaining two calls per year when feasible.

We know this adjustment is difficult, and we appreciate your understanding as we navigate the realities of limited resources. Our shared commitment is to use the available funds responsibly while creating new pathways to support student success.

Sincerely,

Xuanning Fu, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Camalah Saleh

Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) President and CEO

California State University, Fresno

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