

PROGRAM FEE REQUEST

University: University of Arizona

College/School: Social & Behavioral Sciences (SBS)

Department: School of Information Resources & Library Science (SIRLS)

Program: All SIRLS Masters Graduate Programs and Graduate Certificates

Circle one:

Graduate

Undergraduate

Circle one: Upper Division

Lower Division Both

New \$ _____ \$ _____
 (Proposed) (Effective Date)

Existing

\$250/unit (Resident & Non-Resident)

(Proposed)

\$250/unit (Resident); \$450/unit (Non-Resident)

(Current)

2011; Modified in 2013

(Year Approved)

Program will be offered through:

Main Campus Outreach College Both

Proposed fee to be applied as:

Per Term Per Unit--Total 36 (Degree); 18 (Certificates) Units/Program

Proposed fee to be applied:

Fall Spring Summer Winter

Date Submitted: March 26, 2015

Rationale for Request

We request that our existing Masters degree, our future Masters degrees with planning authority from ABOR, our existing graduate certificates, as well as any future graduate certificates, have one rate for program fees (\$250/unit), no matter if the student is resident, non-resident, or takes the program on Main Campus or through the Outreach College. This proposal would reduce the program fee cost applied to non-residents \$450/unit to \$250/unit and make the program more attractive to these out-of-state students. This change will help make our program more competitively priced for non-residents as compared to our peer institutions.

For the graduate certificates, the courses that make up the certificates are shared across the curriculum for the existing Masters degree program. Since all courses are shared, we want the program fee to be consistent across all programs. Currently, only our Digital Information Management Certificate and Archival Studies Certificate have approved program fees. With this submission, we request that all certificates (present and future) offered through SIRLS would have the same per unit program fee.

Compliance with Board Guidelines

This program fee request is in accordance with ABOR Policy 4-104B; Procedure for Setting and Distributing Tuition and Fees. The policy states that the program “*Must allow access for qualified students who cannot afford the program fee. Each proposal for a program fee must include a financial aid plan with a minimum of 14% of the program fee set aside for need-based aid.*” We are setting aside 14% of the revenue for financial aid.

The policy also states, “*Each university request for a program fee will describe the relevant consideration, including market condition in support of the fee.*” UA SIRLS is the only graduate school preparing professional librarians in Arizona. Without SIRLS, Arizona students would have to attend other schools and pay out-of-state fees at other public schools or choose private schools where tuition and fees are even higher. The cost for an academic year for in-state students is currently sixth of the nine schools in our immediate peer group of Universities with Library and Information Science programs. These schools represent both academic peers and those with whom we compete for students. We anticipate that the other schools will institute increases for the next academic year, and this should ensure that SIRLS remains competitive.

SIRLS can deliver the entire program online obviating the need for relocation costs. Other distance education programs have a similar advantage however. Our online-only, distance education program has begun to bring our costs closer to the median of our peer institution distance education programs. By maintaining higher enrollment numbers we will be able to offer a rich set of courses that helps attract students and provide a healthy education.

Student Consultation

The current proposal would have no impact on existing students, other than making the program more affordable for non-residents. The courses are existing courses from the MA LIS program, in which the students are already paying program fees for. Courses from our MA LIS program are packaged as the curriculum for each of our certificate programs. Students can take the certificates separately from the MA LIS or in conjunction with the MA LIS and other certificate programs.

MARKET PRICING

	Graduate Resident LIS Programs	Tuition & Fees	FY 2016 Projected Tuition & Fees @ 2%	Differential Tuition or Program Fee	Total (Sort high to low)
1	U Washington-Seattle	16,296	16,622		16,622
2	U Maryland-College Park	15,938	16,257		16,257
3	U Illinois-Urbana Champaign	15,560	15,871		15,871
4	University of Arizona	11,736	11,971	3,000	14,971
5	U California-Los Angeles	12,571	12,822		12,822
6	U Wisconsin-Madison	11,865	12,102		12,102
7	U Texas-Austin	10,842	11,059		11,059
8	U North Carolina-Chapel Hill	10,604	10,816		10,816
9	U Iowa	9,507	9,697		9,697

	Graduate Non-Resident LIS Programs	Tuition & Fees	FY 2016 Projected Tuition & Fees @ 2%	Differential Tuition or Program Fee	Total (Sort high to low)
1	U Maryland-College Park	32,642	33,295		33,295
2	University of Arizona	28,718	29,292	3,000	32,292
3	U Illinois-Urbana Champaign	29,282	29,868		29,868
4	U Washington-Seattle	28,344	28,911		28,911
5	U North Carolina-Chapel Hill	27,908	28,466		28,466
6	U California-Los Angeles	27,673	28,226		28,226
7	U Iowa	26,389	26,917		26,917
8	U Wisconsin-Madison	25,191	25,695		25,695
9	U Texas-Austin	20,710	21,124		21,124

The \$3,000 program fee listed on the table is equal to \$250/unit at 6 units/semester or 12units/Academic Year. On average, our students do not take more than 6 units/semester.

Non-residents have an option to take classes online only through the Distance Education (DE) Option with the Outreach College, which is substantially more cost competitive and comparable in price to the resident table above. We do not anticipate many students who will pay non-resident tuition through the Main Campus; most will choose the DE option any pay tuition similar to the cost of resident tuition.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial Aid Set-Aside Amount: 14%

Proposed Annual Revenue

Program Fee (12 units/year)	\$	250
Number of Students	#	240
Number of credits per student		12
Total Revenue	=	720,000

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside (14%)	\$	100,800
Administrative Charge (10%)	\$	72,000
Institutional and Advising Personnel	\$	475,200
Support Staff Expense	\$	43,200
Operating Expenses	\$	28,800
Total Program Costs	=	720,000