Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
SAMAR COLLEGES, INC.
Mabini Avenue, Catbalogan City, Samar
Tel. Nos. (055) 543 8381

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SERVICES
SUPREME STUDENT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Name of the Meeting: Consultative Meeting on Tuition and Other School Fees Increase
Date: March 31, 2026
Time: 2:00 PM
Venue: Samar College Main Library

Agenda: Tuition and Other Fees Increase
Open Forum
Post-Discussion Survey
Announcement of Survey Result

Attendees:

College of Information Technology and Allied Sciences (CITAS)

1. Ma. Carmela Cases
2. Harvey Venus

Students:
1. Yvone Claire
2. Mark Arzel Moral
3. Wendel Ryan Canaya
4. Rolando Jr. Cabornay

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS)
Faculty:
1. Alvin Arciete
2. Carlota Uy

Students:
1. Nadine Rose Honrales
2. Shiela Mae Albos

College of Business and Management (CBM)
Faculty:
1. Jennifer Tumabang
2. Elaine Nuñez

Students:
1. Cydrick Uy
2. Norman Silawan
3. Shaneen Ibañez
4. Angel Anne Montejo
5. Razel Mae Layson

College of Education (COED)
Faculty:
1. Jannette Mahinay
2. Mary Mar Cabarles

Students:
1. Ma. Lovely Valery Mantal
2. Jerome Labian
3. Trisha Mae Silao
4. Malyn Rarugal
5. Alfredo Cortan

College of Criminal Justice Education (COCJE)
Faculty:
1. Marvin Moreno
2. Lovely Roma-Baculdo

Students:
1. Angelyn Balasbas
2. Rochelle Mae Conos
3. Jacob Jr. Antonieto
4. Ian Vincent Gabieta
5. Andrew Matthew Arceño

Admin/Non-Teaching Personnel
1. Lydia Gonzales
2. Marife Bercasio
3. Julito Hilum
4. Jorlie Lapara
5. Roque Villarin
6. Jerick Cuevas.
7. Alaiza Mae Babayson

Facilitators & Committee
Supreme Student Council (SSC)
Reynabeth Crisostomo (The Samar Collegian)

Preliminaries

Registration

At exactly 1:00 PM, the SSC officers opened the registration. Attendees registered their names as they enter the venue.

Prayer

At 2:00 PM, the masters of the ceremony. Ms. Lance Cabahug and Mr. Raven Kyle Dagohoy started the program with a prayer via AVP followed by the singing of the national anthem.

Acknowledgment

The SSC Vice President for External Affairs, Ms. Clarissa Andoyo acknowledged the participants of the meeting, extending their heartfelt appreciation for everyone who made time to talk about the matter.

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Opening Remarks

The meeting was formally opened by the OIC Dean of the Office of Student Affairs and Services, Mr. Jerick Cuevas, and highlighted the following in his message:

- ✓ Acknowledged the representatives from the executive committee and management committee, the representatives from the different colleges and departments, and the student representatives.
- ✓ Acknowledged the representatives from the executive committee and management committee, the representatives from the different colleges and departments, and the student representatives.
- ✓ Extended his appreciation and thanks to everyone who attended and facilitated the activity.
- ✓ Introduced the agenda for the afternoon.
- ✓ Emphasized that the administration is aware how the tuition fee and other fee increases affects everyone especially by the current state of the economy, but also recognizes the need to maintain quality education, improve facilities, and support the faculties and staff of the institution.
  understood and to be heard.
- ✓ Referred to the meeting as an "open dialogue" where everyone has a chance
- ✓ to be Encouraged everyone to participate respectfully.

Meeting Proper

Formal Presentation

The School Accountant, Mr. Jorlie Lapara, CPA, presented the following:

1. **Legal Basis of Tuition and Other School Fees Increase**
   - The administration presented the legal foundation for the proposed increase, citing: Section 42 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 232 (Education Act of 1982).
   - Republic Act No. 7722 (Higher Education Act of 1994)
   - Supreme Court Decision (Lina vs. Carino, G.R. No. 100127, April 23, 1993)
   - It was emphasized that private schools are authorized to determine tuition and other fees, subject to regulations of DepEd, TESDA, and CHED.

2. **Allocation of Tuition and Other School Fees Increase**
   - The distribution of the increase was explained as follows:
   - 70% – Salaries, wages, allowances, and benefits of personnel
   - 20% – Improvement of facilities (buildings, equipment, libraries, laboratories, etc.)
   - 10% – Return of investment and operational costs

3. **Proposed Tuition and Other School Fees Increase**
   - The proposed increase was presented:
   - 10% increase for First Year students
   - 5% increase for Second to Fourth Year students

4. Presentation of Old vs New Tuition Fees

	Old	Increase	New
First Year	571.73	57.17	628.90
Second Year	544.53	27.23	571.76
Third Year	517.31	25.87	543.18
Fourth Year	470.28	23.51	493.79

5. Comparison with Other Private Schools

It was shown that Samar College's proposed tuition remains lower compared to other private institutions, supporting affordability despite the increase

6. Sample Computation of Total Fees

	Old Total:	New Total:	Difference:
First Year	13,334.39	14,667.78	1,333.39
Second Year	12,699.80	13,259.84	560.04
Third Year	12,064.90	12,668.21	603.31
Fourth Year	11,140.12	11,697.07	556.95

Open Forum

The open forum was formally initiated by the masters of the ceremony and reminded everyone to be respectful and professional when asking their questions or stating their concerns. The participants were also encouraged to state their name and their department when given the chance to speak to be recognized.

The following were the concerns/questions of the participants along with the answers by the exe-com and man-com representatives:

CONCERNS/QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Tutorial Fees A Criminology student inquired whether tutorial fees are included in the tuition fee increase.	"Tutorial arrangements depend on your department as this is an internal matter. Tutorials are considered special arrangements since they are not supposed to be offered as regular subjects. However, since students are demanding it, you will have to pay the teacher's salary separately for this tutorial. This means you will be paying double, but please note that the tutorial fee is not included in the tuition fee increase."
A student from College of Information Technology and Allied Sciences asked "What about the other miscellaneous fees? Are they included with the increase?"	"The accountant explained that "certain items, such as IT services, printing, and other materials, will have increases. However, these will only result in a partial increase in miscellaneous fees."
A follow-up concern was raised regarding the	The accountant encouraged students "to

limited usability of technical resources, particularly for Multimedia Arts and IT students, noting that many computers are non-functional and underutilized	formally report these issues, emphasizing that since students are paying for these services, their concerns are valid. The administration committed to reviewing and addressing the reported concerns."
"We have a laboratory located on the 5th floor of the building. However, we have not been able to use that laboratory room, which I find concerning since I have been studying here for three years already. Our access and usage have been very limited, despite the fact that we are paying for it."	The accountant explained that "The equipment for the Criminology Laboratory is being imported from other countries. I believe the Dean has already placed the order by Ma'am Abaigar, and it is currently in process. Therefore, we will schedule students who have not yet used the laboratory so that the facility can be utilized."
"On behalf of the Samar Collegians and the Department under the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences where I belong, I would like to ask for clarity and transparency. Is there any avenue where students can see on how transparent our school is para maklaruhan gihapon hira kun meada kamo mga financial reports gihapon nga igppost or mga papers for us to know kun nahihingain po kay siring pa ngani han mga students na magkameada gihapon para klaro kun nahihingain an ira ginbabayad."	"Actually, we have those reports right now, but we are not authorized to release them exclusively. You need to obtain authorization from the President. Therefore, you may write a letter to the President requesting the release of the reports you want."
"I have noticed that the enrollment period is always extended, sometimes up to two weeks after classes have actually started. This is quite concerning, especially for students with financial constraints. Is there any possibility of reducing the tuition fee, even just a little bit? Or is there a valid basis for the 10% increase?"	"There has been a significant decline in student enrollment, with a decrease of approximately 600 to 700 students. As a result, the institution's revenue has also declined, which directly affects the salaries and benefits of teachers. The tuition fee increase was therefore deemed necessary to sustain faculty compensation and maintain institutional operations."
"As you said earlier in regards the increase of our tuition will go for the improvements of our school so sir an akon po kase napapansin ha amon department specially to the criminal justice education an mga rooms po namon is mga ruba tapos waray proper ventilation tapos an amon liwat po CR diri po liwat nanf-function. So, is there anyway po ba na maimprove po ito since mayda man ngani	"The allocation for that is only 20%. So, we cannot do it simultaneously but rest assured we will fix all of them, medyo mahinay la because 20% is 20%, but we will fix that."

increase of tuition fee?"	
"Regarding han Crim. Lab nasiring kamo nga on going pala an process, pano po kami na waray makagamit han Crim. Lab. since 1st year ngan ma 4th year nala kami yana tapos an amon iba na subject ha 4th year is dire na hiya kinahanglan gumamit hin Crim. Lab. Possible po ba na magameada hin rebate or ig decrease nala an amon tuition fee han mga waray makagamit."	"You could make petition and use that as a deduction for your graduation fee. So, kun waray na kamo Crim. Lab paghimo kamo hin Formal Letter para ma deduct ha iyo tuition fee."
"Para diin po an AVP ha amon other fees ha miscellaneous?".	"Aadto ha office, we will get back to this."
"Sir ano po an pinagkaiba han Athletic fee and PRISAA fee."	"An athletic fee is an mga premyo han iyo intrams, an PRISAA naman iba na iton hiya."
"About po an kanan medic na 400, damo kasi nak nababatian ha students, I want to raise their concerns na once kase na nakadto hira ha clinic, an bulong po na ira gin aaro specifically ira sakit po is waray po ngadto, gintatagan la po hira hin biogesic tapos dako po an baraydan tapos an quality han bulong is pirmi waray."	Mr. Jerick responded on this matter saying that "this concern is under student affairs and services, an aton institution which is an medical and dental clinic. First is you have to understand that an aton clinic is not an hospital as much as we would like to provide everything that our students truly deserve but limited po an medical and dental fee na ginhahatag. So, kumbaga gincater niya not only college but also the basic education so siguro an aton dida idea is paunang lunas. But I assure you that the services na ginhahatag han dental clinic is fully operational mayda kita tooth extraction, mayda kita free consultation from our school physician mayda kita iton scheduling na ginfo-follow, is just that siguro kun mayda ka talaga ginaabat nga diri kaya mai-provide han clinic nga umaro ka bulong iton nga specific ill or sakit, dire talaga iton map-provide kay an aton available na medicine is for first aid."
"An school publication kase since waray man hiya mag-release hin school paper for almost pira ka tuig, mayda kase mga athletes nga nag raise hin concerns nga waray publication nga aadto para kaupod nira para mag cover han ira events tapos an school publication po is lacking	Representative from the school publication responded on these matter. "in regard that sir, dire po kami allowed to go because it is between schools na po an pwede la kami is through regionals la talaga, may sarili kase na publication an in-charge of that event. So, gini-

po liwat hira hin equipments nga kinahanglan para ig improve an school publication na makikita talaga hiya, amo liwat kase iton an nakikita ko nga an Samar Collegian puros la hiya posts waray po parang improvement ha ira equipment, since dako man po an ira budget hin pag meada po ba mga regional event hira ba iton it magc-cover? An last time po kase tikang ha Borongan waray umupod na school publication".	inform nala iton an school if they want to receive the copy of the photos those the same with the national so hanggang regionals la po talaga pwede mag deploy an school publication."
"Concerns kola para ha mga 4th year na nga students, mayda pa kase kami computer lab. Na ginbabaydan kanan IT tapos diri man po namon hiya nagagamitan kay OJT naman po kami since waray naman na kami dd ha school more on aadto kami ha amon OJT."	"It was agreed when it was the year of 2014, this was a long time ago. Gin-agree iton hiya kay there was a time the laboratory needs new sets of computers and new rooms that is why the CAS before agreed to that computer laboratory. So, it was then submitted to CHED and it was carried until now, that is the reason why."
Follow-Up Question: "since nabayad naman po kami computer lab. Why po no upgrades tikang po han pagtikang ko didan 1st year. RAM, SSD, Memories..."	"So for that matter you have to request that to us, kase diman kami maraam it mga computer, we don't know honestly waray ako ito idea. So, for that matter is for whoever is the authorize representative will have to communicate with us para maihatag namon an upgrades or whatsoever."

In the absence of further concerns from the students and faculty, SSC President Joshua Tayong delivered a brief message expressing hope that, if the tuition fee increase is approved, its results will be clearly seen through improved facilities. He also emphasized that 70% of the increase should genuinely be allocated to the benefits of faculty and employees in recognition of their dedicated service, and that students' concerns should be given priority and addressed accordingly.

Post-Discussion Survey

Survey forms were distributed separately to the faculty and admin/non-teaching staff, the Supreme Student Council, and the student representatives. They were instructed to write their names under the "Yes" column if they agreed with the tuition and other fee increase after the discussion, and under the "No" column if they did not.

While survey was ongoing. Ms. Carlota Uy, a faculty representative from CLAS commented how students must be grateful that the institution care for their inputs on the matter,

making them feel that they are included when it comes to its decision-making. She also emphasized that, if approved, and students won't immediately feel the tuition fee increase yet through the improvement of facilities, they can always look forward to the faculty and admin's improved services and enhancement of the quality of education they provide.

Ms. Lydia Gonzales, head of the Human Resource and Management Department, also emphasized that to catch up with other academic institutions who provides quality education, such decision for Samar Colleges, Inc, is necessary. Mr. Jerick Cuevas also added that limited resources hinder the attainment of continuous quality improvement, and that to move forward, we have to hear the reasons behind administration's decisions. He also emphasized that students being vocal about their concerns will be highly appreciated by the institution as it means students walk with it side-by-side in providing what is good for everyone.

Director for Campus Communications and External Services, Mr. Roque Villarin, also commented that students should learn to set clear priorities learn to sacrifice for things that really matter. Like practicing "going to school religiously, and paying the tuition religiously". He extended his appreciation for students concerns, and assure everyone that it will be opened during general assemblies with the administration and faculty.

Department representatives are encouraged to conduct a re-echo on their respective departments on the decisions made during the consultative meeting.

Conclusion

After thorough monitoring of the survey form, the masters of the ceremony announced the following results on the proposed tuition and other fee increase:

	YES	NO
Faculty and admin/non-teaching personnel	15	0
Supreme Student Council	8	6
Student Representative	9	11
Total Votes:	**32**	**17**

Closing Remarks

The SSC President, Mr. Joshua Tayong thanked the participants for their valuable contribution and cooperation in coming to a decision. He also conveyed his admiration to the institution's continuous initiative in making education accessible for all.

Until the end of the program, the representatives of the institution reaffirmed its commitment to transparency and to taking into account the welfare and feedback of all its stakeholders.

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