

NEWS RELEASE

November 24, 2014

Vancouver, BC – Langara Students’ Union (LSU) opposes fee increases set to take effect for Langara College students in the Spring 2015 (January) semester. In June 2014 LSU first learned about the College’s intention to raise incidental fees (also known as “special” or “ancillary” fees) and increase the tuition penalty for course withdrawals within the first week of classes by 10%. On June 17, 2014 LSU’s Executive Director asked Langara Council (LC), a College Committee) to postpone their decision until the LSU could be consulted per the College’s own policy. LSU also objected on the grounds that LC was proposing to approve increases to the tuition penalty that would apply retroactively to students who were already in the process of enrolling and would not be aware of the change. LSU was pleased that the College agreed to postpone the decision, and consultations were held over the summer and early fall. LSU understands that the College is facing difficult financial times, and has submitted a letter to the College detailing LSU’s objections to the proposed increases and offered suggestions for alternate ways to close the college’s anticipated budget shortfall and improve student services. However, LC passed a resolution at a meeting in early October 2014 to approve the increases to fees to take effect in the Spring 2015 semester as follows:

Tuition Penalty Increase

The refund for course drops during the first week of classes changes from an 80% refund to a 70% refund.

Ancillary Fee Increases

Service	Current Fee	Increase
Transcripts	\$6	\$10
Transcript – rush (all copies)	\$27 (\$6 add’l copies)	\$27 each copy
Enrolment Letter – custom (rush)	\$7 (\$27)	\$15 (\$30)
Graduation Application	\$10/ no late fee	\$25 and \$25 late fee
Regalia rental	None	\$40 or direct cost

LSU’s full letter and report to the College can be found here: <http://www.lsu.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=232>

About Langara Students’ Union

Located in Vancouver, BC, Langara Students’ Union (LSU) represents the collective voice of thousands of Langara College students annually. LSU exists to advocate on behalf of, and in service to, its members; advance Langara students’ access to an affordable and quality post-secondary education; and provide valuable member benefits and services that enhance student life.

Media Contact (2014-15 Academic Year)

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