



To: The Budget Leadership Team  
Chair, Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs James Holloway  
Chair, Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration Teresa Costantinidis

Cc: University of New Mexico President Garnett Stokes  
University of New Mexico Chief of Staff Terry Babbitt  
Student Fee Review Board Chair, ASUNM President Ian May  
Student Fee Review Board Vice-Chair, GPSA President Shaikh Ahmad

Date: November 14, 2021

Re: Recommendations of the Student Fee Review Board (SFRB) for 2023 – 2024

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## MEMORANDUM

### The Cycle:

The Student Fee Review Board (SFRB) has completed its 2023 – 2024 cycle. This year the Board received 24 applications for Student Activity Fees for the Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024. Each of the applications outlined the full budget of their organization, including all sources of income, expenses, and what the requested Mandatory Student Fees would go to support. Additionally, 11 questions were answered by each unit in order to give the Board a more holistic view of the organization and their functions. These questions helped the Board to understand how Mandatory Student Fees impact each unit.

The Student Fee Review Board held twenty-four (24) hearings – one for each unit that requested Mandatory Student Fees – as well as three (3) hearings for units that have transitioned to the Headcount Model. The hearings were conducted in person, with a virtual Zoom hearing available by request. Hearings were followed by a 15-minute question and answer session for each unit, this constituted 30- and 45-minute hearings depending on the amount requested (<\$350,000 = 30 minutes; >\$350,000 = 45 minutes). Additionally, the board hosted two Student Forums in the SUB Atrium where we heard feedback and perspective from nearly seventy (70) students who attended in support of their units. After the deliberation phase of the cycle, the Board agreed unanimously on the following recommendations.

Of the 24 applications that the Student Fee Review Board received for the cycle, 24 requested recurring funding, of those, 17 requested increases, and 1 requested one-time funding. The total dollar amount requested in the applications was \$6,052,877 in recurring funding and \$17,139 requested for one-time allocations. The target number to prevent a fee increase was \$5,349,028 based on projections, this meant that the Board needed to determine what to do with the difference of \$703,849.

## **The Recommendations:**

### Funding Philosophy

The previous board allocated reserve funding in a few areas for FY22-23 to prevent large increases to Mandatory Student Fees – ultimately landing on a 1% increase in fees. Positive growth in enrollment led to an increase in our reserves this year, instead of shrinking our reserves as projected. Our recommendation of a 5.05% increase for FY23-24 may seem like a departure from the aim to keep Student Fees low, but the board made this decision with deliberate aim to keep fees low over the long term. We are cognizant of national inflation and hope to maintain the buying power of the board’s funding without drastically increasing fees next year. It is our hope that if enrollment increases in FY23-24, the following board will be able to minimize increases. If enrollment does not increase, we believe that splitting an increase between this year’s recommendation and next year’s recommendation will be financially more viable for students than one larger increase next year.

### Recommendations

Ultimately, the Student Fee Review Board decided that our recommendations for the 2023 – 2024 cycle should reflect an opportunity that we see: a time to invest in UNM’s student life. In past years, units have faced repeated cuts, and we have been amazed by the ability of our campus units to stretch every dollar. While we do not take funding increases lightly, the board found all requested increases appropriate and saw great potential for each unit to grow their services. In light of this, SFRB did not recommend any cuts or recommend against any increases. Beyond that, the board found areas of student life which needed additional support which we funded out of reserves and in additional recurring funding, totaling \$683,815 (\$425,865 one-time & \$257,950 recurring).

### Reserves

Beginning the cycle, the Mandatory Student Fee Reserve had a balance of \$3,863,510.00 on 7/1/22. After the I&G One Time Allocation the balance was \$3,644,466.00 – higher than our reserve this time last year. Ultimately after the Board’s recommendation of One-Time requests, the balance is left at \$3,201,462.00.

## **Recommended Funding for 2022 – 2023 (Difference from Request)**

### **African American Student Services (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

### **American Indian Student Services (Increase of \$51,750)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students.

### **Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (Increase of \$14,000)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. The unit is currently fully funded by SFRB and has no other funding sources. In talking to them, one of the common requests from their students is a prayer/mediation area for the center. The Student Fee Review Board found it appropriate to allocate \$1,000 which was not requested for this area.

### **Career Services – SCAP (Increase of \$32,000)**

The board has decided to fully fund the increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. In the past year, the board zeroed out this line as they had funding in reserves to cover the SCAP program; this increase is a return to their pre-pandemic funding.

### **Campus Office of Substance Abuse Prevention (Increase of \$4,267)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order to provide services to students.

### **Center for Academic Program Support (Increase of \$23,397)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request, increase, and one-time funding of Mandatory Student Fees in order to provide services to students.

### **College Enrichment Program – PLF Program (Increase of \$20,397)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order to provide services to students.

### **Community Engagement Center (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

**El Centro de la Raza (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

**Global Education Office (Increase of \$15,350)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students.

**Graduate Resource Center (Increase of \$8,000)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students.

**LGBTQ Resource Center (Increase of \$20,000)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students.

**LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

**Music Bands (Increase of \$26,801)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students.

**New Mexico Student Union (Increase of \$215,000)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. The Student Fee Review Board has also allocated \$15,000 to allow student organizations to request rooms for events which involve 25%+ community members without being charged a fee. It is our recommendation that the SUB works with the SUB board to draft a policy and/or application that ensures financial accessibility to these spaces for Chartered Student Organizations without opening the opportunity for abuse of this funding.

**Project for New Mexico Graduates of Color (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

### **Recreational Services (Increase of \$521,991)**

The board has decided to fully fund the recurring request and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. In addition to Recreational Services' requested increase which returns the unit to pre-pandemic levels of funding, the board found it pertinent to find a solution to long-term support for UNM's club sports organizations. Drawing upon a proposal from 2019, the board worked with Recreational Services and the UNM President to fund a comprehensive program out of Recreational Services. This program would aim to fund travel and equipment for a number of Club Sports programs and a professional staff member to support logistics, travel bookings, and scheduling for all of the organizations. See attached proposal for more information.

The board recommended an allocation \$250,000 in recurring funding and \$100,000 in one time funding to launch this program. The UNM President's office has also committed \$50,000 in supplemental funding for FY23-24 and \$50,000 in FY24-25, which the board appreciates as we consider easing in to long term funding of this program. Each year, club sports programs request \$91,522 on average from ASUNM as well as additional funding from GPSA. It is our hope that over the long term, funding this club sports program out of Recreational Services will allow the teams to thrive and free up student government funding for other purposes.

The Student Fee Review Board recommends that the increase requested by Recreational Services is utilized to expand hours to the extent that staffing will allow. Additionally, the recurring funding added by the Student Fee Review Board shall be used to establish a comprehensive Club Sports program. It is also at the recommendation of this board that Recreational Services looks at other sources of revenue to supplement the \$250,000 in recurring funding, especially a long-term solution for when the \$50,000 supplement from the UNM President's Office ends in FY24-25. We recommend that this funding is found particularly to fund the professional staff member as the board strays away from funding professional staff with student fees.

### **Student Activities Center (Increase of \$40,465)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order to provide services to students. The Student Activities Center requested for new chartering software as the current contract with Symplicity is over. While they could renew, the board found their request to move to Anthology Engage reasonable. The board also increased this funding by \$7,000 to include a co-curricular transcripts module which would allow students to generate activity transcripts for their engagement at UNM and moved the "implementation fees" to one time funding.

SFRB also allocated ~\$15,000 to SAC for internal SFRB operations each year including food and stipends for SFRB members. Funding for food came from the Vice President for Student Affairs Office from a source that no longer exists, so we have shifted the cost to the board itself. It is our hope that adding stipends for members will allow for increased accessibility to board positions if students have to take off work, and to compensate members fairly for their time. This money was not allocated directly to SFRB as policy dictates that we may only allocate to

units which submit a request. The board does not require \$15,000 each year to operate, but we wanted to put a cushion and build a reserve in our account for this first year as our account hit \$0 this year.

It is our recommendation that the SAC use the increase in funding to purchase the cocurricular module for Engage and transfer the remaining funding to the SFRB index with the Student Government Accounting Office.

**Student Government Accounting Office (Increase of \$48,054)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring and increase in request of Mandatory Student Fees in order to provide services to students.

**Student Publications – Daily Lobo (Increase of \$252,000)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. Since 2014, UNM's Student Publications have faced consistent drops in advertising revenue (see attached). In spite of cost cutting measures, this has left the unit with over \$250,000 in debt as of FY22-23. Over time, student fees have increased to fill some of this gap, but the overall budget is still under 1/3 of the 2014 operating budget of \$786,300. The unit has chipped away at the debt over the past few years due to relief money, but it would still likely take decades to repay their debt at this rate. Since it has been nearly 10 years since Student Publications entered a deficit, the board believes that current members are suffering from a financial struggle they did not cause, and it is time to rectify the debt.

It is the recommendation of the Student Fee Review Board that Student Publications use the \$252,000 in one time funding to repay outstanding debt. We recommend that any increases in revenue be used for shoring up essential operations, increasing student compensation where possible, and focusing on generating more advertising income. SFRB would like to emphasize that this is a one-time payment and it is the intent of this board that future boards will not allocate funds to repay debt of requesting units. We believe it is warranted in this situation because of the length of time this debt has remained unpaid; it is our hope to boost morale and stake in the unit once employees are fundraising for tangible increases in student experience rather than chipping away at an unpayable debt.

The Student Fee Review Board also requests that Student Publications work with ASUNM and GPSA to give quarterly updates on the financial status of the unit.

**University Library Acquisitions (Increase of \$126,126)**

Due to the large balance forward of the unit, the Board has decided to decrease the recurring funding request by \$46,627. We encourage the unit to seek additional sources of funding for Faculty and Staff salaries.

**UNM Children’s Campus (Increase of \$33,520)**

Due to the large amount the unit requests in Faculty and Staff Salaries, the request has been decreased by \$33,520. The Board recommends that the unit seek additional sources of funding for salary lines other than Student Salaries because we are utilizing Mandatory Student Fees.

**UNM Public Events – Popejoy Hall (Increase of \$9,179)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students and offer discounted tickets to the students of UNM.

**Women’s Resource Center (No Change)**

The Board has decided to fully fund the recurring request of Mandatory Student Fees in order for the unit to provide services to students. We recommend that the next SFRB gives priority to units which did not request an increase this cycle as we recommended in favor of all other increases this cycle.

Mandatory Student Activity Fee Recommendation for 2023 – 2024: **\$6,310,827**  
Mandatory Student Fee Increase: **5.05%**

Respectfully,

**The Student Fee Review Board**

- Ian May                      Chair, Associated Students of UNM President
- Shaikh Ahmad              Vice-Chair, Graduate & Professional Student Association President
- Jacob Silva                      Graduate/Professional Representative
- Andrew Schumann              Undergraduate Representative
- Veronica Montoya              Undergraduate Representative
- Krystah Pacheco              Undergraduate Representative
- Rafael Romero-Salas              Undergraduate Representative
- Dafne Yeverino              Undergraduate Alternate
- Ganiyu Azeez                      Graduate/Professional Alternate
- Inusah Mohammed              Graduate/Professional Alternate

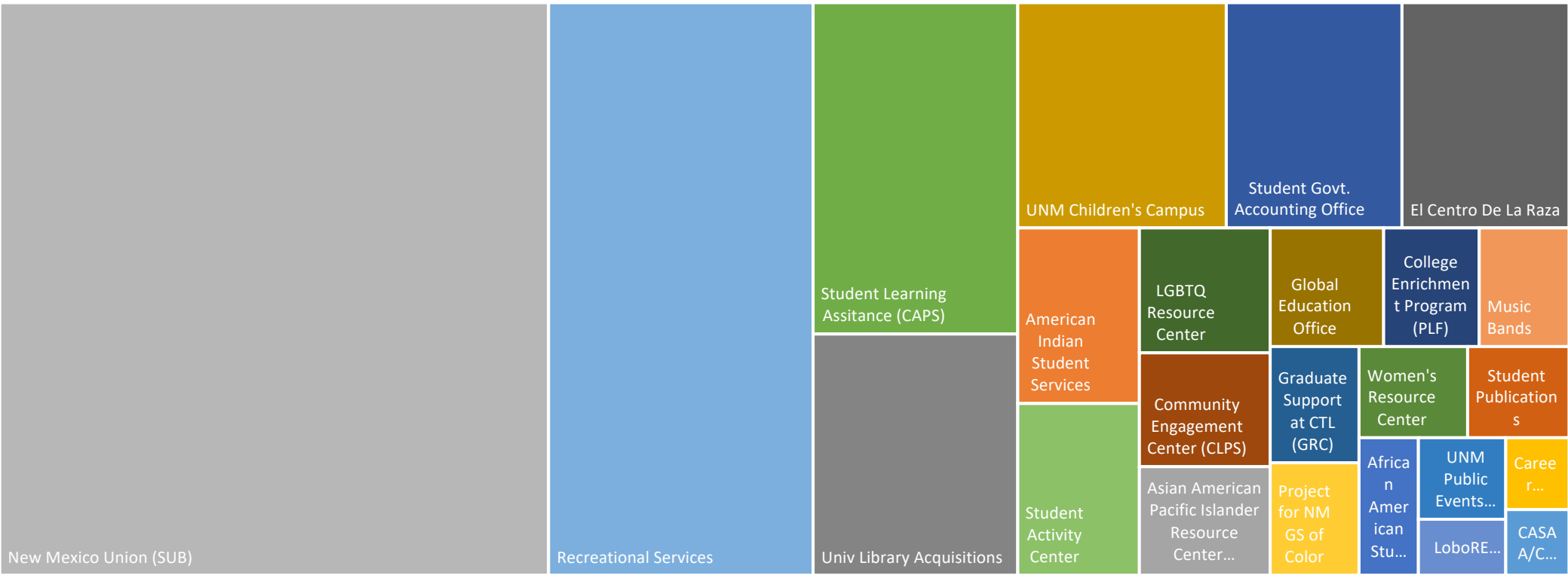
**Recommendation**

| Requestor of Mandatory Student Fees                      | 2022/2023 SFRB Recommendation |                                  |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | Recurring Funding             | One-Time Funding (from Reserves) |
| African American Student Services (AASS)                 | \$57,294.00                   |                                  |
| American Indian Student Services (AISS)                  | \$150,000.00                  |                                  |
| Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC) | \$100,000.00                  | \$1,000.00                       |
| Career Services – SCAP                                   | \$32,000                      |                                  |
| Campus Office of Substance Abuse Prevention (COSAP)      | \$29,119.00                   |                                  |
| Center for Academic Program Support (CAPS)               | \$476,490.00                  |                                  |
| College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP) (El Centro)     | \$35,000                      |                                  |
| College Enrichment Program – PLF Program                 | \$80,000.00                   |                                  |
| Community Engagement Center (CEC)                        | \$104,742.00                  |                                  |
| El Centro de la Raza                                     | \$ 264,369.00                 |                                  |
| Global Education Office (GEO)                            | \$94,316.00                   |                                  |
| Graduate Resource Center (GRC)                           | \$72,548.00                   |                                  |
| LGBTQ Resource Center (LGBTQRC)                          | \$115,000.00                  |                                  |
| LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center                              | \$34,210.00                   |                                  |
| Music Bands  | \$75,000.00                   |                                  |
| New Mexico Student Union (SUB)                           | \$2,008,128.00                |                                  |
| Project for New Mexico Graduates of Color (PNMGC)        | \$70,063.00                   | \$15,000.00                      |
| Recreational Services                                    | \$1,062,718.00                | \$100,000.00                     |
| Student Activities Center (SAC)                          | \$146,250.00                  | \$8,375.00                       |
| Student Government Accounting Office (SGAO)              | \$278,131.00                  |                                  |
| Student Publications – Daily Lobo                        | \$65,000.00                   | \$252,000.00                     |
| University Library Acquisitions                          | \$346,401.00                  |                                  |
| UNM Children’s Campus                                    | \$329,796.00                  |                                  |
| UNM Public Events (Popejoy)                              | \$50,000.00                   |                                  |
| Women’s Resource Center (WRC)                            | \$69,252.00                   |                                  |
| GPSA Supplement  | \$0.00                        | \$49,490.00                      |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>\$6,310,827</b>            | <b>\$443,004</b>                 |



## SFRB Recommendation of Recurring Funding

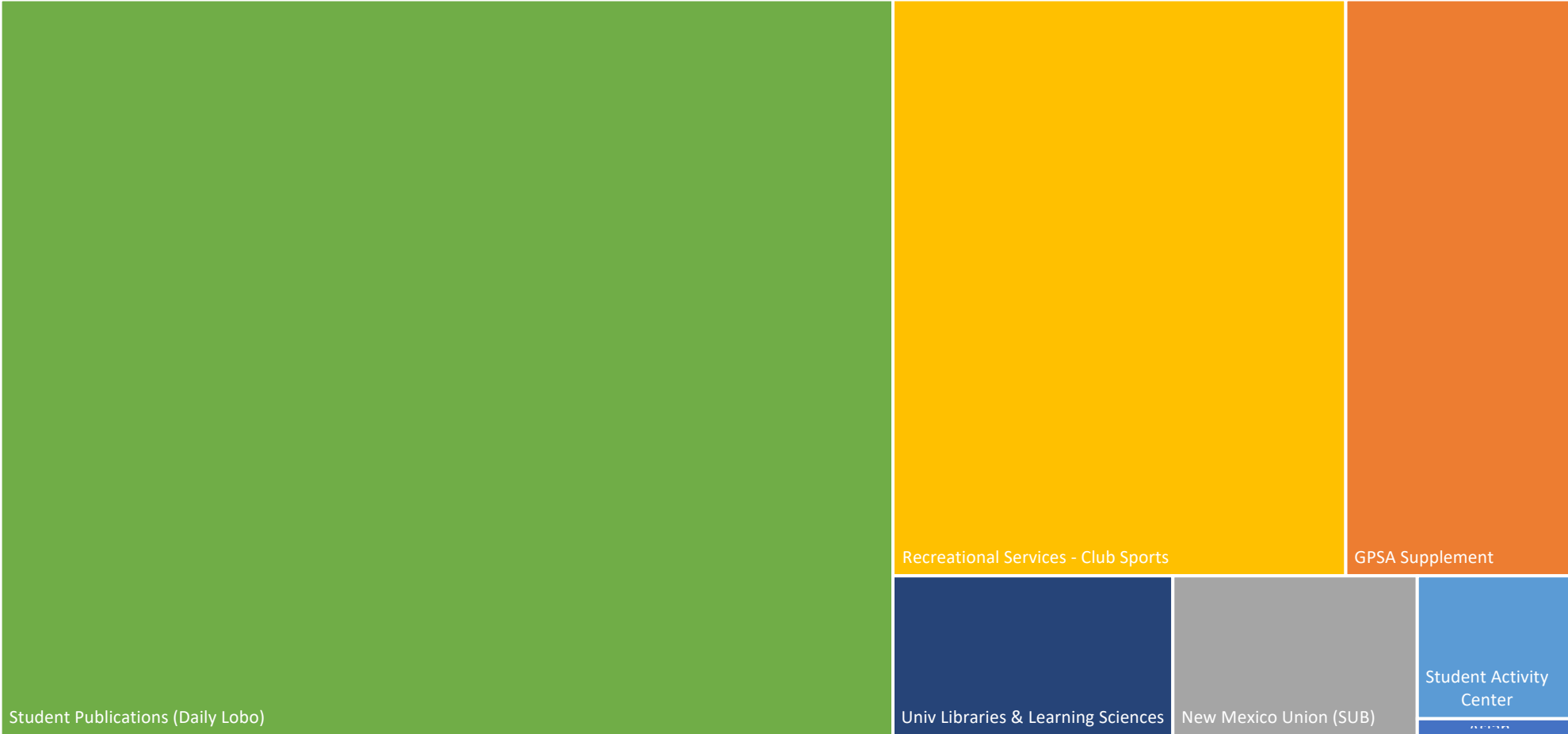
- African American Student Svc AASS
- American Indian Student Services
- Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC)
- Career Services
- CASAA/COSAP
- Student Learning Assitance (CAPS)
- College Enrichment Program (PLF)
- Community Engagement Center (CLPS)
- El Centro De La Raza
- Global Education Office
- Graduate Support at CTL (GRC)
- LGBTQ Resource Center
- LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center
- Music Bands
- New Mexico Union (SUB)
- Project for NM GS of Color
- Recreational Services
- Student Activity Center
- Student Govt. Accounting Office
- Student Publications



**Total \$6,310,827**

### SFRB Recommendation of One-Time Funding

- Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC)
  - New Mexico Union (SUB)
  - Student Activity Center
  - Univ Libraries & Learning Sciences
- GPSA Supplement
  - Recreational Services - Club Sports
  - Student Publications (Daily Lobo)



**Total \$443,004**