The meeting was called to order at 2:03 P.M. by David Ely, CFAC Chair.

Dr. Ely introduced the agenda and asked for any adjustments. Dr. Prislin suggested an adjustment and introduced Mr. Dorian Diaz, the newly hired Student Success Fee (SSF) Coordinator. Mr. Diaz was then given the opportunity to briefly introduce himself and give some background information. Dr. Ely then suggested that all members present introduce themselves by name and which department, group, and/or function(s) they represent.

Review and Approval of January 27th Meeting Minutes
Dr. Ely introduced the January 27th Meeting Minutes and asked for any modifications or edits – none were suggested. Dr. Prislin made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Colliflower. The motion was approved unanimously.

Informational Items
a. Online BSBA General Business Degree Intent to Enroll Fee
Dr. Ely introduced the Online BSBA Business Degree Intent to Enroll Fee and explained that the Fowler College of Business will be offering an online business degree completion program starting in Fall 2017. Dr. Ely further explained that President Hirshman is authorized to approve Category V fees such as this and has approved this intent to enroll fee of $400 for the program. Mr. Colliflower asked what the intent to enroll fees are for other programs and Dr. Ely replied that the other intent to enroll fees are $400 as well. Dr. Prislin confirmed and added that this fee is not changing any standing practices, it is just applying them to a new program. Dr. Ely also added that this fee, like the others, is applied to toward tuition and is not a separate fee in addition to tuition. Dr. Prislin explained that the fee primarily serves as a predictor of how many students are expected in the program and the existing fees have been a good indicator of student enrollment in other programs for a number of years. Mr. Colliflower accepted the reasoning but thought the fee might be lower due to the program being conducted online. Ms. Little reminded the committee that this is a continuing education program so the overall fee structure is different than the main campus. Dr. Ely asked if there were any further questions and there were none.

b. 2017-18 IRA Budget Proposal
Dr. Ely introduced the 2017/18 IRA Budget Proposal and asked Ms. Little to further explain. Ms. Little explained that the IRA fee has been implemented over three different fee schedule processes so there are three component part of the fee [IRA I, II, and III]; the fee being discussed here is the IRA I fee (campus fee). Ms. Little mentioned that the IRA I fee has historically supported specific types of expenses with the two largest being the Academic Affairs (AA) allocation for the IRA program and the Athletics allocation for general operations and insurance. Ms. Little further explained the 2016-17 budgeted IRA figures and actual expenses through March 2017 before providing a brief overview of the 2017-18 proposed IRA budget. There is a $30,000 increase in the overall budget which is proposed to be split between Academic Affairs and Athletics, with each receiving $15,000.

Dr. Ely reminded the committee that the revenues are simply estimates largely driven by enrollment forecasts and that there are “off the top” commitments that are not up to this committee's determination –
$3,000 was approved for the 2016-17 budget but was not committed to or included in the 2017-18 budget. Ms. Little responded that the footnote [c] addresses the issue that deductibles are no longer paid from the IRA budget and stated that the line item has been included for several years and should have been addressed sooner. Ms. Little further explained that sports clubs insurance was moved to Associated Students several years ago and it is her understanding that in the event of an actual injury, the injured student is responsible for paying the deductible. With Associated Students having taken over management of that process, it is not necessary to allocate budget to that program. Ms. Little asked if there were further questions and there were none.

Ms. Little then took the opportunity to briefly show the IRA I, II, and III fees as attached in the agenda and explained that the allocations shown for Athletics and Sports Clubs were predetermined when the fees were approved so they don’t go through the process for programmatic approval. Dr. Ely added that the current IRA fee is $187 per semester; Mr. Sims confirmed. Dr. Ely then noted that there is a projected surplus of $6,500 for 2017-18 which could go into reserves, but that amount could fluctuate based on actual revenues and expenses with the most significant unknown being insurance premiums.

Mr. Colliflower asked if student media publications could be considered instructionally related activities under the Academic Affairs budget – specifically The Daily Aztec and KCR. Ms. Little stated that it is within the broad classification of instructionally related activities but that the funds are within Academic Affairs’ allocation and Academic Affairs manages the process to designate those funds. Mr. Colliflower noted that Associated Students has been subsidizing The Daily Aztec for the past six years and he sees a problem with the newspaper having to request funding from the student government which it is supposed to hold accountable. Mr. Colliflower further explained that the newspaper was run independently for 100 years but is now leaning on the student government for funding; the funding from Associated Students was supposed to be temporary. Mr. Colliflower would like to see a broader discussion next year with more key stakeholders involved from across the campus. Ms. Little asked how much Associated Students have been funding and Mr. Colliflower responded that the costs have increased approximately $10,000 per year with the 2016-17 funding at $68,000 and projected funding of $79,000 for 2017-18. Dr. Prislin asked why the costs are so high and Mr. Colliflower responded that it is a combination of rising minimum wages and declining ad revenues. Mr. Colliflower also mentioned that The Daily Aztec has been restructured to eliminate several part-time positions and now utilizes more volunteers and Associated Students have had conversations with The Daily Aztec regarding a potential merger with KCR to create a multimedia based program. Mr. Colliflower stated that The Daily Aztec has applied for Student Success Fee funding in the past, but has not been successful in its efforts. It is Mr. Colliflower’s opinion that The Daily Aztec should be considered for at least partial funding under the IRA budget. Dr. Ely asked if there are any other sources of funding and Mr. Colliflower replied that to his knowledge Associated Students is the only group subsidizing the newspaper; the Journalism and Media Studies (JMS) program was approached for assistance, but the department lacks the funding to contribute. Mr. Colliflower is concerned that if The Daily Aztec ceases to exist that the JMS program will suffer as students will not be interested in the program if they must find ways to be published in external publications rather than in an on-campus publication. Mr. Sims asked if Associated Students had any ideas of how they would use the funding currently being allocated to The Daily Aztec for other programs and Mr. Colliflower replied that there are several ideas which would be flushed out more once this becomes a broader discussion. Mr. Colliflower noted that he is not opposed to a subsidy from Associated Students, but thinks sharing the cost across campus would be better. Ms. Little asked if the student workers are paid and Mr. Colliflower replied that there are currently 17-19 part-time employees in addition to full-time staff; these numbers are after continual downsizing over the past five years. Ms. Little reminded the committee that the current IRA policy would not support payroll activities for student workers and suggested that maybe ad revenue could support salaries while IRA funding could support operating expenses and equipment. Mr. Colliflower agreed that IRA funding could help support printing, supply, rent, and other related costs while Associated Students may be able to support salary costs. Dr. Ely asked if there were further questions and there were none.

Dr. Ely noted this budget proposal was not yet an action item and asked Mr. Colliflower if he could prepare a proposal for the next meeting. Mr. Colliflower was unsure of the allocation process and if he would be able to produce a viable proposal before the next meeting. Dr. Prislin suggested that Mr. Colliflower and his colleagues work with Mr. Diaz to produce a proposal and, using the IRA guidelines,
determine what costs the IRA budget can support. Ms. Little noted that such discussions can take place between Associated Students and Academic Affairs. Dr. Deutschman then asked if the proposal being discussed was to allocate [existing 2017-18 IRA] budget within Academic Affairs or to increase the allocation to Academic Affairs to which Dr. Prislin responded that it would be an increase in the proposed allocation. Dr. Ely noted that allocation of IRA reserves to fund The Daily Aztec would not be a permanent solution. Dr. Prislin stated that there are too many unknowns at this point and the committee needs to have a better idea of the expenses. Dr. Ely agreed that too much is unsettled and Mr. Colliflower and his colleagues should prepare a fully developed proposal to present at the next meeting.

Fee Requests
None

Action Items
None

New Business
None

Public Comment
None

Ms. Little reminded the Associated Students Board Members in attendance that there will be action items at the next meeting so student representatives will need to attend to achieve a quorum.

Dr. Deutschman made the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Colliflower. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:33 P.M.

Reminder: Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 28th, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. in the Lipinsky Hospitality Center – Room SS 1608