

Student Government Association

Haskell Indian Nations University

July 8, 2020

Haskell Administration,

Today we write to express our unified frustration about the unjust fee for the upcoming fall semester. The price is set at \$715.00, but we are left with no detail as to where each dollar is going. The Bursar's Office website page states that the \$715.00 fee is separated into two categories (Library Fee: \$382.50 and Technology Fee: \$332.50). Is the money going towards a better Wi-Fi infrastructure, textbook repairs, etc.? What are the library fees for our Junior and Senior students since they no longer receive their books from the Library? Who are the parties involved in deciding that 715.00 is the fee for the fall semester? More importantly, why is the fee not waived for the fall semester?

Since the COVID-19 pandemic reached the United States, Indian Country has been hit the hardest. Combined with mass unemployment, every dollar counts, now more than ever. Many students are working essential jobs to try and make ends meet. While we know some students receive assistance from the Federal Pell Grant to curb the costs of higher education at the start of the semester, we all know that disbursement arrives exceptionally late into the academic year, ultimately going against what the grant's purpose is set up to do. This has been happening for years, and we hope to be informed on what steps are being made to resolve this inconvenience. Some of our students also have families of their own, and should not have to be troubled with this inequitable fee. Under Haskell's new administration, we hope to see Haskell Indian Nations University moving in the right direction.

Sincerely,

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