

Approved Expenditure Plan for SSA Fee income in 2014

August 2014

In 2014 James Cook University approved funding of the following projects by the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSA Fee). The projects provide additional and improved services for JCU students, in keeping with the legislated categories for the expenditure of the SSA Fee. Projects were selected after consultation with students and student representatives. The University will provide a report on actual SSA Fee expenditure against each of these projects following finalisation of year-end acquittal process. Legislated categories for SSA Fee expenditure are explained at [Fees and Financial Support](#).

Core activities	Project	2014 Allocation of SSA Fee Income
Student spaces, including informal study spaces and social spaces.	<p>Creating new and improving existing student spaces: a 5-year project plan (2012-2016).</p> <p><i>Townsville</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor social learning spaces – Buildings 4, 15, 25 and 34 • Indoor peer-to-peer spaces – Buildings 4, 15, 25 and 34 <p><i>Cairns</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor peer-to-peer space – Building A4 • Learning commons and collaborative learning spaces – Library • Outdoor social learning spaces – between A2 and Crowther Theatres and between A1 and A4. 	\$937,000
Improving the delivery of food and beverage services on campus.	<p>In the SSA Fee survey, students rated highly the need to improve the quality, variety and price of food and beverage on campus. Following feedback from students through the Student Barometer, the University initiated a Food and Beverage Strategy to enhance food and beverage options on the Townsville and Cairns campuses. Results include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Townsville: 3 new cafés – one in the Mabo Library, one in Education Central, and one in the Clinical Practice Building. - Cairns: a new café to open in the Cairns Institute building. <p>In addition, the JCU Student Association (JCUSA) has improved the quality and variety of food offered in the refectories, including a wider range of healthy menu options, options to meet dietary needs, international cuisine and daily menu rotation. As the above strategies to improve the quality, variety and price of food</p>	-

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	and beverage on campus are already in train, SSA Fee income was not used for this purpose.	
Helping students develop skills for study, by means other than undertaking courses of study in which they are enrolled.	<p>2 Learning Adviser positions to: assist student to improve their study skills; improve access to study skills support for off-campus students; support ESL students.</p> <p>Implementation of BlackBoard Connect, to enable SMS messaging to student by lecturers and support staff.</p> <p>Library commons – student library rovers.</p>	<p>\$233,508</p> <p>\$30,000</p> <p>\$61,480</p>
Services promoting the health and welfare of students	<p>Student Welfare Officers (one position in Townsville and a half-time position in Cairns). These officers support students with complex needs, and assist them to identify and access appropriate support services.</p> <p>JCUHealth (Townsville) to allow for bulk billing GP services for students.</p> <p>Mediation service – conflict resolution</p>	<p>\$136,330</p> <p>\$100,000</p> <p>\$50,000</p>
Supporting other recreational activities on campus via clubs and societies. Improving sports facilities on-campus. Supporting student artistic and creative activities such as drama, musicals, and exhibition spaces.	<p>Support for JCU student clubs, societies, associations, administered by the JCU Student Association. Subsidies for sporting clubs administered by JCUSA .</p> <p>Funding for the JCUSA Sport and Recreation staff - Manager; Sport and Recreation Officer (Townsville); Sport and Recreation Officer (Cairns).</p> <p>Sporting field maintenance</p> <p>Sporting infrastructure (JCUSA administered)</p> <p>Development of Sporting and Recreation Strategic Plan.</p>	<p>\$185,500</p> <p>\$232,292</p> <p>\$186,000</p> <p>\$200,000</p> <p>\$15,000</p>

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	Development of annual program of extra-curricular activities (cultural, intellectual, sporting, recreational) via Student Life Unit.	\$195,240
Provision of information and support to students experiencing financial difficulties.	Support for students experiencing financial difficulties has increased significantly in recent years through the establishment of the Student Access Fund Program, which in 2014 will provide more than \$500,000 of scholarships, bursaries and grants to JCU students experiencing financial difficulties. Support is also provided through JCU's student loans service and the JCUSA Crisis Loans Service. It is therefore not proposed to spend SSA Fee income for this purpose during 2012-2014.	-
Improving advice about university rules and procedures	Improving information and advice about university rules and procedures to students (Student Communications).	\$75,796
Support for student media	JCUSA Student Media and Communication Service.	\$90,191
Orientation information and activities	Improving Orientation Week and Orientation online program.	\$181,991
Providing or improving student advocacy services	<p>Student Advocacy Service (2 Student Advocates in Townsville, 1 in Cairns). The JCUSA Student Advocacy Service provides an independent advocacy service to students in matters such as: assessment results and subject grades; addressing allegations of misconduct; appealing academic suspension or exclusion for unsatisfactory academic progress; problems with professional and clinical placements; complaint resolution; applications for special consideration and supplementary and deferred examinations; advanced standing; leave of absence; student appeals.</p> <p>SSA Fee income will be used to support student representation through: JCUSA elected student representatives; JCUSA Council elections; and equipment and technology to enable this.</p>	<p>\$383,823</p> <p>\$231,161</p>
On campus child care services	Subsidy for UniCare (Townsville campus childcare centre).	\$15,000

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Provision of legal services to students.	This service did not rate highly in survey responses. And no SSA Fee funding is proposed in 2014.	-
Assisting students to find suitable accommodation.	This service did not rate highly in survey responses. And no SSA Fee funding is proposed in 2014.	-
Assisting students to obtain person and accident insurance services	This service did not rate highly in survey responses. And no SSA Fee funding is proposed in 2014.	-
Promoting the health or welfare of students.	<p>Student Experience Fund Projects</p> <p>Competitive bidding process for projects in priority areas to improve the student experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Success \$12,500 • Townsville Student Mentor Program for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students \$25,000 • Peer Mentoring for 'At Risk' International HDR candidates \$14,200 • Enhancing the JCU Professional College \$5,000 • Biomedical Science Micro Bytes and Freaky Friday initiatives \$5,830 • Kup Murri Welcome for new Indigenous Education students \$2,000 • Campus Life Innovation Fund \$42,420 • Subsidised Short Courses for Students (RSA, First Aid, Barista etc) \$9,825 • Inter-Collegiate Cultural Competition and Concert \$15,000 • International Student Family Group \$1,153 • Improving Mental Health Literacy - Mental Health First Aid – Facilitator's Training \$13,192 • Prestige Scholarship Information Session \$6,000 • Student Diaries \$10,250 • Exam Plan \$5,000 • RUOK/Mental Health Week \$4,000 • JCU Bike Mechanic (TVS&CNS) \$11,294 • Purchase of Outdoor Furniture for JCUSA Townsville Pool \$11,500 • Lane Ropes at JCUSA Townsville Pool \$3,500 	\$210,000*

