

STUDENT SERVICES AND AMENITIES FEES

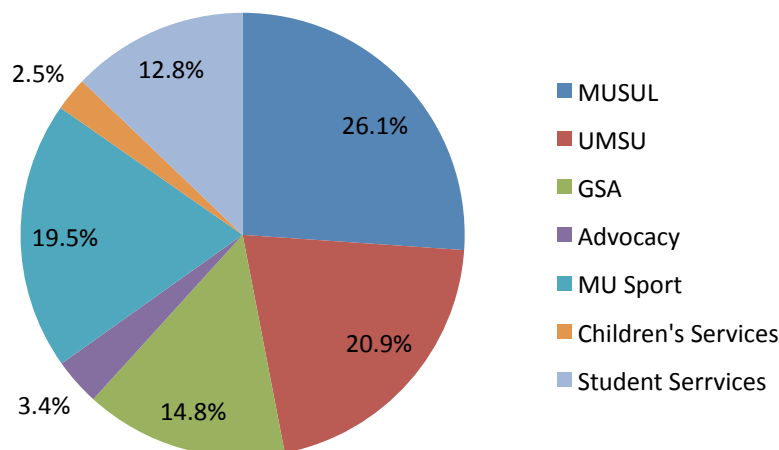
WHAT DID SPORT RECEIVE AND HOW WILL IT BE UTILISED?

A message to students, sporting clubs and stakeholders.

The University reinstated a compulsory [Student Services and Amenities Fee \(SSAF\)](#) in 2012, following an alteration to federal legislation in October 2011, and subsequently determined to charge the full amount allowable at \$263 for full-time and \$197 for part-time students. The University, working with student groups and service providers (including MU Sport) developed a draft proposal to distribute the revenue and asked students to provide feedback in November 2011. Thank you to those students and sporting clubs that indicated their support for the allocation to Sport at that time.

University Council finally determined that MU Sport would receive \$2.28m which is 19.5% of the total amount collected at approximately \$53 per student. This was an increase of \$1.03M in University funding from 2011 but \$300,000 less than the initial allocation to Sport in the draft proposal which included a 'no worse off scenario'. These additional funds were subsequently redistributed to the two student organisations.

The following pie chart illustrates the final distribution of the \$11.8M SSAF collected by the University in 2012.



The vision for sport is:

That the University of Melbourne will be the leading Australian University for sporting performance, level of participation and the quality of facilities.

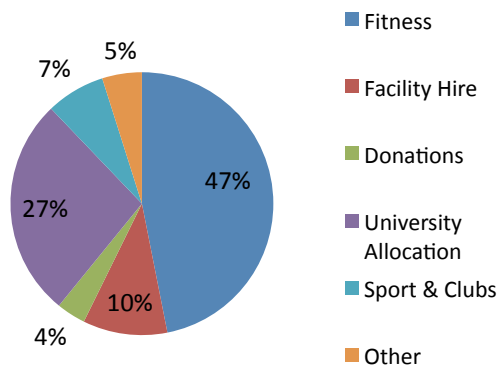
MU Sport is striving to meet the vision currently services over 2,000 student members of sporting clubs, 3,500 student members of the fitness centre, and 10,000 student casual users with over 1million visits per annum to the University's sporting facilities and services.

The management and board of MU Sport have carefully considered how the additional SSAF funds would be best utilised in line with the [‘The University of Melbourne Sport Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015’](#) mindful of the current and future financial position of the organisation, and that the long term future of the SSAF is not assured.

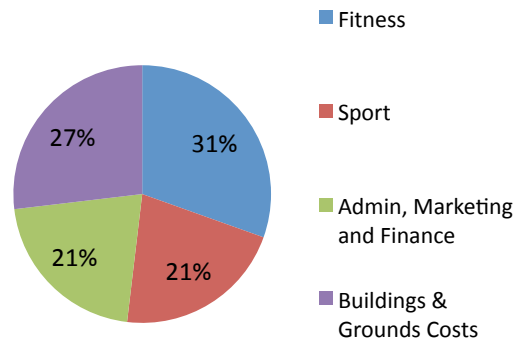
It has been determined that the initial priority is to address the backlog in sport related building maintenance and capital projects partly caused as a result of the introduction of *Voluntary Student Unionism* in 2007 whilst also supporting, in a more limited capacity, initiatives to increase participation and improve the quality of sporting performance. As the backlog of maintenance and capital projects is addressed funds can be redirected in future years to increasing participation and improving performance. These strategies will be carefully explored with all stakeholders including sporting clubs and groups and general users over the next 12 months for implementation in 2013 and beyond.

The following pie charts illustrate the income and expenditure in broad percentages for MU Sport.

Income



Expenditure



The pie charts identify that only 27% of the total income generated by MU Sport is derived from the SSAF and that this amount is subsequently expended in maintaining the buildings and grounds.

The bulk of the remaining income is derived from student fees and charges in fitness services, clubs and facility hire and highlights that students involved in sport, fitness and recreation at the University effectively pay twice to participate. First through the payment of the SSAF and secondly through additional user pay fees and charges to participate.

For many students cost continues to be a significant disincentive to participation in sport and fitness activities and this will continue to be difficult to address under the current financial model.

Despite the current challenges the SSAF has provided MU Sport with the opportunity to reduce the cost to access some services, improve the quality and/or provide additional services for 2012:

Fitness Services

MU Sport is committed to providing tailored, affordable, fitness service options. The cost for some of the most popular fitness memberships have effectively been reduced from the 2011:

- The 4 month student membership fee has been reduced from \$250 in 2011, to \$225 in 2012. Traditionally this is the most popular membership option for students.
- A direct debit option has also been introduced for the first time, giving students the flexibility to make smaller fortnightly payments rather than pay a larger lump sum.

South Hub Fitness Centre

MU Sport will open an additional fitness facility in early 2012 at 183 Bouverie Street. The students located in the area South of Grattan Street account for approximately 30% of the student population (10,000), and it is apparent that the majority of these students are not utilizing the Sport Precinct fitness facilities due to the location. It is predicted that the number of students in this precinct will continue to increase and that participation will increase as a result of the proximity of the new centre.

Program Initiatives

A range of new program initiatives will be introduced to provide students with increased access to casual and one-off sporting and fitness opportunities at low or no cost. These programs will include monthly group fitness master class programs, come and try days, information stalls and activities at campuses other than Parkville and further information will be provided as the programs are developed and resourced during 2012.

Club Support

External venue hire

Additional support for community facility venue hire for club training and/or competition will be provided.

Club Project Fund

Additional funds to support club based strategic initiatives and developments.

Coaching and Administrative Support

Increased support for targeted club coaching and management appointments.

Shared Services Model

A range of new services will be provided to reduce the burden on voluntary club officials. A pilot program will be introduced to increase direct administrative support for financial and payroll transactions and reporting. Increased web based support including coordination of web based communication, on-line membership registration and renewal systems to be introduced by 2013.

Strategic Club Support

Opportunities for clubs to access additional support in the areas of club marketing/fundraising, alumni relations, sponsorship, merchandise, and event coordination.

Ongoing discussions will occur with individual clubs to determine how they can best access the available opportunities to develop the club strategically.

High Performance Sport

Representative Sport

Additional funds to improve the performance of student athletes and teams at national sporting competitions.

Strength and Conditioning Support

Increased support for elite athletes and teams to include programming, testing and performance review.

Sporting Scholarships

Additional funds for elite athletes to assist with the associated costs of training, travel and competition.

Buildings and Grounds

Sports Facility Audit

The *Sports Facility Condition Audit* will determine the condition of the University's sporting facilities and recommend an essential maintenance program which will require significant additional investment. Funds have also been set aside for a number of urgent minor capital projects and upgrades in the Sports Precinct, Alpine Lodge at Mt Buller, and the Boathouse on the Yarra.

Current Capital Projects

Additional funds for the development of the Main Oval Pavilion and Sports Centre refurbishment projects.



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Future capital projects

It is anticipated that the *Sports Capital Improvement Plan* will identify \$60M in capital projects over the next 10 years.

Tim Lee
Director of Sport
February 2012

