

**Middle Tennessee State University**  
**Public Comments Received on the 2019-20 Undergraduate Tuition and Fee Increase Proposal**  
**June 18, 2019**

ID	Status	Comment
1	Current student	Why increase tuition when half of your students can't even afford to buy their books. It's a dumb idea
2	Current student	I do not agree! I do not have financial aid and the tuition were already too much for me!
3	Current student	DON'T RAISE MY TUITION!!! I already pay too much as it is. I get it we're a good school but stop.
4	Current student	This is not okay. I can barely afford college as is, without accounting for an increase. There are other places where you take \$3,000,000 from. Start with the football program.
5	Current student	I am a senior at MTSU, and I am totally against the increase in tuition and fees. I am a commuter, so I travel to get to school everyday, which is very costly when putting gas into the equation. I also do not qualify for any FASFA money, so I am having to pay my own way. I am trying to make something of myself, and increasing the cost will put an even more strain on my bank account. Please consider the cost students already pay to attend the university because college is not cheap.
6	Current student	Fuck off
7	Current student	please do not raise fees, we students are very broke and often have to take out large loans just to get undergraduate degrees which are losing value rapidly. thank you
8	Current student	Do not raise my tuition. I already pay enough as it is to go here and for the services. Campus rec extra money should be taken from NON STUDENT memberships. And athletics? Our athletes aren't good enough for my tuition to go to them. My tuition should cover MY *academic* fees, not for fancy athletic stuff that does not affect me.
9	Current student	Honestly is raising the cost of in state tuition the only plan? People attending MTSU to further education are already paying so much as it is.
10	Current student	For students that have been attending for years, there is no reason to increase these fees for us. I struggle enough paying tuition out of MY pocket.
11	Current student	I believe raising tuition to almost \$100 is somewhat reasonable but you also have to take into consideration of how they over price books and fees and abroad. Don't get me started on the abroad. I believe you should raise it no more than \$50 every two years. Employees should not receive a raise every year, they have to earn it, especially when 75% of all college employees jobs are easy that they have students doing the same thing.

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12	Current student	Hello, I'm a current student at MTSU. It's my second year here, I'm a sophomore. I really love MTSU, and I'm enrolled in the nursing program. College is already very expensive. It's a little over \$23,000 to attend. I'm barely able to afford my tuition ,nursing supplies and fees , and miscellaneous expenses. I have written today to ask you all not the increase tuition . Most families like mines could barely have an increase of \$100 and still attend classes full time. Please reconsider increasing tuition costs! Thankyou.
13	Current student	At a time when the public is increasingly aware of the intense burden that unreasonable tuition levels place of students, it seems inadvisable and in poor judgment to propose an increase to undergraduate tuition, or to tuition at all. While the proposed increase is relatively small in comparison to overall cost of attendance, the amount itself is not insignificant to the individual paying it. Additionally, with the cost of maintaining the salaries of college and university administrative staff generally increasing across the country, and with the numbers of university administrative staff increasing exponentially across the country as well, this is likely to make paying students suspicious of the motives behind such an increase.
14	Current student	If the increase was primarily focused on increasing the faculties salaries, I would wholeheartedly be for it. But the other proposed increased to fund things such as the recreation center and the athletics department are frivolous and unnecessary when there are so many more important things the board should be focusing on. Such as the fact that students pay nearly \$9,000 for terrible on campus housing conditions, for dorms that aren't even worth half of that amount. The proposal of the increased tuition does nothing but simply makes me aware that I could receive a similar or perhaps better education at another institution for the same cost
15	Current student	Good to go.
16	Current student	If Athletics wants more money, maybe they can try being good for a change. Maybe try pushing more of that money into public outreach. Nobody shows up to games anymore and it's honestly really sad. My tuition should not go to things that are not successful, unlike Athletics my scores have continued to go up since workign on campus, maybe push the money towards that. There are so many other places you can put this money, so if you're going to do it, maybe not take the word of the people who won't be paying for it and try giving the students more of a voice on the subject.

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17	Current student	Most students have to work more than one job in order to pay for college and any increase will put a burden on the students and it will make their hard lives harder and will not have success academically as most people will hope
18	Current student	I don't want to waste more money on college then I already am, I'm fine with how mtsu is
19	Current student	I already don't have money. We pay enough. Don't do this.
20	Other	As a proud alumus, I support the Board of Trustees in this tuition increase for much needed salary increases and to offset the constantly rising costs of operating a wonderful institution like MTSU.
21	Current student	I think they should not increase they should keep it the same or decrease tuition. It would be hard on people to pay for tuition to increase will make it harder on students/parents to pay.
22	Current student	This is upsetting. You are going to charge future students more because of stupid pet projects that have taken place around campus. Spending has been wasteful. Meanwhile, we can't get funding to update hardware in the Air Traffic Control Lab and Aerospace students are being charged additional program fees which don't appear to actually be going back to the program. Parking is still a mess and prejudicial to commuters. MTSU Boulevard is still not finished and has been under construction for as long as I have been attending. Where is the money going? It doesn't appear to actually be benefiting students in any meaningful way. The way that this administration has spent my tuition dollars has been the most disappointing thing about attending this school. We don't have enough aircraft for our flight school. We don't have updated materials to use for the dispatch program. We don't have enough resources for our drone program. We don't have enough reliable staff in the aerospace department. The staff who are not temporary are great but we need more great professors. I don't want decorations on the corners of campus. I want meaningful spending that will go back to the programs that MTSU offers. I want better return on investment. I become an alumni soon and I will absolutely refuse to give any more money to this wasteful administration.
23	Current student	The current charges are already high, by increasing the tuition fee you are making it even harder for so many people to afford higher education. Leave it as it is. Not all students have scholarships, and many of us have to rely on student loans that we are not even sure if we will be able to repay.

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24	Current student	As a current student, I am thrilled about this proposal! I was just telling all my friends how I wanted to give my school more of my money for the same education. Obviously as a college kid struggling to make ends meet month to month, I have plenty of money to give you guys so this extra tuition cost would have no impact on me. If this proposal is approved, I will withdrawal because it will be a clear indicator this University doesn't understand or care for their students and what they have to do in order to afford a degree. Rather than 'funding more scholarships' just make tuition a reasonable rate for everyone so more people can afford school. Bragging about how low your tuition increases have been recently, are you serious? Increases of any kind might seem small to an organization receiving millions regularly, but for an individual it has a real impact. Think about your students, please.
25	Prospective student	Please do not increase the tuition! Students should not have to suffer and pay for things most students do not need on campus! The tuition is already high for classes and experience one could take and have elsewhere for cheaper! This increase may not seem much to you, but to some students it could mean the ability to continue their studies here or not. The cost of attendance is much higher when including tuition; therefore, your argument that most students could afford this increase is invalid and misleading. You are not serving in the best interest of your students, and history will judge you for this action.
26	MTSU faculty	Hi, my son is a recent MTSU graduate, and has prospered because of it. We would not have had a problem with the tuition/fee increases proposed. That said, I am currently an Adjunct faculty member at MTSU. While thrilled and honored to be a small part of the MTSU team, I've read that the state of Tennessee ranks in the lower 25% of US college Adjunct salary scale. Will any of the proposed salary funding be directed towards Adjuncts? Every little bit helps!!! I understand this a state issue, not that of MTSU. I was just wondering if there had been any thought to this? Most cordially, and respectfully yours,
27	Current student	I believe this is a terrible idea. We already have students struggling to pay for school, this includes in-state students such as myself, who are pulling out thousands of dollars in loans every semester/year. More money upfront for the staff, but this is hurting the students who attend this wonderful school for an education. This will begin turning people away from MTSU for higher education. In theory this is amazing, BUT please think about your students and the repercussions this will have on them and the schools growing population. The growth rate could decrease, in turn bringing in less money for the faculty members.
28	Parent of a current student	I appreciate the efforts of the University to keep costs down. Having had a child at the state's flagship school, I especially appreciate that we don't pay any parking fees, and the other fees are relatively low. Thank you for understanding our desire to not burden our children unduly with loans.

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30	Current student	As a student who pays for 100% of his own tuition without scholarships or financial aid, and no money from fafsa this concerns me. I currently am on track to graduate without any debt. Being a commuter who drives 100 miles to come to class, this puts a strain on the wallet. Gas and general car maintenance isn't cheap and neither is college. While this may seem like a good idea for the college you will screw over the many people who come to mtsu simply because the fact that it is the most affordable option to better their future. What may seem like a good idea could hurt in the long run.
31	Prospective student	I would naturally oppose any tuition increases as I am choosing to attend MTSU based solely upon the financial availability of the services offered.
32	Current student	I'm a transfer student currently set to attend MTSU in the fall of 2019. I'm against the raising of any tuition or fees at this moment for MTSU. While the proposed fee increase is very insignificant, my opinion is based off the principle itself of the continuously rising cost to attend college in our country. I do understand that it dose indeed take tuition money to provide a proper learning environment for the student body and appropriate salaries for staff and faculty. However, I believe as of now MTSU is equipped more then enough to provide its students an excellent learning environment. Also, the colleges and the universities of this country should do their part to battle the ever rising cost to attend higher education nation wide. Raising fees and tuition almost yearly is not the way to do so.
33	Current student	I do understand and support the stated reasons for the proposed tuition increase; however, as a working, non-traditional student who does not qualify for tuition assistance in the forms of grants and scholarships, the proposed amounts will determine whether I am able to continue and complete my degree at MTSU or withdraw and attend a community or technical college.
34	Parent of a current student	We already have issues to cover our son education cost. Parent loans and students loans are our options to cover the costs. How come there is a plan to increase tuition cost? At the end our kids wont be able to have a College education unless they get overload with loans. There have to be other sources to get what administration think they need instead of raising the tuition costs. I wont be able to send my son to finish college if the tuition keeps going higher and higher and the education still the same.

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35	Current student	This is absurd. With the amount of money that MTSU students have to pay already, this preposal is an insult to the hard working students' education. MTSU has one of largest student populations in the state. Along with government funding from the upcoming sport gambling state income, there is no need for a raise in our tuition. The greed you have shown by the preposal is awful. Please deny this raise of tuition.
36	Current student	Don't increase tuition as there has not been an increase in wages on a state or federal level. This impacts students negatively by causing increased debt accumulation and potentially drives current and/or future students away to seek educations at community colleges or through online programs. Continuing to make education an unaffordable aspect of life is not the ethical approach. We are not customers at MTSU, but are people in search of our identities, embetterment, and empowerment through higher education.
37	Current student	Modest tuition and mandatory fee increases are what allows countless students like myself to receive an undergraduate education and it is a large factor of whether we choose to attend Middle Tennessee State University. For those of us that live independently, a \$109 increase can make the difference between whether to buy groceries or to register for classes, knowing how quickly our student debt and related costs increase.
38	Current student	The fee increase is not that drastic. However, it would be helpful for current and/or graduating students if the change took affect during the 2020-2021 school year.
39	Current student	I hate that there is an increase, but I'm excited that it is only 87.00 dollars. I don't know if you worked hard to make it that way, but thank you.
40	Current student	I think tuition should stay at the same rate!
41	Parent of a current student	While I realize this is a small increase I hope that the board considers there are families who have students putting themselves through their college education and consistently increasing the tuition and fees is difficult for them.
42	Current student	Are you actually stupid? You spent so much money on these dumb buildings and roads that you're asking for money now? How about you actually come up with something new and sell. You have all these undergraduates and nothing.
43	Current student	I disagree with the tuition, because it is getting tougher to afford the current total right now. Truthfully I don't think students right now will see the benefits of this increase.
44	Current student	As a student with a family who is in a very bad place with money it makes it harder to have assurance that i will be able to continue school if tuition and other costs continue to go up

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45	Current student	Please don't increase, I can barely afford school now as it is. Also, there is nowhere to park.
46	Current student	Please do not increase tuition costs! I can barely afford it as is and my major isn't offered by any local communities.
47	Parent of a current student	With the increase in cost to attend a Higher Education institution, many families simply cannot afford to send their child to college. It is not the desire of any parent to saddle their child in student loan debt before they begin their professional career. As a parent of a current student, I do not support the increase in tuition or operational services. Although my child has the support of her parents, this is not the narrative for all students. Many of the students that attend MTSU do not have parental support and often times find themselves having to fend for themselves financially. I understand that salaries need to be increased for MTSU employees due to the increased cost of living. However, these increases should not have to be funded by families that are struggling to send their child to college or financially independent students. To reiterate, I do not support an increase in tuition or operational services. It is my hope that the Board of Trustees deny any such increases for the 2019-2020 academic year.
48	Parent of a current student	I am opposed to any tuition increase going toward professor salaries, unless students will be reimbursed if a class session is cancelled. In her first year of college, four of my daughter's professors cancelled classes for reasons such as 'my wife had to work so I had to stay home with the baby' and things of that nature. One professor cancelled at least five classes this semester.
49	Current student	All ready have to work full time it is already expensive enough.
50	Current student	Further raising tuition will bar more students from a college education. There is already a huge disparity between the education levels of different socioeconomic classes, and exacerbating that difference with a tuition increase will negatively affect the student population. Though higher education can set up students for career success, student debt can hinder individuals from being able to have a decent standard of living after they attend.
51	Current student	I believe that this is a major inconvenience due to the fact that I solely picked this institution because of its awareness that to further your education can be affordable especially for in-state tuition . Increasing tuition will force current students to transfer due to this shift. I do not agree with this increase and other returning students wouldn't either.

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52	Parent of a prospective student	One if the factors that drove us to agree for our daughter to transfer from the University of Memphis to MTSU, was the amount of the tuition. It wasn't the only factor, but it was one of them. Please do not increase the tuition as we must plan for the semester and beyond and increasing would be a hardship for us and many. Thank you for your attention to this matter.
53	Current student	I think it is crazy how you guys are trying to increase undergraduate in-state tuition and fees, when y'all know that there are already students who are struggling trying to pay for the tuition already. I think by y'all increasing the tuition will put a lot of pressure on us as students and our families because the tuition is already high as it is.
54	Current student	College students have little money as it is and are drowning in student loans and debt. The purpose of college is to help set the students on a path for success, by increasing tuition costs, you are doing the exact opposite. If there are increases in tuition then there should be increases in grants and scholarships available to all students to supplement.
55	Current student	I commend MTSU and its Board of Trustees for attempting to make informed decisions that are believed to be in its best interest, as well as taking measures to ensure any tuition adjustment is as minimally disruptive as possible to the situation of current or prospective MTSU students. For me, I personally rely on scholarships and state grants to be able to attend university at all. This increase likely won't turn me into a pauper, but I urge you to simply keep in mind that there's only so much expense that you can pass down before it becomes too much. The number of MTSU undergraduates may hover around 20,000 people, but I would wager that for quite a few, it's scholarships and MTSU's wondrous ability to keep tuition low while maintaining its academic integrity compared to universities of similar standing that gives chances to people who otherwise may not have that opportunity to rise up in society. If the State of Tennessee wishes for a more highly educated populace, then I'm inclined to believe that they should make an effort to ensure that state universities are financially accessible to said populace. If anything, simply consider this comment as food for thought, or the ramblings of a madman, if you so desire.



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56	Current student	I do not support the increase in tuition. I am currently a graduate student at MTSU. When I was an undergraduate studying Biochemistry, I had a scholarship that paid for half my tuition but I still had to take out \$30,000 in federal aid to be able to afford college because my mother is handicapped and couldn't afford to help me. An increase in tuition would set thousands of students backwards in debt even further than they already are. In today's world, it isn't guaranteed that once a student gets a degree, they will get a job that will offset the costs of paying back their loans. I have colleagues who graduated from MTSU and went back to working at Starbucks making minimum wage. As it is, many professors and faculty at MTSU make too much money. If it is for providing a better education, I would be all for it. But there are many teachers at MTSU who don't put the required effort into their job to be successful teachers. Also, the football coach makes around \$700,000 which has nothing to do with education. I am against any educational funds going towards the athletic program at MTSU.
57	Current student	If there's anything you add to the gym, please let it be more free weights from 10lbs to 25. Please. I have to wait all the time to use them
58	Parent of a current student	Please do not raise tuition and fees. It's difficult enough to pay as is!
59	Parent of a current student	I feel that there is no need for increase at this time.
60	MTSU staff	I approve
61	MTSU staff	The funding for a salary increase should come from the state, not our students. It is entirely unfair to pit our students against employees. Students are already burdened with massive amounts of student loan debt. When you tell them you're increasing their tuition to give us a pay raise, it's going to create a negative view of the employees of the university. They don't know that the university is several years behind in market salaries and that you're giving us raises because we're not being paid what we're worth for where we live.
62	Current student	With the increase could you in return give out more scholarships?
63	Current student	I oppose the tuition increase. It provides an undo burden on students to meet tuition fees

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64	Current student	I oppose the tuition increase.
65	Current student	I would like to oppose this increase to tuition. I understand the needs for the increase, but I am currently struggling to pay for the tuition as it is. An increase like this would force me out of school when I'm so close to achieving my engineering bachelor's degree. If there is some way to come up with a compromise from other direction to prevent this increase it would be huge for all students. I know Tennessee does so much for students to try and succeed and help them through school. I believe this is doing the opposite of that. I really appreciate anything you can do for my fellow students and I.
66	Current student	Many students are not able to pay this much tuition, and if they did, they will be broke from another aspect. Talking as a current student who's going through many challenges, this is not what students are waiting for. I'm against this rise of tuition. Thank you.
67	Current student	I was originally going to go to TTU for my Bachelor's degree, however, MTSU's locality and tuition level was what brought me here. My goal was to graduate with little to no debt and MTSU so far has been able to provide me with that. While a hundred dollar change per person might seem minuscule to administration, for people, such as myself, you find yourself trying to pay for books and tuition and counting pennies to make sure you can make it. I am strongly against this raise and am saying a resounding 'NO!' for this decision.
68	Parent of a current student	I think this is reasonable, and I'm hoping that the next couple years rate increase are similar or less - Thanks

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69	Other	As a transfer student who will be attending this coming fall, I believe that raising tuition and fees make it harder on students who don't receive any aid such as the the Pell Grant. I am one of these students who have never received aid like this. Though it is a small percentage that is being proposed, that adds up over time especially when I will probably have to take out loans for school! As a transfer student, I feel like there are already very few scholarship opportunities as it is! I am very lucky to have a high GPA so I could earn scholarships, but some aren't so lucky! Tuition increases make it harder on the middle class, and I am 100% against this! I believe that over time that is why students drop out and why some people don't go to school! A group of friends and I did a project over food insecurity. A very big majority of college students don't have food, and I believe it is due to the higher cost of living and tuition! I am trying to better myself by being the first person in my family with a B.S. degree, but raising the cost for me to go school just makes it harder! The more I will have to take out in loans will cause me to be in debt even longer. Somehow student debt has become the new normal! I know people who are still paying that debt off 10+ years a later, and it is not fair! Please do not give students the burden of raising tuition costs when so many of them have many more things to worry about!
70	Current student	Most people are struggling to stay at this school as is. Increasing tuition and fees will only cause more people to overlook this school. I have considered transferring many times and so have many people that I am close to. The cost of living plus school itself is just to much to bare.
71	Current student	The tuition keeps going up and up and the quality of the teaching at MTSU is ever declining. The board of trustees does not care about its students, but rather the entertainment that our athletes provide, which is why this increase exists: to pay the coaching staff. Maybe we should focus more on quality instruction and less on 'Blue Raider Entertainment' at this university.
72	Current student	It is unethical to raise tuition for current students and in my opinion civilly illegal to not allow students to attend this 'private' meeting where the decision will be made. We did not sign anything regarding any potential changes. I know for a fact that most people agree with me when I say raising tuition should only apply to incoming or returning students. Please respond to this via my email by 15 June 2019. I love MTSU and am True Blue; but this is morally wrong. Thank you.
73	Current student	I am opposed to the increase in rates. In the proposal presented, I want to know how this adds value to the student individually. How do I, a current student, gain any value from an increase in rates? That question is not answered in the proposal. There are already an abundant amount of fees stacked on top of tuition. I totally disagree with any increase.

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74	Current student	MTSU will continue to have a President whom is not obligated to return student emails. The ineffectual and unconcerned Department of Behavioral Science gets what I am sure will be a lovely new facility; in which, Social Work Professors will continue to show social media photos instead of teach, berate students in order to hide their own insecurities or inabilities, and utilize student organizations to entertain the Department. What do students get? They get to pay more and more for an exterior facade of excellence. Perhaps this is the actual lesson that MTSU will provide. I have no doubt that this message is a waste of my time. The only thing that is going to change is how much more money is owed for an inferior product.
75	Current student	One of the first purposes for increasing tuition and fees listed on the website is to increase salaries for faculty and staff. Will we be seeing an increase in the stipends for graduate assistants at the Master and Doctoral levels?
76	Current student	It would be super cool if you guys paid your adjunct professors more because you know, this is a place to get an education, not to play sports. This university's focus is in the complete wrong place. Please focus on academics more.
77	Current student	There is much debate as to whether higher education is a right or a privilege. However, it is not a stretch to say that it is a service. The teacher presents information and skills for a price. Increased prices in services are generally due to increased value and/or higher demand. MTSUs admission standards do not indicate a higher demand to get into the school. The over-saturation of the market also corroborates this. That would then leave an increased value being the source of raised prices. Many students share the same sentiment regarding the value of a degree from this institution. This institution should look more introspectively into what is spending its money on, and who it is spending it on, before raising prices for a product that is not worth the value being presented. MTSU needs to provide a worthy product, and display evidence that it spends its money responsibly before overcharging students who already can't afford the cost.
78	Current student	I am a student with a 3.8 gpa. I don't CARE about athletics. Athletics should also support itself, if it can't, then the students shouldn't be FORCED to pay for it. I want my tuition dollars to go into my Professors and my learning facilities! Peck Hall is a WRECK. Our money needs to go to our learning! Not athletics! If people want to donate, that is their choice, but it shouldn't be on the students who aren't involved to fund the athletics department.

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79	Prospective student	Not really happy about this because of my struggle to already pay for MTSU tuition out of pocket.
80	Other	Need to look into these professors who can't speak good English and their students are failing. No one can understand them when they teach. This is a major problem, but I guess no one cares!!!
81	Current student	Although the increase would help MTSU's overall performance, I would like to see an increase in scholarships along with this. Lots of students choose MTSU due to its low cost and quality education, and I believe this proposal will not be the last one I see while attending. Increasing the tuition and fees means that students working to pay for their education must work more to pay and will have less time to study
82	MTSU faculty	I do not recommend the tuition increase as this low tuition gives MTSU its distinction within the THEC institutions.
83	Current student	How about y'all pay tuition and see how it feels. This is so dumb

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84	Current student	<p>To MTSU board of trustees, I transferred to MTSU in December 2017 as a non-traditional college student. I chose MTSU because of its art and music program. I am currently a Junior. As a non-traditional student, I live off campus and commute to school. I understand MTSU to have the largest population of non-traditional students, and do to that, I have felt more comfortable as a non-traditional student. Being a non-traditional student is not easy though. Unlike many college students, I and my peers do not have any financial assistance from parents/legal guardians. I had to give up higher paying and full time work in order to come to school. In the long run, I know this sacrifice will be worth it, but it is not easy. Which brings me to my concerns about the new proposal to raise tuitions and fees. Though it may seem like a trivial amount, the total \$109 increase in student fees/tuition will equal the equivalent of almost two full days of work or 1/4 of a rent payment for myself. Though this may seem trivial, it is not when, as a full-time student I am enrolled in 15+ credit hours a semester. Because of the added time I will have to spend working to pay for the increase of fees, it will mean less time I can spend studying, and less time I have to spend with my family. Spring semester of 2019 I was enrolled in 15 credit hours and working 25+ hours a week and had very little time to study. I am concerned what the increase will mean for me next semester. The proposal suggests better facilities and more services for students plus higher salaries for professors. I have already expressed my concern for added stress of my time and income, I would like to point out that more services for students is not what commuting non-traditional students need. I know MTSU has an excellent athletic facility, but I do not have time to use it. When I am on campus, I am at class or studying in the library. The rec center is just one example of student facilities that I as a student do not use. This has also been my experience in talking with many other students as well. In closing, I would ask that the committee re-asses the proposed tuition and fee increase. MTSU is a great school for non-traditional students because of its accessibility and I would ask that it keep tuition accessible for those of us who are completely financially responsible for our own education. Please consider cuts from other areas, and help me and my fellow students save the \$109 to pay rent or buy two weeks worth of groceries or gas to commute to school. Sincerely,</p>
85	Current student	<p>Students and families are already struggling to get their children into a good institution such as MTSU. Increasing the tuition does nothing but put more pressure on students financially already finding it difficult to manage themselves at the college. Some students have to undergo working AND school work, which is already too much at hand. This should not be considered. The University is already doing good. All of these buildings are being built what more do they want and need?</p>
86	Other	<p>I'm an alumni of MTSU, and I always sing its praises. Please keep the tuition low so I can continue to do so.</p>

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87	Current student	This is unfair, college students barely have enough money to cover their tuition, let alone books and don't even get me started on living expenses.
88	Current student	It isn't fair to the other 30% or so of student that get no form of help whatsoever and have to pay for everything out of pocket while working and studying full time.
89	Current student	I see no point in increasing the tuition. It is already hard enough to pay the tuition that is now set. There are a lot of things that should be considered to be fixed on campus, if increasing tuition is the case. I have finally got a stable income to pay the tuition now. This is a set back, and is more than likely going to leave me in debt.
90	Current student	Great article here , Good article. Great article, just what I needed.
91	Current student	I believe an increase in tuition yo support the resources provided to the faculty and students on campus is understandable but if tuition is increasing I believe the students should be eligible for an increase in financial aid.
92	Current student	Raising tuition is very unreasonable. Most people have brothers and sisters also going into college and our parents will be paying for multiple tuitions with minimal help from scholarships. Also, with some majors costing more than others, a lot of people are already dealing with loans and are struggling to make the monthly installments. As a student, unless this proposed increased funding is going towards remodeling old buildings such as the CKNB, I'm against it.
93	Parent of a prospective student	Please don't raise prices. Parents are already struggling to pay for their child's college.
94	Current student	Raising the tuition is a poor decision. I am stating that as a fact because I, as a student, have and will continue to see more and more fellow students at universities across the nation be forced to take time away from university, transfer, or give up on college all together because of what may seem like a small increase in tuition to those running the university that will never see the financial reality of a modern-day college student. Let me lay it out: At the moment, I am able to make up to \$735 per month while working at an on campus job and being a full time student (this is not my restriction, but the school's on how many hours I can work. I spend \$300 on rent per month, \$100 on insurance, \$150 on food, and \$50 on gas. When I have a month that am able to save money, I do,

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		<p>however, it's rare to have the chance to work the maximum hours (25) because there are too many other student workers. Everything in my budget is essential. There is no room for error or extra expenses. If I did not happen to live in Rutherford county and be the daughter of a dependent of a faculty member , I wouldn't have my scholarship or discount. I would not be able to come to MTSU despite the fact that I had a 3.0 GPA at a magnet high school and a 27 on the ACT. Already so many students from the middle class are struggling to go to college. The federal government and university won't give them any need-based financial aid, and many parents can't help to pay because they're not as rich as they look on paper. That leaves an entire economic class that is shaky year-to-year whether they can afford continue their education. In my case like in so many others, I'm also almost completely financially independent. This means that the \$109 even though it may seem small is mine to bare. But, what is a \$109 more when you're already paying thousands in tuition and books? It sounds like nothing to many of the board members of MTSU. For me, it's over 300 meals of macaroni or beans and rice or ramen noodles. I need that. It's all I can afford to eat. I'm also one of the people that will be least affected by this tuition increase. My best friend receives no federal financial aid, not even a subsidized loan, because his parents earn too much, but that's not a true reflection of what they can pay for his education. His father has had cancer for over a decade. They pay at least half of their income toward medical bills and insurance every year. With limited loans, and no scholarships despite his outstanding academic prowess, how is he supposed to afford tuition. The answer is, he can't. With his current financial aid package for next hear he will be \$1000 short of tuition without the tuition increase. To him \$109 is another work day he won't be able to spend with his dying father this summer. No exceptions or financial help has been given by the university. Furthermore, MTSU's appeal to most of its students comes from how cost effective it is. Compared to other reputable state universities in the area, MTSU is the best financial choice for the average student. We've come to trust that MTSU won't con us of our money like UTK, UTC, or ETSU do and have done in the past. It's the reason why we have so many transfer students and middle class, and middle class smart kids that couldn't crack the ACT. It's why we have so many practical thinkers and local students. It's why we have so many foreign students and so much racial, ethnic, class, gender, and sexuality diversity. I truly love this university. I want MTSU to stick to its honest roots. Be a university for the people that are already there. There's a lot more of us out there too. If the faculty needs a pay increase, take it out of the salaries of higher earners, get a grant, recruit more students from out of state for the popular audio production and aerospace majors. Don't place the burden on the members of the MTSU community with the least amount of financial stability. You will lose the trust of your students.</p>



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ID	Status	Comment
95	Current student	I don't think there should be an increase in fees and tuition.
96	Other	I personally believe that increases are going to happen and this proposal is very reasonable.
97	Current student	Do not raise the tuition .
98	Current student	I believe rising the cost of tuition is going to harm MTSU more than help simply from the fact that junior colleges are free in the state of Tennessee to all adults now. So that would be more of a reason for people to choose a junior college over a university such as MTSU. MTSU is known for being an affordable university so why not keep it like that? The cost of living has went up tremendously. People can barely afford day to day life. They shouldn't have to choose between getting their education and paying the bills. Yes I know people get scholarships but one may lose them because of one bad grade or maybe they aren't getting enough scholarships. As a young single mom, I'm blessed to have just enough coverage for my tuition rate but some are not so blessed. I have plenty of my friends that have to take out loans. Yes that's normal but they want to be doctors, lawyers, etc so them already being in so much debt just for ungraduate school is absurd. Their debt affects them in many ways. Their debt to income ratio not only affects what they pay back in the end but if they need a loan for a car or anything, most wouldn't get approved without a co-signer simply because their debt to income ratio is too high. That's just unfair. Mtsu needs to stay the lowest cost school in Tennessee to keep students coming in because most of the time that's the main reason why students choose the school they attend.
99	Current student	I do not agree with this, I'm already struggling to make the amount of money that my regular tuition needs. This just pressures me more & makes me feel like I won't be successful due to the fact that I've got to focus on making more money for my college other than focusing on my classes. Did you guys think about the people that don't receive a lot of scholarships & have to pay out of pocket? I live 45 minutes away from MTSU I drive there everyday in the fall & spring, I have 3 sisters to care for, a job, & have to pay for my transportation. I just don't think it's fair. I chose MTSU because of the tuition & programs. I really don't want to leave it because of this. Thank you.

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100	Current student	I feel like the increase shouldn't effect those that are currently enrolled and higher than a freshman. I understand increasing the tuition for the incoming freshman class, I also understand it's not a significant amount, but also think of the students that are paying for school out of pocket, and that \$82 increase in tuition could have been allocated for food. As college students we struggle enough, and when you're almost done with your degree and the tuition raises, it could potentially hinder a student from graduation due to financial strain.
101	Current student	I would like to make 2 comments on the proposed increase: (1) I strongly oppose the proposed fee increase for Athletics. Although athletics is just one small field of learning (among many such fields at MTSU), I must pay that area \$225 in fees (24.6% of all Program Services Fees) each semester, amounting to a minimum of \$1800 over four years to support a segment of the university that covers a very narrow branch of education--I believe rather that athletics ought to have its place in the general budget, especially seeing as it is one of the minimal contributors to the clause of MTSU's mission statement that the university 'prepare graduates to thrive in their chosen professions and a changing global society.' Since the program already spends more than \$35 million per year (about 10% of total expenditures for MTSU), it ought not to be taking an even greater proportion of students' tuition. This, and most paths of study will have more impact (in terms of number of people entering the workforce in that field) in preparing graduates than athletics. Therefore, I ask that the Board of Trustees not increase the Athletics component of the Program Services Fee at this time. (2) As a student, I am daily confronted by a huge percentage of MTSU's student body who do not 'collaboratively promote excellence through...learning' as described in MTSU's mission statement. Furthermore, I know that many of these students who disdain their educational responsibility receive financial aid and/or scholarships from MTSU. I would like to see an effort at MTSU to award fewer and more selective scholarships to ensure that valuable educational resources (derived from tuition paid by those students who are truly invested in learning) are not wasted on those who take away from the university's mission. I believe that if such an effort were implemented, the need to continually raise tuition on those who deeply desire to learn in the community but have financial misgivings would be mitigated, at least for several years. For that reason, I ask that the Board of Trustees consider declining the proposed tuition increase at this time and search for other ways to fill MTSU's financial needs without increasing the burden on diligent students who will meaningfully contribute to the university.

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102	Current student	These fees are another burden to the student population and continue to add to the mountains of student debt that we have to graduate with. Is that fair? I think not. Unless you can tell us some of that money will be used to beef up security, install more CCTV cameras and officers that will be more visible around parking lots, it is not reasonable.
103	Current student	Tuition is very hard on families and students that attend this institution. It is also very hard for people who pay out of pocket, as there are already not very many scholarship options. If anything the tuition needs to be LOWERED.
104	Current student	Students are already going through so much and are just trying to be successful. Believe it or not, this \$83.00 can break in-state students and definitely out of state because it could go towards a book, rent, or even other bills or needs that they may already be having. Just consider them and their struggles that they are already having.
105	Current student	As a current student at Middle Tennessee State University I believe that increasing tuition is a bad idea. Paying for tuition now is very hard considering that a lot of us are paying out of pocket. Increasing tuition will not only put stress on the students but on the parents as well. Instead of increasing tuition I highly suggest that families who has a income of \$50,000 or less, tuition and fees should be lower.
106	Current student	I don't agree with a tuition increase without a measurable commitment to increase the general (green permit) parking areas in and around the University. Frequently, the administration closes green area lots for private events leaving students to scramble for parking elsewhere. I have had my car towed after an evening class and was forced to ride along with the tow truck driver to get my car. As a young woman riding with a strange man, you can see where this situation might have ended up very badly. Furthermore, the administration has suggested in written communications that students park in the off-campus parking garage and use the shuttle. I'm not sure if anyone from the administration has been to that parking garage after 6 pm at night. I have night classes from 6-9pm and do not feel safe using that garage. The mere fact that as a night student, I am bringing the issue of parking to your attention exemplifies the pervasive gravity of the issue. I shouldn't be having to scramble for parking at 6pm but yet I do. The reason is because there isn't enough safe parking options. My public comment is that an increase in tuition is unjustifiable without a measurable commitment to increase general parking areas for students. At

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		<p>minimum, I would like to see a feasibility study including a comparison of available green permit areas to the number of green permits issued per semester - also, taking into account the closures for special events and other similar circumstances. For the lots that are within walking distance, I would like to see more security features, such as increased lighting and police presence around 8-9pm at night when many of us have to walk alone in the dark to our cars. Ask yourselves if you would want your young daughter to have to walk to her car in unsafe conditions.</p>
107	Current student	<p>I believe that students should be grandfathered into the program. Students should continue their education with the tuition that was proposed when they made their college selection and incoming students should experience the shift.</p>
108	Current student	<p>I believe that it is great that you all are trying to provide us with more learning opportunities. However, if the tuition does increase I fear that I may have to leave. I have been dodging / avoiding this problem for the last two years. Like many of my peers, my Hope scholarship was snatched from me at the last second leaving my family and I scrambling to get the funds to keep me in school. I know I am not the only one with this problem.</p>
109	Current student	<p>I believe that instead of rising tuition every single year the college could support students by shifting money from areas that may not have a necessary need. For example, our college hosts a concert every single year that more than half the college is not interested in yet we are all paying fees so that the college can afford the concert. Instead, that money could be used in other needed areas. If the college still would like to provide a concert, sell tickets to students so the uninterested student are not paying for unnecessary things and the college has more money for shuttles ect.</p>
110	Current student	<p>The cost of tuition at MTSU is somewhat reasonable if you are not attending via online courses. However, I am attending MTSU through TN eCampus and the online fees that MTSU charge are not reasonable to many other universities offering online courses. Should the fee increases go into effect, I will be looking at other options, for other schools also offer better choices than MTSU.</p>
111	Parent of a current student	<p>You are making it harder on out of state students who want to attend MTSU.</p>

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112	Current student	I do not believe I have had a single year that tuition has not gone up. I know it is a small amount, however, when you have students that are paying for their own education, these small amounts over time are seriously adding up.
113	Other	Several questions for your consideration: 1. How much has been spent remodeling the college of business and the deans' suite, since Dean Urban arrived? How much has been spent remodeling other relatively new buildings unnecessarily? 2. Is it true that Dean Urban spent \$10,000,000 on the building in his first year, as that info was available online at that time? 3. How much per student is spent to take the mandatory Dale Carnegie course in the college of business? Is it really over \$1000/per student paid to Carnegie in addition to faculty and overhead? Should students really be taking out loans to cover these types of expenditures as well as a tuition increase? Also, should students not know how much the Carnegie course is costing? The ultimate questions are: a) why is there no transparency regarding how much is being spent at the college level, and b) Could MTSU not trim spending for unnecessary projects when students are already burdened with excessive student loans? Sent from my iPhone
114	Current student	Please don't increase the tuition, I am broke.
115	Current student	Since we're going to be paying anyway, there is no substantive justification for not making public university free at the point of service for all those who want to attend. We spend over 700 billion in tax dollars to fund offensive regime change wars, and yet we can't seem to figure out how to properly re-allocate our tax dollars away from that to fund our schools. Such an increase would be shameful and deplorable. Plain and Simple. How long will we act like sheep and allow our own government to fritter away our money. Perhaps the MTSU Board of Trustee's time would be better spent speaking out against the illegal offensive engagements that are costing our country billions in tax dollars, and understanding the financial strain this proposed increase would place upon lower income students who are already barely making ends meet before they consider such an ill-advised increase.

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116	Current student	This is ridiculous and unfair. Currently with all fees including fees from the college that I am in I am paying almost \$5,000 per semester. This last year I've had to pay out of pocket to cover 1/4 of my tuition which has caused me to go in debt. This proposal though small will put so many students at a disadvantage and for what exactly? I've only seen my money wasted on silly construction projects to 'modernize' our campus, but what about efficient parking or making the bus routes actually time efficient so students can utilize them. I feel like this money is going to be wasted and no one cares how its going to affect us students.
117	Current student	There should be no increase in price for a proper education and the increase for someones pay just because they are at an institution that gets funded by student enrollment.
118	Current student	Please keep the tuition how it was before officials decided to put this proposal into place. My family and I cannot afford an increase in money, especially after attending a college tour last year's tour guides explained in powerpoint and verbally the tuition total would be \$9,000 per year. Fast forward to 2019 and me being accepted as a #TrueBlueRaider, I am disheartened to find out my tuition cost has spiked to roughly \$24,000, forcing me to take on student loans and going into debt before the semester has even started.
119	Prospective student	I don't appreciate how this is going to happen especially with families that don't make a lot of income. We just want education not pay more for something that was easily decreased.
120	Current student	I am all for using the profits from tuition increases for staff salaries and facilities available to ALL students. I am not fond of portions of the increase being used for athletics. I personally believe athletics should fundraise individually or as a whole, just as the organizations do.
121	Prospective student	I cannot afford the cost of tuition as it is now. I understand the need to increase prices to better benefit MTSU, but this really makes me not even want to come to school here anymore.
122	Parent of a current student	The MTSU Board of Trustees should not consider or bring to the agenda the proposal of increasing in state tuition. In this day and time our young generation need an appropriate education in order to seek decent employment. Some families are not able to pay out of pocket or may not qualify for student loans. You would think that our governing body would want better opportunities and possibilities. Increasing fees should not be considered and should not be an idea at any time.

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123	Current student	I know these comments probably will do nothing in the way of swaying the decision, but it's worth a try. I really am not looking forward to the increase in tuition. I am a student who has to get loans, my father makes to much to qualify for any aid. However there are serious medical issues that take most of the money, insulin. I only make enough to pay for my books and a little bit of supplies. I am already going to graduate in debt a large amount which limits my decisions on grad school etc. I think raising the tuition would be horrible for not just me but others who may have similar or worse situations. All we want is an education, but with the expense it's practically out of reach. It's becoming a vicious cycle that keeps people from getting where they want. I know that tasing tuition helps care for the campus and other things, which the campus needs. I just want the board to take into account what situations they will be affecting.
124	Parent of a prospective student	I disagree with increase proposal due to the fact that it will not be distributed to the students only.
125	Current student	If tuition will be increased we need to get new printers and updated computers in the library.
126	Parent of a current student	Money has already been give to students for loans for this year. Are you planning on increasing loans students have already accepted? This increase should have been approved BEFORE giving out money to students. Will my child be responsible for paying above their loan amount? Will an un-subsidized loan amount increase by amount of the tuition? Many will not be able to afford this increase if the loan amounts do not cover the increase in tuition.
127	Parent of a prospective student	There has to be a way to keep from raising fees on the students. The fees are already high for families with liw incomes and/or tight budgets.
128	Parent of a prospective student	you should not go up on the fees to attend MTSU. Parents and students are paying enough. a lot of colleges are letting students attend free based on income.

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129	Prospective student	I have dreamed of getting into the Psychology field since age 19. I have set goals to pursue a B.S. in Psychology and have interest in several other degrees(Forensic Psychology, Social work, and Criminal Justice). I am low income. My goal is to pursue and complete my degree to get into the field of work pertaining to Psychology, and also pursue courses that focus on children with Autism. My daughter passed away in 2016. I adopted her at age 8 and she died at age 14. My strength is beyond anything I thought I could handle, I want to take this horrible situation and achieve my dream and goal of working with children as a Licensed Psychologist/Clinical Psychologist and even at my age, 48, pursue an eventual PsyD. I have struggled since age 7. I am currently a high school student. I am doing better than I ever imagined. For the fees to increase and with my income, it would make it hard for me to attend school at your University. Please help me achieve this goal so I can master completion of the degree I am seeking. I want to help children and also adults know that anything can be conquered despite the hurdles life can give us!
130	MTSU faculty	Raises are vital for faculty, particularly (but not only) adjunct and temporary. However, administrative positions should be cut or trimmed to pay for this rather than raising tuition!
131	MTSU faculty	Do not have faculty pitted against students.
132	MTSU staff	We need more public money from the state level. Stop making students go deeper in debt to an already student debt crisis. Putting university employees against students is no way for the state to dodge its responsibilities to property fund higher education. What you're really protecting are the tax interest of businesses and wealthy of the state. This is shameful. You want an educated work Force then those employers have to support higher Ed. Of that state.
133	Other	I am an Alum of MTSU. Why is out-of-state tuition & fees not increasing as well? In-state individuals are already paying tax dollars collected by the State that help fund the university. Out-of-state individuals do not. Also, I sure hope the university programs that have China/other countries connections are being monitored appropriately & are cost-effective & beneficial.
134	Current student	School is already too expensive, students can barely afford it now !



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135	Current student	I believe if the tuition is increased, there should be decreases elsewhere, such as in meal plans. It makes no sense for the flexbucks to cost more.. I could just use my own money, and it would be cheaper.
136	Other	This is ridiculous. There should not be a fee increase to raise any one's salary or other reasons. Why should student's pay for professors when half of them do not even provide us with what we need to be successful in the working world? If you want to make an increase, make textbooks free and get rid of the Jones College of Business fees. Get rid of the fee for Distance Learning. Soon, students will not even be able to afford college! How dare MTSU want to raise tuition when the graduation rate is below 50% for 4-year AND 6-year graduates. So, if you want to increase something, increase the quality of education and number of graduates you produce.
137	Prospective student	The is no problem for increasing the tuition fee for a better quality of education.
138	Current student	If you want to increase funding, please take a look at the quality of professors in each department. In both math and sciences particularly. I have had several courses in both departments and have had one good professor so far. If you aren't willing to take the time to investigate each professor, add a segment to the semesterly student review for 'other comments' because I will consider transferring if the quality doesn't increase along with the price.
139	Prospective student	Y'all trippin it's already expensive enough
140	Prospective student	Great idea, i look forward to it.
141	MTSU faculty	While MTSU employee salaries need to be increased, I am opposed to funding such measures by placing an increased burden on the backs of students and their families. Such moves result from irresponsibility toward public funding of education.

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142	Current student	The increase in tuition and fees is higher than the national rate of inflation over the last twelve months. While some rise in costs is expected, how about the University also try to lower some of its expenses at the same time? I imagine there are quite a few administrative roles that could be merged or even automated. Let's not take advantage of poor students who have easy access to federal grants and loans every year for increases in revenue.
143	Current student	I am an on line student. As it is one 3 credit class with fees is over \$ 1300 dollars. This change will have me looking to transfer to another college like WGU which has fixed costs.
144	Current student	I do not agree with the proposed tuition and fees. I am a fifth semester nursing major and my tuition is ALREADY inflated because of my major. I have to pay for nursing testing fees, nursing course fees, and all the materials (books, supplies, uniforms) the program mandates us to have. I do not get enough financial aid to have my tuition increased every year. I am an independent, self-supporting student that pays for all my college coursework myself. I have over \$26,000 of student loans in my name and I am still taking out more this year to be able to pay for school. So please, do not raise tuition. I am broke.
145	Current student	Good afternoon, I was in distraught when I found out MTSU were raising tuition. Meaning, it's already a struggle for me and my mom to afford the current tuition, so raising the cost would be detrimental for the both of us. In conclusion, I would really love to stay at MTSU to not only make myself proud, but my mom and family proud.
146	Current student	I am working 2-3 jobs just to get the money for this fall semester to pay for tuition. Increasing it will most likely cause me to stop going to school
147	Current student	I wish we have lower tuition because education is not beneficial. I wish Americans can study in our school because we are top public American university.
148	Current student	If one of the purposes of the increased revenue is to support scholarships, how would increasing the tuition which would likely increase the financial need of scholarships for the average student, benefit the student body and improve the burden of revenue for the institution as a whole?

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149	Current student	<p>As a non traditional student who has a different culture, I not only support myself and mom, but my sisters who are in a different continent. I also have to pay some \$\$ for social affairs, such as funeral, weddings, and my member fees for my ethnic group and village ethnic group. Additionally, I always pay my tithe because of my faith/religious belief. As a commuter, my gas and meal on campus add up to my monthly expenses. Since I have a full time job on the weekend, I lost my financial aid and now I am taking student loans of \$9000 yearly. While paying my bills for apartment, health and car insurance for myself and mom who is taking regular diabetic prescriptions, phone, and others with my wages of less than \$30000 , I have to scratch my pocket and pause for several times before I swipe my debit/credit. So increasing \$109 is a big deal for students like me. Honestly, I like challenges and obstacles that make me stronger, but \$\$ increase is a challenge that would spin my financial and personal life like a tornado hits a volcano. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>