

FAMU trustees approve tuition increase for fall

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Florida A&M University students will have to pay more for tuition and fees starting this fall due to two recently approved measures by the university's trustees.

Trustees on Tuesday approved for in-state undergraduate students to pay an 8-percent tuition increase and an extra fee known as the tuition differential of 7 percent. How much more students pay will depend upon when each student originally enrolled at FAMU.

Student Government Association President Gallop Franklin voted against both measures to increase tuition.

"You've got students who work multiple jobs,"

Franklin said.

Full-time students enrolled before spring 2007 will have to pay about \$150 more each semester for a 12-hour course load. Those enrolled at FAMU after fall 2007 will pay an additional \$5.74 per credit hour, creating what some trustees admit is a financial hardship for that 70-75 percent of the university's population on financial aid.

"I kind of see the differential tuition as a chance for the Florida Legislature to push the real cost of an education on the students and them not accepting the responsibility," Trustee Daryl Parks said. "It's a real concern that the state of Florida is not stepping up to its obligation."