Issue: USF St. Petersburg Activity & Service, Athletics and Health Fees

Proposed action: Implementation of an increase to the A&S, Athletics and Health Fees for USF St. Petersburg

Background information:

The recommendation of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg Student Government and Administration is to raise student fees by the allowable five percent or $.68 of the fee cap. Student Government recommends that the $.68 be distributed as follows:

$.10 A&S – Student Government
$.20 Athletics
$.38 Health Services

The rationale for the fee increases is as follows:

1) The most recent increases to Athletic fees at USF St. Petersburg were the Fall of 2004 – $.25/credit hour. This increase indicates student support of the Sailing Program and continued interest in access to USF Athletic events.

2) The health fee has remained at $.60 for over a decade and public health issues over the last several years have raised concerns. In addition, the significant increase if sustained annually can contribute to the creation of a USFSP Health Center that continues to be the highest priority of students on recent surveys.

3) A modest A&S increase will allow the Student Government Association to address rising costs for student life supplies, operating expenses, entertainment/entertainer costs, and new program initiatives including leadership programs.

4) Student organizations that depend on A&S fees for operating expenses, activities, marketing and travel have increased from 47 to 70 since the fall of 2008.

The Student Government Association voted unanimously in favor of the increase and the Student Fees Committee favorably recommended it at its September 30 meeting.

The USF St. Petersburg Campus Board unanimously approved implementation of an increase to the A&S, Athletics and Health Fees at its October 2, 2009 meeting.

Strategic Goal(s) Item Supports: Goals III and IV
Workgroup Review: October 15th Finance and Audit Workgroup
Supporting Documentation: Student Government Bill 09-101 “Resolution to increase the Student A&S Fee”
Prepared by: Dr. D. Kent Kelso, Regional Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, 727-873-4882
"Resolution to Increase the Student A&S Fee"

Sponsored By: Katelyn Shatz

Whereas: Activities and Service fee monies are collected to fund programs, activities and services for students; and

Whereas: These programs, activities and services provide opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and abilities; and

Whereas: These programs, activities and services directly contribute to building a vibrant campus life; and

Whereas: The relative value of the dollars collected as activities and service fee monies is decreasing in correlation to the value of the dollar and other variation in cost associated with the operation and said programs, activities and services; and

Whereas: An increase in student involvement on campus, evidenced by the increase in the number of student clubs and organizations which must be funded in order to build a vibrant campus life, requires additional funds; and

Whereas: for each year that fee increase is not made, a fee increase for the following year is increasingly limited;

Therefore, Let it be Resolved: The Student Government of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg adopt to recommend that a fee increase of $0.10 per credit hour be made to the A&S fees, $0.20 per credit hour to the Athletic fee, and $0.38 per credit hour be made to the health services fee.

Approve:

Jonathon Ellington
Student Body President

Attest:

Katelyn Shatz
Senate President Pro Tempore