Agenda item:

USF Board of Trustees
December 11, 2008

Issue: USF St. Petersburg Activity & Service Fee

Proposed Action

Approval to implement a .64/credit hour increase to the A&S fee for USF St. Petersburg

Background Information

The recommendation of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (A&S) Student Government and Administration is to raise student fees by the allowable five percent or $.64 of the fee cap. The rationale for the fee increase is as follows:

Significant Policy Issues for Board to Consider

1) An A&S increase will allow the Student Government Association to address rising costs for student life salaries and benefits, supplies, operating expenses, entertainment/entertainer costs, and new program initiatives including homecoming and leadership. Key programs and activities continue to be cut during the last budget process because of funding limitations.

2) Student organizations that depend on A&S fees for operating expenses, activities, marketing and travel have increased from 16 to 52 since the fall of 2006. The one year increase from 2007-2008 was 30%.

3) Significant increases in the freshman class and the residential program places greater demands on programs and services provided through A&S fees.

Both the Student Government Association and the A&S Fee Committee voted unanimously in favor of the increase.

The USF St. Petersburg Activity and Service Fee was unanimously approved by the USF St. Petersburg Campus Board at its September 12, 2008 meeting.

Council Approval: October Finance Management Council
BOT Workgroup Approval: October 16 Finance and Audit Workgroup
Supporting documentation: Student Government Bill 08-010 “Resolution to increase the A&S Fee”
Prepared by: Dr. D. Kent Kelso, Regional Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
727-873-4882
GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the STUDENT GOVERNMENT of the UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG

BILL 08-010

“Resolution to Increase the Student A&S Fee”

Sponsored by Sherilynne Schulze

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 variations in cost associated with the operation of 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 vibrant campus life, requires additional funds; and

WHEREAS: For each year that a 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 to the University Board of Trustees that a fee increase of $0.64 per credit hour be made to activities and service fees collected.

X
President Christopher Talley