USF Board of Trustees
December 7, 2007

Issue: USF Lakeland Student Activity & Service Fee Increase

Proposed Action:

Approve increase of Student Activity and Service Fee by $.39 per credit hour for academic year 2008-2009

Background Information:

The recommendation of the Activity & Service Fee (A&SF) Committee is to raise student fees by the allowable five percent or $.39 of the fee cap. The rationale for the fee increases is as follows:

(a) The campus A&SF is significantly lower than the other USF campuses and the A&S Fee increase will enable Student Government to allocate funds for student programs and services necessary to align student programs with those of the Top 50 Research Institutions and improve campus life.

(b) While increasing the enrollment for USF Lakeland as well as to move to our new campus site, the A&SF increase will provide a foundation to allow the campus programs and services to meet this growth.

(c) The number of student organizations has already increased from one in the 2006-2007 academic year to 5 in the 2007-2008 academic year with the anticipation of several more student organizations. An increase in A&SF will help fund student organizations for their programming and events.

The committee was in unanimous agreement of the proposed action.

Significant Policy Issues for Board to Consider:

None

Council Approval:
BOT Workgroup Approval: Finance and Audit Workgroup
Supporting documentation: Excel Spreadsheet
Prepared by: Dr. Jan Lloyd, Director for Student Affairs (667 7049)
AGENDA
August 7, 2007

I. Introduce Committee members
   Members present: Josh Bresler, Jan Lloyd, Jennifer Cainas, Lorie Miros, Aaron Bates, Sarah Steger
   SGA representatives present: Kelly Kensy, Stacey Pouliot

II. Describe purpose and history of A&SF Committee
   Jan Lloyd reviewed the purpose and history of the A&SF 2006 Committee. The process was discussed and information was shared about other campus A&SF fees.

III. Review time frame
   Lorie Miros mentioned the Lakeland Board will be meeting on Tuesday, September 4th from 10 am – 12 pm. In order to meet the BOT work group and BOT meeting schedules, the A&SF committee plans to submit their request to the Lakeland Board for their approval on that date. Lorie mentioned that materials will need to be submitted by August 24, 2007 for the board to review.

   The BOT Audit and Finance work group will meet on October 4th.

   The regular meeting of the BOT will be on December 6th.

IV. Review tuition fee structure
   Josh Bresler reviewed the A&SF fee structure for 07-08 for all campuses. Students currently pay $5.37 per credit hour for the Lakeland campus. The allowable increase (5%) works out to $.39. This is to be confirmed by the USF Budget Office. The student representatives were asked for and provided their feedback on the $.39 increase. The A&SF committee felt this increase would not cause hardship for students and would be fair to continue student related activities on the USF Lakeland Campus.

   The committee agreed student input and feedback on the increases would be required. SGA will be meeting on August 9th to brainstorm programs and services where those funds could be utilized. A student forum will be held on August 30th from 5:00-6:00 pm to get students feedback. The forum and A&SF increase will be advertised (fliers & emails) throughout the first week of classes.

   The committee will meet again on Monday, August 20th from 10 – 11 am to provide its recommendation. Since the review materials to the Lakeland Board
are due prior to the student forum, any updated materials will be presented to the Lakeland board should there be any changes. No changes are expected.

August 20, 2007

AGENDA

Members present: Josh Bresler, Jan Lloyd, Aaron Bates, Sarah Steger
Absent: Jennifer Cainas & Janette McDonald

I. Dr. Lloyd reviewed the handouts with the committee in regards to the material to be presented to the Lakeland Board. The committee provided their feedback.

II. Dr. Lloyd presented ideas from SGA should the committee get approval for the additional increase. SGA’s suggestions regarding how these funds could be used included: 1) subsidizing copy and printing costs for students; 2) subsidizing day care costs for students; 3) providing OPS support for extended hours in the Open Use computer lab; 4) purchase laptops for a student check out process; 5) provide additional funding for student organizations; 6) share the cost of the Director of Student Life salary to reflect the 50% A&S, 50% E&G agreement established with a previous SGA administration and Lakeland Campus Officers.

III. In order to obtain student feedback about the A&S Fee increase, the USF Lakeland based Psychology Club met on August 8, 2007 and provided some initial student feedback. Sarah Steger, the president of the Psychology Club, reported none of the students had a problem with the $.39 increase.

IV. Dr. Lloyd announced a student forum was scheduled for Thursday, August 30 from 5-6 pm in LTB 1151 for feedback on the A&S fee. It will be advertised during the Welcome Back Week events and via the student listserv. Results of the forum will be shared with the committee and the Lakeland Board.

V. The committee called a vote and unanimously approved the $.39 increase.

Significant Policy Issues for Board to Consider

Florida Statute 1009.24

(4) Except as otherwise provided by law, undergraduate tuition shall be established annually in the General Appropriations Act. The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, may establish tuition for graduate and professional programs, and out-of-state fees for all programs. The sum of tuition and out-of-state fees assessed to nonresident students must be sufficient to offset the full instructional cost of serving such students. However, adjustments to out-of-state fees or tuition for graduate and professional programs pursuant to this section may not exceed 10 percent in any year. The sum of the
activity and service, health, and athletic fees a student is required to pay to register for a course shall not exceed 40 percent of the tuition established in law or in the General Appropriations Act. No university shall be required to lower any fee in effect on the effective date of this act in order to comply with this subsection. Within the 40 percent cap, universities may not increase the aggregate sum of activity and service, health, and athletic fees more than 5 percent per year unless specifically authorized in law or in the General Appropriations Act. A university may increase its athletic fee to defray the costs associated with changing National Collegiate Athletic Association divisions. Any such increase in the athletic fee may exceed both the 40 percent cap and the 5 percent cap imposed by this subsection. Any such increase must be approved by the athletic fee committee in the process outlined in subsection (11) and cannot exceed $2 per credit hour. Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, that portion of any increase in an athletic fee pursuant to this subsection that causes the sum of the activity and service, health, and athletic fees to exceed the 40 percent cap or the annual increase in such fees to exceed the 5 percent cap shall not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award. This subsection does not prohibit a university from increasing or assessing optional fees related to specific activities if payment of such fees is not required as a part of registration for courses.