

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
STUDENT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2006-07 Academic Year
Meeting #1
Monday, December 4, 2006
10:00 a.m.
BH-302

Members Present: Duque, Hata, Hood, Latter, Mariano, Mistry, Okahana, Rice, Robinson, Smith, Soni and Tinoco

Members Absent: Barker

Staff Attendees: Eckhous, Gleason, Hernandez and Sanchez

Guests Present: Hamdi Bilici, Betty Harris, Amanda Stone, Dave Edwards, Maryann Rozanski and Troy Johnson

1. Welcome and Introductions. Vice President Robinson, chair of the committee, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Robinson welcomed attendees and asked them to introduce themselves.

Robinson said that a website has been established for the SFAC so that material can be posted as soon as it is available. Members of the committee expressed their appreciation for the efforts of those involved in the website's establishment.

Robinson outlined the history of E.O. 740 and its provisions, including the requirement that each campus submit a yearly report to the chancellor outlining the actions taken in regard to fees in the past year.

There followed a discussion of the fee categories (I, II, III, IV), and the respective authority of the chancellor to approve new fees and university presidents to approve adjustment within a fee range.

Hood arrived at the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes. The agenda for the December 4, 2006, meeting was approved (12-0-0). The minutes of the May 4, 2006, meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously (12-0-0).
3. Review and Ratification of Annual Student Fee Reports. Eckhous stated that Attachment 5 is the actual report submitted to the Chancellor's Office per E.O. 740. It reflects how much CSULB collected in fees; it also shows the minimum and maximum in the fee ranges. CSULB receives authorization from the Chancellor's Office to spend these fees to provide services to its students.

Eckhous also reviewed the Student Fee Activity, Category III Report for 2005-06, and the CSULB Student Fees Activity Report for the same period.

Soni asked about resident tuition. Eckhous said it is referred to as a fee.

Tinoco asked what open commitments are. Eckhous said they are purchase orders which have not yet been paid. Mariano asked about the Student Account Fees (on page 3 of the Student Fee Activity – Category III Report), which shows a large account balance. Eckhous said there are still expenditures pending.

Eckhous reviewed the CSULB Student Fees Activity Report. Most of the items are informational, showing adjustments ranges, abolished fees, or if lab components were added to courses, etc. She reported that seven fees were reduced during 2005-06.

Okahana moved, Hood seconded to ratify the fee report as submitted to the Chancellor's Office in the summer. The motion passed unanimously (12-0-0).

9. Student Fees at CSULB: Eckhous reviewed the information in Attachment 11. The first three pages are a how-to guide to assist in determining fee categories. The chart on page four compared fees at all 23 CSU campuses, and showed that CSULB has the lowest fees overall. The chart on page five showed fee history. Page six compared the CSU with other institutions across the country; of those compared, the CSU has the lowest fees. Robinson said it would be good to share this information with the ASI Senate.

Mariano asked what the difference is between the Student Body Center Fee and the Student Body Association Fee. It was explained that the Student Body Center Fee is the University Student Union fee, and the Student Body Association Fee is for the Associated Students, Inc.

Duque asked how the universities that are compared to the CSU are chosen. Latter said the comparison is based on what they offer. Eckhous said she will get the name of the organization that makes the comparisons.

Mistry said that CSU students have to live in California for six months to be considered residents, and asked how long the requirement is for other institutions. Robinson said it is usually a year.

Eckhous reviewed Attachment 12, which reports on fee increases within approved ranges. Duque asked if students who have already paid fees will have to pay more if their fees are increased later. Eckhous said they will if they haven't paid their fees by December 1. Latter added that fee increases are not retroactive.

6. Request to Establish New Category III Fee for CBA Finance Lab. Bilici and Harris of the College of Business presented a request for a new Category III

miscellaneous user fee of \$15 to partially cover the cost of financial software (Bloomberg). This would be a one-time fee; if a student is enrolled in one finance class and pays the fee, he/she would not be charged the fee again in the same semester. Bilici requested that the fee be effective spring 2007. CBA is covering the cost of a second terminal, because which students use it – in the Department of Finance or otherwise – cannot be differentiated.

Bilici said SMIF is the student management fund; students manage \$100,000 and report at the end of the year as to what they have done. They learn how to manage a portfolio. Hopefully, with the new technology, graduates will be able to go to any employer and be familiar with the technology.

Tinoco asked what efforts will be made to show recruiters what the students have been working on. Bilici said they will invite recruiters, donors and others to the grand opening of the Investment Center.

Tinoco asked about the Bloomberg machine, and how this request is different from the request to IRA. Latter clarified that the request is not for the terminals, one of which will be in the open access lab; the IRA helps support Bloomberg on only one terminal for the SMIF program.

Harris said there is a licensing fee for Crystal Ball software, so students can go to any computer in the Open Access Lab.

Hood inquired about the \$5,000 maintenance fee. Harris said it covers maintenance of equipment, ticker tapes, etc.

Mistry asked about the “6K” mentioned on page one of Attachment 8, and the \$6,105 on the memorandum on page five. Harris said the initial figures were based on different classes; she expects the fee to be \$15 or not much more.

Mistry asked why the numbers are not the same. Robinson said that because the number of students is a variable, the fee estimate is approximate; as a result, a range is being requested. Bilici said that the number of students would vary, fall to spring. Also, the Department of Finance was with Finance, Real Estate and Law, and is now separate. Class offerings on Mondays and Wednesdays are few, but there are plans to increase the number of classes on those days; it is expected that the number of students will increase as a result.

Tinoco asked how the new fee will affect the students who have already registered for spring 2007. Latter said the request is too late for spring 2007; the fee would be implemented for fall 2007.

Mariano said there is high student traffic for the computer station and asked if there are peak hours. Bilici said measures have been instituted to alleviate the problem, such as a time limit on the computers if students are waiting. Harris said

that the computer lab staff keeps track of who uses the equipment and tries to give feedback to the department.

Duque asked if finance students have been informed that there will be a new fee, and said that it is important to ask students how they feel in order to gain their support. Bilici said Dr. Le would be the person to do so.

Mistry asked about the regulation of the use of the terminal. Bilici said that the Bloomberg terminals are available to all students. Harris said the software is on all the terminals in the open access lab in BCA-240, but only accessible with a password.

Mariano said he is taking Finance 350 and hasn't been shown how to use the software, and asked if there is any instruction provided for it. Bilici said it would be a good idea to give demonstrations on the software's use to all business students; that will foster use of the terminals. Harris said that there are technicians in the computer lab who can demonstrate use of the software.

Okahana motioned to approve the request to establish a new Category III fee for the CBA finance lab. Soni seconded the motion.

Mistry asked if it was fair that only students in the Department of Finance had to pay the fee if the software is available to all business students. Bilici said the software wouldn't be accessible without a password.

The motion passed (10-1-1).

Robinson stated that the SFAC must be informed of any movement in range for this fee.

7. Request to Adjust Category I Fee for University Student Union: Edwards reported the University Student Union (USU) is requesting a fee increase of \$110 per semester (\$83 per summer session) for the construction and operation of a Recreation and Wellness Center. Stone said that last fall 25 percent of CSULB students responded to an online survey, 62 percent of whom stated that they believed such a center would improve the health of CSULB students. A lot of prioritizing has been done of what services students would want. The center is projected to cost \$66 million.

The committee reviewed Attachment 9. Edwards said that the fee for the center has to be a Student Body Center (USU) fee, designated for advocacy, programming, government and activities. The CSU would offer bonds for construction, which this campus would pay back annually. Reserves would also be retained for operation and maintenance of the center.

Tinoco asked if the name of the center can be tied to the Associated Students. Robinson said it will be up to the university to determine the name of the center. Edwards said the most common term used is “recreation center,” and that many students want “student” in the title; the term “wellness” is broadening. Tinoco asked if once the ballot language is set, can it be changed by this committee. Edwards answered that it cannot; the name comes from the USU Board of Trustees.

Tinoco asked what ratio of professional vs. student staff is planned. Edwards said that is still being considered, but now the plan is for 12 full-time staff, although each position hasn’t been determined. The ASI will determine how many positions there will be.

Tinoco pointed out the \$708,000 projected for professional staff and building services staff salaries, and asked if the ratio of professional to student staff in the center will be similar to that of the USU’s. Edwards said it would be roughly the same, but student workers have varying hours.

Okahana asked what action this committee is considering. Robinson answered that this committee would establish a subcommittee to oversee a referendum. E.O. 740 has directives for publicity and objectivity. The university would incur the cost of the referendum. The referendum would be advisory to the president. This committee also would advise the president; he will receive two sets of input. It will be the president’s decision to accept or reject the recommendations.

Soni asked if the numbers on pages one and four of Attachment 9 can be reconciled. Robinson said they are a combination of existing and new staff.

Soni asked how the fee for summer session was calculated. Edwards said it was based on university projections. Soni asked if a student had only one class, would the center fee be \$110. Latter said it would be.

Soni asked how many years the debt reduction would take. Latter said it would be 30 years, at six percent interest. Latter said the financial data has been reviewed by himself and the staff in the Chancellor’s Office.

Soni asked whether the fee will be adjusted downward once the debt is eliminated. Edwards said that by the time the construction debt is eliminated, renovations usually incur more debt.

Mistry asked if the center would be open to all students during summer session. Edwards said that isn’t known; the challenge is why some students should have to pay during the summer if all students may use it year round. Tinoco said it would be good to know who the center would be open to in the summer.

Mistry inquired about the average student fee for recreation centers. Robinson referred the committee to page four of Attachment 11, which shows the Student Body Center fees of the CSU campuses; they vary because they include different things.

Mariano asked what fee the faculty and alumni would pay for use of the Rec. Center. Edwards said those groups would pay at least as much as students.

Rice asked if there is a proposed location for the Rec. Center. Stone said it would be located in Lot 11. Rice asked if it will be tied in with the parking structure. Latter said that is how it appears on the campus master plan.

Rice asked how the fee would compare to the fee Frog's charges. Edwards said it would be comparable for alumni and faculty/staff, less for students.

Duque asked if the date of the referendum would be determined by the subcommittee. Robinson said it would be, and E.O. 740 dictates how much time is required for publicity; time is needed to promote the issue to the student body.

Stone proposed the dates of February 27 and 28, 2007, for conducting the referendum.

Soni asked which CSUs comparable in size to CSULB have recreation centers. Edwards said there currently are three - Cal Poly SLO, Chico and San Diego; Fullerton is building one. He added that only six campuses in the nation with enrollments greater than 25,000 do not have recreation/wellness centers

Tinoco moved to approve conducting a referendum on the request to adjust the Category I Fee for the USU for the construction of a Recreation/Wellness Center. Okahana seconded the motion.

Smith asked if the issue of summer use/fees will be resolved by the referendum. Robinson said the subcommittee will do some research and will put on the agenda the issue of how students will be charged for summer use of the center.

Mistry asked if this committee can allocate the \$83 summer Recreation and Wellness Center fee differently if it is not used. Robinson said that has to be decided by the referendum.

The motion passed unanimously (12-0-0).

Robinson asked for volunteers for the referendum subcommittee. The following individuals volunteered to serve: Mariano, Mistry, Rice, Robinson and Tinoco.

Okahana left the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

8. CSU Executive Order 986, Student Professional Liability Insurance Fee. Rozanski stated that E.O. 986 establishes a new Category III Student Professional Liability Insurance Fee. During the past few years there has been a significant increase in the difficulty of placing health and nursing students in internships because of liability concerns. Last year, hospitals wouldn't take our students; none were willing to pay liability and malpractice insurance for the students. The CSU determined it would purchase insurance to cover students when they are working in internship programs off campus.

Rozanski said this is professional liability insurance (essentially malpractice insurance) for all students in health field practicums. She added that education students are also covered.

Latter said the campus will absorb the cost for the 2006-07 year (\$30,000+). The course fee will be \$8 per semester. Rozanski will identify the courses with the students who need to be covered.

Eckhous said E.O. 986 is clear. The fee will be \$16 per year. This will cover the premium cost to the university from the Chancellor's Office.

Smith asked if CSULB has had claims filed against it. Rozanski said that in the last 10 years there have been no claims made.

Mariano asked if the insurance is limited to students in health, nursing and education. Rozanski said it is.

Tinoco asked who will be administering the insurance; Latter replied that CSU Risk Management will be. Rozanski said insurance has been purchased by the CSU from the lead underwriter for Lloyd's of London.

Tinoco asked if the insurance has been subsidized in the past. Latter said it has been by this campus, but not CSU-wide.

Tinoco asked if students will be provided with this insurance. Rozanski said the insurance is for the institution, not students.

Robinson asked how students will know they are covered. Rozanski said they will know by paying the fee. Latter said this information should be put in the *Schedule of Classes* and/or elsewhere.

Mariano moved, Duque seconded to approve the request for the Student Professional Liability Insurance Fee. The motion passed unanimously (12-0-0).

Duque and Mariano left the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

4. Request to Establish New Category III Fee for ANTH 450. Johnson said that the

request to establish a new miscellaneous course fee is for student travel to the Easter Island Field School in Chile. The program had been scheduled for summer 2007, but it is now being planned for summer 2008.

Johnson said that Dr. Lipo, also of the Department of Anthropology, has challenged theories of stellar topography and the ecosystem and has been featured on the cover of *Science* and *Discovery* magazines. Students in this program have hands-on experience with excavations; it is an intensive and very successful program that has received wide acclaim for cutting-edge work. The proposed fee range is \$1,550 to \$3,600; the latter figure includes airfare.

Soni asked why the lower fee was requested, if airfare is needed. Johnson said students have raised money themselves. Soni said the lower fee is not realistic. Robinson said the \$3,600 fee could be lowered by fundraising. Johnson said the higher fee could limit the number of students who could attend.

Mistry motioned to postpone action on the request. Johnson agreed and the request was withdrawn at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sanchez

(These minutes were approved on May 10, 2007.)