CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 17, 2008

ATTENDEES

Members:
- James Poet
- Jeremy Ehrlich
- David Ely
- Michael Matthews
- Justin Motika
- Grant Garske
- Lisa Doan
- Bill Boyd
- Linda Stewart
- Julie Messer

Faculty/Staff Alternates:
- Sydney Covey
- Kimberlee Reilly

Non-Voting Member:
- Ray Rainer

Guests:
- Connie Dowell
- Dan Cornthwaite
- Mark Lester

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM by AS President James Poet.

Mr. Garske made a motion to approve the previous minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Ehrlich. The minutes were reviewed and approved with one correction (spelling) and one abstention.

Action Item:
Review and Approval of Spring 2008 Fee Referendum Voter Pamphlet (Attachment 2)

Ms. Doan made a motion to approve the Spring 2008 Fee Referendum Voter Pamphlet, which was seconded by Mr. Garske. Dr. Ely presented the draft on the overhead projector and discussion followed. Ms. Stewart cautioned about the use of the word ‘final’ for the Library Use Fee pamphlet and Ad when referring to the third and final installment of the fee. Dr. Dowell explained that the sub-committee discussed this in great length and they want students to understand the proposal won’t automatically go forward the following years with further increases. Mr. Garske commented that the committee wants to give students the understanding that there is a timeframe at least for this fee. If there were another fee proposal in five years it will be another chance for students to vote and decide whether the fee will be final or not.

Mr. Cornthwaite brought up feedback from Scott Burns, who could not make it to the meeting. One suggestion pertains to legal advising, which needs more description about the program. Ms. Stewart added that other items had more detailed descriptions and the extent of legal advising was left to one’s imagination. Mr. Cornthwaite responded that students will define the service when the fee is approved; each student will have access to one free consultation and referral services in matters including but not limited to consumer complains, landlord/tenant issues, divorce, traffic violations, accidents, criminal charges. Mr. Matthews added that the description was general to avoid being restrictive and to be able to modify it in case one of the options doesn’t work. Mr. Cornthwaite mentioned two options, one is to hire legal counsel that will also serve as a corporate legal counsel and the second one is offer services through EAP (Employee Assistance Program), where each student could sign up for 0.66 cents – all topics will be covered; this will include a telephone conference with the student as well as one-time free consultation with a licensed attorney. Dr. Dowell suggested including some of these services as examples; the committee agreed. Per. Mr. Cornthwaite, there will be one free initial consultation per semester per student. Mr. Ehrlich liked the idea of expanding on this service but warned against making it long. Dr. Dowell suggested not getting too specific, but rather giving ideas about the types of services. The committee came up with “Establish student legal consultation and referral services such as landlord/tenant issues, family law, criminal matters, and consumer complaints.” The voter pamphlet was revised to reflect the verbiage agreed upon. Mr. Ehrlich also noted that “new student legal advising services” needs to be re-worded to make better sense; something like “Student legal advising services not previously offered” might be clearer. The committee agreed.

Mr. Cornthwaite brought up another comment from Mr. Burns, under item 7 Library Use Fee change subsidy and offset in part to support. Also, the table under Financial Analysis doesn’t truly show increments. Dr. Dowell suggested adding “fees will increase as shown below”. Mr. Poet added that the idea was for the proposals to parallel each other (Library fee and Student Body Assoc. fee). Mr. Cornthwaite noted that the Student Body Associated fee is not a graduated fee; it doesn’t need a chart, but it still shows what the fee levels would be per
semester. Dr. Dowell expressed concern over students looking at the proposal as one pamphlet. Mr. Motika explained that students usually vote based on what they hear; they will get the information from the student council. Based on feedback from some students, Ms. Reilly commented that they are more interested in seeing what they will be paying. Dr. Dowell noted that there is a table showing what students are to pay. The table’s heading will read: “if approved the total fee will be as shown”. The current 07/08 fee will be included on the table for information purposes.

Mr. Cornthwaite introduced another suggestion from Mr. Burns, which was to move the third paragraph and bullets from item 1. Proposed Increase to Mandatory Student Body Association Fee to replace the section under Financial Analysis (next page) – basically exchange the two paragraphs detailing what the fee will provide and how the fee is currently used. Mr. Mathews stated that he likes these sections as they are. Mr. Ehrlich’s agreed and added that the current breakdown is nice and simple as is. There was an informal vote regarding these paragraphs; 7 voted in favor of leaving them as they are and 1 member voter in favor of changing them. Based on the votes; the paragraphs will remain unchanged. Mr. Rainer noted that the details show the new portion of the fee. The voter pamphlet will describe what a yes vote would mean, with the amounts.

Under Financial Analysis for the Student Body Association Fee, San Jose was substituted by Sacramento ($251 annual fee) as one of the comparable CSU campus fees – everyone agreed with this change. Per Mr. Cornthwaite, the headcount projected for next Fall was used to calculate revenue projections for 2009/2009; the headcount used was:

34,894 for Fall
32,102 for Spring
34801 (11 units or less) for Summer
482 (greater than 11 units) for Summer

The committee members went over the revenue projections and agreed to use last year’s figures for the summer projection.

The committee members proceeded to vote on the revised voter pamphlet. Ms. Stewart suggested voting in principle; the final pamphlet will be emailed to everyone for final approval. Mr. Cornthwaite reminded everyone about the deadline for publication; the pamphlet and Ad need to be online, ready for students by January 22nd.

The final voter pamphlet was approved with no abstentions and no objections.

Action Item:
Review and approval of Spring 2008 Fee Referendum Public Notice Ad (Attachment 3)

Mr. Rainer presented the draft to be uploaded online and went over the various links within the form; this form will be ready for students by Monday, January 21st. The pro and con statements will be submitted directly to Mr. Rainer. Pro and con statements will be reviewed at the January 31st meeting; there will be an opportunity for rebuttals, which are due by February 3rd. Mr. Cornthwaite will call students to remind them of the opportunity for rebuttal.

Regarding the Ad copy, Dr. Dowell suggested adding “Reserve Book Room” in parentheses, next to where it reads 24/7 area; the committee agreed. Mr. Cornthwaite reminded everyone that tonight is the deadline to submit the Ad copy to the Aztec to be included in the paper, so no more changes can be made after today.

The committee moved on to vote for the Ad copy; it was approved unanimously.

Reminder
The sub-committee will meet on Thursday January 31st at 2:00 PM in AD-323. The Campus Fee Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, February 1st at 2:00 PM in SS-1608 (Lipinsky conference room).

Mr. Cornthwaite announced that the final voter pamphlet with pro and con statements will be presented on February 5th.

All members voted to adjourn the meeting; it was adjourned at 12:15 pm.