CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 29, 2008

MINUTES

ATTENDEES
Members:  James Poet  Justin Motika
           Michael Matthews  Grant Garske
           Ethan Singer  Eric Rivera
           Linda Stewart  David Ely
           Julie Messer
Non-Voting Member:  Ray Rainer
Faculty/Staff Alternates  Kimberlee Reilly
Guests:    Pat Francisco    Scott Burns

The meeting was called to order by chair James Poet at 2:05 p.m.

Mr. Poet gave an overview of the agenda and proposed to start the meeting with the 2008/09 Aztec Corner Grad/Upper Division Housing Fees. The committee agreed.

FEE REQUESTS:  2008/09 Aztec Corner Grad/Upper Division Housing Fees
Ms. Pat Francisco, Director of Housing Administration, stated that due to fewer first-time freshmen next year, they are looking at new ways to capture other segments of the student population. One of these ways is to take the third building in Aztec corner and turn into an apartment building that will operate like Piedra Del Sol (no residential life program) for graduate students and upper division students. The graduate section will be in floors 3 and 4 and the upper division section will be in floors 1 and 2. They have received a positive response from the Indian Graduate Students Association; some of these students currently live far from campus, but they still walk to school. They also received a positive response from the International Student. Students will have housing priority based on the number of units they take each semester - the more units, the higher the priority.

This building will be offered at a different rate due to fewer services. There will be triples on the fourth floor, each with two bedrooms, two baths. The rates are per person, per month.

Mr. Poet asked about graduate students in triples, who most likely will be strangers. Ms Francisco responded that on the fourth floor they have identified 32 apartments where they are willing to rent as triples; these are big apartments that will have three single bunk beds. Ms. Doan commented that she visited one of these apartments and it seemed small for a triple; an ideal place for a graduate student would have space for a desk, good lighting. Ms. Francisco stated that graduate students will also have the option of renting a more spacious room, but per some requests they are offering triples, which gives graduate students more choices. If no one rents the triples they will be converted into doubles. Ms. Francisco stated that the rate for a triple is $495 per person per month. Ms. Reilly asked about miscellaneous fees - Ms. Francisco responded that these students won't have the activity fee, the recreation fee or service charge, but they won't get these benefits either. There will just be a live-in manager to collect the rent each month. Students will pay monthly, but they will have a 12-month lease.

Mr. Poet asked that the 2008/09 Aztec Corner Grad/Upper Division Housing Fees be moved to an action item, the committee agreed. The request was approved with no objections and one abstention.

INFORMATION ITEM:  Department of Public Safety Live Scan (electronic finger printing) fee increase for College Area Community
Mr. Rainer presented this fee increase for the college area community for information only. The Dept. of Public Safety does live scans (electronic finger printing) for the college community and the college area community. They currently charge the same fee for both groups ($17 per scan), but they need to raise the fee due to a recent equipment upgrade. This is a fully self-supported function; the fee will be raised to $20 for the college area community. Students, faculty and staff will still pay $17 per scan. Mr. Matthews asked why raise the scan when
others cost about $18. One of the reasons is to keep from raising fees to faculty and students. Mr. Matthews asked if this could affect the number of community members that come – Mr. Rainer responded that it probably won’t be a big issue due to the proximity to the community. Mr. Burns added that it would not be a big impact since a lot of the public are faculty and staff that gets live scans for personal purposes. Per Ms. Stewart, if these fees became an issue, Public Safety would look at the total impact of all the fees.

INFORMATION ITEM: Proposed 2008/09 IRA Budget
Mr. Rainer presented the proposed 2008-09 IRA budget. The fees for the main campus and IVC are based on Academic Affairs estimated 2008/09 student population. There is a reduction due to lower enrollments. The insurance for sports clubs and athletics is staying approximately the same. This insurance fluctuates from year to year; over the last three years it has gone from about $340,000 down to about $312,000. There is an anticipated 10% increase for music-licensing fees. Overhead is a calculation is a percentage of anticipated expenses. Academic Affairs gets $200,000 every year for various programs. Most of these funds are spent in March and April. Last year AA spent $186,000 and the unexpended balance was returned to the IRA reserve account. The year before AA spent $156,000. Last year the Sports Club allocation was raised by $5000, which came from the reserve, with the commitment that the committee will look at it again this year to see if it should continue. This increase is included in the proposed 08/09 budget. Ms. Stewart and Dr. Singer stated that this was a one-time increase.

Mr. Singer asked about the reason behind the increase portion for Athletics; Mr. Rainer explained that this portion is the additional fee which is split equally between AA (50% received in general fund) and Athletics. Dr. Singer asked if more is anticipated in the increase column; Mr. Burns stated that there was $7,000 more than what was budgeted last year, but less than what was achieved (estimate for this year) due to over enrollment.

Mr. Poet asked if it was possible to increase the base for Sports Clubs, considering that they are extremely under-funded and Academic Affairs is always leaving money for the reserve. Mr. Rainer responded that Academic Affairs usually plans to spend all its allocation. Dr. Singer explained that the money is spread over several programs and Academic Affairs is very cautious about not overspending. Ms. Stewart referred to next year’s budget and noted that $90,000 is projected to be pulled out of the reserve; we are already budgeting more than what we are getting on an annual basis. Mr. Rainer explained that if $90,000 continues to be budgeted out of reserve, that within three years there will be nothing in the reserve and the next option would be to raise fees or cut costs. Last year $90,000 was budgeted to come out of reserve, and it is currently estimated that $21,000 will needed from reserves. Dr. Ely asked about the insurance projected for Athletics/Sports Clubs; Mr. Rainer explained that these amounts fluctuate significantly from one year to the next. Ms. Doan asked about Academic Affairs allocations and any remaining IRA funds; Dr. Singer explained that the funds are allocated at the beginning of the fiscal year, but most of the funds are spent in the spring. The policy is to reallocate any projected unused funds; in mid-April Academic affairs will have a sense of funds that will be available for reallocation. Mr. Poet asked if Academic Affairs was over-allocated to favor reserves, no per Ms. Stewart. Mr. Rainer explained that actual requests far exceed the $200,000. Dr. Ely added that now there is more time allotted for proposals compared to prior years.

Mr. Matthews asked about the allocation for Sports Clubs; this will be further discussed at the next meeting; the committee will be voting on the 2008/2009 proposed IRA Budget then.

New Business: Proposed Election Code Bylaw Amendment
Mr. Poet introduced the proposed election bylaw amendment. Currently two poll workers are required, but since electronic voting is now available the organization is proposing reducing the number of poll workers to one. This will hopefully take effect next year. Dr. Singer asked about the numbers voting in person or online; Mr. Poet responded that he will look for any supporting statistics and find out.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 PM. Next meeting will be on Friday, March 14th at 2:00 pm in SS-1608.