CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
October 22, 2010

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Members:  David Ely    Grant Mack
          Krista Parker    Jack Grubb
          Eric Rivera    Cathie Atkins
          Debra Bertram    Laura Schofield

Non-Voting Member:  Ray Rainer

Student Alternates:  Jesse Robles    Kevin Gruidl
                     Tom Rivera

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 P.M. by Dr. David Ely, CFAC Chair.

Approval of October 1st and 8th, 2010 CFAC Meeting Minutes (Attachments 1 & 2)
The minutes were reviewed.  Mr. Gruidl made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Grant.  The minutes were approved unanimously.

Informational Items

a. Results of Proposed SHS Fee Increase Presentations to Date (to be distributed at CFAC meeting)

The voting results, written comments and emails were distributed to all CFAC members present; the first set of emails are related to the random sample invitations. Dr. Ely gave an overview of the presentation process, which is almost complete with the last presentation happening at this time (EOP Advisory Board); Ray will bring back the results later in this meeting. There has been good representation. In the end, presentations were given to 23 student organizations, including the AS Council. These were in addition to the open forums. Each student organization was given the option of submitting paper ballots or completing a position statement, where the organization reached a decision as a group; some student organizations chose to do both, ie. Student Affairs Organization. There are a few outstanding position statements (InterFraternity Council, LGBT and International Student Association). Action to form a recommendation to the president will happen at the next meeting, but the committee will discuss the process, results and feedback today.

The committee reviewed all the voting results, written comments and emails.

Mr. Grubb asked if parents were aware of this fee. This fee was covered in the fall edition of the News to Aztec Parents; it was also an agenda item at the Aztec Parent Advisory Board meeting during SDSU Family Weekend in October (Mr. Eric Rivera).

Dr. Ely reported that at these presentations many students asked how additional enrollment this spring would affect the proposed SHS fee increase. The response that Tom Wilson gave at these presentations was that the additional enrollment would help, but not solve the $2.5 million deficit, especially for this year when the additional enrollment is only for one semester. Mr. Mack reported on the possibility of negotiating a lower fee, per Dr. Kitchen. With reserves depleted this would not happen in a year; also, there is no close correlation between enrollment and number of visits (Dr. Ely). The 6500 student target for the spring is based on one-time funds, but it is not guaranteed that this target will be reached; additional spring enrollment will also affect fall enrollment (Mr. Eric Rivera). Dr. Ely agreed that the target may not be reached; the College of Business has just been given permission to recruit graduate students with a very tight deadline and will not reach the norm of 180 new students. CFAC annually reviews the reserves from all the fees and can make a recommendation to reduce a fee if reserves are rising (Dr. Ely).

Regarding Counseling and Psychological Services, Marty Ruel wants to move towards an integrated health model that would link these services with Student Disability Services and Student Health Services (Dr. Eric Rivera).

The committee wants to discuss the process and develop a policy on when to use alternative consultation (Dr. Ely).

Mr. Eric Rivera explained that SHS took 8 years to come back for an increase partly because the enrollment growth allowed them to build up a reserve. If enrollment goes up, reserves can be built, but SHS doesn’t want to decrease and increase the fee according to enrollment; this would mean frequent fee adjustments every two to three years. The $65 is based on the five-year pro forma; there are no projected changes in years 3, 4 and 5 and the division is still partially funding SHS. Mr. Grubb asked if a portion of the fee is earmarked to build up a reserve. Only enrollment growth from
years 3 or 4 would go to the reserve. The first year of the fee increase would be just enough for SHS to survive. The reserve expansion will not be that great initially; it may take a couple of years (Dr. Ely).

Mr. Mack reported that most students he has communicated with don’t like the idea of a fee increase, but they recognize that it is necessary.

There are still issues with why SHS took so long for this fee increase. The response from SHS was that there was a sequence of fees (IRA & modern space) and that they were told by the university that there could only be one fee up for student vote at a time and they were last in line. Some of the comments encourage the feeling that the university has pursued a strategy to put out the most unpopular fee first and leave the most popular one for last to ensure their success (Dr. Ely). Mr. Tom Rivera agreed on the impression these presentations had on students regarding the sequence of fees, but this fell on presenters and probably was not meant that way. Mr. Eric Rivera was not at these sessions, but there were a number of conversations that happened before the fee increase was proposed; the first one had to be with the V.P of Student Affairs, who surely made SHS use up their reserves before coming out to students.

Overall, student response has been favorably in support of this fee and there has been positive feedback about health services (Mr. Rainer). All position statements are due by Monday; 3 are still missing.

By Wednesday Student Affairs Advisory Board is expected to have acted on this fee; their minutes will come to AS Council for action (Mr. Mack).

The committee discussed the challenges with alternative consultation, including the lack of written processes and checks.

Mr. Rainer presented the results from the EOP Advisory Board.

Dr. Ely asked everyone to keep the data confidential, specially the written comments and emails, due to names and contact information.

The AS Council will want to look at the final voting data, which is to be sent to Mr. Mack by close of business on Monday.

Mr. Tom Rivera made the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Grubb. The meeting adjourned at 2:46 PM.

Reminder: Next Meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 29 at 2:00 PM in SS-2640.