

**CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
February 02, 2007

**MINUTES**

Revised 2/9/07

**ATTENDEES**

Members:	Bradley Webb Khouloud Elmasri Tyler Morgan David Ely Julie Messer	Matt Keipper John Ly Michael Matthews Cezar Ornatowski
Voting Alternates:	Garrett Hazelton	Michelle Adams
Faculty/Staff Alternates:	Sydney Covey	Nancy Lopez
Non-Voting Member:	Ray Rainer	
Guests:	Patricia Francisco Robert Schulz Yesenia Acosta	

Mr. Webb chaired the meeting in Mr. Keipper's delayed presence at the beginning of the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**A motion was made by Mr. Ornatowski and seconded by Ms. Elmasri to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.**

Previous minutes were reviewed and approved without corrections.

**Fee Requests - 2007/08 Housing Rates**

Patricia Francisco, the director of the office of Housing Administration, introduced Robert Schulz, the new Associate VP for Financial Operations. Ms. Francisco called attention to the last two pages of the 2007-2008 Housing Fees packet in addition to the fee schedules proposing a 7% increase in Residence Halls and a 5% increase at Piedra del Sol. She stated that demand for freshmen housing has grown; this year the waiting list was stopped at 800, but the year before demand was unusually low compared to prior two years when there were 1000 people on the waiting list. Last year Housing stated that for three years there will be a 3% increase each year to do more work inside the halls; the other 4% will go toward student housing initiatives, processing license agreements, any costs towards development, among other expenses. The Housing office plans to accrue \$2 million for at least three years to plan ahead for future housing. The office plans to offer triples in Cuicacalli suites, which will allow for 111 more freshmen to be housed. Housing also plans to sign an agreement to offer Aztec Corner as university housing; this will allow them to add 600 more beds in fully furnished units. Each contract will be by the bed, which means that no student will be responsible for another leaving. The Housing Office is auxiliary - it does not receive/give money to the university.

Mr. Keipper asked about set up in triples and maintenance complains – Ms. Francisco responded that triples will have two of the beds bunked and the 3<sup>rd</sup> not bunked. There have been maintenance complains which are taken care of on a regular basis, especially in the older buildings; this is why Housing is trying to get more money into the maintenance and repair fund. Ms. Covey asked about provisions to provide for individual space needs – Ms. Francisco responded that Housing made sure all essential furniture will fit in, tightly, for each student.

Mr. Hazelton asked about long term plans for housing – Ms. Francisco mentioned a recent opportunity: the Aztec Corner bid; Aztec Shops is leasing Aztec Corner. She discussed the addition of a sustainable residence building, with a sustainable residence program.

Mr. Ornatowski asked what part of the 7% increase is to go towards the \$2 million. Ms. Francisco responded that the \$2 million exceeds the proposed increase. Housing has saved a lot of money by reducing other costs; some of the significant reductions include system expenses. Mr. Ornatowski asked about the percentage of students living on campus – about 10% per Ms. Francisco.

Mr. Matthews raised concerns about comfort living in triples – Ms. Francisco replied that Housing has added a second hall coordinator and more staff to deal with any issues in Cuicacalli and that bringing extra students brings extra effort on their part, so benefits should outweigh foreseeable problems.

Mr. Ly raised concerns about the effect of increasing number of beds to the Dining Room. Ms. Francisco stated that this dining facility is being underused – it is impacted sometimes, but not significantly.

Mr. Morgan raised the issue about how to show and sell triples to parents – Ms. Francisco stated that normally there are no tours to Cuicacalli but would like to triple the furniture in one of the units so that people can see it and get the idea; the unit will probably be shown online as well.

Ms. Elmasri asked if the \$2 million was a way to start a reserve account, to which Ms. Francisco responded no. The \$2 million is just for the new housing development account; which will be in the budget next year. Housing must have a reserve account was well.

Mr. Ly asked about rates and noted that students will be paying higher rates under the Office of Housing than the original company – Ms. Francisco agreed that students at Aztec Corner are paying less now, but added that students don't have residence life program which is a whole layer of value that will be added.

The question was raised on how the \$2 million was determined – Ms. Francisco responded that it was an arbitrary decision; fees go up to 6% at the highest, so this year they went up an extra one percent. Ms. Adams asked about security – there will be staff at the entrance; everyone can only come through the front door.

Mr. Hazelton asked about students who don't have housing contract – the response was that GMH will offer them opportunity to renew at new terms or cancel – need to have all students under same lease. August 1<sup>st</sup> is when the plan will take effect. The agreement will be ready March 1<sup>st</sup>.

David Ely reiterated that the committee is voting on fees, not details. He asked about the miscellaneous fees. Ms. Francisco stated that every year housing rent is raised; the raise has included a double rate. In terms of new fees the new plan cancellation fee is new; the internet reconnection fee is increasing to \$50 the 1<sup>st</sup> time and \$100 the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. If a computer is infected and information securities officer reconnects a fee may be charged. There will be no third time reconnection. Mr. Ly asked for examples where reconnection fees would apply – an example would be a virus due to carelessness on part of the user. Ms. Francisco noted they were recently audited and the lack of guest charges came up, so these fees were newly added per title V.

#### **ACTION ITEM – Fee Request for the College of Engineering**

Mr. Rainer called attention to two changes on the fee proposal: one for mechanical engineering – the CAD fee has been removed; the other change pertains to civil engineering, which was listed as category I fee when in fact it's a category III fee.

A motion was made to approve the fee request by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ornatowski. Members voted; there were no objections and two abstentions. The motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ornatowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

The next meeting will be February 9 at 2:00 p.m. in SS 2640.