

**CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
March 14, 2008**

**MINUTES**

ATTENDEES

Members:	James Poet Michael Matthews Ethan Singer Linda Stewart Julie Messer	Jeremy Ehrlich Justin Motika Lisa Doan David Ely Cezar Ornatowski
Non-Voting Member:	Ray Rainer	
Student Alternates	Gabriel Ruiz	
Faculty/Staff Alternates	Sydney Covey	

The meeting was called to order by chair James Poet at 2:00 p.m.

The minutes were reviewed with changes noted. Dr. Ely made a motion to approve the previous minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Doan; the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Action Item: 2008/2009 IRA Budget**

Mr. Matthews made a motion to approve the 2008/2009 IRA Budget, which was seconded by Dr. Ornatowski. Ms. Stewart recommended changing the funding for Sports Clubs back to the initial \$5,000 from 2006/2007; budgeting from the IRA reserve cannot be sustained given the current budget situation. Mr. Rainer explained that the additional \$5,000 was approved as a one-time allocation and was left in the proposed budget to be reviewed.

Mr. Poet met with Sports Clubs on numerous occasions and stated that Sports Clubs are still extremely under-funded. AS funds them to a certain degree; they cover the insurance cost and part of administrative costs. Sports Clubs participants constantly have to pay out of pocket and do fundraisers to meet costs. Ms. Stewart acknowledged that Sports Clubs are under-funded, just as Academic Affairs and Athletics.

Mr. Poet expressed his concern over Academic Affairs not spending all their funds every year. Ms. Covey explained that Academic Affairs intends to spend their allocation of \$200,000 every year, but it is difficult to have a clear picture because most of these expenditures happen in the spring term. AA intends to penalize the colleges who did not properly use their funds. Dr. Ely cautioned about reallocating funds across the colleges because there are almost three generations of students who are involved with each of these decisions. The current club officers will be making the proposals for the IRA funds for this coming year, but most likely their successors will have to implement these plans; if they fail and funds are withdrawn, the next generation will suffer the consequences. Ms. Covey responded that AA is trying to show in good faith that the allocations are spent; colleges won't be penalized if they inform the division about any unspent funds in a timely manner. Everyone has the fiscal year to spend the money.

Mr. Mathews argued that the amount under discussion is only \$5,000, per Ms. Stewart's comment, but for the Sports Clubs this is a tremendous amount, which would not have such a tremendous impact on the reserve. Ms. Stewart clarified that she meant no disrespect towards the Sports Clubs or participants; the "only" was in reference to the \$5,000 budgeted from reserves.

Mr. Ehrlich stated that regardless of penalties under AA, there seems to be \$5,000 available for Sports Clubs, based on how AA spends its funds and suggested looking at this allocation again next year. Ms. Stewart explained that this would be alright if looking at good years ahead, but the budget is likely to be extremely tight in the coming years, with reduced enrollment, higher insurance and increased mandatory costs; there may not be \$90,000 coming from reserve. She suggested that Sports Clubs come back mid-year to request an augmentation. Mr. Rainer stated that by spending \$90,000 from reserve, the reserve would be completely depleted in two years. He suggested giving Sports Clubs a budget of \$5,000, and looking at available funding in the first quarter of next fiscal year and having requests come forward at that point.

Dr. Ornatowski commented that a cautious approach is reasonable, since the future doesn't look good; he suggested careful budgeting on a quarterly basis. Mr. Rainer suggested a mid-year status report from Academic Affairs. Ms. Covey stated that at least 70% is spent during April, May and early June; a more accurate report can be given in June.

Mr. Poet asked about the number of years AA has under-spent. Mr. Rainer explained that AA under-spent \$30,000 two years ago and \$13,000 last year, but noted that this year they are ahead of where they were in spending in the prior years. Dr. Ornatowski explained some of the reasons why funds are under-spent, which are independent and beyond anyone's control, i.e. \$1,000 for a famous scholar who gets sick around the time he/she is scheduled to come, and the funds are not spent. Ms. Covey said this would be alright as long as AA is notified right away, so the funds are used somewhere else, for one year only. Mr. Matthews stated that he is not in favor of reducing AA, but explained how productive it would have been to have seen the impact the additional \$5,000 had on Sports Clubs and suggested just reducing their allocation by 25%. Ms. Stewart responded that Sports Clubs, as well as others, had the opportunity to request the additional \$5,000, but no one else did, and this was a one-time approval to be reviewed. It is now a matter of everyone going back to the level they were previously.

Ms. Stewart made a motion to amend the 2008/2009 IRA budget and reduce Sports Clubs to \$5,000, which places them back to their original allocation (prior to the one-time approval). Dr. Singer seconded the motion.

Dr. Singer argued that when the additional funding was approved it was made clear that it was going to be a one-time allocation, taken out of reserve. Considering the current and projected budget situation, it is reasonable to discontinue the additional allocation.

Mr. Ehrlich asked how these additional funds were approved. Mr. Mathews explained that the board at the time felt that they wanted to give Sports Clubs more funds. Mr. Rainer explained that it was a completely different year, with no projected budget cuts for the coming year and the funds needed from the reserve were much less than \$90,000. Mr. Matthews agreed that it was not reasonable to continue to allocate the additional \$5,000 when Sports Clubs have not come forward to show how they have used the additional funding.

Dr. Ornatowski once again urged fiscal conservatism and suggested revisiting the matter in a few months. The matter will be brought back next year with a snapshot of the budget situation at the time. Dr. Singer stated that this can be open to everyone; nothing prevents others from requesting funds at any given time.

The committee voted on the amendment, which was approved with eight votes in favor, two oppositions and one abstention.

Mr. Poet then referred to the original motion, which is to approve the IRA budget. The committee voted for the 2007/2008 budget; the majority approved the 2007/2008 IRA budget, with one objection and no abstentions.

**Action Item: Proposed Election Code Bylaw Amendment**

Ms. Doan made a motion to approve the proposed election code bylaw amendment, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. Mr. Poet gave an overview of this amendment, which reduces the number of poll workers from two to one. There was no discussion, so the committee voted unanimously in favor of approving the amendment.

Ms. Stewart has a few edits to propose regarding the bylaws and asked about the procedure. Per Mr. Poet she can send an email directly to him regarding these revisions.

Dr. Ely asked about any unofficial referendum results – Per Mr. Matthews, both proposals passed, with 64.8% of the votes in favor of the AS fee and 73% in favor of the library fee. There were 2889 students voted for the AS fee and 2900 voted for the library fee.

This meeting was adjourned at 2:32 PM. Next meeting will be on Friday, March 21st at 2:00 pm in SS-1608.