

CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 16, 2007

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Members:	Julie Messer Linda Stewart Ethan Singer Jeremy Ehrlich Justin Motika Lisa Doan	David Ely Cezar Ornatowski Bill Boyd Jameson DeSantis Grant Garske Michael Matthews
Faculty/Staff Alternates:	Kimberlee Reilly	
Student Alternates:	Adriano Mabeza	Gabriel Ruiz
Non-Voting Member:	Ray Rainer	
Guests:	Scott Burns	Kathryn LaMaster

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Mr. Jeremy Ehrlich, in the absence of AS President James Poet.

Mr. DeSantis made a motion to approve the previous minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Mabeza. Dr. Singer made a clarification to the minutes regarding the student referendum fee; His response to Dr. Ornatowski regarding the student referendum fee should have been that it is an ongoing fee – not a one-time fee. Ms. Linda Stewart noted another correction: the survey is to be conducted by SSRL, not SSLR. The minutes were reviewed and approved with two corrections.

Fee Requests:

a. New Course Fees in the School of Art, Design and Art History

Dr. Kathryn LaMaster, Associate Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, presented the new course fees planned for the areas of multimedia and graphic design; she noted that the software packages and their costs are rapidly increasing. A few years ago there were two computer labs with 60 computers each; the school has added more computer labs to meet student needs, but is facing higher maintenance costs since software packages need to be regularly updated. The School of Art, Design and Art History labs need to upgrade to the most current version of the software to be compatible with the latest software available to students through the bookstore. The college plans to cover 50% of the cost of the software, but it still needs to defray the cost of maintenance and the upgrades somewhat by adding the \$20 dollar course fee. Dr. LaMaster added that students typically only take two or three of these courses per semester, so they would not be over-burdened by these fees. When students take these classes they usually don't have a textbook fee because these are hands-on computer classes, so the \$20 dollar fee would be in lieu of the textbook fee.

Dr. Ornatowski stated that with faster obsolescence of technology users are obliged to pay more and more frequent fees. He asked if there was any way for the institution to negotiate a different kind of deal to avoid being at the mercy of software manufacturers; he also asked if there has ever been an effort to do this. Dr. LaMaster responded yes to these questions and stated that some of the licensing agreements are done at the Chancellor's level where all CSUs get a particular price, but even these prices are increasing. Dr. LaMaster is also working with James Frazee (Director, Instructional Technology Services) to gain leverage against Apple when negotiating for some software packages where we are now becoming larger users; they are trying to leverage all areas on the campus together to try to drive prices down. She added that even if these prices go down the school is still facing a huge hurdle in the upcoming years.

Mr. Grant asked if there were any current fees already attached to these classes; Dr. LaMaster responded that there are no other fees attached. Mr. Grant also asked if the college has considered adding lab fees to offset the price of the software and maybe lower the fee request. Dr. LaMaster responded yes to this question and added that all the classes listed are using the computer lab accessing the program. Ms. Reilly asked if the students taking these courses are the only ones using the lab; Dr. LaMaster responded that typically the students using the lab are from two areas: Multimedia and Graphic Design. The Interior Design program also uses this lab, but its AutoCAD license is different; these students were removed from this fee request - they are not to pay these fees.

Dr. Ornatowski asked about the student fees; Dr. LaMaster explained that there is a \$20 dollar fee every time a student takes a class from the list presented today. Students don't have to take all these classes to be a Graphic Designer; many of these classes are required electives. Dr. Ornatowski asked how many of these classes a student normally takes; Dr. LaMaster responded that typically a student at the sophomore or junior level takes 12 of these classes. Students usually take between two or three of these classes a semester.

Mr. Ehrlich asked if students are not using textbooks for these classes; Dr. LaMaster said no, some courses may require a course reader, but not a textbook. Mr. Ehrlich asked if most of these classes are three units each - yes, per Dr. LaMaster, but will check to see if there are any exceptions.

Mr. Mabeza noted that some of the students purchase these programs to use them at home and are also paying for the software in the lab; Dr. LaMaster explained that students get plenty of lab hours when taking these courses. Mr. Mabeza wondered about the percentage of students using these programs at home and asked if they could use their own programs in the lab as well. Dr. LaMaster responded that it this is not a viable option for this institution. Many of these programs are server based, accessing the appropriate number of licenses when the lab is in use; this is different from a consumer program. Mr. Mabeza asked if a student can do without the program at home – yes, per Dr. LaMaster.

Ms. Stewart asked about the amount apportioned back to the students in the proposed fee or the cost being absorbed within the operating budget compared to prior years. Dr. LaMaster responded that it's getting to the point where the budget is running backwards. The additional computers and programs were purchased three years ago and now all the licenses are coming due. Last year there was a \$68,000 or \$76,000 dollar request which could not be met. Dr. LaMaster agreed with Ms. Stewart's statement; the operating budget has increased in its expense over time because of the new computers and the fact that there are more software packages. The budget has stayed the same but the expenses have increased.

Dr. LaMaster explained that this fee request was presented to the college council, which is very supportive because they know how much expertise and specialization they need to have at the college. Students from the Art department, ROTC, Exercise and Nutritional Sciences and Music and Dance were rallying behind this proposal because they want PSFA to continue to excel.

Dr. Singer asked if there was a deadline for the fee to make it to spring 2008; Ms. Reilly responded that it was already too late for spring.

Action Item:

New Course Fees in the School of Art, Design and Art History

Dr. Ely moved the fee request to action; the motion was seconded by Mr. Matthews. All members voted in favor of moving the action item into a vote today. There was no further discussion or debate. Mr. DeSantis made a motion to approve the new course fees in the School of Art Design and History, which was seconded by Mr. Grant. All members voted in favor of the new course fees with no objections or abstentions.

Mr. Ruiz made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. DeSantis seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.