

**CAMPUS FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**February 5, 2009**  
**MINUTES**

Members: Angela Kramer (voting), Larry Kelley (voting), Sean Christy (voting), Annie Ohlig (voting), Carl Payne (voting), John Soares (voting), Tessa Betz (voting), Victor Brancart, Cornel Morton, Kimi Ikeda, Kathy Cook (rec. secy.)

Present: Voting: A. Kramer, L. Kelley, S. Christy, A. Ohlig, C. Payne, J. Soares, T. Betz  
Non-Voting: C. Morton, K. Ikeda, V. Brancart, K. Cook

Absent: None

Guests: Phil Bailey, Linda Halisky, Mohammad Noori, R. Thomas Jones, various students.

**MINUTES APPROVED –**

The committee unanimously approved the Minutes from the November 13, 2008 meeting.

**HEALTH SERVICES FEE – Information Only Item**

At the November 13, 2008 meeting the committee voted (5 to 1) to support the Alternative Consultation process to advance this proposal and forwarded that recommendation to the president.

Dates have been added to the schedule to show when the open forums and educational sessions will be held.

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE COLLEGE BASED FEES –**

Phil Bailey presented the proposal to the committee. He presented:

- A historical background of fee increases for Cal Poly students and a comparison of Cal Poly undergraduate fees with other colleges and universities across the country.
- In 2002 students supported a \$200 per quarter increase in the college based fees but with the current CA budget crisis and the university's resulting budget shortfall that increase is no longer sufficient.
- Student learning and success are the original and continuing purposes of Cal Poly's college based fee and the exclusive motivations for the proposed increase. The increase would support:

- Scheduling of classes needed to promote timely progress to graduation.
  - Increased graduation rates with less time to graduation.
  - Quality degree programs with uncommon learn by doing opportunities that characterize a Cal Poly education.
  - Increased recruitment and retention of faculty members and correspondingly student access to faculty.
  - Student/faculty research collaborations and project based learning.
  - Acquisition of sophisticated equipment and instrumentation.
- An increase in these fees will put each academic unit in a better position to continue its academic distinction and thereby contribute to the growing national reputation of Cal Poly and the enduring value of a Cal Poly diploma.
  - For the first year, Cal Poly would be committed to implementing a plan that will allow students entering in Fall 2009 to graduate in 4-5 years (depending on their degree program) by ensuring that courses are offered that will assist students to progress to degree. In order for this to be accomplished, students will however need to commit to following their curriculum requirements and completing courses successfully.
  - The proposal increases the college based fee to \$362 per quarter for all FTES (\$181 per quarter for part time students) effective Fall 2009. The fee would be increased by an additional \$100 per quarter for all FTES (\$50 per quarter for part time students) effective Fall 2010 and another \$100 per quarter for all FTES (\$50 per quarter for part time students) effective Fall 2011. Note: The \$362 college based fee amount includes the annual adjustment based in the higher Education Price Index (HEPI.)
  - Recommendations for use of the funds generated from this increase would continue to come from established student fee committees that serve as advisors and consultants to the department chairs and deans of their respective colleges.
  - This proposal will use the quicker alternative consultation process rather than a referendum process to facilitate the colleges to retain and hire faculty for the Fall term. Colleges need to be in a position to make hiring offers by mid-March.
  - Over the next 30 days, deans and department heads will educate students on the necessity of this fee increase by focusing their time on meetings with various student organizations within their colleges thru lectures, labs, open forums, town hall meetings, etc.
  - Individual students will also have the opportunity to cast their ballot electronically in support or non-support of the increase in the form of an on-line survey on March 11-12, 2009. The expectation is for a 38%

turnout which is equivalent to participation in the most recent general referendum. The majority vote would constitute a recommendation to the president.

Linda Halisky, Dean from the College of Liberal Arts, also addressed the group.

- Under this proposal, students in the College of Liberal Arts would see their fees go up approximately \$200 per quarter compared to students in the other undergraduate colleges, whose fees will go up \$100 per quarter.
- During the CBF referendum in 2002, it was decided to limit the fees of CLA students to roughly \$100 per quarter less than those of the other colleges, due to the fact that the College of Liberal Arts was not viewed as a “high cost” college. While it is true that the cost to educate CLA majors overall may be less than the cost to educate majors in the other colleges, CLA does have high cost programs of its own: Psychology, Graphic Communication, Journalism, Music, and some of the concentrations in Art and Design. The fact that CLA college based fees have been less than those in other colleges has impeded attempts in CLA to provide the levels of excellence available to students in other of Cal Poly’s colleges.
- CLA supports the plan in two ways: philosophically and practically.
- Philosophically, the plan favors the perception of Cal Poly as “one university,” rather than a series of colleges whose interests are sometimes in conflict with one another. Envisioning ourselves as “one university” fosters a notion of cooperation among colleges in the overall enterprise of educating all of our students, not only for the work worlds they will inhabit when they leave us, but for productive and fulfilling lives as broadly informed individuals and responsible citizens. Seeing ourselves as “one university” is, in the long term and in every way, advantageous to the College of Liberal Arts.
- Practically speaking, CLA currently finds itself severely hampered in its ability to offer the courses necessary to support student progress to degree for all students in the university—those who take the general education courses we offer and those in our own majors. Since roughly 60% of the instruction in our college is dedicated to general education—and we *must* meet this obligation to other majors across the campus as well as to our own—the lack of additional support by way of an increase in the college based fee would seriously erode our ability to meet the needs of our majors. Our budget shortfall is having some impact now—some of our majors this year have not been able to get the courses they needed when they needed them; without relief, that impact will begin to worsen significantly by Fall, 2009.

## Closed Committee Discussion –

The committee discussed the specifics of the proposal and proposed the following changes:

- Additional information regarding students who receive Financial Aid.
- Inclusion of the initiatives for Sustainability and Inclusive Excellence and other measures of importance from the Strategic Plan/Master Plan.
- Specifics from the College of Liberal Arts supporting raising their fees to the level of the other colleges.
- Electronic surveys should be a part of the “alternative consultation” process. There should be an easy to navigate website with links to the individual colleges.
- Websites show how college based fees have been spent within each college.

Angela Kramer called for a committee vote so that students would be given a choice to support or reject this fee increase—the CFAC action is not an endorsement for the proposal itself.

The motion passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING: TBD**