Student Activity Fee

Dr. Covey presented the proposed increase of the Student Activity Fee from $78 to $92. Dr. Covey reminded that FACP and Dr. Patton had recommended increasing the fee to $92 last year, but the Board of Regents had trimmed the fee proposed by Georgia State by $14. Dr. Covey noted Dr. Patton had provided one-time “bridge” funds to offset the fee revenues lost to the $14 reduction, which allowed the programmatic improvements intended at the $92 level to be implemented starting this fall. He added that Dr. Patton had provided the one-time funds with the understanding no other mandatory fee requests would be advanced for FY2010, except the $14 increase for the Student Activity Fee. Dr. Covey cited numerous programmatic improvements already making a difference in campus life as a result of the one-time funding with continuation of those improvements dependent upon the proposed $14 increase.

Dr. Hudson asked if the $14 increase would put the Student Activity Fee at a level adequate for the foreseeable future. Dr. Covey responded that the last increase had lasted 19 years and that enrollment growth would continue to provide year-to-year increases in revenues without raising the fee. He added that the quality of the new programming presented opportunities for generating revenues from ticket sales to non-students.

Dr. Tai asked about comparisons with Student Activity Fees at other University System institutions. Dr. Covey replied that breakdowns of the fees differed too greatly between institutions to make meaningful comparisons, but that Georgia State was not too far out of line with the other research universities in total fees. Dr. Henry added that the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech did not have athletic fees as large as Georgia State because of the revenue-generating nature of their football programs.

Dr. Kelley expressed support for the proposed increase of $14 as a modest step.

Dr. Adamson asked about the amount of revenues, which would be generated by the $14 increase. Dr. Torbert responded that there were approximately 60K fee collection incidents per year yielding $840K. Dr. Covey added that this figure reflected the extent of programming, which would have to be cut if the $14 increase did not materialize.

Dr. Kelley made a motion to increase the Student Activity Fee from $78 to $92. Dr. Kaminshine seconded the motion. The motion passed.
College of Law Differential Tuition

Dr. Kaminshine presented the proposed increase in differential tuition for the College of Law from $390 per credit hour to $410 for in-state students and $1,209 per credit hour to $1,229 for out-of-state students. Dr. Kaminshine reminded that this was the third of five annual increases of $20 per credit hour earmarked for a new facility for the College of Law. He noted that the proposed increase would keep tuition at Georgia State lower than at the University of Georgia.

Dr. Moore asked about the percentage of College of Law students from out-of-state. Dr. Kaminshine replied that out-of-state enrollment was under 10%.

Dr. Tai made a motion to increase the College of Law differential tuition by $20 per credit hour as outlined above. Dr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Robinson College of Business Tuition and Fees

Dr. Huss presented tuition and fee proposals as follow: (1) increase in differential tuition for MBA programs from $309 per credit hour to $319 per credit hour for in-state students and from $1,100 per credit hour to $1,110 per credit hour for out-of-state students; (2) increase in Executive MBA program fee from $58,500 to $59,950; (3) increase in Professional MBA program fee from $37,000 to $40,000 for in-state students and from $57,200 to $60,200 for out-of-state students; (4) increase in Global Partners MBA fee from $49,000 to $52,000; (5) increase in MS in Information Systems program fee from $37,500 to $39,500 for in-state students and from $62,500 to $64,500 for out-of-state students; (6) new Professional MBA/Master of Health Administration program fee at $50,000 for in-state students and $70,000 for out-of-state students; and (7) new Professional MS/Other Specialties program fee at $36,000 for in-state students and $56,000 for out-of-state students.

Dr. Henry asked about starting the Professional MS at a lower fee than the MS in Information Systems. Dr. Huss replied that the MS in Information Systems program was more costly and in a top ten department.

Dr. Henry asked about the percentage of students from out-of-state. Dr. Huss replied that out-of-state enrollment was under 5% with most students working in the Atlanta area and only a few too recently coming to Atlanta and not qualifying for in-state rates.

Dr. Hudson asked about price comparisons with the University of Georgia. Dr. Huss responded Georgia State was lower in price for the Executive MBA. He added that the Professional MBA was the rising program in this market with students preferring its format, the cohort concept, etc. to that of the flexible MBA. Dr. Huss voiced comfort with the proposed pricing relative to competitive position with the University of Georgia. He noted growth in the Professional MBA class from 30 to over 50 at the Buckhead location.

Dr. Kelley made a motion to accept the proposed Robinson College of Business differential tuition and fees. Dr. Alberto seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Budget Update
Dr. Henry reported no news regarding the FY2009 budget. He noted new reporting requirements regarding frozen vacant positions and comparisons of certain expenditures with those for last year. He cautioned that year-to-date travel expenditures were exceeding last year. Dr. Renick commented the increase could be due in part to growth in faculty and staff over last year. Dr. Kaminshine commented that airfares were higher than last year. Dr. Henry added that meeting locations played a part in higher costs such as a particular conference, which was held in South Carolina last year and California this year.

Dr. Adamson asked if the goal was to decrease travel expenditures. Dr. Henry responded that the intent was not to see an increase. Dr. Adamson noted an open records request to examine travel by ten faculty members with some of the travel being paid with sponsored funds. Dr. Henry advised that the reports should distinguish the sources, but cautioned the Office of Budget and Planning (OPB) was lumping travel together due to the transfer of foundation funds to FC10 for travel payment purposes. Dr. Hudson commented on the importance of travel to the professional development of young faculty.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
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