

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES****THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO**

November 2, 2006

**ACTION ITEM:** Student Fee Recommendations**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In February 2003, the Board of Governors adopted a new tuition and fee policy following a comprehensive review of previous policies and practices. The policy requires that requests for increases in campus-initiated tuition and fees be set within the context of institutional five-year financial plans, the University's long range plan, the need for Board-initiated tuition increases, the state's economic environment, and the financial impact on students. The Board's policy also requires that fees for students remain as low as possible while providing the revenues needed to support the purposes for which fees are charged. The policy requires that each chancellor establish a fee review committee with representatives of all aspects of campus life, with final recommendations to the Board of Governors approved by the campus Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the Chancellor.

Before proposed fees are presented to the campus Board of Trustees, the recommendation of the campus fee committee must be shared with student government leaders so that students may inform the Chancellor of their perspectives on the proposed changes. Only proposed fees that are consistent with the Board of Governors' policy on establishing fees and those based on recommendation of the Chancellor, the institutional Board of Trustees, and the President, will be presented to the Board's Committee on Budget and Finance and then, if recommended, to the full Board.

A Student Fee Advisory Committee was created in 1996 by Chancellor Sullivan to annually provide advice concerning the level and purpose of student fees (athletic, student activities, health, educational and technology, and facilities). Sixteen members comprise the committee, including nine students (undergraduate and graduate), four faculty members (tenured or tenure-track), and three administrators. Members serve staggered terms, so that each year there are both new and experienced voices in the group. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs serves as chair.

To arrive at its recommendations each year, the Student Fee Advisory Committee uses budget and other background information supplied by Business Affairs; recommendations from the Provost and Vice Chancellors; and information from discussions with appropriate administrators who oversee fee-funded functions. During fall 2006, the Provost and Vice Chancellors met to discuss the fundamental program needs of the fee-funded units. The resulting projections were provided to the Student Fee Advisory Committee as background material. Early in the fall semester, Business Affairs prepares a Student Fee Budget Book, which also serves as reference material for the Committee. The Student Fee Advisory Committee's recommendations for 2007-08 were

based on its understanding of both immediate needs of the fee-funded units and longer term program directions of the units.

For the 2007-08 Fiscal Year, the University proposes to increase the Athletics Fee by \$10, the Student Activities Fee by \$26, the Health Services Fee by \$9 and the Educational & Technology Fee by \$21. No increases are proposed in the Facilities Fee. The proposed increases will result in a \$66 increase (4.6%) in total fees for 2007-08. The annual current rates and proposed 2007-08 rates are as follows:

<u>Fees</u>	Current Rate	Proposed
	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2007-08</u>
Athletics Fee	\$ 403	\$ 413
Student Activities Fee	323	349
Educational & Technology Fee	247	268
Health Services Fee	209	218
Student Facilities Fee	<u>272</u>	<u>272</u>
Total	<u>\$1,454</u>	<u>\$1,520</u>

Athletics Fee:

The Athletics Fee at UNCG supports the University's 16-sport, NCAA Division I program. Direct student involvement with the program exceeds 300 students inclusive of athletes, cheerleaders, trainers and managers, interns in the sports information and marketing/promotions areas, work-study/departmental employees in athletics offices and in facilities and operations areas.

The goal of the elevation of the athletic program has been to enhance student life at UNCG by providing a quality Division I athletics experience and environment for not only the student population but the entire University community. Image and visibility in North Carolina and the Southeast has also increased by the very nature of the competition with well-established and well-recognized Division I institutions of like or greater stature and missions. UNCG's commitment to a Division I program necessitates an ability to sustain growth.

When the University made the decision to elevate the athletics program, it was recognized consciously and deliberately that early stages of program development would depend heavily upon student fees. To maintain the current program level, the University proposes to increase this fee by \$10.

Student Activities Fee:

The Student Activities Fee encompasses the programs and activities that are grouped into four areas: Cultural Activities; Student Organizations and Programs; Student Recreation; and Operations and Maintenance of Student Facilities.

*Cultural Activities* include the University Concert and Lecture Series. *Student Organizations and Programs* include Student Union, leadership, and volunteerism programs; student government, student media, social activities for resident and non-

resident students; Graduate Student Association; special programs in Student Affairs; Cultural Diversity Programs; and the WUAG radio station. *Student Recreation* encompasses intramural programs, operation of the Student Recreation Center and other recreational opportunities. *Operations and Maintenance of Student Facilities* is used for Student Recreation Center, Elliott University Center, playing fields maintenance and operation of the ID Center.

The proposed \$26 increase will be used for Graduate Assistants, student wage increases, transportation fees, Student Facilities Maintenance, and to address inflationary cost increases.

#### Educational & Technology Fee:

The Educational & Technology fee provides support to meet instructional technology needs not supported by State appropriations. Of the current \$247 fee, \$193 is dedicated to computing and instructional technology. The remainder, \$54, supports specialized materials, supplies, educational equipment acquisition, and maintenance costs in instructional units.

The portion dedicated to computing and instructional technology supports the staffing and operation of computing laboratories available to all UNCG students. Several labs received new computers. The fee also supports part of the cost of other equipment and staffing related to instructional technology.

The academic portion of the fee is used in instructional units for courses that are materials and technology intensive, and to support departmental computer labs. Units receiving an allocation of the fee include the science departments of the College of Arts and Sciences; the departments of Art; Broadcasting and Cinema; Theatre; Communication; Nutrition Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies; Social Work; Public Health Education; Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality Management; Interior Architecture; and the Schools of Education, Music and Nursing.

The proposed \$21 increase will be used for lab equipment, virtual computing lab, and to address inflationary cost increases.

#### Health Services Fee:

The Health Services Fee provides support to the Student Health Center. The Student Health Center offers comprehensive primary and preventive health care to UNCG students within the context of the University community. A strong commitment is made to address problems that are common to the student population in an effort to: protect the overall health of students; direct students toward the achievement of a healthy lifestyle; and contribute to the maintenance of a safe and healthy atmosphere in which the students, faculty and staff live and work.

The proposed \$9 increase will be used to provide a Health Educator and to address inflationary cost increases.

#### Student Facilities Fee:

The Student Facilities Fee is used to improve the overall physical environment on the campus and to improve the level and quality of services provided for the students enrolled. Since State appropriations are not available, the student facilities fee is used to provide the necessary funding for self-liquidating capital projects in areas such as recreation, athletics (intercollegiate), student center and other student support facilities.

No increase is proposed in this fee.

**REQUIREMENT:**

In accordance with the authorization of the Board of Governors, action is needed by the Board of Trustees to authorize fee changes in the Athletics Fee, Student Activities Fee, Educational & Technology Fee, and the Health Services Fee.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

That the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro approve changes for 2007-08 in the Athletics Fee, Student Activities Fee, Educational & Technology Fee and the Health Services Fee as follows:

<u>Fees</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed 2007-08 Fees</u>
Athletics Fee	\$10	\$413
Student Activities Fee	26	349
Educational & Technology Fee	21	268
Health Services Fee	9	218
Student Facilities Fee	0	272

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Reade Taylor  
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

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Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs