**STUDENT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2013-2014 Academic Year

Meeting #5

Friday, May 09, 2014

8:30 a.m., USU-205

Members Present: Takemoto (chair), Bolin, Colburn, Gucyski, Haberstroh, Hata, Phillips, Smith, Taylor

Members Absent: Gallagher, Rice, Soni

Staff Attendees: Eckhous, Fugatt, Hernandez, Williams

Guests: Nayiri Baghdassarian, Jessica Corral, Dr. Dave Edwards

1. Welcome and Introductions. Interim Vice President Takemoto, chair of the committee, called the meeting to order at 8:42 am and welcomed the committee members.
2. Proposal: Referendum for Renovation/Expansion of University Student Union. Dr. Dave Edwards, ASI Associate Executive Director & Director of USU and SRWC and Jessica Corral, USU Board of Trustees Chair presented a PowerPoint for the proposed referendum for the renovation/expansion of the USU.

Listed are proposal highlights:

* The University Student Union (USU) was constructed in the late 1960’s and in the mid 1990’s the USU was renovated to address earthquake seismic improvements, while adding the third floor and second floor west wing.
* The USU fee funds construction and operating expenses for both the USU and Student Recreation & Wellness Center (SRWC).
* With the increasing age of the USU, the cost of major repairs has exceeded the available operation funds (e.g., HVAC, plumbing and drainage, electrical, internet connections and emergency systems).
* For the past four years, ASI has been researching student needs and campus demand for the possibility of renovating the USU and has conducted two campus-wide assessments; 2011 and 2014. Spring 2011 and 2014 needs assessment were conducted, including focus groups of students, faculty, and staff and a survey of the entire student body with 37% of the student population responding in 2011 and 24% responding in 2014.
* 2011 findings revealed that the USU is insufficient for the campus population with limited seating, programming and student organization space.
* 2014 reported that if improvements were made to the USU, it would double students number of visits to the facility per week, as well as increase the amount of time they spend in the USU.
* 45% of students supported an increased USU fee for the following improvements: Increased student lounge space, more study space/group study rooms, Student Resource Center, and a Sustainability Resource Center. The students’ preference for USU renovation and expansion is increased student organization space, expanded conference and meeting facilities, and expanded ballroom facilities.
* The USU Board of Trustees recommends that a student referendum be conducted in late February 2015 so that the student body may decide with a simple majority if an increase of $165 per semester ($124 per summer) in the Student Body Center (USU) fee should occur for the construction, renovation, expansion, and operation of the University Student Union.
* The increased fee will not go into effect until the year the renovated sections of the USU open. The total cost of construction for the renovated and expanded USU is estimated to be $99 million.
* Initial roll out of educational campaign will be summer 2014 with SOAR. Extensive campus-wide educational campaign will be fall 2014. Anticipated design and construction schedule begins summer 2015. Construction project to last 4-5 years.

Takemoto asked how the cost compares to other campus’ renovations. Edwards said that the cost is in the middle. Haberstroh asked the question of why we are not starting from scratch. Edwards responded that the union holds historical value and the structure of the building is sound. Colburn stated the overall presentation is good and is convinced with the needs assessment but is wondering how the questions were worded to students (e.g. How would you like to renovate the USU? or How much are you willing to spend to renovate the USU?). Edwards said questions had three multiple choice answers (e.g., How much would you be willing to pay 1) $xx.xx 2) $xx.xx 3) $xx.xx to renovate the USU). Colburn asked what will happen if actual costs exceed the cost projection. Edwards said that we will have to scale back if bids come back more than anticipated but he does not see that happening due to the manageable level of construction in the current construction market. Takemoto asked if fundraising will be conducted. Edwards said absolutely. Taylor cautioned regarding CCPE students and to make sure it is clear that the USU fee applies to all matriculated students including CCPE degree seeking students. Edwards said we have had issues in the past with distinguishing between CCPE and state matriculated students. CCPE students do not pay USU fee or have access to USU privileges. This has caused issues in the past and something we need to work on. Takemoto stated we will wait for Gucyski to arrive to vote on referendum and move to approval of minutes.

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes. The committee reviewed the minutes of the March 07, 2014 meeting. Haberstroh moved, Phillips seconded to approve the minutes and agenda for today’s meeting. The motion passed unanimously (8-0-0).

Gucyski arrived at 9:19 am

Takemoto brought Gucyski up to date on referendum and committee voted. Bolin moved that the SFAC recommend that a student referendum be conducted in late February 2015 so that the student body may decide with a simple majority if an increase of $165 per semester ($124 per summer) in the Student Body Center (USU) fee should occur for the construction, renovation, expansion and operation of the University Student Union. The increased fee will not go in effect until the year the renovated sections of the USU open. Haberstroh seconded. The motion passed (8-0-1).

1. Review of Student Fee Activity Report 2013-2014 Year to Date. Fugatt reviewed current activity report. Wording of “removing course” has been changed to read “Fee cancelled due to Student Excellence Fee” per Soni’s request in last meeting. Haberstroh asked if “attached to CPI” should be added to the existing ASI Fee description. Fugatt stated he will add.
2. Proposed Meeting Schedule 2014-2015 Academic Year. Takemoto reviewed the meeting schedule for the 2014-2015 academic year. Takemoto took this time to say goodbye to the current ASI student government members that will not be returning for the 2014-2015 academic year. Haberstroh stated that the current ASI student government members will continue to work throughout the summer to help educate incoming new and transfer students. It was also noted that Colburn will not return as a member of the SFAC next academic year.
3. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

Tami Williams, Division of Student Services

(These minutes have not been approved)