



Resolution # 9-08

# The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA)

of the 2008 - 2009 Session

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

*Be it Enacted by the Association, having been brought to the floor by 2/3s a*

## RESOLUTION

### Facilities Fee Organization

(Decided: [26/0/0])

#### **Nature of the Problem:**

Currently a student facility's fee has been assessed to all students at University Park against the desire of the duly elected student government. This fee is fifty dollars a semester per student or approximately two million dollars a semester. A major objection by the student body and the UPUA has been the lack of clear student-controlled governing mechanisms for this money. Currently, and as far as the elected leadership is aware, no governing entity exists for this fee and the money generated. After passing an initial resolution on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008, a compromise has initially been reached. This came after discussions between UPUA President Gavin Keirans, GSA President Alfonzo Mendosa, Vice President Damon Sims, Vice President for Business and Finance Al Horvath and at the approval of President Spanier. This compromise offers extensively more than the Commonwealth Campus structure of governing, but is not to the extent of the original resolution passed on August 27<sup>th</sup>. This resolution will serve as a stepping stone for future internal governing changes in order to have the bylaws reflect the creation of this board.

#### **Recommended Course of Action:**

*Nature of the Fee:*

#### **Funding Parameters of the Facilities Fee**

- Monies generated from the Facilities Fee will be used to accommodate improvements and expansions to non-academic, recreational and/or multi-use space for students.
- The Facilities Fee will not be used to support on-going operational costs associated with any project.
- The Facilities Fee will not be used to pay debt service.
- The Facilities Fee will not be used to pay for rental agreements.
- The Facilities Fee will not be raised more than the rate of in state tuition or inflation for a given year.
- Monies raised from the Facilities Fee at University Park will be used at University Park.
- Monies not used in a particular year will be carried over from year to year for use when enough fund are generated to complete an approved project. Interest will be credited (using the University's short term rate) on an annual basis to any unused funds.
- New facilities or modifications to current facilities will be consistent with the campus' strategic and master physical facilities plans.

1 **Composition of Facilities Fee Advisory Committee**

- 2
- 3 • The campus shall establish a representative committee to recommend and advise the President
- 4 on proposed use of these funds. Final authority for use of funds shall be vested in the President
- 5 and Board of Trustees.
- 6 • The committee shall be co-chaired by the President of the University Park Undergraduate
- 7 Association (UPUA) and the President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA).
- 8 • The eight student members shall include six undergraduate students, including the UPUA
- 9 President, and two graduate or professional students, including the GSA President. The UPUA shall
- 10 appoint the other five undergraduate students, and the GSA President shall appoint the other graduate
- 11 or professional student.
- 12 • The five non-student voting members shall include the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Vice
- 13 President for Finance and Business, the Director of Campus Planning and Design, the Director of
- 14 Intercollegiate Athletics or a representative, and a representative from the Faculty Senate's
- 15 Committee on University Planning.
- 16 • In addition to the voting membership, non-voting ex-officio participants shall be invited to join the
- 17 committee's activities and deliberations on the basis of their expertise, knowledge, or interest.
- 18

19 **Expectations of Facilities Fee Committee**

- 20
- 21 • This committee will make every effort to secure wide input into the proposed use and administration of
- 22 these fees before reviewing and recommending proposals to the President.
- 23 • This committee will provide to the campus community an annual public and itemized statement
- 24 regarding the disposition of the student facilities fee.
- 25

26 **Additional Sources of funding:** The campus should make every effort to explore additional sources of

27 financial support for any proposed capital expansion project to assist in minimizing fees charged to students.

28 Respectfully submitted,  
29  
30 Gavin Keirans,  
31 UPUA President

32  
33  
34 Brought to floor by 2/3s

Signature of the Speaker:

*Ralph K. Civello*

35 \_\_\_\_\_  
36 *Gavin Keirans*

Affirm

37  
38 \_\_\_\_\_  
39 [President]

Veto

[Gavin Keirans]

40  
41 The University Park Undergraduate Association  
42  
43