Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations
Guidelines for Decision Making

1. Extent of contribution to one or more of the following:
   - Providing a service to the student body.
   - Supplementing the academic curriculum.
   - Helping to foster a sense of community on the Twin Cities campus.

2. Quality and quantity of programs and services provided to the student body, consistent with the mission of the organization.

3. Extent of and demand for the programs and services provided. Groups must quantify their answer by such things as attendance numbers at events, number of phone calls / office visits, inquiries, etc. Groups must specify the method of tabulation and provide specific documentation upon request.

4. Breadth of service to students across academic departments or academic units.

5. Targeting of programs and services to the largest number of students consistent with the need.

6. Demonstration of benefits of programs and services to students who pay the student services fees but do not participate in the programs and services.

7. Efforts to secure funding in addition to the student services fees.

8. Demonstration of financial need that cannot be fulfilled with alternative sources of income.

9. All organizations (student groups and administrative units) must fully justify their fees request, including any financial reserves.
   - In response to its own needs, operating risks (i.e. fluctuations in enrollment) and budgeting practices, organizations should establish an internal requirement for reserve funds.
   - This requirement is not translated into an arbitrary SSF rule, i.e. 10% of operating funds. It is recommended that operating reserves for student groups be between 0-10%, but a minimum reserve is not required.
   - Administrative units are not required to maintain minimum or maximum reserves.
· The SSFC has the ability to reduce financial reserves for any organization – administrative unit or student group – if proper justification is not found for the requested amount.

10. Student groups must fully justify their use of staff to the SSFC, but a maximum percentage of fees income to fund staff is not imposed.

· What is provided to students who pay the Student Services Fee from administrative units versus student groups is generally quite different. Since administrative units are primarily dedicated to providing services to students, the SSFC will impose no restriction on staff compensation for administrative unit employees.

· The Fees system would be severely constrained if student groups become reliant on paid staff. Fees money to pay staff should only be used if they are a necessary component of a group’s ability to provide high-quality, relevant services to students.

11. Demonstration of compliance with the audit/agreed-upon procedures performed by audit firm designated by the Student Fees Committee.

12. Written justification of significant deviation from the proposed budget outlined in the prior year’s student services fees request.

13. Previous access to funding from student services fees shall not be considered when evaluating requests.
Student Services Fees Committee  
Administrative Unit  
Final Recommendations  

Unit: Learning Abroad Center  
Fiscal Year: 2013  
Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $114,882  
Recommended Allocation: $114,882

Majority Recommendation:

At the committee’s request, the Learning Abroad Center provided an all-funds budget in their fees request. This helped the committee gain insight into how the unit is funded and operates as a whole and the role that student services fees play in the Learning Abroad Center’s operating budget.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Learning Abroad Center provides an excellent and necessary service available for all students that study abroad. The committee recognizes that international experiences directly supplement the academic curriculum and contribute to creating a more international campus atmosphere. GR: 1

2) The Learning Abroad Center serves a large number of students annually across all academic units and departments. GR: 3 and 4

3) The Learning Abroad Center does an outstanding job of advertising its services and publicizing the broad study abroad experiences available. LAC’s publication of a booklet highlighting study abroad programs that is distributed across campus is one example. GR: 5

4) Student Services Fees represent only a small percentage of the Learning Abroad Center’s total budget. GR: 7
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Learning Abroad Center

Fiscal Year: 2014
Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $119,568  Recommended Allocation: $119,568

Majority Recommendation:

At the committee’s request, the Learning Abroad Center provided an all-funds budget in their fees request. This helped the committee gain insight into how the unit is funded and operates as a whole and the role that student services fees play in the Learning Abroad Center’s operating budget.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Learning Abroad Center provides an excellent and necessary service available for all students that study abroad. The committee recognizes that international experiences directly supplement the academic curriculum and contribute to creating a more international campus atmosphere.  GR: 1

2) The Learning Abroad Center serves a large number of students annually across all academic units and departments. GR: 3 and 4

3) The Learning Abroad Center does an outstanding job of advertising its services and publicizing the broad study abroad experiences available. LAC’s publication of a booklet highlighting study abroad programs that is distributed across campus is one example. GR: 5

4) Student Services Fees represent only a small percentage of the Learning Abroad Center’s total budget.  GR: 7
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: The Minnesota Daily
Fiscal Year: 2013
Vote: 7-0-1

Requested Allocation: $505,000
Recommended Allocation: $505,000

Majority Recommendation:

Comments: The Committee agrees that the Minnesota Daily provides a great service to the student body. The Daily is a very high-caliber, award-winning student-run newspaper, providing an accessible and free news source to all fees-paying students both on campus and online. Because of the high level of service that the Daily provides, the Committee has recommended a base funding level of $505,000. This is meant to show our general support for the Daily as an institution and to show that we acknowledge $505,000 as a legitimate annual fees request.

Directives: Despite the fact that one can learn about the history of the University by looking through old issues of the Minnesota Daily, there is a surprising lack of historical records about the paper itself. The Committee believes that due to high turnover in student groups like the Daily, it is very important to have accurate historical records. These records would include staffing, financial, and other important information. If this responsibility was taken very seriously (such as being a formal part of an employee’s job description), it would be easy for the future leaders of the Minnesota Daily to know exactly when the computers were purchased, how and when money was spent, how many people were on staff, and anything else they might need to know. With all historical information in one place, the organization should run much more smoothly.

Guidelines for Decision Making:

1). Available to all students and faculty on campus. GR 4, 5

2). Additional funding comes from ad sales. GR 7

3). Helps to inform students about events on campus. GR 1
Minority Recommendation:

The Committee Minority is deeply concerned by the enormous balance on both the General Reserve Fund (Cash Account) and the Transactional Reserve Fund (Ameriprise Investment Account). The Daily claims that it requires a reserve balance equals 6 months operating budget in order to maintain financial stability in the program, but yet the combined balance of two accounts is well above the 6 months operating budget. The Daily sees that the purposes of the two accounts are different. Contrary to Minnesota Daily’s view, the Minority sees no reason to treat the two accounts differently. The Minority believes that the combined balance of the two accounts should be equal to the 6 months operating budget and not more. Given the current financial standing, it is the Committee’s minority opinion that the Daily can continue its current operation with less than the requested amount despite of the balance sweep. The ending balance as of the end of 2011 on the cash account was $481,055. Subtracting the projected deficit of $28,993 for FY 2012, the projected ending balance on the cash accounting will be $452,062. With the $250,00 balance sweep the ending balance at the end of FY 2012 will be $202,062. This amount represents an excessive surplus. The Minority of the Committee believes that the Daily should return the excessive surplus to the students by reducing the amount of its funding request. The Minority of the Committee urge the future Committee to continue scrutinize the requested amount and to make sure that surplus is returned to student via a reduction of funding request.

It is also the Minority’s opinion that the calculation of the suggested 6 months operating reserve is misleading. In the current calculation, the operating expense includes rent which the Daily receive a waiver from the University. The proposed total expense of $1,636,248 includes $285,000 in “Rent and Utilities”; but the Daily receives $275,000 in “University Trade” which is equivalent to a rent waiver. Taking the rent expense out of the equation, the total expense should equal to $1,361,248 and dividing this amount by half will yield a 6 months operating expense of $680,624. The balance of the Investment account as presented in the proposal is $848,844; this balance alone is well above the 6-months operating budget under either calculation, not to mention the additional amount in the cash reserve account. The Committee’s minority agrees with the comment from the past committees that the Daily’s “annual request reduces the need to hold large reserves for a catastrophic event”. The annual request along with its $2 million insurance policy both reflect that the massive reserve accounts is an unreasonable way to spend students’ monies.

The Minority of the Committee is also disappointed to see that the Daily has continued to ignore the recommendation of the past committees.
The Student Fees Committee for 2006-2007 recommended an equipment replacement plan so that purchases of equipment take place over several years instead of all at once.

The Student Fees Committee for 2007-2008 felt that the reserves the Daily was keeping were far in excess of what is recommended for student fees units. The Committee understood that corporate advisors recommended a larger reserve, but the Committee discouraged the Daily from comparing itself to larger, metropolitan newspapers. The Committee felt that these comparisons created goals and ideas that were “unrealistic and reckless when it comes to spending student’s money.” The Committee felt that if something “catastrophic” were to occur, it would warrant a special circumstance. The Committee felt that building massive reserves to prepare for huge disasters is not the intent of the Student Services Fee.

The Student Fees Committee for 2010-2011 generally did not agree with the Daily’s justification for their reserve amount. The Student Fees Committee for 2010-2011 went as far as to provide the Daily with a model to assist the Daily to determine an appropriate level of reserves.

The Student Fees Committee for 2011-2012 pointed out that the Daily had cut employees’ pay and student management positions in FY 2010 while they deposited $172,771 into it investment account. The Committee asked the Daily “to identify what action it would take if the Daily faced a 10% cut in Student Services Fees. The Daily showed proposals to cut student salaries and eliminate positions as well as current programs. The Daily made no indication that reserves would be used to cover the difference.”

Year after year, the Student Service Fees Committees have recommended the Daily to reduce its reserve account to a reasonable level, and yet the Daily had shown no effort in its part to reconsider its reserve policy. When the Daily was asked again this year to identify what action would it take if it were to face a cut in funding. The Daily’s response was that it would cut employees’ salaries and positions. This is a clear indication that the Daily has no intent to work with the Committee on the issue that the Committee found most problematic, which is the excessive reserve. The combined balance of the General Reserve Fund and the Transactional Reserve Fund should not exceed the 6 months operating budget. It is the minority opinion of the Committee that funding allocation should continue to decrease until the combined reserve balance is reduced to the reasonable level.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: The Minnesota Daily

Fiscal Year: 2013

Vote: 8-0-0

Balance Sweep of $250,000

Majority Recommendation:

The Committee recognizes that many collegiate newspapers that are comparable to the Minnesota Daily in regards to distribution levels elect to carry a financial reserve that is equivalent to six months of operating expenses. The Committee does not believe that it is inappropriate for the Minnesota Daily to carry reserves that are equivalent to six months of operating expenses.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) Currently, the Minnesota Daily does indeed have the financial reserves in their long-term investment account to cover more than six months of operating expenses. In addition to the long-term reserves that the Minnesota Daily carries, over $400,000 is being kept in a short-term transactional cash account. GR: 9

The Committee also recognizes that the Minnesota Daily has produced a technology replacement policy that would replace one-half of the organization’s equipment every three years. The Committee is concerned that a technology replacement plan that entails replacing a large proportion of technology at once places an undue financial burden upon the student body. A strong technology replacement plan will also help to reduce the confusion that is caused by high staff turnover when replacing important equipment.

The Committee must also note that the policy that the Minnesota Daily provided was not presented as a policy that was either accepted or circulated within the organization.

Directives: The Committee recommends that a balance sweep of $250,000 be imposed to effectively reduce the excessive cash reserves that the Minnesota Daily currently holds. The committee believes that reserves covering nearly a year’s worth of the organization’s expenses are unnecessary and do not benefit the student body or student experience. In addition, the Committee firmly believes that the Minnesota Daily is able to operate at the same level of quality in light of the balance sweep.

The purpose of the balance sweep is to reduce the bloated reserve the Minnesota Daily carries. The purpose of the balance sweep is not to reduce the operating expenses of the Minnesota Daily.
For many years, the Committee has recommended that the Minnesota Daily slowly reduce its reserve accounts and invest in staff, students and the development of a better organization.

Instead, the Minnesota Daily has cut staff while bolstering its reserves. For example, on what the Minnesota Daily referred to as a “down year”, compensation expenses were slashed while $150,000 was added to reserve accounts that should already have been considered full.

The Committee strongly urges that the Minnesota Daily reduce its cash reserves by the amount of the balance sweep. After intense review, the Committee believes that this can be done without any cuts to staff. The Committee believes that a cut in staffing or production as a reaction to the balance sweep would be inappropriate.

The Committee also urges the Minnesota Daily to create and implement an equipment replacement policy. This is also a recommendation that the Committee has put forth multiple times over many years. Students should not have to foot the bill of an across-the-board replacement of equipment during a single year while the organization could easily spread this cost between multiple years.

The balance sweep leaves a large amount of cash in the transactional accounts of the Minnesota Daily. This has been done intentionally to allow for the implementation of a technology replacement policy and further investments in staff.

The committee recommends that the Minnesota Daily begin a staggered replacement policy immediately.

Finally, the Committee recommends that the Minnesota Daily reposition its long-term investment account from its current home that is vulnerable to market conditions to a stable form that would not realize significant losses if liquidated during crisis or other event to cover expenses. It was noted in the group’s presentation that during the 2008 recession, a loss of nearly $200,000 was realized by the Minnesota Daily’s investment account.

While the gain on interest would be less if not invested in the stock market, the Committee believes that students should not have to absorb the losses of uncertain economic times more so than they currently do.
Student Services Fees Committee  
Administrative Unit  
Final Recommendations  

Unit: Northrop Concerts and Lectures/SCP  

Fiscal Year: 2013  
Vote: 8-0-0  

Requested Allocation: $75,000  
Recommended Allocation: $56,000  

Majority Recommendation:  

The Committee felt that the Northrop Concerts and Lectures/SMFN provides high quality concerts and services to the students at the University of Minnesota during the Summer season and that they should be recognized for doing so. However, the Committee had issue with the request for additional funding for the group as the model the group is pursuing is not one that the Committee believes best serves the fees paying students or follows the Guidelines for Decision-Making.  

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:  

1) The Committee believes that not enough summer fees paying students are being reached in the programming that is available or would be reached with the additional funding requested. GR: 4 – Breadth of service to students across academic departments or academic units.  

2) The Committee feels that current survey data reflects only the people already interested in the types of programming provided, not all fees paying students. The Committee would like to see expanded surveying and proof of benefits to all fees paying students before increasing the funding provided to the unit. GR: 5 – Targeting of programs and services to the largest number of students consistent with the need.  

3) The Committee cannot justify spending more money on this program while they continue to provide services only to a small segment of the fees paying students during the summer. GR: 6 – Demonstration of benefits of programs and services to students who pay the student services fees but do not participate in the programs and services.  

4) The Committee is concerned that the number of students that are being reached by the programming is not high enough. The events need to be targeted to the student body, but most of the people attending these events are not summer fees paying students. GR: 2 – Quality and quantity of programs and services provided to the student body, consistent with the mission of the organization.  

Directives: The Committee would like to see improved attempts to engage the students of the University in determining the types of acts that are booked and the scope of these events. The surveys provided by Northrop Concerts and Lectures only polled those who were at the events,
Student Services Fees Committee  
Administrative Unit  
Final Recommendations

whom the Committee believe have already demonstrated a preference for the type of concerts that have been put on. The Committee believes this would expand appeal and make more students who are paying the fees aware of the program. By not funding at the requested level this year, the Committee is hoping to see a revitalization of the group’s mission to provide better students while also reaching many more than are currently being reached. The Committee was concerned with the inconsistency of this organization’s plan. They currently are claiming to be pursuing a model of fewer concerts with better and higher profile artists, yet the application suggests that the number of concerts will actually increase by a significant amount for the 2013 season. Committing to one model will enable Northrop to strengthen future applications.
Student Services Fees Committee  
Administrative Unit  
Final Recommendations  

Unit: Northrop Concerts and Lectures  
Fiscal Year: 2014  
Vote: 8-0-0  

Requested Allocation: $75,000  
Recommended Allocation: $0  

Majority Recommendation:  
The Committee believes that the summer concerts offered by the Northrop is a great program that energizes the campus during the quiet summer months. However, the Committee expressed concern that the fees paying students are not the majority participants of these events so the allocation of student fees cannot be well justified. The Committee finds that the current funding proposal has two contradicting ideas on how Northrop will expand the program. On one hand, Northrop proposes to mitigate the additional cost of bringing in well-known artists by hosting fewer concerts; but on the other hand, Northrop proposes to host a series of additional concerts in the St. Paul Campus. The St Paul series particularly concerns the Committee because the enrollment rate in the St Paul Campus is significantly lower than the Minneapolis Campus during the summer section. As presented by Northrop, the estimated attendance of the St Paul series is only 500, this small number of attendants makes it hard to justified that it is a prudent to allocating funding to the program. The Committee asks Northrop to re-envision their program to host concerts and events throughout the academic year so more fees paying students can benefit from the program. At the current proposal, the Committee finds it hard to approve the requested amount since only a small fraction of fees paying students are being benefited from the program. It is a burden to fees paying students to subsidize a program that they only make up a small part of the total attendance. The intention to allocate $0 for fiscal year 2014 is not to cut the program entirely but to encourage Northrop to revise the funding request to and present it to the Committee next year.  

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:  

1) The surveys suggest that only a small number of participants are enrolled in the summer section. GR: #6  

2) The Committee felt that the program does not reach the large number of students that are paying for the fees. GR: #5  

Directives: The Committee would like to see the program to reach to a broader student audience, especially those who pays for the student services fees in the summer. With the low participation rate of fees paying students, it is hard to justify funding to the current program.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

The Committee believes that Northrop needs to better demonstrate how the fees paying students can benefit from the program.

The Committee also recommends Northrop to consider making the concert series a year around program instead of summer program. Since Northrop Auditorium is scheduled to be opened and available for public events, hosting concerts and lectures year around can spread to cost out to a larger student body. It is the Committee’s belief that a year round program will increase the participating rate of fees paying students. The Committee urges Northrop to re-envision the program and present it to the Committee again in the coming year.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Radio K

Fiscal Year: 2013

Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $237,073  
Recommended Allocation: $237,073

Majority Recommendation:

The Committee is impressed by the operation of Radio K. The increase in listenership after the upgrade of their antenna height demonstrates a prudent use of student services fees. The Committee is particularly impressed with the student mentorship program. This program is a good way for students to share their knowledge and experience with their peer and also it encourages new students to be involved in the university community. The Committee also appreciates Radio K’s attempts to control travelling costs by only attending conventions that the board of advisors see beneficial.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The program reaches out to a wide range of audience GR: 1, 2 and 5

2) The program offers diversity in programming that meet the diverse preferences of the student body. GR: 4, 5

3) Volunteer and mentorship program provides a great learning experience for not only the students who are being mentored but also the students who are mentoring others. The program fosters a sense of community. GR: 1

4) Pledge drives shows an efforts to secure funding in addition to the student services fees. GR: 7

Directives: The Committee urges Radio K to set forth a plan that would spread out the cost of renovating their tower over several years so that Radio K can avoid drastic increase in fees request in a short period. The current information provided to the Committee is unclear and ambiguous; it is impossible to make any funding decision based on the current information. The Committee asks Radio K to revise the tower replacement proposal to provide clear cost information and an adequate timeline.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Radio K

Fiscal Year: 2014

Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $242,999  Recommended Allocation: $242,999

Majority Recommendation:

We are very impressed with the level of professionalism that Radio K has with their student leaders. We also like the fact that the whole radio station is run by students. We think it is very impressive that Radio K is very careful about what they spend their budget on. We think that this is a very well run organization and we commend it on all of its successes.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) Volunteer and mentorship program. GR: #1
2) Wide range of audience GR: #1, 2, 5
3) Diversity in programming. GR: #4, 5
4) Pledge drives. GR: #7

Directives: We would like more information about the radio tower replacement and would urge long term planning out for the cost of the radio tower replacement.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Radio K Tower/Light Replacement

Fiscal Year: 2012-2013

Vote: 7-0-1

Requested Allocation: $10,000  
Recommended Allocation: $10,000

Majority Recommendation:

The Committee appreciated Radio K’s effort to delay the large cost of replacing their tower by replacing the LED lights, potentially lengthening the life of the tower. The Committee understands that this one-time fee includes the cost of both the lights themselves and their installation.

Directives: At next year’s off year update, the Committee would like to gain a more detailed understanding of the long-term costs of the tower replacement, as well as the potential timeline.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Radio K Tower/Light Replacement

Fiscal Year: 2013

Requested Allocation: $10,000  
Recommended Allocation: $0

Minority Recommendation:

The minority view agrees with the majority in the level of professionalism of Radio K and the nurturing of student leadership. The minority also agrees with the tower lighting replacement. The minority even respects that Radio K tries to operate on a zero budget carry forward.

The minority feels, however, that Radio K is being short sighted in their reserves. Radio K stated in their documentation that they have delayed inspections, greasing and tensioning of their antenna tower guy wires and increased cooling capacity for the transmission equipment. They stated that this maintenance is needed in the near future. In addition, they stated in their documentation that their transmission tower (approximately $400,000) needs to be replaced in the next 3-5 years.

By postponing maintenance and not planning for capital replacement, Radio K is placing a burden on student fees by requesting funds in the year the maintenance or replacement can no longer be postponed.

Directives: Radio K should come up with a detailed maintenance schedule and equipment replacement plan. The funds to cover these infrequent-large dollar costs needs to be brought to the fees committee each year. The funds to meet these requirements should be built up over time verses waiting until it becomes a Federal Aviation Agency requirement that needs to be acted upon immediately.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Student Conflict Resolution Center

Fiscal Year: 2013
Vote: 8-0-0
Requested Allocation: $258,515  Recommended Allocation: $258,515

Fiscal Year: 2014
Vote: 8-0-0
Requested Allocation: $258,515  Recommended Allocation: $258,515

Majority Recommendation:

The Committee was pleased by the services that are being provided by the Student Conflict Resolution Center (SCRC). The Committee found that SCRC provided a high level of service with positive results. The Committee was also pleased with how the SCRC is spending the money allocated to them. The Committee was very pleased with the progress of the website as an effective means to connect with students.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Committee believes the SCRC services are of high quality and important to students.
   GR: 2. Quality and quantity of programs and services provided to the student body, consistent with the mission of the organization.

2) The SCRC reaches a broad array of students at all levels of their education.
   GR: 4. Breadth of service to students across academic departments or academic units.

3) The SCRC has proven its usefulness to students and the data provided is ample justification for their success in serving students.
   GR: 3. Extent of and demand for the programs and services provided. Groups must quantify their answer by such things as attendance numbers at events, number of phone calls / office visits, inquiries, etc. Groups must specify the method of tabulation and provide specific documentation upon request.

Directives: The Committee recognizes that the SCRC provides excellent service, but is concerned that students aren’t aware enough of the services available to them at SCRC. Although many students are not in need of these services at all times and are thus likely to be ignorant of the services until needed, the Committee would like to ensure that as many students as possible know of the SCRC. The Committee encourages the SCRC to continue to reach out to students through indirect means such as advisors and other student service organizations.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Aurora Center

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $ 243,031  Recommended Allocation: $ 243,031

Comments:

The Committee recognizes that the Aurora Center provides a much-needed service, and is a model for other universities looking to implement a similar service. The Committee feels that Aurora’s services are vital to the student body because Aurora offers an alternative to traditional counseling or legal options for students, especially those who find themselves in vulnerable situations and in need of sensitive support. The Aurora Center has faced consistent demand and has done a good job of making its services known to students.

The Aurora Center currently has two open positions, as well as an unfilled permanent director position (Katie Eichele currently serves as interim director). The committee encourages the Aurora Center to fill their open positions promptly so that it is operating at capacity and able to serve students as thoroughly as possible.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Boynton Health Services

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $8,450,776  Recommended Allocation: $8,450,776

Comments: The Committee continues to be impressed with the high quality and wide ranging services that Boynton Health Services (Boynton) provides. Concern about the appropriateness of the $10 mental health co-pay was expressed, but no change in policy was recommended. The Committee would like to see an analysis on the effect of removing the co-pay option on student use of the mental health services.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Boynton Health Services – Gopher Chauffeur

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $60,002  Recommended Allocation: $60,002

Comments: The Committee was impressed with the Gopher Chauffeur’s continued deliverance on the promise to provide a high quality service that contributes to the safety of students on campus. The third vehicle implementation appears to have had the desired effect and the Committee was pleased to see students choosing to be safe by utilizing this service. No further discussion of additional vehicles was had, so the funding has remained at the same level. The Committee also would like to commend Boynton on the low cost of the service given the popularity of the service.
Unit: Recreational Sports-Facility and Sports Fee

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $2,653,409  Final Allocation: $2,653,409

Comments: The Committee looks forward to a potential renovation and better utilization of the University Golf Course. The Committee is also pleased to hear that the facility expansion is expected to be completed on time and without major complication.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) A refurbished golf course will be enjoyed and utilized by more students. GR: 1 and 2
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Recreational Sports-Operational Fee

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $3,409,337  Final Allocation: $3,236,937

Comments: The Committee agrees that the Recreational Sports Department provides valuable services to students.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) Access to fitness equipment and organized sports are vital to promote health and wellness amongst students. GR: 1 and 2

2) The growing number of students participating in on campus exercise programs justifies an expansion of capacity. GR: 3
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Recreational Sports Advancement Program

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: N/A

Final Allocation: $122,400

Comments: The Committee appreciates that the Recreational Sports Unit continues to pursue additional sources of revenue.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The advancement program should help to improve the unit’s value for students by increasing additional revenue. GR: 7

Directive: The Committee would ask that the department make the results of its fundraising and advancement efforts available for review during the next fees request. It is important that the Committee can monitor the success of the advancement program, funded by student fees, over time. This would also help to create a more transparent process.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Student Unions and Activities- Operating

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $5,467,735  
Final Allocation: $5,467,735

Comments: The Committee recognizes SUA as an integral part of campus life, which provides a breadth of services to all fees-paying students. Their programs satisfy many needs of the student body by providing conveniently located services at the heart of all three campuses. Through SUA, students have access to programming that is frequent, high-quality, and low-to-no cost. Through their establishment of the Second Floor Advisory Committee, they have proven that they carefully consider the opinions of all students when making decisions that affect the future of the structure of Coffman Memorial Union’s second floor.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Student Unions and Activities- Bond Repayment

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $3,716,516  Final Allocation: $3,716,516

Comments: The Committee did not spend a great deal of time discussing this. SUA has an obligation to repay their bond, and have been using their allocated money to do so.
Student Services Fees Committee
Administrative Unit
Final Recommendations

Unit: Student Unions and Activities-Capital Asset and Maintenance

Off Year Update

Requested Allocation: $724,207
Final Allocation: $724,207

Comments: The Committee feels that this budget is appropriate and spending in this category has been reasonable and understandable.
Student Services Fees Committee  
Administrative Unit  
Final Recommendations  

Unit: University Student Legal Services  

Off Year Update  

Requested Allocation: $1,076,000  
Recommended Allocation: $1,076,000  

Comments: The Committee expressed its gratitude for USLS budget conscious approach to spending. The USLS provides professional legal services to students whom might not otherwise be able to afford without the support of student services fees. The Committee appreciates USLS's effort to educate students on the legal matters through outreach and educational programs. The Committee also appreciated USLS for taking the recommendation from previous year committee to expand the outreach program to transfer students and international students.  

The Committee was also asked to weigh in on the co-pay issue. The Committee supports the continuance of the co-pays. The Student Service Fees currently subsidizes legal advises on matters that related to student life, such as landlord/tenant disputes. The Committee believes that co-pays on legal advice on non-student life related matters are fair and necessary. There should be a balance between potential benefits and the cost, the Committee thinks that further subsidizing on non-student life related legal services would place an unjust burden on fees paying students whom do not use or choose to use such services.  

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:  

1) The potential benefits to students outweigh the small fees they pay.  
GR: 6  

2) Most students might not be able to afford professional legal advices otherwise.  
GR: 8  

3) Collecting co-pay on legal services on complicated or non-student life matters is a balanced approach. It offers low cost legal services to students who need the services and at the same time prevents fees paying students from paying for services that only benefit a faction of the student body.  
GR: 6  

Directives: The Committee recommends the USLS to continue their effort to make their services more known to the student body.