Resolution # 0607-03

A Recommendation in Support of Amending the Method for Calculating Graduate Student Fees

Purpose: To create a new system to calculate graduate and professional student activity fees so that it is fair and equivocal for all graduate and professional students utilizing campus activities and services.

WHEREAS, students who are enrolled in fewer hours than the amount required for full-time status pay many student fees on a pro-rated hourly basis, and

WHEREAS, all part-time students are currently assessed pro-rated fees on the basis that twelve (12) credit hours constitutes full-time status, and

WHEREAS, undergraduate and professional students who are taking fewer than twelve (12) credit hours are considered part-time students, and

WHEREAS, graduate students who are taking nine (9) or more credit hours are considered full-time students, and

WHEREAS, over one thousand two hundred (1200) graduate students were enrolled at nine (9) credit hours, and over four hundred (400) graduate students were enrolled at between nine (9) and twelve (12) credit hours during each semester of the 2005-2006 term, and

WHEREAS, these students received services through the University as though they were full-time students, and

WHEREAS, these students paid some fraction of the full student fee in a number of different categories, between 75% and 92% of the amount that similarly situated undergraduate and professional students who received those same services paid, and

WHEREAS, this discount represents a windfall of discounted services to graduate students enrolled in at least nine (9) credit hours but not more than eleven (11) credit-hours, and

WHEREAS, this discount represents a loss to the University of an amount in excess of fifty-five thousand dollars ($55,000) per semester with regard to the student activity fee alone, and

WHEREAS, the principles of fairness and equity demand that similarly situated students pay similar fees for identical services,

THEREFORE, the Student Fee Review Committee recommends that student fees for graduate students be calculated on the basis that nine (9) credit hours constitutes full-time status, and thus a full implementation of student fees take place upon enrollment in nine
(9) credit hours for graduate students, with appropriate alterations to the pro rata schedule, beginning in the 2007-2008 term.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Al Ludwig, Vice Chair, Student Fee Review Committee
Chelsea Johnson, Vice Chair, Student Fee Review Committee