Resolution 0809-01

WHEREAS, On Oct 22, 2001, University of Missouri-Columbia students voted on the approval of student fee funding for the Brewer Fieldhouse Expansion and Renovation Project, and

WHEREAS, The referendum, in original formatting, stated:

Option A – YES – I approve a Student Recreation fee increase of a maximum of $50 per semester to complete Recreation Center expansion phases 1-3. Phases 1-3 includes an expanded fitness center, additional fitness equipment, new student aquatic center (indoor/outdoor), new aerobic studios, new martial arts studios, new locker rooms, new sauna and steam-room, new indoor climbing wall, and a new juice bar & food venue, new air conditioning, heating, and fresh ventilation system. If approved, the fee will not go into effect until project completion and Board of Curator’s approval scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004.

Option B – YES – I approve a Student Recreation fee increase of a maximum of $75 per semester to complete Recreation Center expansion phases 1-3. Phases 1-3 includes an expanded fitness center, additional fitness equipment, new student aquatic center (indoor/outdoor), new aerobic studios, new martial arts studios, new locker rooms, new sauna and steam-room, new indoor climbing wall, and a new juice bar & food venue, new air conditioning, heating, and fresh ventilation system, and a new 50M competitive pool and diving well. If approved, the fee will not go into effect until project completion and Board of Curator’s approval scheduled for Fiscal Year 2004.

Option C – NO – I do not approve a Student Recreation fee increase for the Recreation Center expansion.

, and

WHEREAS, The referendum required a simple majority of Options A and B combined to pass Option A or a simple majority to pass Option B, and

WHEREAS, Of 4,141 participating students, 18% voted for Option A, 65% voted for Option B, and 17% voted for Option C, and

WHEREAS, On April 12, 2005, University of Missouri-Columbia students voted on the approval of student fee funding for the New MU Student Center Project, and

WHEREAS, The referendum, in original formatting, stated:

Do you agree to a student fee increase of $35 per semester to renovate and expand Brady Student Commons into the proposed New Student Center? The fee will not to go into effect until the completion of the first phase of expansion (projected for Fall Semester 2008) and will not apply to graduate students registered for less than 3 credit hours.

, and

WHEREAS, The referendum required a simple majority to pass, and
WHEREAS, Of 6,036 participating students, 64.33% voted for the referendum and 35.67% voted against it, and

WHEREAS, The current referendum process allows the approval of student fee increases for new construction while assuming 0% of the cost for 3-4 years, and

WHEREAS, It is attractive to delay a student fee increase for new construction until such construction is complete, but this enables all current students to approve a new fee while very few will pay any portion of it, and

WHEREAS, At their Feb 1, 2008, meeting, the UM Board of Curators raised questions about the validity of a referendum for a $16.75 per credit hour ($201/semester for 12+ credit hours) student fee increase at the University of Missouri-Kansas City to be charged starting Fall 2011, and

WHEREAS, This referendum passed on November 15, 2007, by a simple majority with 786 in favor of the increase and 747 against it, and

WHEREAS, At their April 4, 2008, meeting, the UM Board of Curators approved a reduced UMKC New Student Center fee of $13.75 per credit hour ($165/semester for 12+ credit hours) to be charged starting Fall 2011, and

WHEREAS, Both the Brewer Fieldhouse Expansion and Renovation Project and New MU Student Center Project referenda passed with more than a 3/5ths majority of voting students, and

WHEREAS, Future new student fee referenda that pass with fewer than a 3/5ths majority of voting students will face further scrutiny by the Board of Curators, and

WHEREAS, A higher standard than a simple majority of voting students should be required for new student fees to be assessed, and

THEREFORE, Be it enacted that the Student Fee Review Committee Articles of Cooperation are amended:

6.31 (E) Student Referendums

(5) A referendum for a new or increased student fee for the construction or renovation of a campus facility shall be proposed as a phased-in fee with no less than 25% of the fee assessed in the fiscal year(s) following the referendum’s passage.

Respectfully Submitted,

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