Resolution # 0809-06

A Resolution Outlining the Graduate Professional Council’s Recommendations for Supporting a Fee Increase for the Counseling Center

Whereas, the MU Counseling Center is committed to maximizing the potential growth and psychological well-being of individuals in the campus community and the campus as a whole and preparing students to effectively respond to pressures of a changing world, and

Whereas, the Counseling Center offers: a) individual, group and couples psychological counseling and crisis intervention; and b) and programming and consultation to individuals, student groups, academic departments and campus organizations, and

Whereas, the Counseling Center serves freshmen (14.8% of clients in the past three years), sophomore (18.2%), junior (19.2%), senior (21.8%), graduate and professional (22.1%) and other and unspecified students (3.9%), and

Whereas, the Counseling Center hopes to increase availability of the whole range of counseling services by hiring an additional full-time mental health professional in the projected 2010 fiscal year, and

Whereas, the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) recommends a minimum ratio of one mental health professional for every 1,000 to 1,500 students, and

Whereas, the present ratio in the MU Counseling Center is one mental health professional for every 2,835 students, and

Whereas, the Counseling Center need 19 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) professional staff to meet IACS minimal recommendation, and

Whereas, the Counseling Center currently has 10.5 FTE psychologists and counselors serving the students and will have 11 FTE psychologists and counselors this summer, and

Whereas, the Student Health Center, which also employs mental health professionals, and the Counseling Center together do not meet the IACS recommended minimum, and
Whereas, the Counseling Center seeks an inflationary increase to maintain the current level of staffing and service and seeks an additional $.44 increase per student per semester to help hire an additional full-time mental health professional in the projected 2010 fiscal year, and

Whereas, the $.44 increase would be supplemented with general operating university funding to hire an additional full-time mental health professional, and

Whereas, the Student Fee Review Committee and Missouri Student Association recommend an inflationary increase and an additional $0.44 (7.7%) increase per student per semester, and

Therefore, the Graduate and Professional Council recommends an inflationary increase and an additional $0.44 (7.7%) increase per student per semester to hire an additional full-time mental health professional in the projected 2010 fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Graduate Professional Council