SUBJECT: REVIEW PROPOSAL TO INCREASE STUDENT ACTIVITY AND SERVICE FEES

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Review proposal to increase the Student Activity and Service Fees effective academic year 2010/11.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Under Sections 1009.24,(10),(11),(13), Florida Statutes, the University is authorized to establish a separate Activity & Service, Health and Athletic fee. The 2010 Florida Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, HB 5201 which allows for a one time increase of these fees by 15 percent for the 2010-11 academic year. Prior legislation restricted the annual increase for these fees to a 5 percent increase per year. This restriction will be returned for the 2011-12 and subsequent fiscal years.

A committee was established and is recommending a $1.56 increase. The primary purpose of the increase is to provide adequate operational and reserve funding to maintain quality programs and facilities for FAU students.

Over the past nine years, the University has experienced a significant increase in enrollment and the number of student organizations, activities, and programs have tripled during this time. In addition, we must continue to provide adequate operating funds for all facilities that receive partial or full funding from the Activity and Service fee. The costs to operate these facilities will continue to escalate.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

July 2010

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fee increase will generate approximately $759,425 for the fall and spring semesters; $882,244 dollars annually.

Supporting Documentation: None

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An Activity and Service Fee increase would enhance funding needs for the following:

- Continue to increase operating funds to the University Student Unions with the goal of reaching the SUS average for Student Unions (33% of the A&S fee allocation).

- Build sufficient reserves for all A&S operated facilities (Boca Student Union, Davie Student Union, Jupiter Burrow, Davie Wellness Center and Boca Recreation & Fitness Center) to cover unforeseen emergencies.

- Provide adequate funding for programs, clubs and organizations which have tripled in recent years. Sufficient funding is vital to creating a vibrant student life program outlined in the Strategic Plan.

- Provide funds to hire another Coordinator for the Office of Greek Life. The number of Greek Chapters has grown from 18 in 2006 to 25 in 2010. The goal is to have 30 active Greek chapters.

- Provide funding to address major technology and equipment needs for Owl Radio, Owl Television, and the University Press.