

University: University of Arizona

***OTHER FEES
FEE REQUEST***

Program: Student Affairs

Department: Vice President for Student Affairs

Is this a graduate or an undergraduate fee?

GRADUATE UNDERGRADUATE OTHER____FRESHMEN____

Is this a new fee or an increase to an existing fee?

NEW FEE X Amount requested: \$ 20.00

EXISTING FEE Current Fee: \$ _____ Requested Fee: \$ _____

BACKGROUND:

Following a surveying of the student body in fall of 2007 it was determined that The University of Arizona would proceed with a Student Services Fee to be implemented over the following two years. When polling students to determine their support for the fee it was not only clear that the entire student body would be supportive of a fee of this nature, but more specifically that the most supportive both of the fee in general and of the highest dollar amount per semester was the Freshman respondents. The vast majority of that population (92% of respondents) was supportive of the highest bracket option available on the survey of \$66 - \$85 per semester in the form of a student services fee. This response comes as no surprise considering the freshman class is the most in need and largest consumption group of student services on campus.

DISCUSSION:

Considering the survey results relative to the freshman respondents, it seemed necessary to make a special portion of the student services fee to be focused directly on the freshman class. In order to meet the needs and wants of new students at The University of Arizona a one-time fee of \$20/year is proposed to be charged to all first year students. All money collected through this fee will be targeted towards first year student success programs and support services. Uses of this fee would include tutoring (freshmen are particularly vulnerable in math, writing and several specific general education classes), welcome activities which would include opportunities for students to get connected to campus (the first weekend of school is a time when we "lose" students), convocation and other programs focused at helping our freshmen feel a part of this community and have

the support to be successful academically. These students are the most vulnerable demographic to dropping out, the more services that are offered to them for their success the better. This additional \$20/year fee would be allocated through recommendations made to the Vice President for Student Affairs by a committee made up of students, staff and faculty that represent the interests of first year student retention. Fifteen percent of the fee revenues will be set aside for need-based student financial aid.

RECOMMENDATION:

The University of Arizona recommends ABOR approval to implement a special fee of \$20 per year for all first year students to support first year student success programs and support services as recommended by committee of students, staff and faculty, and approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs.