THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

SUBJECT: 2005-06 Fee Assessments for Michigan Student Assembly (MSA), Student Legal Services (SLS), and School/College Governments

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of the following fee assessments:
- $7.19 per student per term for MSA (inc. of $0.50 from 2004-05);
- $6.00 per student per term for SLS (inc. of $0.50 from 2004-05); and
- $1.50 per student per term for School/College governments (no change from 2004-05)

Background: At the July 2004 Regents’ Meeting, the Regents re-authorized a fee of $6.69 per student per term for MSA, $5.50 per student per term for Student Legal Services and $1.50 per student per term for school and college governments.

MSA Fee: The MSA fee has not been changed since the 2002-03 academic year. The demand for services and programs exceeds the available funds.

The current MSA officers aim to ameliorate this funding problem by implementing a $0.50 per student per term increase in the MSA fee (see attached memorandum). An increase was approved via plebiscite voting in March 2005. The additional $37,500 per annum which would be generated by the fee increase will help their general operating needs.

SLS Fee: The SLS fee has not changed since the 1998-99 academic year. I support the need for an additional attorney to help with the housing issues of students and a $0.50 per student per term increase in the SLS fee will facilitate this operational need.

School/College Government Fees: The Division of Student Affairs believes that the school and college government organizations are adequately funded. Therefore, no increase is being requested for School/College Governments.

Recommendation: I recommend approval of the following fees for 2005-2006: $7.19 per student per term for Michigan Student Assembly, $6.00 per student per term for Student Legal Services, and $1.50 per student per term for school and college governments.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Royster Harper, Ed.D
Vice President for Student Affairs
July 2005
To: The University of Michigan Board of Regents

From: Michigan Student Assembly President

Re: Student Fee Request for 2005-2006

On behalf of the Michigan Student Assembly, I formally request a $.50 student fee increase to MSA’s current student fee of $6.69, for a total MSA student fee of $7.19. I also support a $.50 student fee increase for Student Legal Services, to SLS’ current fee of $5.50, for a total SLS for of $6.00.

The mission of the Michigan Student Assembly is to engage and support the campus community in a meaningful and positive way through events, activities, and services for students. The proposed increase in revenue for MSA would be used to support MSA’s mission.

At previous meetings, I spoke of MSA’s financial priorities, and those priorities remain the same:
- A housing attorney dedicated to litigation, legislation, and education efforts for student tenants living off campus, particularly those facing unsafe living conditions.
- Better supported events and activities on campus to further enrich the culture of the University of Michigan.
- An immigration attorney to address status issues for our international student community.

I understand the strain caused by the state’s economy and actions of the state legislature and will appreciate your support for our priorities.

I, along with my peers at MSA take our roles as good stewards of our funds seriously. Our allocation process is done in a viewpoint neutral, and Southworth compliant manner. Student organizations are allocated funds solely through a return receipt reimbursement process to ensure that students’ funds are being spent wisely and as promised in funding requests.

In summary, the Michigan Student Assembly requests that the Board of Regents authorize a $.50 student fee increase to MSA’s current student fee of $6.69, for a total MSA student fee of $7.19 for the next fiscal year so that MSA can better serve students, and I wholeheartedly support a $.50 increase for SLS to increase their current fee of $5.50 to $6.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Jesse Levine
President, Michigan Student Assembly