Title: STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY AND THE DISPOSITION OF STUDENT ACTIVITY/INCIDENTAL FEES

Code: B0202

Original Adoption: 6/27/94
Revised/Reviewed: 11/16/99
Effective: 11/17/99

Authority: Wis. Stats. §§ 38.145 and 38.14(9); Board Minutes, 6/27/94; 11/16/99

BACKGROUND

Wisconsin Statutes state that subject to the responsibilities and powers of the District Board and the President and faculty, that students shall be active participants in the governance of district policy development when affecting student interests. Students will have responsibility for the formulation and review of policies concerning student life and services.

Toward that end, students may determine and select representatives to participate in district governance. This section does not prohibit the board or president from selecting students to participate in district governance, but any student selected by those bodies or persons shall not be considered to be representatives of the students for the purposes of the students’ rights to select their representatives to participate in district governance. In accordance with Wis. Stats. § 38.14 (9), the Board may establish student activity/incidental fees (this responsibility has been delegated to the President), to fund the cost of services and activities offered as support services for regulation instruction.

In summary, the new law gives students an important right to have significant responsibility for the disposition of student activity/incidental fees under Wis. Stats. § 38.14 (9).

POLICY STATEMENT

The Board recognizes the students’ rights to select representatives to review and offer advice concerning the budget and disposition for student activity/incidental fees. While the responsibility for the disposition of student activity/incidental fees rests with the students, Wis. Stats. § 38.14 (9), specifically grants the authority to establish fee rates with the Board.

The division of these responsibilities between the Board and the students implies the need for cooperation. The Board encourages appropriate student representatives from the student governmental bodies to directly participate in district governance and policy formation and to exercise their authority regarding disposition of student activity/incidental fees.
These student representatives may delegate this authority to a subcommittee composed of student representatives and/or other students. The student representatives may also choose to involve faculty and/or other district staff in this process in an advisory capacity. Such district staff only has such authority in this process as is granted to them by the student representatives.

Student representatives are to review and approve expenditures from student activity/incidental fees. The representatives may seek the active participation of the president/designee during the formulation of the budgetary review process in regard to the disposition of the student activity/incidental fee. Conversely, student representatives or the president may prefer to wait until the student activity/incidental fee budget has been essentially finalized before the President/designee makes recommendations.

The student representatives, in consultation with the president, will adopt a student activity/incidental fee budget. It is hoped that a cooperative effort between the student representatives and the president/designee will eliminate the need for the board to reject material portions of these student activity/incidental activity fee budgets.

The Board/designee and the student representative should attempt to find a budget which is acceptable to both parties. However, the final approval authority rests with the Board.

The Board directs the President/designee to review the status of activity/incidental fees within the district and to make a report to the Board and appropriate student representatives as soon as practicable.

Further, the board recommends that the President/designee assign appropriate Student Affairs and financial staff and student representatives to design and implement procedures for effective and efficient review of student activity/incidental fees under Wis. Stats. § 38.145. Such procedures should provide for an appeal process should there be any irreconcilable differences of opinion between or among student organizations and the faculty and/or staff regarding disposition of student activity/incidental fees.