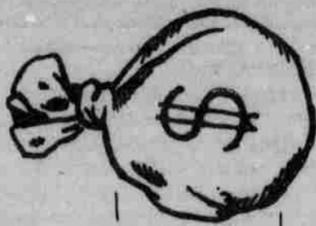


third dimension | student fees

SCORE
 St. Health \$1,000,000
 Rodeo Club \$00.00



\$8.11 of fee up for grabs each year

It is almost time to pay taxes again—not the income tax due April 15—the student fees due Feb. 12. You know, that \$61.50 listed on the tuition statement under the heading “Programs and Facilities Fees?”

As with most taxes, student-fee payers are not sure how that \$61.50 is spent.

Most of the fee is spent to partially finance the University Health Center, the Nebraska Union, Recreation Dept. and to pay off bonds sold to build the union and health center.

These are assumed to be more or less “fixed fees” and are almost automatically financed each year. After these major fee users take their portions from the student fee pie, \$8.11 is left for student organizations and activities.

Because of student fee controversy in the early 1970s, the NU Board of Regents established a Fees Allocation Board (FAB) in July 1973, in an effort to give all student organizations equal opportunity in receiving student fees.

FAB terms vary

FAB is comprised of two faculty and two staff members appointed by Ken Bader, vice-chancellor for student affairs, and eight students. Five students are appointed by the ASUN Senate and three are appointed by the Council on Student Life (CSL). Students are appointed for one-year terms and faculty members for two-year terms.

The five members appointed by the ASUN Senate each represent a major fee user. These include the health center, the Publications Board, ASUN, the Union and Recreation Dept.

Appointing members from these five groups assures a diversity of interests on the board, according to Jim Lewis, FAB faculty member.

By Jan. 31, FAB will have sent request forms to all student organizations eligible for student fees. This form includes totals from last year’s budget and estimated costs for expenses and income for the coming year.

Subcommittees recommend

After fee requests are returned, usually in February, FAB forms subcommittees to consider individual requests.

The subcommittees make recommendations to the board several weeks later. By majority vote, FAB members recommend fee disbursement and submit the suggestions to Bader in early spring.

Bader and the UNL chancellor review the recommendations and submit them for final approval at the May regents meeting.

FAB’s recommendations usually are changed slightly by the administration or the regents, Lewis said.

In addition, forms are not sent to religious organizations nor political groups since they have not been financed in the past with student fees, and probably will not receive student fees this year, Lewis said.

Any group which believes it may be eligible for student fees may submit a request for funds, he said. The budget form includes background goals of the organization.

Last spring, Lewis said, 48 organizations asked for student fees. Forty three of these received at least part of the total funds they requested.

Guidelines used by FAB when distributing funds include that:

—Consideration should be given to the use of student fee money for formation of new programs which possibly could become self-sufficient.

—Organizations should consider thoroughly other university and private sources of funds before coming to FAB. Efforts made to secure other funds will be considered in the allocation process.

—Priority will be given to programs which present diverse points of view.

—FAB will consider requests to finance registration fees for seminars but will not pay for travel, food and lodging expenses.

—Allocations will be made on a program-by-program basis. Although minor changes are inevitable, the money must be spent to serve the same purpose for which it was allocated.

—In considering current requests for funds, FAB will review the prior use of FAB-allocated funds by that group.

—Each organization receiving student fees is asked to keep detailed records of all expenditures and income.

FAB hearings are open to the public and interested persons can speak in opposition to or support of any fee request.

Students dissatisfied with FAB’s recommendation can appeal the decision to CSL, or may receive a rehearing by the board.