

Alternative fee structure OK'd

By Mary Jo Pitzl

A student fees structure combining mandatory and optional fees was unanimously approved by the university-wide task force to study student fees Saturday.

The two-part structure is the task force's recommended alternative to the current fees structure. The proposal will be reviewed and refined by the task force at their final meeting Thursday at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, according to chairman Hans Brisch.

The ten-member task force is working against a Dec. 15 deadline, when they are to forward their student fees recommendation to NU President Ronald Roskens.

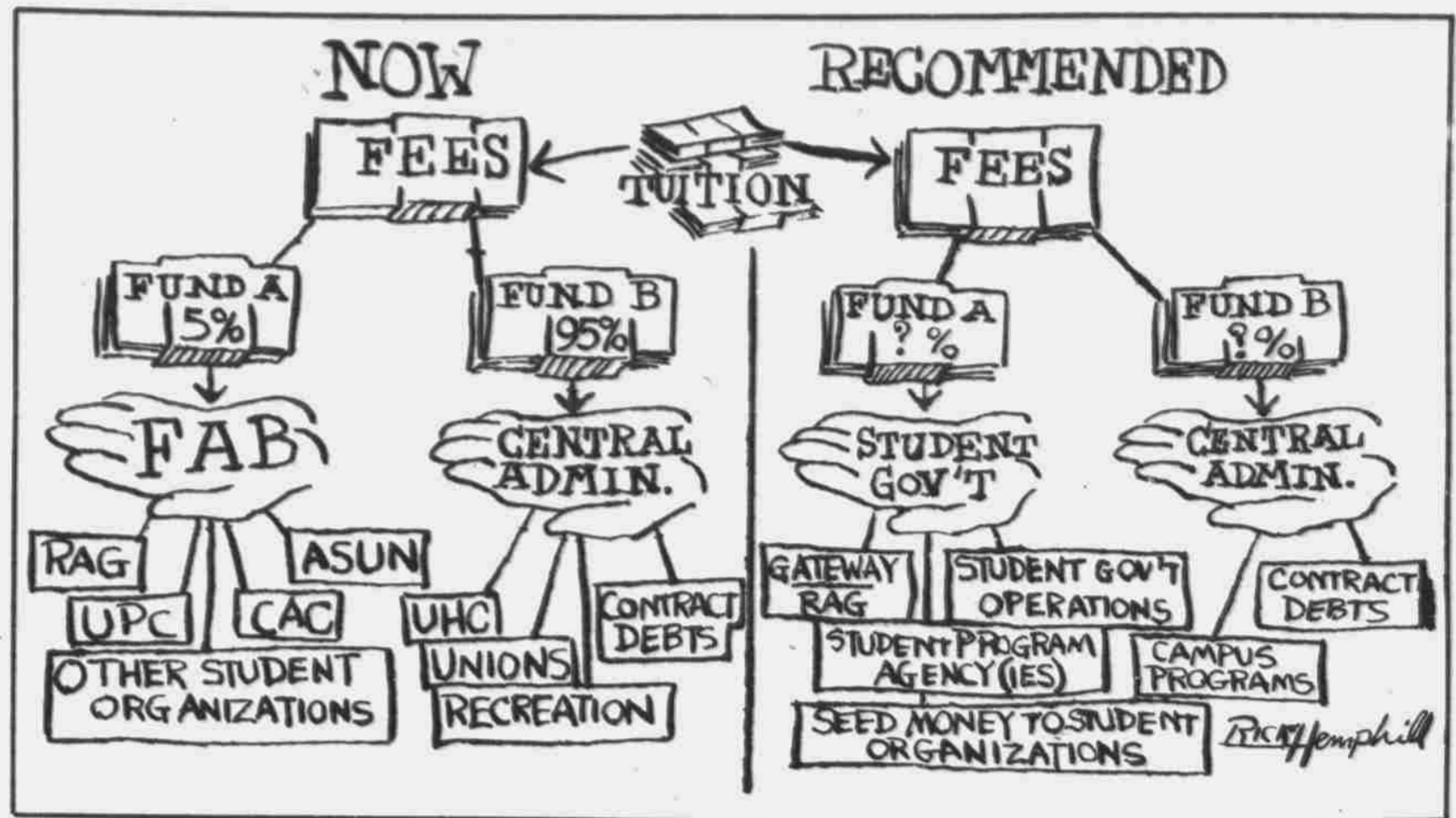
The recommendation approved by the seven task force members present Saturday splits student fees into mandatory and optional categories. The Fund A and Fund B divisions of the current fees system are retained under the mandatory category. However, the proposal eliminates a fees allocation board, which currently distributes a portion of student fees.

The recommendation is tailored to require as little mandatory student fee support as possible. Including a voluntary support system in addition to mandatory fees is one way the task force has tried to meet the NU Board of Regents charge to eliminate all student fees except for contractual obligations.

Contractual obligations include bond debts the university owes for construction of the residence halls, the Nebraska Unions and the University Health Center. Along with the bond debts, support for campus-wide, long-range projects which have specific commitments constitute Fund B, one of the mandatory student fee categories.

The other mandatory fees category, Fund A, consists of fees support to each campus' student government, student publications and student programming agencies. The task force still is working on a definition of which groups are considered as major programming agencies.

Included under Fund A is the seed money concept, a



The university-wide task force studying student fees recommended an alternate fees structure Saturday. On the left is the current UNL fees structure, on the right, the proposed system for all three campuses. The recommended system outlined here includes the mandatory fees structure; optional student fees are also included in the recommendation.

The task force will forward this recommendation to NU President Ronald Roskens to help him in making his proposal for a new NU student fees structure.

This "user fee" is combined with a voluntary fee program which gives the programming agencies authority to allocate a portion of their funds to fledgling student organizations.

The task force also recommended that the Cultural Affairs Committee (CAC) be shifted to Fund A support, with hopes that the CAC will eventually be supported entirely by state tax dollars.

The optional fees category of the proposal requires students to pay a fee for any space, equipment or program they want to use.

payment to form the optional fee support.

Under the voluntary system, students designate which organization they want their voluntary fees to support. This money is deposited in a student organizations account and distributed to the appropriate organizations.

UNO student representative Earl Berg presented several amendments to the Fund B definition that brought mixed reactions from task force members present at the five-hour meeting Saturday. At past meetings, Berg has voiced dissatisfaction with the current Fund B definition, saying that it needs more task force review.

Students affect policies of UN by membership in association

Students can directly affect the policies of the United Nations by joining the United Nations Association (UNA), according to Helen Garner, newly elected president of Lincoln's UNA branch.

Garner, elected Nov. 21, said UNA was formed to stimulate discussion and support for United States policies in the United Nations. She said the group provides information about issues the U.S. is currently studying through guest speakers, newsletters and group meetings.

Garner succeeded her husband Ralph as president of UNA. She said they became actively involved in the group in 1975 after retiring.

"It really helps to know what the U.N. is doing," she said. "It's a good thing and we should try to support it."

Lincoln's approximately 100 members meet nine or 10 times a year to discuss how United Nations policy affects Nebraskans, Garner said. Group members work on UNICEF drives, activities for United Nations day (Oct. 24) and membership drives, according to Garner. They also help university students plan the Model U.N. that

meets annually on UNL's campus.

Although Mrs. Garner will not be installed as president until January, she said plans are already being made for panels and speakers to discuss the arms control issue with interested UNA members. It is hoped these meetings will be arranged by mid-March, with a summary meeting in May, Garner said.

Garner encouraged students to become involved with UNA in order to understand "one of the most powerful groups in the world." She said there are now 21 students involved and the only requirements are \$10 dues and interest.



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