

June 16, 2005

05-100

AUTHORITY TO INCREASE STUDENT ACTIVITY, CONTACT
HOUR, AND TECHNOLOGY FEES FOR FY06

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REPORT: The Council of Presidents of ASPCC has recommended to the President that the student activity fee be increased to \$1.25 per credit hour from \$1.10 per credit hour. This fee increase will essentially restore the level of funding lost over the past 4 years due to declining enrollments. This fee was last increased from \$1 to \$1.10 in 2004. Prior to that increase the fee had been \$1 since 1997. Among other uses, the funds generated will be used to provide increasing support for student childcare, assist funding student activities programs at the Southeast Center, and to help absorb the impacts of increases in student salaries over the past 4 years (from \$5.50 per hour to \$7.75 per hour).

Staff recommends increasing the technology fee from \$3 per credit to \$4. Technology has become ubiquitous at PCC since the inception of a technology fee in 1996. While the fee was originally intended to partially support direct technology support for students, the needs have increased dramatically as technology has become more all encompassing in the academic environment. Recent implementation of the board-approved telecommunications upgrade strategy highlights the heavy level of infrastructure investment needed on an ongoing basis to appropriately serve students. Uses for the increased fee revenue include software license and maintenance costs, ongoing replacements of computers, providing additional equipment for student checkout, enhanced access and storage for student-developed files, additional support for student computer labs, and continued significant investments in technology infrastructure.

Staff recommends increasing the "contact hour" fee from \$4 to \$6 for those courses where student contact hours per week exceed the hours for which tuition is charged. An example is lecture-laboratory classes, where the class may be a 4-credit class (tuition charged at 4 credit rate based) but which entails greater than 4 contact hours. The contact hour would apply to the difference between the actual contact hours and the credits to which tuition applies. This fee provides reimbursement to the College for the added costs incurred in the instructional program beyond those paid by tuition.

Staff also will be recommending at an upcoming Board meeting an increase in parking fees, which have not been increased since their inception in 1993.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board authorize increasing the student activity fee from \$1.10 per credit hour to \$1.25 per credit hour, up to a maximum of 15 credit hours, effective Fall 2005.

That the Board authorize increasing the technology fee from \$3 per credit hour to \$4 per credit hour, up to a maximum of 15 credit hours, effective Fall 2005.

That the Board authorize increasing contact hour ("lab") fees from \$4 per contact hour to \$6 per contact hour, effective Fall 2005.