



TO: University Affairs Board

SPONSOR: Jonathan Freedman, Vice-Provost, Student Life

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DATE: April 22, 2008 for April 29, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: 3.(b)

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees – Student Society Fees: Student Society Proposals for Fee Increases

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The terms of reference of the University Affairs Board provide that the Board approves the establishment of and changes to compulsory non-academic incidental fees including those collected on behalf of student societies.

The administrative procedures are outlined in the *Policy on Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees* and the *Handbook for Student Societies* (published by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students). Pursuant to the *Policy*, requests for increases to fees must be supported by due constitutional and fair processes within student societies.

Requests for increases are brought forward to the Board by the administration on the assurances of the student societies that due constitutional procedures have been followed.

Increases which are greater than the cost of living must be supported by a positive result in a recent referendum. Requests for increases which are less than or equal to the cost of living must be supported by a previous referendum approving annual increases by an established inflation factor. When such a provision is approved by referendum, annual increases, no greater than the Ontario Consumer Price Index of the previous December (or no greater than a specific inflation factor approved by referendum), may be requested upon approval of the board or council of the organization.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

Requests for changes to existing fees and/or the establishment of new fees are brought forward to the Board on one or more occasions each year. This is the first set of requests on behalf of student societies brought forward this year.

The requests have been reviewed by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and are recommended for approval.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The following student societies have requested changes to fees charged on their behalf by the University:

**Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)**

**Engineering Society**

**Graduate Students' Union (GSU)**

Erindale College Student Union [operating as the **University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU)**]

**Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)**

Students' Administrative Council [operating as the **University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU)**]

**University College Literary & Athletic Society (UC Lit.)**

One organization, the **Medical Radiation Sciences Society (MRSS)**, has requested the establishment of a new fee for its organization, and as a result, approval as a new student society of the University of Toronto.

Additional information is provided in the attached memorandum from Jim Delaney, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Students.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no significant implications for the University's operating budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the University Affairs Board approve the following:

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)** fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.07 per session in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee, (b) an increase of \$2.88 per session in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan (including provincial sales tax) portion of the fee, and (c) an increase of \$0.83 per session in the Dental Plan (including provincial sales tax) portion of the fee. If approved, the total APUS fee charged will be increased to \$77.49 per session, charged to all part-time undergraduate students.

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Engineering Society** fee be increased as follows: (a) the continuation of \$50.00 per session in Special Projects Levy portion of the fee; (b)

continuation and an increase of \$0.37 per session for the Blue Sky Racing Team; (c) the establishment of a new designated portion of the fee of \$1.63 per session for Concrete Canoe Team; and (d) an increase of \$0.45 per session in the Society portion of the fee for all full-time Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering students. If approved, the total Engineering Society fee will be increased to \$110.10 per session, charged to all full-time Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering students. The fee for part-time students would remain unchanged at \$20.99.

THAT, on the condition that the **Graduate Students' Union** (GSU) Council approves the requests for changes to the Supplemental Health Coverage and Dental Plan Portions of the fee on April 29, 2008, beginning in the fall 2008 session, the GSU fee be adjusted as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.15 per session for full-time students (\$0.07 per session for part-time students) in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$11.30 per session (\$0.00 for part-time students) (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Supplementary Health Coverage portion of the fee; and (c) a decrease of \$12.08 per session (\$12.08 for part-time students) (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Dental Plan portion of the fee. If approved, the total authorized GSU fee will be decreased to \$205.44 per session for full-time students (\$79.16 per session for part-time students), charged to all graduate students.

Note: Beginning in fall 2008, the GSU has elected to suspend collection of the designated portion of the fee for *The Peer Review*. As a result, the actual fee charged beginning fall 2008 will be \$202.90 per session for full-time students and \$76.62 for part-time students.

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, a new fee for the **Medical Radiation Sciences Society** (MRSS) fee established including \$12.50 per session for the society, charged to all Medical Radiation Sciences students in Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Technology, and Radiation Therapy programs.

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Erindale College Student Union (operating as the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union; UTMSU)** fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.26 per session in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.50 per session for the UPass portion of the fee; (c) an increase of \$0.02 per session for the Academic Societies portion of the fee; and (d) a decrease of \$13.50 per session for the student centre levy portion of the fee. If approved, the total UTMSU fee will be decreased to \$75.64 per session, charged to all full-time University of Toronto at Mississauga students.

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Scarborough Campus Students' Union** (SCSU) fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.48 per session for full-time students (\$0.03 for part-time students) in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.14 per session for full-time students (full-time only) in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (c) an increase of \$0.70 per session for full-time students (\$0.21 for part-time students) in the Student Centre portion of the fee; and (d) a continuation of the Refugee Student Program levy for two more years. If approved, the total authorized SCSU fee will be increased to \$173.54 per session for full-time students (\$11.81 for part-time students), charged to all University of Toronto at Scarborough students.

Note: Since SCSU is electing not to charge the full authorized amount for the Dental Plan portion of the fee, the actual fee charged beginning fall 2008 will be \$158.43 per session for full-time students (\$11.81 for part-time students).

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union; UTSU)** fees be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.33 per session in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.14 per session in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (c) increase of \$0.01 per session in the Student Refugee Program portion of the fee; (d) an increase of \$5.03 per session (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Accident & Prescription Drug Plan portion of fee; and (e) an increase in the approved amount (\$59.28) for the Dental Plan portion of the fee of \$0.30 per session (including administration fee and provincial sales tax); and (f) for full-time undergraduates on the St. George Campus only, the establishment of a new designated portion of the fee for the Student Common Project of \$5.00 per session, increasing to \$20.75 per session in the session in which the Student Commons opens. If approved, the total UTSU-St. George fee in 2008-09 will increase to \$151.62 for all full-time undergraduate students on the St. George Campus; and the total UTSU-UTM fee in 2008-09 will increase to \$144.37, charged to all full-time undergraduate students on the U of T at Mississauga campus.

THAT beginning in the fall 2007 session, the **University College Literary & Athletics Society (UC Lit)** fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.21 per session for full-time students (\$0.07 for part-time students) in the society portion of the fee. If approved, the total UC Lit fee will be increased to \$17.95 per session for full-time students (\$8.95 for part-time students), charged to all University College students.



## MEMORANDUM

To: **Members of the University Affairs Board**

From: Jim Delaney

Date: April 22, 2008

Subject: **Student Society Proposals for Fee Increases**

Requests from a number of student societies for the fee changes listed below have been received by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students. The applications have been reviewed and are recommended for approval.

Requests for fee increases from student societies must meet a number of requirements. Section 2 of the *Policy for Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees* outlines the University's general expectations:

*Requests to change the fee collected on behalf of a student society and requests for new fees shall be approved only when evidence has been presented that the request has been authorized by due constitutional process in the organization.*

*Where the amount of an increase in the fee charged is not greater than the year-over-year change in consumer prices for Ontario as measured by Statistics Canada (December-over-December) as of December 31 of the previous year, the request must be supported by the results of a previous referendum approving the principle of a cost-of-living adjustment. Where the amount of an increase in the fee charged is greater than the year-over-year change in consumer prices, the request must be supported by the majority of the society's members voting in a recent referendum.*

The procedures for handling fee change requests (from the *Handbook for Student Societies* published by this office) also provide that requests for a fee increase must be supplied with the following:

*Evidence that the request to change the existing fee (or to institute a new charge) has been authorized by due constitutional process of the organization. This evidence should include a copy of or specific reference to the section of the society's constitution which relates to the mechanism for fee changes, minutes of the meeting at which the resolution to request the change was passed, details and results of any referenda related to the subject which may have been held within the division, and publicity given the matter to ensure that those who may be affected by the change are aware of the proposal, including size and purpose of the increase, and have had the opportunity to make their views known.*

Normally, the administration intersects with these processes at two points. Initially, we ask student societies to consult with this office on the wording of referendum questions (with respect to clarity and technical language). The second point occurs after the referendum when the student society makes the

formal request for a fee increase. The recommendation for approval is derived from the assessment of whether or not the society has met the requirements established in the *Policy* and the relevant procedures.

Occasionally, we are asked to look into complaints about referendum procedures and compliance with relevant portions of the society's constitution and/or by-laws. The results of these investigations play a significant role in the assessment of the request and the recommendation for approval.

The assessment of requests for fee increases is normally based upon the following expectations:

- 1) The student society must make the request in a manner consistent with the *Policy for Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees* and the University's procedures for increases to student society fees;
- 2) There must be a positive result in a referendum for a fee increase (special conditions established by the society, such as quorum, must also be met);
- 3) The referendum question itself must be clear and provide enough information to students in order to gain a full understanding of the implications of the question and proposed fee for them;
- 4) The referendum must be held in a fair manner, advertised and promoted in a reasonable manner, and the members of each organization should be given a reasonable opportunity to vote; and
- 5) Each organization must comply with the provisions of its own by-laws, rules of procedure, and specific policies and procedures approved by the society's board or council.

Societies which have previously received approval (by referendum) from their members for an annual cost of living increase in the society's portion of the fee may request increases, upon approval by the society's board or council, of up to the previous Ontario December to December cost of living increase (consumer price index) calculated by Statistics Canada. The December 2007 consumer price index for Ontario was 2.1%.

The Students' Administrative Council (SAC)<sup>1</sup>, the Graduate Students' Union (GSU), the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS), and the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) may request increases in the designated portions of their fees for health plans at a rate established by approval of a previous referendum. SAC, APUS and SCSU may request increases in their health plan fees of up to 10%. The GSU may request increases in the health plan fee of an amount less than or equal to a health industry index.

It is important to note that when dealing with a student society request for a fee change, it is the society's own constitution, by-laws or established policies that set the standards for acceptable results in referenda. In some cases, society constitutions establish a minimum voter turnout in order to consider a referendum result to be valid. The University has not established additional criteria with respect to valid referendum voter turnout.

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<sup>1</sup> The Students' Administrative Council is currently operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU).

## **Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)**

### *Background*

In fall/winter 2007-08, the APUS fee charged to students was \$73.71 per session for part-time undergraduate students on all campuses. The fee included \$3.31 per session for membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and CFS-Ontario (CFS-O), \$28.80 (including provincial sales tax) for an Accident and Prescription Drug Plan, and \$30.20 (including provincial sales tax) for a Dental Plan.

Pursuant to approval by previous referendum, requests for cost of living increases in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee are permitted upon approval of a resolution by the Assembly of Representatives of the society. Pursuant to approval by previous referendum, requests for increases of less than or equal to 10% are permitted in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan and Dental Plan portions of the fee upon approval of a resolution by the Assembly of Representatives of the society.

### *Requests*

- 1) A cost of living increase in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 28, 2008, the APUS Assembly of Class Representatives approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the CFS/CFS-O portion of the APUS fee.

- 2) An inflationary increase in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 28, 2008, the APUS Assembly of Class Representatives approved a resolution to request a 10% inflationary increase to the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion of the APUS fee.

- 3) An inflationary increase in the Dental Plan portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 28, 2008, the APUS Assembly of Class Representatives approved a resolution to request a 3.02% inflationary increase to the Dental Plan portion of the APUS fee.

### *Summary of Changes:*

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

### *Recommendation:*

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)** fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.07 per session in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee, (b) an increase of \$2.88 per session in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan (including provincial sales tax) portion of the fee, and (c) an increase of \$0.83 per

session in the Dental Plan (including provincial sales tax) portion of the fee. If approved, the total APUS fee charged will be increased to \$77.49 per session, charged to all part-time undergraduate students.

## Engineering Society

### *Background*

The Engineering Society fee has been \$107.65 per session for full-time Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering students since fall 2007 (\$20.99 per session for part-time students and Professional Experience Year (PEY) students). The fee includes \$50.00 per session designated for a Special Projects Levy, \$2.38 for Blue Sky Racing, \$21.27 for the society for full-time students, and \$20.99 for the society for the part-time students and PEY students. The mandates to continue to charge the Special Projects Levy and Blue Sky Racing portions of the fee end this year.

### *Requests*

- 1) A new mandate to continue to charge the Special Projects Levy through the 2009-10 fall/winter academic period.

A referendum was held March 10 to 14, 2008, in which Applied Science & Engineering students were asked to support the continuation of the fee for the next two years. The wording of the question is as follows:

*WHEREAS the Engineering Society is seeking to continue the Students' Temporary Special Levy, which pools student funding to purchase equipment enhancing undergraduate education, and*

*WHEREAS this continuation has been approved by the Finance Committee;*

*BIRT the following preamble and question (subject to minor revisions in wording) be put to a referendum of the full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering at the upcoming Officers' elections in March 2008:*

#### ***Preamble***

*On behalf of all full-time students registered in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, the University of Toronto Engineering Society proposes that a temporary Special Levy be levied upon full-time undergraduate students registered in the Faculty of Applied Science, subject to the following six provisions:*

***Provision 1:*** *The amount of the temporary special levy shall be \$50.00 per session (\$100.00 per fall/winter academic period). The levy will be charged to all full-time undergraduate Applied Science and Engineering students beginning in the fall 2008 session through the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 academic years. Subsequent referendum approval will be required to continue the fee after the winter 2010 session.*



**Provision 2:** *The special levy shall be reviewed by the Engineering Society Council in the spring of 2009 and again in the spring of 2010. Review shall consist of a presentation to the Engineering Society Council of the expenditures which have occurred in the academic year.*

**Provision 3:** *Each department shall, with advice from their students, request expenditures from the Special Levy fund through the Engineering Society. Authorization for expenditure shall be made by a special committee of the Engineering Society with advice from the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering and Departmental Club Chairs. The committee shall include at least the President and the VP Finance.*

**Provision 4:** *The temporary special levy shall be used to purchase equipment which will enhance the quality of undergraduate education in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering.*

**Provision 5:** *The temporary special levy shall be collected by the University of Toronto with all regular fees for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years, and shall be passed to the Engineering Society in a separate bank account.*

**Provision 6:** *The nature and implementation of this agreement is absolutely contingent upon all of the preceding provisions.*

**Question**

*Are you in favour of the Temporary Special Levy as described in the preamble?*

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>253</b>	50.5%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	4,550	
<b>NO</b>	<b>248</b>	49.5%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>/ 11.0%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	0.0%	Difference Between YES and NO	5	/ 0.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>501</b>				

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws. No complaints were received by this office concerning the referendum or the request for an increase.

- 2) An increase and a new mandate to continue to charge the Blue Sky Racing portion of the fee through the 2009-10 fall/winter academic period.

A referendum was held March 10 to 14, 2008, in which Applied Science & Engineering students were asked to support the increases and the continuation of the fee for the next two years. The wording of the question is as follows:

*WHEREAS the University of Toronto Blue Sky Solar Racing team is seeking to continue and increase their student levy, and*

WHEREAS they have followed the correct procedure in applying for this levy and have received the approval of the Engineering Society Finance Committee;

BIRT the following preamble and question (subject to minor revisions in wording) be put to a referendum of the full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering at the upcoming Officers' elections in March 2008:

**Preamble**

The University of Toronto Blue Sky Solar Racing team is seeking support from fellow undergraduate students of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering in renewing the team's levy funding. If granted, the fee of \$2.75 per session will be applied to all Full-Time Undergraduate Engineering Students for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 academic years.

**Question**

Are you in favour of the continuation of the student levy for the University of Toronto Blue Sky Solar Racing as indicated in the preamble?

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>309</b>	61.1%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	4,550	
<b>NO</b>	<b>197</b>	38.9%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>/ 11.1%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	0.0%	Difference Between YES and NO	112	/ 2.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>506</b>				

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws. No complaints were received by this office concerning the referendum or the request for an increase.

- 3) A new designated portion of the fee for the Concrete Canoe Team through the 2009-10 fall/winter academic period.

A referendum was held March 10 to 14, 2008, in which Applied Science & Engineering students were asked to support the establishment of the fee for the next two years. The wording of the question is as follows:

WHEREAS the University of Toronto Concrete Canoe team is seeking direct support from the members of the Engineering Society in the form of a student levy, and

WHEREAS they have followed the correct procedure in applying for this levy and have received the approval of the Engineering Society Finance Committee;

*BIRT the following preamble and question (subject to minor revisions in wording) be put to a referendum of the full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering at the upcoming Officers' elections in March 2008:*

**Preamble**

*The University of Toronto Concrete Canoe (UTCC) team is seeking approval from the members of the Engineering Society to create a student levy to support the team.*

*The UTCC team is an entirely undergraduate run team that designs, builds, and races a canoe made out of concrete. Concrete mix design, aerodynamic hull design and stress analysis, and logistics are all integral parts of our team. UTCC provides the undergraduate community with an extracurricular way of achieving professional development, improved communication, and leadership skills. The team competes each year at the Canadian National Concrete Canoe Competition (CNCCC) with ten other schools from around the country.*

*This levy represents an increase in UTCC funding and will represent an estimated 50% of our budget. Our team is currently the largest funded club by the engineering society. A student levy allows the student body to directly appraise our project, and will free up funds for the Engineering Society to distribute to other initiatives. These additional funds will allow us to continue to develop new and innovative concrete mixes and allow us the opportunity to publish our results, to improve our aerodynamic hull design, and improve the training program for our paddlers. Next year, the CNCCC is planning to send winning teams to the finals in the United States at the ASCE National Concrete Canoe Competition. This levy will give us the opportunity to attend this competition should we win.*

*The proposed levy is \$1.63 per session and would be charged to all full-time undergraduate students beginning in the fall 2009 session.*

**Question**

*Are you in favour of the creation of the University of Toronto Concrete Canoe levy as described in the preamble?*

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>286</b>	56.4%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	4,550	
<b>NO</b>	<b>221</b>	43.6%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>/ 11.1%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	0.0%	Difference Between YES and NO	65	/ 1.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>507</b>				

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws. No complaints were received by this office concerning the referendum or the request for an increase.

- 4) A cost of living increase in the society portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 3, 2008, the council of the Engineering Society approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the society portion of the fee for full-time students.

*Summary of Changes:*

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

*Recommendations:*

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Engineering Society** fee be increased as follows: (a) the continuation of \$50.00 per session in Special Projects Levy portion of the fee; (b) continuation and an increase of \$0.37 per session for the Blue Sky Racing Team; (c) the establishment of a new designated portion of the fee of \$1.63 per session for Concrete Canoe Team; and (d) an increase of \$0.45 per session in the Society portion of the fee for all full-time Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering students. If approved, the total Engineering Society fee will be increased to \$110.10 per session, charged to all full-time Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering students. The fee for part-time students would remain unchanged at \$20.99.

**Graduate Students' Union (GSU)**

*Background*

The GSU fee has been \$206.07 per session for full-time graduate students (\$91.17 for part-time graduate students) since fall 2007. The fee includes \$7.00 per session for full-time students (\$3.50 per session for part-time students) designated for membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and CFS-Ontario (CFS-O); \$94.68 (including an administration fee and provincial sales tax) per session for Supplementary Health Coverage (full-time only); \$68.40 (including an administration fee and provincial sales tax) per session for a Dental Plan (full-time and part-time); and \$2.54 per session for the Peer Review (full-time and part-time).

Pursuant to approval by a previous referendum, requests for cost of living increases in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee are permitted upon approval of a resolution by the Council of the GSU. Pursuant to approval by a previous referendum, requests for increases of less than or equal to industry indexes are permitted in the Supplementary Health Coverage and Dental Plan portions of the fee upon approval of a resolution by the Council of the GSU.

*Requests*

- 1) A cost of living increase in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on February 26, 2008, the Council of the GSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the CFS/CFS-O portion of the GSU fee.

- 2) An inflationary increase in the Supplemental Health Coverage portion of the fee.

At its meeting scheduled for April 29, 2008, the Council of the GSU will approve a resolution to request a 12.12% increase by the health industry index to the Supplemental Health Coverage portion of the GSU fee.

- 3) A decrease in the Dental Plan portion of the fee.

At its meeting scheduled for April 29, 2008, the Council of the GSU will approve a resolution to request an 18% decrease to the Dental Plan portion of the GSU fee.

*Recommendation:*

THAT, on the condition that the **Graduate Students' Union (GSU)** Council approves the requests for changes to the Supplemental Health Coverage and Dental Plan Portions of the fee on April 29, 2008, beginning in the fall 2008 session, the GSU fee be adjusted as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.15 per session for full-time students (\$0.07 per session for part-time students) in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$11.30 per session (\$0.00 for part-time students) (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Supplementary Health Coverage portion of the fee; and (c) a decrease of \$12.08 per session (\$12.08 for part-time students) (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Dental Plan portion of the fee. If approved, the total authorized GSU fee will be decreased to \$205.44 per session for full-time students (\$79.16 per session for part-time students), charged to all graduate students.

Note: Beginning in fall 2008, the GSU has elected to suspend collection of the designated portion of the fee for *The Peer Review*. As a result, the actual fee charged beginning fall 2008 will be \$202.90 per session for full-time students and \$76.62 for part-time students.

## **Medical Radiation Sciences Society (MRSS)**

### *Background*

The MRSS is proposed to be a new student society of the University of Toronto. There was no previous fee for the society.

### *Requests*

- 1) The establishment of a new student society at the University of Toronto within Medical Radiation Sciences, the approval of its constitution, and the establishment of a new fee.

A referendum was held on November 19 and 20, 2008, in which Medical Radiation Sciences students in Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Technology, and Radiation Therapy were asked to support the establishment of the fee for fall/winter 2008-09. The referendum question is as follows:

*Preamble: The MRSS is seeking consent from its members to establish a fee. The proposal is to charge a fee of \$12.50 per session (for a total of \$25.00 per fall/winter period) to all students in the following Medical Radiation Sciences programs: Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Technology, and*

*Radiation Therapy at the University of Toronto/Michener Institute. If approved the fee would be charged starting the fall term of 2008.*

**Question:** *Are you in favour of establishing a fee for the MRSS as described in the preamble?*

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>121</b>	67.6%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	398	
<b>NO</b>	<b>58</b>	32.4%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>/ 45.0%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	0.0%	Difference Between YES and NO	63	/ 15.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179</b>				

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws. No complaints were received by this office concerning the referendum or the request for an increase.

The proposed constitution of the MRSS has been reviewed by the Student Life Programs office and meets the requirements for a student society constitution pursuant to the *Policy for Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees*.

**Summary of Changes:**

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

**Recommendation:**

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, a new fee for the **Medical Radiation Sciences Society (MRSS)** fee established including \$12.50 per session for the society, charged to all Medical Radiation Sciences students in Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Technology, and Radiation Therapy programs.

**Erindale College Student Union (operating as the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union; UTMSU)**

**Background**

The UTMSU fee has been \$88.36 per session for full-time University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) students since fall 2007. The fee includes \$12.26 per session designated for the society portion; \$44.50 per session for the Mississauga Transit UPass; \$0.89 per session for Academic Societies; and \$26.00 per session for the Student Centre Levy.

**Requests**

- 1) A cost of living increase in the society portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on January 17, 2008, the Council of the UTMSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the society's portion of the fee.

- 2) A cost of living increase to the Mississauga Transit UPass.

At its meeting held on March 12, 2008, the Council of the UTMSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the Mississauga Transit UPass portion of the fee.

- 3) A cost of living increase for the Academic Societies portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 12, 2008, the Council of the UTMSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the Academic Societies' portion of the fee.

- 4) A decrease for the Student Centre Levy portion of the membership fees as a result of a decision by the UTM Quality Services for Student Council, and the subsequent approval by the University Affairs Board (on March 25, 2008), to increase the UTM Student Services fee in order to fund the occupancy costs of the Student Centre.

At its meeting held on March 12, 2008, the Council of the UTMSU approved a resolution to request a decrease to the Student Centre Levy portion of the fee.

#### *Summary of Changes:*

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

#### *Recommendation:*

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Erindale College Student Union (operating as the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union; UTMSU)** fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.26 per session in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.50 per session for the UPass portion of the fee; (c) an increase of \$0.02 per session for the Academic Societies portion of the fee; and (d) a decrease of \$13.50 per session for the student centre levy portion of the fee. If approved, the total UTMSU fee will be decreased to \$75.64 per session, charged to all full-time University of Toronto at Mississauga students.

### **Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)**

#### *Background*

The approved SCSU fee<sup>2</sup> has been \$172.22 per session for full-time undergraduate students (\$11.57 per session for part-time students) at the University of Toronto at Scarborough (UTSC) since fall 2007. The actual fee charged in 2007-08 was \$155.01 per session for full-time students (\$11.57 per session for part-

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<sup>2</sup> While SCSU is authorized by the University Affairs Board to charge \$59.28 per session (including the administration fee and PST) for the SCSU Dental Plan, SCSU has elected to charge only \$42.07 (including the administration fee and PST) per session in 2007-08.

time students). The fee includes \$22.80 per session (\$1.24 per session part-time) designated for the society; \$6.59 per session (full-time only) for membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and CFS-Ontario (CFS-O); \$33.29 per session (\$9.98 per session for part-time) for the UTSC Student Centre; \$0.75 per session (\$0.25 per session for part-time) for a Refugee Student Program; and \$59.28 (including the administration fee and provincial sales tax) for the Dental Plan (full-time only).

Pursuant to approval by previous referenda, requests for cost of living increases in the society, CFS/CFS-O, and Student Centre portions of the fee are permitted upon approval of a resolution by the Board of SCSU. Pursuant to approval by previous referenda, requests for increases of less than or equal to 10% are permitted in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion and the Dental Plan portion of the fee upon approval of a resolution by the Board of SCSU.

### *Requests*

- 1) A cost of living increase in the society portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on February 8, 2008, the Board of Directors of SCSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the society portion of the SCSU fee.

- 2) A cost of living increase in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on February 8, 2008, the Board of Directors of SCSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the CFS/CFS-O portion of the SCSU fee.

- 3) A cost of living increase in the Student Centre portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on February 8, 2008, the Board of Directors of SCSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the Student Centre portion of the SCSU fee.

- 4) A new mandate to continue to charge the Refugee Student Program portion of the fee through the 2009-10 fall/winter academic period.

At its meeting held on February 8, 2008, the Board of Directors of SCSU approved a resolution extending the Refugee Student Program Levy for a period of (2) two years, ending in the 2010 winter session.

- 5) A change in the actual amount charged for the Dental Plan portion of the fee which is less than that previously approved amount (\$59.28). The society has requested that \$44.17 per session (full-time only) be charged in 2008-09.

### *Summary of Changes:*

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

### *Recommendation:*

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Scarborough Campus Students' Union** (SCSU) fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.48 per session for full-time students (\$0.03 for part-time



students) in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.14 per session for full-time students (full-time only) in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (c) an increase of \$0.70 per session for full-time students (\$0.21 for part-time students) in the Student Centre portion of the fee; and (d) a continuation of the Refugee Student Program levy for two more years. If approved, the total authorized SCSU fee will be increased to \$173.54 per session for full-time students (\$11.81 for part-time students), charged to all University of Toronto at Scarborough students.

Note: Since SCSU is electing not to charge the full authorized amount for the Dental Plan portion of the fee, the actual fee charged beginning fall 2008 will be \$158.43 per session for full-time students (\$11.81 for part-time students).

## **Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union; UTSU)**

### *Background*

The approved UTSU fee<sup>3</sup> has been \$140.80 per session for full-time undergraduate students on the St. George Campus and \$138.55 per session for full-time undergraduate students on the U of T Mississauga (UTM) campus. The actual fee charged in 2007-08 was \$135.68 per session for full-time undergraduate students on the St. George Campus and \$133.43 per session for full-time undergraduate students on the UTM campus. The fee on both campuses included \$15.69 per session designated for the society; \$6.59 per session for membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and CFS-Ontario; \$50.31 (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) for an Accident and Prescription Drug Plan; \$54.16 (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) for a Dental Plan; and \$0.60 for the Student Refugee Program.

Pursuant to approval by previous referenda, requests for cost of living increases in the society and CFS/CFS-O portions of the fee are permitted upon approval of a resolution by the Board of UTSU. Pursuant to approval by previous referenda, requests for increases less than or equal to 10% are permitted in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion and the Dental Plan portion of the fee upon approval of a resolution by the Board of UTSU.

### *Requests*

- 1) A cost of living increase in the society portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 24, 2008, the Board of Directors of UTSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the society portion of the UTSU fee.

- 2) A cost of living increase in the CFS/CFS-O portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 24, 2008, the Board of Directors of UTSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the CFS/CFS-O portion of the UTSU fee.

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<sup>3</sup> While SAC is authorized by the University Affairs Board to charge \$59.28 per session (including the administration fee and PST) for the UTSU Dental Plan, SAC has elected to charge only \$54.16 (including the administration fee and PST) per session in 2007-08.

- 3) An inflationary increase in the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 24, 2008, the Board of Directors of UTSU approved a resolution to request an inflationary increase of 10% to the Accident and Prescription Drug Plan portion of the UTSU fee.

- 4) An inflationary increase in the Dental Plan portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 24, 2008, the Board of Directors of UTSU approved a resolution to request an inflationary increase of 10% (compared to the actual amount charged in 2007-08) to the Dental Plan portion of the UTSU fee.

- 5) An increase in the Student Refugee Program portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 24, 2008, the Board of Directors of UTSU approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the Student Refugee Program portion of the UTSU fee.

- 6) The establishment of a new designated portion of the fee for the Student Commons Project applicable to full-time undergraduate students on the St. George campus only.

A referendum was held on October 31 through November 2, 2007, in which full-time undergraduate students on the St. George campus were asked to support the establishment of the proposed fee. The wording of the question is as follows:

***Background:***

*The St. George campus of the University of Toronto is one of the only Canadian university campuses without a large student-centred community facility. Students at the Mississauga (UTM) and Scarborough (UTSC) campuses both enjoy one – but students at St. George do not.*

*In 2005, the University of Toronto Students' Union (U.T.S.U., formerly the Students' Administrative Council) conducted a plebiscite and found that a majority of students voted in favour of building and financially contributing towards such a facility.*

*An interim project planning report, approved by the University's Governing Council on June 25, 2007, describes a "Student Commons" facility that would provide the following kinds of space and services:*

- 24-hour student space
- commuter space
- prayer space
- club offices and space
- lounge space
- study space
- meeting rooms
- healthy, affordable and diverse food options (e.g., Halal, Kosher, vegan)
- rehearsal space
- used bookstore
- large multi-purpose space
- offices for student organizations
- food bank
- workshop and design space
- bicycle repair space
- space to sell discounted TTC Metropasses for longer periods of time
- space to provide U.T.S.U. services more effectively and efficiently

*The Student Commons would be managed, operated, and governed by students – therefore protecting the Student Commons from commercialization, corporatization, and privatization.*

*U.T.S.U. envisions the Student Commons as a nexus of community, co-operation, and communication.*

*The Student Commons would be built with a view to achieving Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. The Student Commons would be an accessible facility.*

*The University has conditionally approved construction of the Student Commons on “site 12,” located on the west side of Devonshire Place, just south of Bloor Street. It is expected that construction would commence in September, 2008.*

*U.T.S.U. is seeking the support of its members registered at the St. George campus to demonstrate that we are fully committed to contributing financially towards the construction and operation of the Student Commons. The proposed student levies being requested would be less than the similar levies being paid by UTM and UTSC students. The University would match student contributions to the Student Commons at a minimum rate of 50%.*

***Be it resolved that:***

- 1. Every member of the University of Toronto Students' Union (“UTSU”)\* registered at the St. George campus (“St. George Member”) shall contribute financially to a Student Commons facility (“Student Commons”) on the express condition that the Student Commons shall be managed, operated, and governed by students through UTSU.*
- 2. For construction costs of the Student Commons: (a) beginning in the summer session of 2008, and until the opening of the Student Commons, every St. George Member shall contribute up to \$5.00 per session; and, (b) upon opening of the Student Commons, for a period of no more than 25 years, every St. George Member shall contribute up to \$14.25 per session.*
- 3. For operating and capital renewal costs of the Student Commons, upon opening of the Student Commons, every St. George Member shall contribute up to \$6.50 per session.*
- 4. Financial contributions collected from St. George Members for operating and capital costs of the Student Commons shall be adjusted annually to a maximum of ten percent (10%) in order to address inflationary cost increases.*

***Question:***

*Are you in favour of the proposal, as appearing above? Yes / No*

*\* NB. “University of Toronto Students' Union” and/or “U.T.S.U.” refers to the Students' Administrative Council of the University of Toronto, Inc.*

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>1,789</b>	58.2%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	32,073	
<b>NO</b>	<b>1,205</b>	39.2%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>3,072</b>	<b>/ 9.6%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>78</b>	2.5%	Difference Between YES and NO	584	/ 1.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,072</b>				

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws.

In the course of considering this request for a fee increase, the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students received, or was advised of, a number of complaints with respect to this referendum. Presented here is a summary of the complaints received by this office, and how each matter was previously adjudicated or handled by UTSU.

<b>Complaint / Concern</b>	<b>Response / Adjudication / Mitigation by UTSU</b>
Incorrect proposed fee amount printed in Notice of Referendum advertising and posters (contrary to Section 2.a of UTSU's Charter for Referenda)	Notice was revised making specific reference to previous error. New advertising was purchased and posters distributed.
"Yes" advocating committee banner in Sidney Smith Hall in sight of polling station (contrary to Section 7.l of UTSU's Charter for Referenda)	UTSU chief returning officer (CRO) ruled against "Yes" committee. Five demerit points assessed against "Yes" advocating committee
"Yes" advocating committee members were actively campaigning within 6 metres of polling station at Sidney Smith Hall (contrary to Section 7.h and 7.k of UTSU's Charter for Referenda)	CRO investigated. Found no sufficient evidence to support the claim.
"Yes" advocating committee posters placed over "No" advocating committee posters.	CRO investigated. Found no sufficient evidence that a "Yes" advocating committee member or agent was responsible.
Unauthorized "No" campaign was underway (alleged to have been organized by the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students)	CRO investigated. Directed Deputy Returning Officer to remove unofficial "No" campaign materials.
UTSU's 'Student Space Now' campaign material (web site, etc.) served as a "pre-campaigning"	Unknown if UTSU was made aware of this complaint.
No spending limit set for advocating committees (contrary to Section 7.j of UTSU's Charter for Referenda)	Matter was discussed at a meeting of the UTSU Elections & Referenda Committee on November 1, 2007. No limit was set.
"Yes" advocating committee as of December 11, 2007, had not submitted receipts (contrary to Section 7.j of UTSU's Charter of Referenda)	Unknown if CRO was made aware of this complaint.
CRO did not respond to complaints in a timely manner (in reference to complaints about banner and campaigning during polling period at Sidney Smith Hall)	CRO acknowledges that she went to polling station after polling had closed and the banner had been removed. Also notes that she spoke to the poll clerks at that station. With photo published in The Varsity, ruling was made.
Members of the "Yes" advocating committee intimidated individual students, APUS associates, and "No" advocating committee members.	Unknown if CRO was made aware of this complaint.
Demerit point system created too late (after referendum campaign period had begun).	CRO noted that she was not required to create system.

<b>Complaint / Concern</b>	<b>Response / Adjudication / Mitigation by UTSU</b>
Ballots same colour as "Yes" advocating committee campaign material (green)	UTSU Elections and Referenda Committee notes that "the decision of the color of the ballot was made separately and at another time by other people." The CRO's final report to UTSU notes that the CRO tasks included "designing and ordering ballots."
CRO biased due to involvement with the Continuing Education Students' Association at Ryerson (CESAR)	Complaint dismissed by the UTSU Elections and Referenda Committee.
No polling station placed at Victoria College (CRO received request)	CRO investigated. CRO determined that an additional polling station would not be placed at Victoria College because (a) the request was made too late, (b) there were not enough resources to do so, and (c) that there was a polling station in the vicinity at St. Michael's College.
"Yes" and "No" advocating committee members not listed on UTSU's website (contrary to section 7.1.d of UTSU's Charter of Referenda)	CRO investigated. CRO ruled that it was sufficient that the information, although not on the web site, was available to UTSU members if requested.
"Yes" advocating committee campaign material with incorrect information (phrase "\$5 for your student space" was misleading because it did not indicate the total proposed fee).	CRO investigated. CRO ruled against the complainant noting that subsequent materials were amended.
Proposal was not feasible. The fee revenue generated by the proposed fee would not be sufficient to fund the project.	Unknown if UTSU or the CRO were made aware of this complaint.

### *Recommendation*

THAT beginning in the fall 2008 session, the **Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union; UTSU)** fees be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.33 per session in the society portion of the fee; (b) an increase of \$0.14 per session in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) – CFS-Ontario portion of the fee; (c) increase of \$0.01 per session in the Student Refugee Program portion of the fee; (d) an increase of \$5.03 per session (including administration fee and provincial sales tax) in the Accident & Prescription Drug Plan portion of fee; and (e) an increase in the approved amount (\$59.28) for the Dental Plan portion of the fee of \$0.30 per session (including administration fee and provincial sales tax); and (f) for full-time undergraduates on the St. George Campus only, the establishment of a new designated portion of the fee for the Student Common Project of \$5.00 per session, increasing to \$20.75 per session in the session in which the Student Commons opens. If approved, the total UTSU-St. George fee in 2008-09 will increase to \$151.62 for all full-time undergraduate students on the St. George Campus; and the total UTSU-UTM fee in 2008-09 will increase to \$144.37, charged to all full-time undergraduate students on the U of T at Mississauga campus.

### **University College Literary & Athletic Society (UC Lit)**

#### *Background*

The UC Lit fee has been \$17.74 per session for full-time students (\$8.88 for part-time students) since fall 2007. The fee includes \$10.06 per session for full-time students (\$3.37 for part-time students) for the society.

#### *Requests*

- 1) A cost of living increase in the society portion of the fee.

At its meeting held on March 16, 2008, the council of the UC Lit approved a resolution to request a cost of living increase to the society portion of the fee.

*Summary of Changes:*

See Schedule 1: Student Society Fees (attached).

*Recommendation:*

THAT beginning in the fall 2007 session, the **University College Literary & Athletics Society** (UC Lit) fee be increased as follows: (a) an increase of \$0.21 per session for full-time students (\$0.07 for part-time students) in the society portion of the fee. If approved, the total UC Lit fee will be increased to \$17.95 per session for full-time students (\$8.95 for part-time students), charged to all University College students.

JD/