

Trustees Vote in Favor of Fee Increase

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Association sent out an e-mail on a Friday afternoon, stating there would be a meeting on the following Monday morning to discuss the fee increase with other organizations, such as groups and clubs at Salem State. Mitchell admitted they were “under the gun with time” to get the word out to more students.

According to one student who was able to attend on short notice, said there were “about twelve students, and reviews [of the fee increase] were mixed.”

The following day SGA met, and voted to pass the motion of the fee increase to the Trustees based on the group’s suddenly overwhelmingly positive vote of 18 for, and only one member who abstained.

Trustee, Matthew Lebreton said, “SGA handled it very fairly.”

Dan Thomas, student trustee, was the lone trustee to oppose the increase in Wednesday’s meeting. Thomas, said “students feel as if they weren’t involved in the decision.” He felt the process was rushed and the student body didn’t have time to respond to the dramatic increases.

Thomas also mentioned the idea of educational priorities. The school has long awaited money to fix the appalling conditions of the library, and update the aged shape of laboratories. However, President Harrington made it clear that those renovations would be done with financial aid from the state, not increased student fees. “Labs and libraries should be paid for by states,” she said.

The vote was approved. The fees, of up to 100 dollars, will be implemented in the fall semester.

The question was raised as to the benefit juniors and seniors would receive after paying the fees, considering the fields won’t be done until spring of 2007. Mitchell explained that it should be about the future of the school and will give students a chance to leave their mark.

“Juniors and seniors have a chance to leave behind a legacy,” he said.

Howard Wayne, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said he understood Thomas’s concerns. He said, “There were many fee increases I opposed in the past,” but ultimately he feels that this new complex will benefit everybody.

Wayne is also a member of a team in the Cape Cod Baseball League’s board of directors.

“This is totally 100 percent, and 180 percent for the students,” said Wayne. “We’re hoping it will be more than a baseball field. It’s what will make us a great college, and maybe someday, a university.”

Another topic on many people’s minds was that of domestic violence, and sexual assault that seems to be growing on college campus’s nation-wide.

William Anglin, the recently appointed chief of police at Salem State College, spoke about what the college is doing to educate and to inform students as a preventative measure of these happenings.

In 2004, the police department was given a grant, and hired a domestic violence officer for the unit. There are three officers that were trained for advanced Rape Aggression Defense, or RAD, to teach students self-defense, and the importance of awareness in a situation. The classes were full this semester, and they plan on offering them again next semester.

“There needs to be stricter penalties and guidelines, not only education,” said trustee, Matthew Lebreton.

Jane Stirgwolt, trustee, said, “99.9 percent of discipline problems have involved alcohol, and substance abuse. Young people at the college, generally don’t get themselves into trouble without alcohol, and drugs.”

The aim of educating students on this matter “is not only for them to feel safe, but to enhance their self-worth,” said trustee, James Hoblin.

Tara Higgins’ email is news@ssclog.com

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learn through hearsay and osmosis if you work here and weren’t a student.” Fauske said. However, things change, and an alumnus can end up being attached to an institution that has changed, and not want to recognize those changes.”

Lee Brossoit, Assistant Director of Student Life, agrees with Fauske, in that everyone has something to bring to the table. Brossoit, who started out as the director of Residence Life, points out the knowledge he was able to bring to the department from his experiences at other colleges. “Other schools had strong Res Life departments that had leadership initiatives and programs that Salem didn’t have.” By using these other schools as examples, Brossoit was able to give Res Life a developmental focus by increasing academic and social programs, creating hall councils, and addressing safety and security concerns.

There may be advantages to hiring alumni, there may not be, but Carey, Resident Director of Bates, feels that every employee has something to offer to the college. “Different perspectives, different experiences, different opinions; in my opinion, diversity is the key to a quality education.”

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