

Tuition Policy Advisory Council
MEETING NOTES
February 15, 2006

The Tuition Policy Advisory Council met on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 in 707 Rudder Tower.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

It was reported that more undergraduate students are now registering for 15 semester credit hours rather than 12. The number of full-time undergraduate students enrolled this spring has increased .8% over last spring, and the semester credit hour production has increased 3.68%.

It was announced that Texas Tech has adopted a flat rate tuition policy and the University of North Texas is now considering implementing a flat tuition policy, as well.

Dr. Gates submitted a memo to the Council suggesting that TPAC revise its 2006 recommendations to him by removing mention of any specific college or rate for differential tuition. That way, the approval by him and the Board of Regents will be able to remain broad. Therefore, a memo reflecting these changes will be sent to Dr. Gates.

The Student Fee Review Committee has determined the rate for the utility fee. The recommendation is \$99 per student per semester and that the fee would be prorated for the summer. Concern was expressed that this fee appears to double-charge students because the Student Recreation Sports Fee is also increasing. It was clarified that the Student Recreation Center is an auxiliary unit, which is self-supporting. Other self-supporting services include Food Services, Transportation Services and Athletics. The budget news for FY2007 has improved because the maximum exposure for utilities will be approximately \$59 million, although that is still about a 60% increase in cost from last year. An additional \$10.3 million will be required to fund E&G utilities.

It is likely that tuition will increase 10% for the fall. A tuition hearing will be held on February 20 at 3:30 p.m. in 110-111 Koldus and Dr. Gates and Jim Carlson will be presenting the information. The Tuition Policy Advisory Council web site is currently being beta tested and the new web site address will be announced at the tuition hearing.

The Student Government Association will conduct a flat rate tuition survey on February 27. The survey questions were distributed to the Tuition Policy Advisory Council.

At a future Council meeting, it will be discussed how flat tuition has affected the grade point average of the student population. Dates of the Council meetings for the rest of the semester will be submitted to the Deans so that interested colleges will have a target date to present any differential tuition proposals to TPAC.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.