

Eye on Campus

Your tuition money: Where it goes ... and what it buys

Continued from PAGE 1

teachers. Tuition money is usually not spent until mid-semester, when it is invested, gleaning \$100,000 extra a month.

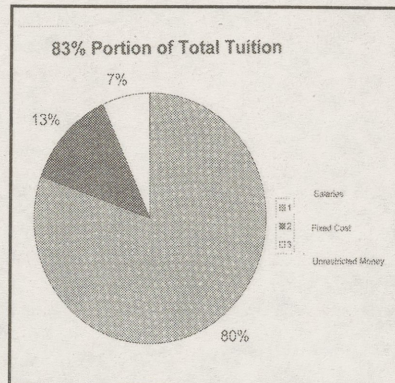
"Now, tuition money is spent immediately," said Tomeszko. "Every month Penn State is \$100,000 short. We have been borrowing money since September with interest on it. We may not have a state budget in November or December. We are already planning \$500,000 of (the total) tuition to carry over to next year as a cushion against problems."

In 2002/03, the total budget was \$9,799,000, less \$214,000, which was used as a "cushion against problems" for the current year, according to Tomeszko. This was a safeguard with foreknowledge. The budget problems began with the troubled economy.

"This is a ripple effect and students make up the difference," said Wirth. "In 1990, an economic slump caused business recession and the commonwealth was \$4 billion dollars short revenue. Gov. Rendell inherited the debt. Some 501 school districts have not been given their appropriations yet. Penn State campuses are waiting for \$300 million dollars from Harrisburg."

The other 17 percent of tuition goes to Central Support Services at Main Campus.

"This money is not always spent," said Tomeszko. "It is saved and used differently every year. Recently, it has funded the new



parking lot and the new roof on the main building."

Separate from tuition are the student technology and activity fees. Each student had to pay \$160 per semester for technology and \$39 per semester for activities this year. The amounts for these fees change each semester depending on the number of students.

"Every penny of the activity fee stays on campus in a separate fund," said Director of Student Life Doreen Hettich-Atkins. "There is a committee for using the fee consisting of seven students, an additional staff member, and myself and the SGA president as co-chairs."

The fee goes toward campus activities, equipment such as the fitness center, facilities for student spaces like furniture for the student lounge, recreation and sports, diversity, "Just in Time," and selected support services, according to Hettich-Atkins.

Just in Time is for emergency

programs needed between student activity meetings such as the 9/11 counselors brought on campus. Selected support services are for programs that our campus might not be able to provide such as health and nutrition counseling and supplemental learning. This year, some of the things funded were: Penn in Hand, Lions Eye newspaper, uniforms for cheerleaders, Multi-cultural Day, Native American music, and the fitness center.

"The fitness center was paid for with the student activity fee and a loan from the Commonwealth College," said Hettich-Atkins.

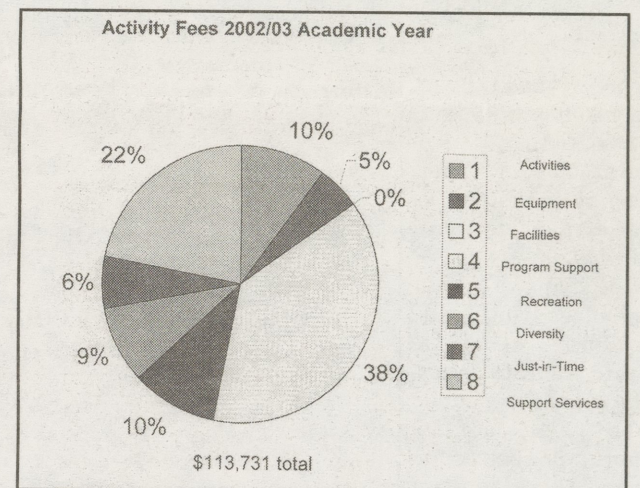
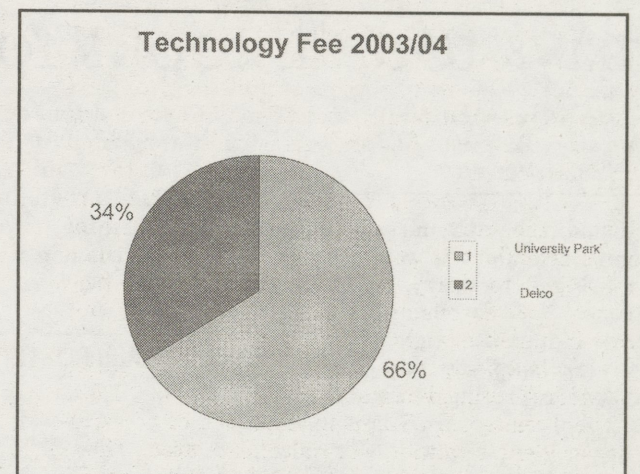
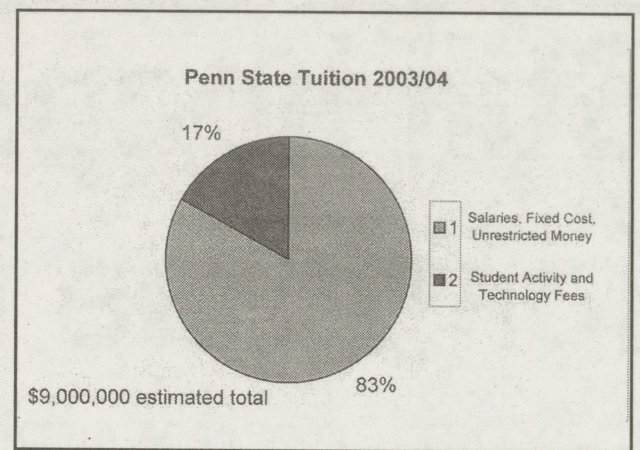
The technology fee funds computers and their components on campus. Much of this fee is sent to Main Campus.

"We used to get 50 percent of the technology fee for this campus; now we get 34 percent and the rest goes to Main campus," said Tomeszko. "Main campus says we now get more support from them."

Every bit of money that Penn State harbors is meaningfully utilized, Tomeszko said.

"We don't spend any money unless it has a direct, positive benefit to the campus," said Tomeszko. "We have less money to manage, but we are still focused on supporting faculty, staff, and students."

"We invest in our priorities: students, then faculty and staff."



ON CAMPUS BRIEFLY

Men's volleyball club forming

Coach Tom Pflieger and Athletic Director Doris "Tiz" Griffith announce the formation of Penn State Delco's men's club volleyball team.

If you're the type of guy that enjoys competition, athletics, or playing volleyball in the summer, why not come out for the club volleyball team? Club sports are a great way to get involved with a school activity, all while having a great time. If you're interested, please contact Griffith at DMG4@psu.edu.

— JOHN HICKEY

Library extends hours for finals

If you depend upon the library for quality study and work time, here is a bit of good news: Starting in December, the library will extend its hours.

Finals are just around the corner and the extra few hours are likely to help. The dates and times are as follows: Dec. 8 to Dec. 11, the library will be open until 11 p.m.; Dec. 14 to Dec. 18 again open until 11 p.m..

— STEVE SPENCE

Write about PSU, and get paid for it

The Penn State Delco Undergraduate Admissions Office is looking for student-produced articles, photographs, and film and video clips about experiences at a Penn State campus.

Content may be used on the Web or in print-recruit-

ment materials. They will pay for any submissions they use. For more information go to: www.psu.edu/admissions/guidelines.

Please submit all material through PSU Delco's admission office, Room 104 Main Building.

Volunteer to take part in Multicultural Day

Penn State Delco needs help from the entire campus to make Multicultural Day a success. The event will be held Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Commons Main Gym.

If you'd like to participate in the international fashion show, please email Taryn Chance at TMC266@psu.edu. If you would like to be a food server or make a dish, please email Natalie Delva at NZD110@psu.edu or Pat Smith at PAS25@psu.edu.

The campus needs people for other duties as well. Contact Diane Shorter at DDS4@psu.edu.

Gamers wanted for LAN party

A LAN party, an event at which people bring computers and network them to play computer games like Quake 3, Unreal Tournament, Half-Life, Counter-Strike, and Halo, will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, 2003 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

It will be held in the Classroom Building, Room 203. The cost is \$10 (\$8 with valid PSU ID). Minimum age is 16 and non-PSU students are welcomed. Visit: <http://www.istclub.net/lanparty>.

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