



Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

82nd Session, 2014-2015

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED COUNSELING CENTER FEE INCREASE

Resolution Number: 104

Authored By: Senator McCrillis and Senator Ramirez

Sponsored By: Committee on University Affairs

Whereas, the University of Nevada is increasing in population and will surpass the 20,000 mark within the next few years;

Whereas, there is a call for an increase in assistance to the services provided at the University of Nevada to accommodate the growth;

Whereas, the Counseling Center has to turn away students because of the lack of professional staff available to help students and faculty during their hours;

Whereas, the University of Nevada has a vested interest in the wellness of the students of the University of Nevada, be it physical or mental health;

Whereas, the University's Counseling Center is falling further behind the standard of response time and professional staff to student ratio set by their accrediting board, the International Association of Counseling Services, if the trend of having slower response times and an increasing professional staff to student ratio, which is already higher than the national average, continues;

Whereas, the fee would increase \$15 from \$35 to \$50 which is not a substantial amount;

Whereas, the fee increase will increase the operating budget of the Counseling Center from \$1,283,409 (2013-2014) to \$1,722,400 (2014-2015);

Whereas, the fee increase will allow for the addition of two fulltime professional staff and three more doctoral interns within the first year of implementation;

Whereas, the Counseling Center did 146 outreach presentations or workshops facilitated by their staff with over 3,500 participants, as well as more than 600 scheduled counseling-related consultations last year;

Whereas, the professional staff to student ratio for the University of Nevada Counseling Center is currently 1 to 2,200; and with the proposed fee increase the ratio will decrease to 1 to 1,500;

Whereas, the fee increase will ensure that the students of the University of Nevada will receive the highest level of quality counseling possible;

Whereas, the fee increase will allow the psychologists hired to alleviate the increase in student visits and also decrease the time waited per visit;

Whereas, the fee increase will open up an opportunity to allow a doctoral psychology internship program to be established on campus at the University of Nevada;

Whereas, this fee will also benefit students who do not directly use the Counseling Center by creating a safer and healthier environment for the campus community as a whole;

Be it resolved that, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada are in full support of the proposed fee increase from \$35-\$50;

Be it further resolved that, this resolution be presented members of ASUN at the Board of Regents Meeting in December.

Be it further resolved that, this resolution be sent to President Marc Johnson, Vice President of Student Services Dr. Shannon Ellis, and the Director of the Counseling Center Dr. Cindy Marczynski.

Adopted in Senate on November 5, 2014

Attest:

Lexi Jacobson, Secretary of the Senate

Caden Fabbi, Speaker of the Senate