

A STATUTE OF THE DUKE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Referendum Proposal: An Increase In the Student Activity Fee to Support Class Councils

Policy Statement

The Duke Student Government authorizes placement on the ballot for 2007 Spring Executive Elections the following question:

“Do you approve of an increase in the Student Activity Fee of \$10.00 per year? This will increase the annual fee from \$398.00 to \$408.00.

This \$10.00 increase would be used to fund each student’s respective Class Council in place of the current \$10.00 fee through RLHS. **This increase of \$10.00 per year will be accompanied by a decrease of \$10.00 in the Housing Fees.”**

Rationale

Under the current system, every student that pays for on-campus housing is charged a \$10.00 fee to support their Class Council. For freshman, sophomores, and juniors, all students are required to pay for on-campus housing and therefore all students in these classes contribute to their Class Council. However, members of the senior class are not required to live on campus and those that chose to live off campus do not contribute \$10.00 to the Senior Class Council. The lack of funding has been a significant obstacle to the Senior Class Council which must still provide events for all members of the Senior Community while only receiving a fraction of their dues.

The Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Class Councils will receive identical funding as under the current system if the Class Council fee is moved to the Student Activity Fee. The Senior Class Council will receive increased funding since every member of the Senior class will be required to contribute \$10.00 as opposed to only those living on campus.

During the each semester, students will be charged \$5.00 (for a total of \$10.00 over two semesters) to be sent to their Class Council. Because the fee would be collected on a semester basis, students who study abroad or are otherwise exempt from the Student Activity Fee will not be contributing to their Class Council during the semester they are absent.

Submitted Respectfully,

Alex Crable

Chairman of the Student Organization Finance Committee