MSSA Doles Out 2006-07 Budget
$4M in student fees allocated; $7.36 rise per semester for full-time students.

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staff writer

Requesting funding for positions is what brought many campus organizations to the Minnesota State Student Association’s annual student activity fee budget meeting Wednesday.

MSSA approved a $566,537 budget for the Student Leadership Development and Service Learning Center. The budget includes funding to continue a one-year-old position that works with recognized student organizations and nontraditional students and $32,000 for a concert.

Campus Recreation requested $380,756, which included a strength-and-conditioning position that was first approved by student senate four years ago with the condition that the position would be reviewed in four years. Director of Athletics Kevin Buisman said he did not know a review would lead to a discontinuation of funding and asked that the position be funded for one more year in order to find other funding. The MSSA approved only $332,615 with the reasoning that Campus Recreation should have already found alternative funding for this position.

The International Student Office asked for $70,224 that included funding a full-time nine-month position to work on international student events and to meet the needs of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System program, which is a mandatory U.S. government Internet system to maintain records of non-immigrants in the country. The senate approved $41,775 without funding for the position because they believe state funds should pay for a position that is required by the government.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Center requested an additional $2,000 for programming. College of Business Senator Kevin Bender said the center had a $5,000 budget in 2004-2005 and was granted another $3,000 in 2005-2006. He said approving the $2,000 request would double their budget within the time he has been in college. The senate voted to approve an additional $1,000 for a sum of a $9,000 budget.

The senate allocated a total of $4,059,958 in student activity fees, which will increase student activity fees by $7.36 per semester for 12-credit base in the 2006-07 academic year.

DOLLARS AND CENTS At least 50 students, faculty and staff sat through MSSAs budget hearing (above) Wednesday. Senators vote on a motion (top right). The jar of coins (right), collected while tabling, represented the cost per credit — $5.95 — for a full-time, out-of-state traditional coordinator, which passed.

BUDGET Senate meets half demands of LGBT Center’s request
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