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BOARD OF GOVERNORS UNIVERSITIES

NEWS

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92-110

April 6, 1992

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BOARD TO CONSIDER FEE CHANGES

CHARLESTON, IL--Fee increases for next year of approximately 3.8 percent for room and board and approximately one percent for total student fees at Eastern Illinois University will be considered by the Board of Governors Universities trustees during a meeting Wednesday, April 8.

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BOARD TO CONSIDER

Eastern President Stan Rives will recommend changes in residence hall room and board rates, University Apartment and University Court rental rates and mandatory student fees for 1992-93 when the Board's Executive Committee conducts the meeting via conference call. The regular meeting was canceled in order to save travel and meeting costs.

Each of the recommended changes has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate student-faculty committee and by the administration.

According to Rives, residence hall rates for 1991-92 and 1992-93 are not directly comparable, as the 1991-92 rates included a 20 meal plan. A flexible meal plan providing 11, 14, or 18 meal options is available for 1992-93. The current rate of \$2,694 will be increased by \$60 for the 11 meal option, \$102 for the 14 meal option, and \$162 for the 18 meal option.

The total increase for room and board next year of approximately 3.8 percent is in line with the current rate of inflation.

No increases are recommended in the Activity, Athletic, Health Insurance, Recreation Center, and Health Service/Pharmacy fees.

Students will see a \$6 per year decrease in their textbook rental fees as a result of volume purchases, increasing management effectiveness, and a slow down in the increased cost of textbooks.

A \$1.10 per semester increase in the Grant-in-Aid fee is a result of indexing the Grant-in-Aid fee to the increase in room and board rates for next year. The indexing principle was approved in a student referendum and subsequently approved by the Board of Governors in 1982.

The \$5.50 per semester increase in the Union/Bond Fee is a result of inflation on operating costs including utility rates and advance purchase of revenue bonds.

Rives said total student fees at Eastern should not be compared with those at other Illinois public universities without consideration of the Textbook Rental System at Eastern. An Eastern student will pay \$59 a semester to be supplied basic textbooks for all courses, a cost conservatively estimated at \$200-250 per semester if the student were required to purchase textbooks.

Eastern is also notifying the Board that the annual parking fee for students and staff will increase from \$30 per year in 1991-92 to \$35 per year in 1992-93. This increase, Rives said, is necessary to maintain and expand parking lots at the University.

The Board trustees are also being requested to approve repairing and resurfacing of several existing parking lots. Low bidder for the \$300,395 project, to be paid by parking fee income funds, is Ne-Co Asphalt Company of Charleston.