

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR BROWN UNIVERSITY AND  
THE UNIVERSITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE TO  
RAISE THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES FEE**

Sponsored by: Ryan Lester '11, Jerry Cedrone '11, Whitney Talbott '11, Brady Wyrzten '11, Ralanda Nelson '12, Bonnie Kim '12, Brittaney Check '12, Siddharth Sastri '12, Kathryn Tringale '12, Krutika Parasar '12

Co-Sponsored by: Erinn Phelan '09, Clay Wertheimer '10, Michael MacCombie '11, Ben Farber '12, Evan Holownin '12

1. WHEREAS in October 2007 UCS approved a proposal requesting a \$54 SA Fee increase for the 2008-2009 year,<sup>1</sup> and the was raised \$18 by the URC and the current SA Fee is \$164 per academic year,<sup>2</sup> and
  2. WHEREAS the national inflation rate for 2007 was 2.85% and for 2008 is currently 4.94%,<sup>3</sup> and an estimable average for the past year is 3.5%
  3. WHEREAS the overall number of Category II groups, each receiving \$200 in baseline funds per semester, has increased over the past year from 58 to 68<sup>4</sup> for an increase of \$4000 in costs, and
  4. WHEREAS the overall number of Category III groups, each receiving \$200 in social funds per semester and additional budgetary allocations by UFB, has increased from 128 in Fall, 2007<sup>5</sup> to 137 in Fall, 2008,<sup>6</sup> for an increase of \$3600 in costs, and
  5. WHEREAS UFB was only able to fund 54.1%<sup>7</sup> of student group requests for the 2008-2009 school year, and
  6. WHEREAS the hourly detail rates charged for an officer increased to \$47 per hour for an inside detail and to \$53 per hour for an outside detail, and costs for event services provided by the Department of Facilities and related contractors increase approximately 5% per year,<sup>8</sup> which raise contracts higher than the inflation rate, and
  7. WHEREAS groups who do not receive sufficient funding from the SA Fund often turn toward dues and out-of-pocket costs from their members and adequate funding for student organizations would minimize group pressures to fundraise in ways that might compete with other fundraising priorities of the University, and
  8. WHEREAS UCS finds it consistent with Brown University's mission statement that UFB should be able to fund above and beyond the minimum demands of student groups, both to satisfy current group needs and to encourage the formation of additional groups, and
  9. WHEREAS UCS understands the current financial crisis, and is asking for only a raise to cover the increased costs imposed on student groups both by inflation and increased number of groups requiring baseline funding.
1. BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Undergraduate Council of Students requests an increase of \$8 in the Student Activities Fee for the 2009-2010 Academic Year, which would raise the Student Activities Fee to \$172 per year, which is a total increase of approximately \$40,740, and
  2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Undergraduate Council of Students requests that the student members of the University Resources Committee and Vice President for Campus Life, Margaret Klawunn advocate for this increase on our behalf, and
  3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the University Resources Committee does not fully fund this request, that the Undergraduate Council of Students requests a written explanation within four weeks of their denial.

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<sup>1</sup> UCS Proposal for increased Student Activities Fee 08-09

<sup>2</sup> [http://brown.edu/Administration/Financial\\_Services/Bursar/Information/tuition\\_fee.html](http://brown.edu/Administration/Financial_Services/Bursar/Information/tuition_fee.html)

<sup>3</sup> [http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation\\_Rate/CurrentInflation.asp](http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation_Rate/CurrentInflation.asp)

<sup>4</sup> SAO Database October 28 Archive

<sup>5</sup> Student Activities Office Database November 6 Archive

<sup>6</sup> SAO Database

<sup>7</sup> UFB Data compiled by Ryan Mott

<sup>8</sup> Hugh Livengood email correspondence with Debbie Lister, Manager of Event Support