



## **“Reapplication of Portion of the Non-Academic Building Fee”**

**Proposed Motion:** Apply the amount of \$110,000 per year from the Non-Academic Building Fee to the expansion of the Viking Union/Bookstore complex, specifically for the Multicultural Center.

**Sponsor:** Alexander LaVallee, AS VP for Business & Operations

**Persons of Contact:** Alexander LaVallee, Linda Beckman

**Guest Speaker:** Linda Beckman, Enrollment & Student Services Division  
Director of Budget and Administration

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### **Background & Context**

In May 1991 the WWU Associated Students Board of Directors imposed a voluntary student fee in the amount of \$10 per quarter to provide for renovation of the Viking Union. Collection of this fee provided funds for initial planning and design as well as funding toward bond debt payment. As planning of that renovation continued, the project scope and cost estimates were developed. The AS Board of Directors and the WWU Board of Trustees increased the fee to \$30 in 1997 and pledged it to bonds at a \$35 level beginning Winter 2000. The fee has covered bond debt payments as well as maintenance and operations of the Viking Union. The AS Board of Directors and WWU Board of Trustees have approved increases to the fee to keep pace with inflation and cover maintenance and operations budgets. The fee is currently set at \$45 per quarter.

A bond refunding in 2015 resulted in \$110,000 average debt service savings per year, reducing the amount of the fee needed for bond payments. The remaining outstanding bonds will be paid off in 2026. In order to utilize the \$110,000 per year savings for the Multicultural Center as well as continue the Non-Academic Building Fee for continuing needs of the union and activities spaces into the future, the AS Board needs to take this action to redirect and reaffirm the fee.

### **Summary of Proposal**

The Non-Academic Building Fee in support of the Viking Union (VU) is a voluntary fee pursuant to RCW 28B.10.610 (the “VU Fee”). The VU Fee is currently imposed at \$45 per quarter for full time students. In 2015 a refinancing of existing bonds resulted in annual debt service savings of approximately \$110,000 per year.

We propose to apply this portion of the VU Fee (the \$110,000 savings) to the expansion of the Viking Union/Bookstore complex for the Multicultural Center.

### **Fiscal Impacts**

\$110,000 per year for the Multicultural Center expansion to the Viking Union.

### **Rationale**

In academic year 2016-2017, the student body of Western Washington University passed referendum for the construction and operation of a multicultural center. This funding will support that action.