

## **Clarke Field House/University Student Union Fee Increase Effective July 1, 2006**

In October of 2000, CSUSM students voted to adopt a student union fee increase. Part one of the student union fee increase was made effective July 1, 2001 and increased the existing student union fee to \$50 per semester/term (a \$30 per semester/term increase for full-time students and a \$40 per semester/term increase for part-time students). With this fee, construction of the Clarke Field House/University Student Union began sooner than had originally been thought possible. It was completed in August of 2003. "The Clarke" now provides numerous opportunities and the facilities for students to exercise and socialize, take kinesiology classes, train for athletic teams and host student organization meetings and events.

Part two of the student union fee increase became effective July 1, 2006 increasing the student union fee \$15 per semester/term. Funds generated from this will be used to pay down the debt on "The Clarke" so the University will be in a sound financial situation to seek a bond for future construction of a stand-alone student union/university center. Like the track, state funds cannot be used to build a student union. It must be built with student fees and private donations, such as the funds that Mrs. Helene Clarke donated to help build the Clarke Field House.

The University Student Union Advisory Board (USUAB) provides oversight on how student union fees are spent throughout the fiscal year. The USUAB provides services to students by offering programs throughout the academic year, co-sponsoring events with student organizations, and providing an outstanding venue for student activities, events, fitness, and meetings. Providing student-centered programs remains the focus of the current University Student Union Advisory Board. The USUAB will be opening a new venue, a café style lounge - "The Cougar Den" - in the Fall of 2006 to provide students with a more comfortable spot to relax on campus.

In the future, the USUAB will be responsible for overseeing the design, development, and construction of the new student union/university center building. The building will be constructed between the stairs to Chavez Plaza and the Kellogg Library. See the updated campus master plan at

[http://www.csusm.edu/physical\\_planning/Facilities/Master\\_Plan.htm](http://www.csusm.edu/physical_planning/Facilities/Master_Plan.htm)

The new student union/university center (Building #25) will include conference rooms, food services, the bookstore, lounges, meeting rooms, recreational facilities, and game rooms, as well as student union administrative offices, for a total of 40,100 ASF. The funding source will be the student union fees.

Cal State San Marcos students pay one of the lowest student union fees in the CSU system. Below is a list of student union fees paid by students at other CSU campuses:

|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| CSU, San Marcos | \$ 65 per semester/term      |
| CSU, Fresno     | \$105                        |
| CSU, Long Beach | \$ 50                        |
| CSU, Sacramento | \$181                        |
| SDSU            | \$ 82 (\$98 for Spring 2007) |
| SJSU            | \$126                        |

The University Student Union Advisory Board would like to thank all past, present, and future students for contributing to the development, construction, and operation of the Clarke Field House/University Student Union and the future student union/university center.