Summary

This matter proposes to create a Green Fee, effective Fall Semester 2009, for a proposed rate of $10.00 per semester prorated over 12 credits for the Fall, Spring, and Summer academic sessions respectively.

Rationale for Adoption

In 1999, SIUC signed the Talloires Declaration and thus, agreed to take 10 actions, the last of which stated: Maintain the Movement – Establish a Secretariat and a steering committee to continue this momentum, and to inform and support each other’s efforts in carrying out this declaration. SIUC has been making progress in reducing energy use and carbon emissions through efficiency and conservation projects. SIUC coordinates a number of sustainability initiatives including water conservation, green purchasing, food composting, recycling, and others.

In 2007, SIUC signed the Illinois Sustainable University Compact pledging to accomplish 9 sustainability goals by December 21, 2010. The Green Governments Illinois Act (SB0046) asked that educational institutions in Illinois adopt an environmental sustainability committee by April 1, 2008.

To address the above, a Green Fee needs to be implemented to allow for the continuation and implementation of energy and sustainability work in the future. As a result of research efforts, it is apparent that many of SIUC’s peer institutions are taking organized and deliberate approaches in addressing climate change and sustainability.

The proposed $10.00/semester fee would support on-campus renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainability projects and research. The Campus Sustainability Funding Committee (or just Funding Committee), a majority-student internal committee of the newly formed Sustainability Council, will allocate revenue generated by the green fee.

Considerations Against Adoption

University officers are concerned that increasing student costs may affect access to the University.
Constituency Involvement

On February 20, 2008, the Undergraduate Student Government at Southern Illinois University Carbondale unanimously passed Senate Resolution 08-19, “Resolution in support of the formation of a SIUC Council to develop plans for energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability to reduce SIUC’s contribution to global warming and ecological decline.”

Southern Illinois University Carbondale students passed a student referendum during the spring 2008 semester that read: “Do you support a $10 per semester student fee that would be used for on-campus renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainability projects and research?” The referendum passed overwhelmingly with a vote of 996-372.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University in regular meeting assembled, That effective with the collection of fees for Fall semester 2009, 4 Policies of the Board Appendix A-2 be amended as follows:

2. SIUC School of Medicine

General Fees. Students enrolled in the School of Medicine shall pay the general student fees approved by the Board (4 Policies B-6) with the following exceptions. Students attending the Springfield Medical Facility, including those enrolled in programs, shall be exempt from paying:

I) Green Fee

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, 4 Policies of the Board Appendix A-6 be amended as follows:

6. General student fee schedule approved by the Board for Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in effect Fall Semester:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee (Per Semester)</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Fee*</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Prorated over 12 hours/semester</td>
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<td></td>
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That 4 Policies of the Board Appendix A-25 be added as follows:

25. Green Fee: To provide a regularized source of funding for on-campus renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainability projects and research, a fee is established for each student. This fee shall be capped at 12 semester hours and be reduced 1/12 for each semester hour less than 12.