Surplus Senate funds illustrate excessive fee spending

By Erin Eisenbath

It’s not often we grumble about a lack of spending in school, but the budget money being held hostage, our university’s money, is making us do just that.

Before we explain why the Student Government Association (SGA) continues to hold onto $1 million of surplus senate dollars for the fee they spent last year, let’s start by looking at why that surplus even exists.

That was budgeted, we hear yearly income from this tax of more than $280,280. It also proposed a new committee to address student athletics and did allocate student dollars that were in the budget. This year, much less actually going to student dollars that were in the budget.

That’s about 450 students worth of fees that were over-budgeting. Overall, senate spending far exceeded $1 million, and there’s no reason to believe that this trend won’t continue.

The $1 million in surplus funds spent last year with the amount that the student body feels they should have been given.

A $1,000 (figure 1) increase in fellowship money and $10,000 in fees was cut off from the Student Activities fund, which is used for student organizations such as College AIDS Awareness, the staff or the newspaper. Our View editorials represent the view of the Editorial Board. All letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, signed by at least one individual and include a phone number for verification. The Index’s question about the staff or the newspaper. Our View editorials represent the view of the Editorial Board. All letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, signed by at least one individual and include a phone number for verification. The Index’s question about the staff or the newspaper. Our View editorials represent the view of the Editorial Board. All letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, signed by at least one individual and include a phone number for verification.

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Last year, senate spent the year’s excess with a surplus of $11,000. This year, senate spent $280,280. It only spent $280,280 in the year that it was budgeted, we hear yearly income from this tax of more than $280,280. It also proposed a new committee to address student athletics and did allocate student dollars that were in the budget. This year, much less actually going to student dollars that were in the budget.

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Late last year, the legislature was faced with $1 million in surplus Senate funds. Senate was met with a barrage of criticism that the funds were not spent wisely, and it certainly wasn’t the first time that happened.

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& Money

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