

1 ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ASU  
2 GPSA ASSEMBLY  
3 EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
4

MAY 9, 2011

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6 ASSEMBLY BILL # 55

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8 INTRODUCED BY

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10 RYAN POLANSKY  
11 ASSEMBLY MEMBER, W.P. CAREY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
12 AND  
13 MICHAEL RUTKOWSKI  
14 ASSEMBLY MEMBER, CLAS – NATURAL SCIENCES  
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17 GPSA POSITION ON PROPOSED PROGRAM FEE INCREASE  
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20 GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION,  
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22 WHEREAS Arizona State University and the Associated Students of Arizona State  
23 University (ASASU) entities, including the Graduate and Professional Student  
24 Association (GPSA), make use of the student-paid Student Programs fee to provide the  
25 offerings under their respective student service and support programs, and  
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27 WHEREAS the GPSA administers a number of such programs, including Travel grants,  
28 JumpStart Research grants, the Graduate Research Support program, and Student  
29 Organization and Event funding, among other service offerings, and  
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31 NOTING THAT the ability of GPSA to support graduate and professional students'  
32 research and professional development initiatives relies almost completely on student-  
33 paid fee money for the resources required to maintain these programs, and  
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35 FURTHER NOTING THAT during the spring semester of the 2010-2011 academic year,  
36 there is a proposal under discussion among ASU administration and its five student  
37 governments to increase the student-paid Programs Fee (the "Fee") from \$25 to either  
38 \$50 or \$75 per semester which, at \$50 would increase revenue by \$3 million and at \$75  
39 would increase revenue by \$6 million. The distribution of this money would be subject  
40 to revision yearly by the ASASU entities. The proposed distribution at the time of  
41 surveying the graduate student body for the \$75 fee was as follows: 58%, \$3.5 million to  
42 the ASASU branches funding (to be divided amongst the five student governments), 17  
43 %, \$1 million to the Programming and Activities Boards, 7%, \$1 million to  
44 intercollegiate athletics improvements (definition currently unspecified but would be  
45 made in the 2011-2012 Academic calendar via a memorandum of understanding between  
46 the ASASU Presidents Council and the Sun Devil Athletics administration), and 8%,

47 \$500,000 to Sun Devil Spirit Club (a new student run organization designed to boost  
48 ASU Spirit, Pride and Tradition).

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50 FURTHER NOTING THAT the results of a survey (open 4/30/11-5/7/11) distributed to  
51 existing graduate and professional students subscribed to the GradStu listserv with 401  
52 respondents indicated that 63% of graduate students are opposed to any Student Programs  
53 fee increase at this time. Further, this survey asked if respondents would support any  
54 student program fee increase if it includes funding to NCAA-sanctioned intercollegiate  
55 athletics program (i.e. Sun Devil Athletics) or Spirit, Pride and Tradition activities with  
56 70% of respondents answering "No."

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58 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GPSA officially opposes any increase in student Program  
59 Fees or in other similar fees, and, therefore,

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61 BE IT ENACTED THAT the GPSA Assembly hereby directs the GPSA President and  
62 any other relevant GPSA Executives to strongly oppose this, or similar, fee increases in  
63 discussions with ASASU Presidents Council, ASU administration, and the Arizona Board  
64 of Regents.

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66 BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT the results of the survey and GPSA's position  
67 should be advertised to students through the GradStu listserv and relevant student news  
68 outlets, including, but not limited to, the State Press.