Proposed Fee Would Offset Dormitory Dining Deficits

By Reuven M. Lerner

Stung by criticism of a proposal that would have charged residents of four dormitories about $1,300 per year, the House Dining Committee has revised its plan to include a campus-wide fee of under $100. Students living in Institute-approved housing — including dormitories, graduate residence halls, and independent living groups — would pay the smaller fee, which would help subsidize dormitory dining halls in Baker House, McCracken Hall, and Next House. Residents of these four dormitories would pay an additional fee, estimated at about $400, instead of the $1,300 proposed Monday. Those paying this fee would then be entitled to a 40 percent discount on food at any dining hall.

The fees are intended to offset the losses the Institute has suffered from the dormitory dining halls, estimated by the committee at $500,000 and $750,000 per year for the last five years.

The revision comes in the wake of intense negative reaction to the original proposal from residents of the four dormitories, many of whom said they would rather move out of their dormitory or close the dining hall than pay the fee. Baker President Kenway Louise "93 said that according to a recent survey, only a small number of Baker residents approved of the plan.

"There were a decent number of people who said they would move out of the house," Louise said. "A number of people said they would accept it because they couldn't move out."

Professor William B. Watson, chair of the committee and chairman of the House Dining Committee, said last night that the new proposal, while based on committee discussion...

UA Calls for Fee Referendum

Undergrads to Vote on Possible Student Life Fee

By Alice K. Gilchrist

Before the end of the semester, undergraduates will be given the opportunity to indicate whether or not they would be in favor of initiating a Student Life Fee. The Undergraduate Association Council approved a referendum on the question at an emergency meeting last night.

"This marks the first time in any one's memory that a serious, well-publicized opportunity to view the contest has decreased somewhat over the years," she said. "We've been getting complaints that the contest was considered discontinuing the event completely. In past years, the contest raised from $50 billion, federally financed program to restart programs that would be set up which would enable state governments to..."

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