

# VOTE NO ON THE FEE REFERENDUM

Published at UCSD  
By the n.i. collective

# new indicator

May 2003  
36th Year of Publication

## Student Control of Student Fees!

At this point, thousands of students have signed petitions to put a referendum question on the ballot to give students the option of controlling the buildings that we pay for. To many, the reasons for this were intuitive – “of course!” they said, “it’s our money!” Many others were shocked that we didn’t already have control of them.

But many also asked why. They wanted to know why we thought students should control these buildings, why we refuse to raise fees for new buildings until we get student control, and why this was so important to us that we were willing to spend days and days and days collecting signatures.

So, for those of you who were wondering but didn’t ask, or who didn’t encounter any of the petition-istas, or who got a 30 second version as you hurried off to class, here are some of the major reasons that we believe that students should control the buildings we pay for and the fees we pay.

### Student-friendly decisions about use of space

Students understand what students need, and students who are elected have constituents to represent. If we get students who are accountable to the rest of the students making these decisions, the buildings we pay for will run better. For example, students wouldn’t devote huge chunks of the Price Center to UCSD Catering and other administrative

departments that don’t have anything to do with students – that space could all be student organization office space and meeting rooms. The University Centers took away three highly used student meeting rooms in the Student Center last year, and replaced them with a darkroom that students have to pay to use. One wing of the Che Cafe building is supposed to be student organization office space, but is being used as administrative storage space for Craft Center and Student Center junk, most of which hasn’t been used or accessed in over a decade. Think of what we could do with all of these spaces if they were allocated with students’ needs in mind!

### Student-friendly decisions about cost and student fees

If the people that are deciding how to spend our fees are people that pay them too, representing more people that pay them too, they won’t squander our money and raise fees frivolously. We need to look at ways to keep the costs of running the University Centers low, and if we are going to talk about an expansion, we need to keep the cost of that as low as possible as well. Many suggestions about how to keep the costs low in this proposed expansion were completely ignored. Student suggestions about ways to pay less interest, and about bringing in lower cost student-run businesses instead of more \$7-for-lunch fast food chains were dismissed



the oh-so useful automatic towel dispensers in PC

as impractical. They haven’t released the figures this time like they did last time (probably to avoid this criticism), but we can also rest assured that they are planning on furnishing this expansion with the same \$4,000 couches and \$300 silk plants that they proposed for the last expansion attempt two years ago.

### The University Centers wastes our money

The fees that we pay now are supposed to go to maintenance and upkeep of the existing University Centers facilities and to pay off the debt service on them. The money that is

continued on page 4

## Shadiness? What Shadiness?

Since a large part of the why we’re so adamantly opposed to this fee referendum is the shady process by which it was created, I’m going to take a minute to document the shadiness that has occurred so far. Now, at the time I’m writing this, the campaign and election haven’t even started, and I’m sure they will yield another couple of pages of shadiness, but this article just covers the shadiness that has transpired thus far.

I’m not really sure where to start, so I think I’ll go in chronological order. I’m not going to go into the details of the previous attempts to pass this referendum because many of you were around for it, and because there is plenty of other documentation. Something that happened way back then, that is super relevant to this referendum, however, is the formation of the current committee. After the last referendum failed, Vice Chancellor Student Affairs Joe Watson went to the the A.S. President and basically told him that getting the Price Center expanded was now his problem and responsibility. In response to this new responsibility, he created the ASUCSD Ad Hoc Task Force on University Centers Expansion Efforts, which wrote the referendum language. This is not a “student initiated” referendum – the efforts to raise fees for a Price Center Expansion were started by Watson years ago, and 4 Price Center Expansion referenda have failed since. Watson doesn’t seem to understand that the students don’t want to pay hundreds of dollars for more buildings we won’t own and control, and that it would be better to meet space needs by using the space that we have before raising fees to build more.

This A.S. task force made a couple of presentations to the A.S. over their nearly

two years of existence, mostly about how the research that they were doing showed that the students need an expanded Price Center. The research firm that they hired (for over \$50,000), Brailsford and Dunlavy specializes in getting student union projects built, and has been used by University Centers Director Gary Ratcliff at other universities to pass referenda. They even had a quote from him on their website about how great they are. Ex- University Centers Director Jim Carruthers (who Gary replaced) is Senior Associate with Brailsford and Dunlavy. They did research on what students wanted in an expanded Price Center, and studiously ignored student comments on fee autonomy, student control, ownership of the building, and use of existing space.

When the task force finished their proposed language, they didn’t ask for comments or suggestions, they submitted it to A.S. to be voted on. The A.S. President had proposed language as well, which would have given control of the fee and building to the elected student governments instead of to the unaccountable University Centers Advisory Board (UCAB), which isn’t even all-student. It should be noted that many of the main people on the task force who wrote the language were members of UCAB.

James Lynch, chair of UCAB, used parliamentary process to prevent discussion or modification of his proposal, and to prevent the A.S. council from being able to consider student control of the fee. It was forced to a vote without discussion, and barely passed. The A.S. President vetoed it because she thought that there needed to be discussion of the item before

continued on page 5

## What’s the deal with Financial Aid?

There’s been quite a bit of controversy over whether this proposed fee increase would be covered by financial aid or not. The administration claims, as they did last time they tried to pass this referendum two years ago, that it will be, and the students opposing it claim that there is no guarantee of this.

### What’s the deal?

The students have a letter from the State Legislature Subcommittee on Higher Education, written in 1990 after the RIMAC fee referendum. This letter explains that “There appears to be a great deal of misinformation on many UC and CSU campuses regarding the impact of proposed increases of campus student fees on financial aid resources. As student governments and campus administrations join forces to promote campus fee increases for aquatics centers, auto garages, saunas, health insurance, Jacuzzis, pro sports shops, athletic stadiums, and concert centers, many students are being told that the pool of financial aid funds will increase to cover the proposed fee increases. In virtually every case, this is patently false.”

The letter goes on to explain that the amount of financial aid funds available is dependent on the state budget, and that there is no guarantee that the state budget will expand the amount of money available to match the increased cost.

The administration says that fee

increases are taken into account when calculating financial need, therefore, when fees go up, financial aid goes up.

### Who’s right?

Both. Basically, they will take into account higher fees when they calculate your financial need. But, there is no guarantee that this will result in increased financial aid, and if financial aid does increase, there is no guarantee that it will increase by the full amount of the fee increase. And, even if financial aid does increase, it almost definitely will be an increase in student loans and workstudy, NOT grants.

Two years ago, the administration claimed that the letter from the State Legislature no longer applied, so the students called Sacramento, and were told by Paul Mitchell, from the State Legislature Committee on Higher Education that all the information in it was still correct, and that there was still no guarantee that a fee increase would be covered by financial aid.

So yeah. A fee increase won’t just be erased by your financial aid. You’ll almost definitely have to pay for at least part of it at some point, even if you don’t pay for it all now. There can be no guarantees about the amount of financial aid available, since it is dependent on the state, and since the state is in a budget crisis and is already cutting Cal Grants, chances of them covering this increase aren’t looking so hot.

## Interview with Monty Reed Krupkin UCSD Historian, Student Activist

Monty Krupkin is a UCSD alum. As a UCSD student, he was active in the student government, campus activism and journalism. Currently he lives and works in San Diego.

### NI: When were you a student at UCSD?

MK: Spring 1970 until Spring 1981.

### NI: That's a long time. Most students today could not be in school over such a long period of time. How were you able to be at UCSD for over a decade?

MK: First of all, I was a student on an off for that time. Some factors that made this possible in the 70's were a lower cost of living, better financial aid and lower student fees.

### NI: Please describe your main areas of involvement at UCSD other than classes.

MK: I was involved in anti-vietnam war activities between 1970 and 1975. I was involved in the precursor to the New Indicator collective called The Crazy Times and The North Star. Later, I was involved in the Student Cooperative Union student government. At one point I was co-chair of the Student Cooperative Union, which is kind of like the equivalent of president of A.S. I was also involved in the student movement to get a Communications Department at UCSD.

### NI: Describe your relationship with UCSD administration.

MK: Personally, I knew a lot of administrators as acquaintances and our interactions have been friendly, but in terms of relationships with student organizations and student governments, often relations were strained and even litigious. This was mostly reflective of my relationships with the student affairs department. I have been involved as a plaintiff or legal support against the university administration in court cases on multiple occasions.

### NI: Can you give one example?

MK: Once, I was the principal plaintiff where the university made a settlement out of court. It had to do with an attempt to cut the New Indicators funds and a physical attack upon my person by a student senator. I filed a civil rights suit against the university and the individual. The university settled out of court in favor of reinstating funds to the New Indicator.

### NI: Were there any attempts by the UCSD administration to raise student fees?

MK: This was a constant theme.

### NI: Please describe your involvement.

MK: I was involved in many anti-fee referenda campaigns, grievances and appeals associated with this. There was a lawsuit filed against the RIMAC referendum that was withdrawn, largely due to intimidation tactics by the administration or the law firm representing them. They were making noise about the financial responsibility of the students if they did not win the court case and the students, who don't have the kind of money that

the university has, were scarred off. In my opinion, the suit was a good legal claim. If it had, perhaps RIMAC would have been stopped and the attempts to push fee referenda down students' throats would have stopped. We also attempted to get State wide legislation passed that would safeguard students. It passed the legislature and was vetoed by Pete Wilson. The we in this case was a coalition of student governments and co-operatives statewide.

### NI: What legislation was this?

MK: It was named AB1884. It was designed to protect students from administration sponsored fee referenda for student self assessed fees and to keep the administration out of the processes. Generally what happens is that the administration finds a few student "pets" to initiate the process. On paper it is supposed to be student initiated but in practice the administration usually calls a meeting with a few lackeys who start the process for them. If it weren't for the university's constitutional autonomy there probably would have been a civil rights lawsuit long ago. It these had been city or county elections they would have never stood up. However because of the university's position and money no one has stood up to them. The legislation also clearly identified student owned and operated businesses that was paid for by student fees as student property, not university property.

### NI: What was the student government like when you were at UCSD?

MK: It was much the same as the general A.S. structure and it was not clearly an independent entity in its inception. It was ambiguous as to if students started it or the administration. Students for the most part did not assume that the AS was an administrative committee but rather that it represented the students and they acted accordingly. The first real rude awakening was in 1972 when there was a student referendum to discontinue the AS membership fee and it passed. And the chancellor took this as a vote of no confidence and so the administration disestablished the Undergraduate Council and replaced it with an advisory board to appoint students to committees. After a year of this committee, students made the advisory committee open to all students along the lines of a new England town hall meeting. There was a referenda to make this name this board the "Student Cooperative Union" and make it the official student government.

### NI: When did the Student Cooperative Union exist?

MK: Between fall 1974 and March of 1977 at which time a rigged, administration sponsored referenda (which was also taken to court by students) decertified the Student Co-op and replaced it with the current A.S.

The new A.S. was primarily defined by the administration. Students who were in bed with the administration discussed what kind of structure it should have and the administration did a very heavy handed campaign to discredit the Student Co-op by freezing its funds. The guardian carried false allegations against the Student Co-op but when the allegations were proven to be false the

guardian did not carry the story. There was also a lot of red baiting back then, which was kind of absurd because the Student Cooperative Union was a very liberal model.

### NI: What do you know about the history of the "University Centers Advisory Board"?

MK: I was involved as legal support in the attempt of the UCB to litigate independence from the university. This was going on at the same time as the administration attempts to evict the General Store from the student cooperative center. The administration dissolved the UCB and replaced it with the UCAB under guidelines that were dictated by Joseph Watson. This was at the same time that U.C. wide was pushing for legislation about these very issues of student control over their fees and spaces created by their fees.

### NI: What changes has the administration made to policies to make it easier for fee referenda to pass?

MK: They lowered the threshold for approval it used to be 25% and it is now 20%. Also, the regulations regarding the financing of campaign literature has been messed with in a massive way over time.

### NI: This is a big issue for the upcoming referendum. The administration is allocating \$7,000 for "neutral" advertising for the fee referendum.

MK: There is no such thing as neutral material from the administration.

### NI: The administration has been trying to expand the Price Center with a student fee referendum for the past 7 years, but have consistently failed. This year they are attempting to raise student fees by \$39 per student per quarter. What advice do you have for students?

MK: Obviously, vote NO. And beyond that, if any of them are wealthy and have a conscience, document elections irregularities, lobby the legislature, and sue the university. Show the media that it is a rigged election. Also look elsewhere in the country and the world where students really do control their property and see how bad it is here. The effect is that we have a lot less political clout in effecting the administration, faculty and legislature. When you don't control your own facilities you have a lot less power and influence.

### NI: Do you have anything else to add?

MK: I would urge students to educate themselves and each other about these issues and to educate a large community about it. UCSD is a very good example of corrupt elections practices in the United States. I mean, if there were a senate investigation into this kind of thing it would be a scandal. Of course after the last presidential election, people are becoming jaded; rightfully so.

### NI: Thanks for taking the time to share your experiences.

MK: My pleasure.

### the new indicator

copy which is printed without a byline may be assumed to represent the position of the new indicator collective.

articles and letters are welcomed. please type them and send them to: ni@libertad.ucsd.edu or to: new indicator collective B-023C Student Center La Jolla, CA 92093

the views expressed in this publication are solely those of the new indicator collective, while the publisher of this publication is recognized as a campus student organization at the university of california, san diego, the views expressed in its publication do not represent those of asucsd, the university of california, the regents, their officers, or employees. each publication bears the full legal responsibility for its content.

## History repeats itself: Past & Present Referendums

### A Brief History of Student Fees at UCSD

When considering the current proposed Fee Referendum at UCSD it is necessary to take in its historical context. We are not just talking about raising fees by \$117 a year permanently. We are participating in a trend at UC and across the country which is making public higher education more expensive and less accessible. Imagine that as students we had the choice of spending 6 or 7 years finishing our degree, that we didn't have to take 16 units every quarter, that we had time to actually learn something from our classes or to be involved in something outside of our studies. How much we pay for school is a big part of that. Students want to get done quicker because school is expensive and also many students have to work almost full time. In the 80's the cost of going to UCSD was less than half of what it is now (less than \$500 per quarter!). Students actually did spend more time at UCSD and were more involved. Many of those increases in fees have been student fees, similar to the one currently being proposed by the administration. By themselves these fees seem not so high but when we look at the fee increases over the past two decades one sees a trend of ever increasing student fees.

Before there were any other UC schools, students at Berkeley decided that they wanted to have a Student Union (Student Center), a place where students could hang out and get important materials for their studies. The students at Berkeley got together and decided to use their money to raise a "Student Fee" to build a Student Union. The administration at the time was content to let the students do what they wanted to with their money. The Berkeley Student Union was highly successful and it gave students a say in their own campus. The UC administration took notice and when new UC campuses were being built, starting with UCLA, they incorporated the student unions into the plans. But this time they worked it in that the Administration would have control over the facilities so as to better be able to integrate it into their idea of the university.

UCSD opened in 1963 on the site of the previous Camp Mathews military training base. There was no student center or even campus bookstore. UCSD was very small then and consisted only of what is now called Revelle College. What is now called CLICS was the main library and Revelle Quad was the center of campus. In 1966, students paid for the first student center with student fees. For about \$15,000 they built a foundation and moved three Quonset huts from the former military base close to the center of campus (Revelle). These buildings became the campus bookstore, a restaurant, and student office space.

In the mid 70's, UCSD expanded to Muir college and Third College (also known as Lumumba-Zapata college). It was decided that there would need to be a bigger student center so the administration pushed to raise student fees to pay for it. There were protests from the student body about raising fees but there were no guidelines about how student fees had to be voted on back then. The student center was built in 1976 and students paid a new fee of \$13 per student per quarter. Students lobbied hard and got the student center filled with co-ops. In fact, the real name of the Student Center, decided on by students is the "Student Cooperative Center" (a strange side note is that

someone has gone through old minutes that refer to the "Student Cooperative Center" and methodically crossed out the word "Cooperative"). When the student center first opened, most of it was filled with cooperatives. Some of the important co-ops that no longer exist are the Bike Co-op (replaced by the Bike Store), the Recycle Co-op, and the Computer Co-op. The Grove Café and A.S. Lecture notes were originally proposed by students as co-ops.

After the Student Center was built, the Quonset huts near Revelle were left empty for a few years. In 1979, the UCSD administration decided that they wanted to turn these buildings into a Faculty Club but students protested, saying that, as student fees paid for these buildings, students should be using them. After the students proved that they paid for the buildings, they were given control over these spaces. In 1980 the Ché Café opened in the main part of the buildings. Also present in the 80's in the Quonset huts was the Guardian offices as well as other student organization offices. Today, the part of the buildings that were used for student organization offices (including the Guardian) is being used by a private businessman (who runs the Grove and the Crafts Center) for storage. This is despite student demands that this space be used for student organizations and despite the current need for more space in the University Centers.

In the 80's, the administration came up with a new plan for a new "student" center. Originally, the idea was to get rid of the Student Cooperative Center and create a new center that would be more under control of administration. But, due to large student resistance and protest, many attempts to build a new center failed. In 1989 a referendum was passed, raising fees for student buildings to \$37.50 per quarter. There were many procedural problems with the referendum and students took the University to court but were unable to stop the Price Center from being built. The Price Center was opened with a massive student protest in 1992.

When the Student Cooperative Center was built, an all-student board called the Student Center Board (SCB) was created. Later when the Price Center was built this board was re-named the University Centers Board (UCB) but remained essentially the same. In the early 90's when the Price Center was opened, students and administration did not agree as to how to use the space. The director of the Price Center (and predecessor to Gary Ratcliff), Jim Carruthers, repeatedly went against the decisions of the University Centers Board (note: Jim Carruthers now works for Brailsford and Dunlavey, the firm that recommended an expansion to UCSD students). In response, the UCB attempted to fire him and sought legal counsel. The university administration refused to allocate money to the UCB to hire a lawyer. Vice Chancellor, Joseph Watson decided to disestablish the board and replaced it by writing a letter to the U.C. President (and former UCSD Chancellor) Richard Atkinson. Watson created a new board called the University Centers Advisory Board (UCAB). He put faculty, administration, staff and alumni on the new board. He removed the co-op representative and made the selection process of the student members much less open. The disestablished board decided to file a suit against the University. However, the Judge ruled in a preliminary hearing that he would

## Student Fees: What every student at UCSD pays every quarter, every year

In total, most UCSD undergraduates pay \$1,631.75 per quarter in fees. Non-resident undergraduates pay \$5,913.75 per quarter. In-state graduates pay \$1805.50 per quarter and non-residents pay \$5,578.50 per quarter. These fees are split into categories that determine who allocates the fees once they are collected. Below are explanations of the mandatory fees that all students at UCSD pay.

### Registration Fee: \$237.00 every quarter

This mandatory fee is collected to support non-academic programs and services on campus. It funds programs ranging from OASIS to the Career Center.

### Educational Fee: \$1,040.00 every quarter

This is the fee that is collected to pay faculty salaries, administrator's salaries, operation of the libraries, operations of administrative offices such as the registrars, operation of the power plant and other things. These Fees are determined by the Regents every year. They are the same for all nine of the University of California campuses. In addition, each campus may set additional fees called "Student Fees". These fees are determined by referendum by the students themselves and are supposedly for the purpose of enhancing student life and community on campus. UCSD has five student fees, some of which only apply to undergraduates and one of which only applies to graduates.

### Campus Activity Fee: \$21.00 every quarter

This fee is paid by all undergraduates. It is collected by UCSD administration (by the department of Student Affairs) and allocated by the Associated Students (the undergraduate student government). This fee goes towards funding student organizations (for example, printing of this paper is funded through this fee). It also funds events like Sun God week and AS concerts in RIMAC or the Price Center.

### Graduate Student Association Fee: \$12.00 every quarter

This fee is paid by all graduate students. It is collected by UCSD administration (department of Student Affairs) and allocated to the Graduate Student Association. The money generated by this fee goes mostly to graduate student parties, lounges, and a few events.

### University Center Fee: \$37.50 every quarter

This fee pays the debt service on the bond for constructing the Price Center. It funds general maintenance in the Price Center, Student Center and the Ché Café. It also pays for the administrative staff for the University Centers as well as advertising for the centers.

### Recreation Fee: \$87.00 every quarter

This fee pays for the debt service on the construction of RIMAC. This fee was contested by students because there were many blank ballots found that pushed the number of votes above the minimum of 20% of the student body voting that is required. Students took this to court but UCSD administration had already signed a contract with an building firm by the time the case was brought to court and therefore obligated students to pay for this contract.

### Inter Collegiate Athletics Student Activity Fee: \$28.25 per quarter

This is the most recent fee, voted on last year by students. It covers costs of UCSD administration's choice to move UCSD from Division III athletics to Division II. Students were forced to choose between raising fees to cover these costs or to loose about half of the already existing Intercollegiate teams.

### Mandatory Health Insurance: \$181.00 every quarter

Health Insurance provided through UCSD. In addition to all of these fees, four out of the six colleges have a small fee of between \$2 and \$7 for college programming.

not go forward with the case because the disestablished UCB had not been able to come up with enough supporting documentation. The university's lawyers responded by trying to counter sue for a frivolous lawsuit against the members of the former UCB. The judge threw this out of court and responded that the suit was "definitely not frivolous."

Also in the early 90's the administration pushed through the fee referendum for RIMAC. This raised a huge fee of \$87 per student per quarter (or \$261 per year). There were extremely fishy events surrounding the RIMAC referendum such as over 200 blank ballots (which miraculously pushed up the number of votes to just above the necessary quorum to make the vote valid). In addition, there were multiple grievances filed by the students against the administration concerning violations of elections bylaws. There was a large amount of discontent by both students and faculty concerning RIMAC. The AS and GSA passed resolutions condemning the administration for their

actions in the RIMAC elections. Faculty were outspoken in condemning the process of the election. Again, students took the administration to court for violating elections bylaws and for stacking the ballot box. This time, the administration was able to sign a contract with an architect before the court date. The judge explained that even if a ruling was found in favor of the students that they would still be legally obligated to pay the fee because the university had committed itself and the students to paying for the construction. Due to high attorneys fees and lack of recourse, students decided to drop the court case.

In 1993, the UC administration tried to close down the General Store for selling textbooks. They had recently signed a secret agreement with the new Price Center Bookstore that it would be the only place on campus to sell new text books. The administration started by sending Groundwork Books and the

continued on page 4

### copyleft notice

all material written by the n.i. (mainly non-credited material) is "copylefted"

Copyright © 2003 new indicator collective "creative" works remain copyright their respective authors

Verbatim copying and distribution of this entire paper or any entire article within is permitted (and encouraged) in any medium, provided this notice is preserved.

This information is free; you can redistribute it and/or modify it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation; either version 2 of the License, or (at your option) any later version.

This work is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. See the GNU General Public License for more details.

For a copy of the GNU General Public License write to the Free Software Foundation, Inc., 675 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

# Student Control:

continued from the front page

left over from that goes into the University Centers' reserves, which have millions of dollars in them. They have so much extra of our money that they're going to spend over a million dollars building a restaurant next to the Student Center. They have so much extra of our money that they're installing automatic flushers and paper towel dispensers in the bathrooms of the Price Center, and televisions to flash advertisements at us in the hallways and cafes of the Price Center. They have so much extra of our money that they spent nearly \$30,000 trying to pass their last attempt at a fee referendum two years ago, and are spending over \$65,000 to try to pass it this time.

## The University Centers does a bad job

I suppose it's not their fault, really. If you had a cushy corner office with windows in the Price Center, would you ever venture over to the Student Center to see the bees living in our walls and the rotting beams holding up our roof? Would you bother to make the elevator in the Student

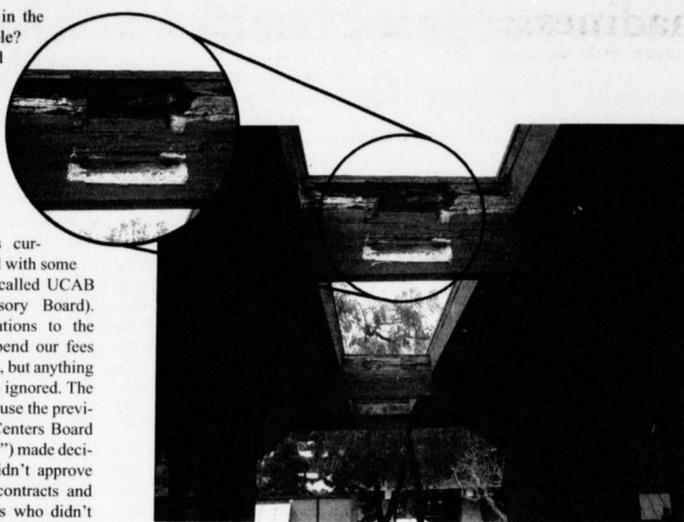
Center and the bathrooms in the Che Cafe ADA-accessible? Of course not! You'd spend that money on automatic paper towel dispensers and toilet flushers for the Price Center, just like they do.

## Student input shouldn't be advisory

The University Centers currently has an advisory board with some non-elected students on it called UCAB (University Centers Advisory Board). UCAB makes recommendations to the University about how to spend our fees and how to run our buildings, but anything that they recommend can be ignored. The reason that they exist is because the previous board (the University Centers Board - note the missing "Advisory") made decisions that the University didn't approve of, like honoring existing contracts and leases, and firing employees who didn't do their jobs. We need CONTROL of our facilities, not an advisory role, because the students making these decisions and representing us shouldn't be overruled at the whim of some administrator.

## It just makes sense

If we were going to start from scratch right now, and there was no existing



rotting beams on the second floor of the student cooperative center

system, no precedent, nothing to build from, and someone asked you, "You and other students are going to be paying hundreds of dollars for these buildings. Who should own and control them?", what would your answer be? It makes more sense for us to control our money and our buildings than to give our money

away and have no voice in how are buildings are run.

So there you have it - a brief summary of some of the main arguments for student control of student fees. If you have any questions, feel free to email its\_our\_money@libertad.ucsd.edu, and we'd be happy to explain it more.

# History:

continued from page 3

General Store notices to stop selling text books. When they refused, police entered the General Store and changed the locks. Students found out about this and, true to UCSD student apathy, hundreds protested and broke into the G-store until they could find a lawyer. The co-ops took the administration to court and UCSD was issued a restraining order (the first time in UC history). The General Store was kept open and as a result, all of the co-ops were able to bargain a historical contract with the University that still gives them financial and operational independence.

Starting in 1997 and running to the present the University Administration has been trying to increase fees to expand the Price Center. It was in the original plans for the Price Center to expand it to the site where the Police Center is, and plans for the expansion began as soon as the Price Center was built. Unfortunately for the administration, students have had enough of these shady referenda, and passing a new Price Center expansion has proven to be difficult and unpopular. Since 1997, the administration has tried to push 3 referenda to expand the Price Center (the current being the fourth). Students opposition to these referenda reached a peak two years ago in 2001 when they turned out to vote in record numbers, and voted no: 33% of the student body voted and 56% voted NO.

## Recent History of the 2003 Fee Referendum

Last year the administration paid an outside company, Brailsford and Dunlavy, more than \$50,000 to do a survey and recommend a fee referendum. Supposedly, this was due to a recommendation by the University Centers Expansion Task Force (UCETF), but UCAB and the administration had been planning to use Brailsford and Dunlavy for months before it was even being considered by the UCETF. Brailsford and Dunlavy were brought in because of their supposed impartiality. But, when looking at their web site,

we found conflicts of interest and ties to UCSD administration. There were quotes from Gary Ratcliff (the current director of the University Centers) prominently displayed. When asked, Gary said that he had worked with Brailsford and Dunlavy before to push fee referenda on student bodies at other universities. Also, UCSD's previous University Centers Director, Jim Carruthers, is a Senior Associate at Brailsford and Dunlavy. This is the same person that students sought to fire because of his attempts to quash student's voices. When looking into a survey, there was a large push by many students to do a student run survey and spend much less money as well as educating the student body about the issues at hand but this was thrown out by the committee, most of whom had been a part of the previous administrative attempt to pass the fee referendum. Brailsford and Dunlavy did their survey in Fall, 2002. The results are available online at <http://theuniversitycenters.ucsd.edu/info/feasibilitystudy.html>. In their report, they focus on the elements of the survey that lead towards expansion as the only possibility. Nowhere do they make any recommendations about how to better use current existing space. They also failed to mention certain key elements that are unique to UCSD. Nowhere did they write about the importance to the student body of having more say in the decisions that effect them even though it was one of the biggest problems students had with the current University Centers. Nowhere did they talk about the proposed solutions that have been brought up over and over in their meetings with students; independence of fees, better usage of existing space, etc. Instead, they selectively focused on the aspects of the survey that seemed to support what the administration has been pushing for the last seven years. Isn't it amazing that students suddenly want the exact expansion that the administration has been trying to get for so long, despite previous strong resistance? Isn't it amazing that (according to the "results" of the survey) students no longer care about independence of fees or affordability of a university education? One recommendation that was made to the UCETF was to put off collecting fees from students until



the new facility is opened. This way, students that are voting on the referendum will not worry about paying for it. Brailsford and Dunlavy basically fit the information they collected from students into a rigid pre-existing form. They did not pay attention to anything that did not fit into their form. They were being paid to tell the administration how to pass a fee referendum, not to make a recommendation about what is best for the students.

The University Centers Expansion Task Force is a group of students that was created after the failure of the last fee referendum to figure out how to expand the Price Center. At the time of its creation, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Joe Watson was threatening to expand the Price Center without a fee referendum by cutting other programs. Even though this is not legal, students were scared by his threats. The UCETF has had most of its members leave and be replaced. In this process, the committee became mostly representative of the Greeks/Fraternities. More than half the members on the board when it made the decision to recommend a fee referendum were from the Greek organizations. One consequence of this

that is carefully hidden by the wording of recommendations from the UCETF is that the Greek organizations have been promised a majority of the office space in an expanded Price Center. This is hidden by their claims that SAAC orgs and Religious orgs would be given equal amounts of space. While this is true, the SAAC orgs are just getting moved from space they already have in the Price Center and the Religious orgs are being paid for by outside funds, not by the expansion; they would get office space with or without a referendum. Since the decision to have a fee referendum, the UCETF was re-chartered to be a "neutral" information body to "promote" the referendum. Although they claim to be neutral, they consist of official members of the "Yes" campaign, including the person who wrote the "Pro" argument on the ballot, James Lynch (in fact, James Lynch wrote both the "Pro" argument and the "Neutral" statement as well as much of the ballot wording - talk about conflict of interest). This neutral informational campaign has been given \$7,000 by the administration. This is

continued on next page

# Shadiness:

continued from the front page

the council voted.

There were three different versions of the referendum language on the agenda for the Wednesday, 9 April A.S. meeting. The president submitted her proposal for a student-controlled Price Center Expansion, James submitted an override of her veto to pass the original UCAB language, and there was a compromise that would let students vote whether they wanted to pay for an expansion or not, and then vote who they wanted to control their money. The President's and the compromise were submitted as items of immediate consideration (to be discussed that night), and James' was submitted as new business (to be discussed the next week).

The President withdrew hers and announced that she supported the compromise, and as we were about to start discussing it, James made a motion to make his an item of immediate consideration to be discussed first. It failed, and he made another one to make it an item of immediate consideration to be discussed after all of the other items of immediate consideration, which passed.

The discussion on the compromise began, and people were changing things, and hashing out the details to make it acceptable to everyone. Some of the senators had issues with letting the students decide who should control their money, stating that we are "student leaders" and students are too stupid to decide for themselves (pay attention, these are the people who you elect to "represent" you). The discussion continued until someone moved to discuss James' proposal first

and postpone the compromise to the end. When we began discussing James' veto override, Lee Lovejoy, VP Finance of the Grad Student Association, got up and made a fiery speech about how the GSA would absolutely not support any referendum that had any student control and the only referendum that they would support would be one where the money was controlled by the University Centers.

The GSA, for their part, had decided at their last meeting that they have no position on the referendum and student control issues, and will only decide on it after they hear what A.S. decides. Just a few days before, Lee Lovejoy had told one of his constituents that the GSA has no position yet, then, apparently forgetting the whole "no position" thing, he came to the A.S. and made up a position for the GSA.

Andrew Cosand, the GSA representative to the Expansion Task Force, had come to the A.S. Senate meeting earlier that afternoon and said that about half of the GSA is against any referendum whatsoever, and the rest is split between student control, University Centers control, and unsure. It was brought up that he had told the Senate that, and he confirmed it, but he wasn't as fiery as Lee Lovejoy had been, and Lee's threats of no GSA support made a lot of the senators nervous.

People discussed the referendum language a bit more, but when someone tried to amend it, James wouldn't allow it to be amended because the item on the table was the overriding of the presidential veto, not the language itself. He called for a vote immediately and it again barely passed.

So the referendum language that will appear on the ballot was forced through

A.S. with no modifications and little discussion allowed. The referendum language itself is designed to advocate for the referendum, explaining why an expansion is needed at the top, and falsely labeling the referendum "student initiated".

The other piece of legislation that was pushed through A.S. that week which relates to the referendum is the amending of the Expansion Task Force charter. The task force was supposed to dissolve after completing its task (the writing of the referendum), but James amended their charter so that they would keep existing, with the new mission of "informing the students about the referendum" and running the election for the referendum. He also added representative from constituencies that they didn't want around when they were making the actual decisions (like SAAC and SIORC). They added about 15 people in total, so that they would have plenty of bodies to promote their referendum.

The next day, A.S. Advisor Paul DeWine said that the A.S. Elections Bylaws will not apply to the special election, that there will be no rules governing campaign conduct, and that the task force who wrote the referendum will be the elections committee. He later changed this, and said that the election bylaws will apply.

In A.S. the next week, however, James Lynch insisted that they don't apply, and there was some concern in A.S. about the lack of bylaws and lack of agreement about the bylaws. Task force chair Garo Bourmoutian took it upon himself to write a very comprehensive set of bylaws that night. He emailed them out to the A.S. and GSA, and told the A.S. that they need to get their comments in by Sunday

# History:

continued from previous page

in addition to \$3,000 given to the "Yes" campaign. The "No" side has been given \$3,000 to match the "Yes".

What is most disturbing about this whole history is that it is students who constantly suffer. It is interesting to note that the importance of the original Quality of Campus Life survey was well understood and agreed on by almost everyone involved. All correspondence concerning it in some way focused on defining and improving the problem of lack of student involvement and student apathy. Although the administration was seemingly in agreement with this (as seen in correspondence) they were unable to have a referendum in which more than 15% of the student population participated for their first two attempts. Both times, very little time was given to educate or even notify the student body about the vote. The referendum in the fall of 1999 was "announced" at the beginning of the quarter and the vote was taken in mid October. For the referendum in 2001, the administration proposed two meetings of the Campus Life Fee Referendum Committee to decide what would be on the referendum and to pass it on to a vote by the student population. Due to student outcry in the first meetings administrators left any positions they had on the committee, the committee decided to lengthen the process to give more time for student input and to be able to have a better knowledge of what they were being asked to endorse. One of the main effects of this process and scrutiny was the student body having the largest election in UCSD history. Unfortunately, this was not a large enough message to the administration and they are trying again. This is all extremely important when consid-

ering the effects of student involvement. One could ask themselves - why do the UCSD administrators want to make this referendum happen very fast and with a minimum of student input - especially in light of the fact that the survey called for more student input and involvement. And why, when the students finally show their voice in a very large vote, does the administration continue to ignore them? How is it that this referendum is going to promote more student involvement when students are discouraged from participating right from the start? It is worthwhile to mention that students have been engaged in the current process. However, the UCETF has routinely refused to make any significant changes in the march to expand the Price Center according to the administrations original plans. The UCETF was made up of students from the previous committee who wanted to see the Price Center expanded. The stated goal of the task force was to recommend a course of action to AS concerning expansion. Obviously students who weren't interested in expansion were not going to spend one and half years of weekly meetings on this committee. In the previous expansion attempt, the Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs, Joe Watson repeatedly stated, "This is my committee," referring to the committee that preceded the UCETF. During this attempt at expansion, the committee acted in the same way, ignoring student proposals, deciding at the end to do exactly what they knew already at the beginning they had decided. The whole purpose of this committee was to legitimize the administrations attempts at raising students fees for their own project. Despite beginning with an attempt at resolving conflicts over inconsequential details (like how meetings were run), when the final decisions were to be made in AS members from the committee repeatedly quashed discussions about possible changes. Many lies

and exaggerations were told to the AS and GSA to convince them to vote quickly and without proper reflection.

## Long Term Considerations

One of the main reasons given for the speedy push for the current referendum is that UCSD is going to grow by 5,000 + in the next 7 years. While it is important for us to consider the effects of this on student facilities, raising fees before other means of dealing with the problem have been tried may do more to worsen the problems of student apathy and participation which have figured so prominently into the discussion. The University of California Student Association commissioned a study that definitively links raising student fees with lowering GPA. Some things that weren't considered in the study were the effects of higher fees on apathy and student life outside the classroom. Although the administration reassures us that "financial aid will cover the fee", we have been told by members of the state legislature that no such guarantee can be made. Financial Aid is determined by available funds provided on a year to year basis by the state legislature. This is very important to consider, given the recent cutbacks. As our fees increase, UC's budget does not so where is the money going to come from?

Consider as a final note UCSD administration's and UCAB's past record concerning making more space available to students prior to attempting to expand. Even meeting rooms are in the highest demand and lounge space is understood to be needed, last year UCAB decided to destroy three meeting rooms in the Student Center and spend student's money to build a darkroom (not heavily used) for the Crafts Center. Despite recommendations for the past three years to use space in the Che Cafe facility for student meeting space and office space, UCAB has

night, because once the GSA approves the bylaws on Monday, they can't be changed.

He accepted some of the comments and made revisions accordingly, and refused to make some of the other changes. Monday afternoon, a few hours before the GSA meeting, he made a bunch of last minute changes, including striking all standards of campaign conduct and the section allowing students to put a referendum on the ballot with a petition. The GSA put the petition clause back in, and added a sunset clause.

At this point, students began collecting signatures on a petition to let the student body decide who would own and control the buildings that we pay for, since the supposedly final version of the bylaws allowed them to. When UCAB and the task force found out about these petitions, they were obviously not happy about them.

Garo brought Lee Lovejoy and Andrew Cosand back to the A.S. meeting that Wednesday to tell the A.S. to strike the section about petitions because it is horribly detrimental to graduate students, and an emergency GSA meeting was scheduled for the following Friday to discuss the issue. The A.S. agreed on a compromise that would require 15% of undergrads and 15% of grad students, and be subject to a veto by a 2/3 vote of either council, and started talking about how to approve the bylaws with that section being subject to approval by the GSA on Friday. At this point, James Lynch, always the hero of parliamentary procedure, interrupted to strike the language that the A.S. had spent the past hour agreeing upon, and made it

continued on page 6

ignored proposals and the space continues to be misused as a storage facility for a private businessman. Despite recommendations to look into the usage of the Price Center and the necessity of UCSD Catering (which doesn't serve students and takes up a huge part of the Price Center) or of other poorly used spaces UCAB ignores student input.

## What Can We Do?

1. First and foremost, students need to control their own fees. If the administration makes final decisions concerning student fees, this is just another fee that we pay to go to UCSD. Why should we voluntarily vote to give them more of our money for an already expensive public school?

2. Prior to expanding, making a concerted attempt to more economically use the existing spaces and fees. Some examples:

a. Stop spending \$300,000 per year on advertising.

b. Better use of space in Price Center - UCSD Catering and the Bookstore do not need to be so big. Much of their space could be better used for student meeting rooms, office space or even retail that actually was used by students (in the case of catering).

c. Getting some more student run co-ops in the place of big corporations in the Price Center. These are cheaper for the students and obviously UCAB is doing well enough to take in a little less rent if they have a \$1 million + reserve.

d. Replacing infrequently used spaces like the travel agency in the Price Center

continued on page 7

# Low-Income Student Access, the Arts, and the Student Center Expansion Plan: Future Development of Cooperatives and Collectives

When considering a raise in student fees by \$117 per year many students want to know where this money is going to go. A few questions present themselves when we are considering this Price Center Expansion. Is the plan inherently biased against future students with low-income background? Is the plan too singularly focused on the physical aspect of expansion? Can we better use our University Centers in ways that positively affects social relationships? Can we create a space that could effectively facilitate the social and creative dimensions of students? Can we at all levels of such a project foster and create a sense of belonging and investment in the student body?

A possible alternative to the proposed expansion of the Price Center is to develop more student run, non-profit businesses, such

as Cooperatives and Collectives. A cooperative is a business without management or private ownership. It can provide services for cheaper and pay its workers better due to the lack of administrative costs. A collective is an organization that comes to decisions based on equal participation and responsibility of all members. Cooperatives and Collectives are an alternative to the traditional boss - employee (master - slave) structure.

The Economics of student run Cooperatives:

On average, a meal at the Price Center could be expected to cost around \$5-6, while a meal at the Food-Coop or Ché Café would be around \$3-4. This comes out to be around \$2.00 cheaper per meal. For the sake of argument, let's conservatively estimate that the

food in a new student-run food shop would be, on average, \$1 cheaper than that of a corporate fast food joint. And say, for the sake of argument, that students will go there twice a week. This will save students two dollars a week. As one quarter has ten weeks, excluding finals week; then, by straight calculation, students could actually get \$20 dollars (or more) in savings back from their Student Fees by using a non-profit model as opposed to the Price Center business model. The administration claims that it is necessary to have bigger business in the Price Center because they pay higher rent and this, in turn keeps the student fees down. However, the amount of money generated by as little as a dime per student per quarter would be enough to offset the difference in rent between a student-run, non-profit business as compared to

a private or corporate business. Compare \$0.30 to \$20 - which looks like the better savings?

There are also other factors that would benefit low-income students, such as the fact that co-ops pay their workers more than corporate businesses, and they hire more students. The Food Co-op and General Store Co-op employ only students at the salary of \$8.50/hr, whereas most businesses in the Price Center employ mostly non-students and for those student jobs that do exist, they pay little more than minimum wage. It makes economic sense to have a student run businesses because the money spent by students, both in student fees and in products bought will stay in the community (i.e. on campus) instead of being skimmed off by a proprietor. Concretely, this means that money spent on student run cooperatives and other businesses is an investment that students will directly benefit from. It makes economic sense to build more co-ops instead of more corporate businesses.

A secondary advantage of developing more food co-ops,

beyond the financial aspect, is that we can foster more social and cultural communications, or even artistic communications among students. With the high degree of diverse backgrounds of students on this campus comes many different abilities in cooking. Many students on this campus know how to cook something—Indian Food, Mexican, Pizza, French, Japanese noodles, Chao-Min, Cookies, Cake, Greek, etc. A cooperative venture could make good use of their talents and enrich student life at the same time.

Student-run and student owned does not mean that students have to do all of the work. Many successful student-owned non-profits function with a non-student manager (such as the General Store or the Grove Café). Student-run businesses are also not limited to food or school supplies. In fact, we should strive to make all businesses in the University Centers student-run. This will do as much to change the atmosphere at UCSD as any Fee Referendum.

## Shadiness:

continued from page 5

so that the A.S. would give the GSA a blank check to fill in the petition section with whatever they wanted.

The emergency GSA meeting that Friday was supposed to be about the petitions, and they were going to decide what to say in the section that the A.S. left blank. As soon as the GSA got quorum, GSA President Tom Fleming called the meeting to order and announced that the bylaws violated the GSA constitution because they required a 20% turnout overall and simple majority overall to pass a referendum, but the GSA constitution requires a 20% turnout of grad students and simple majority of grad students to raise fees. He passed out a stack of constitutions, and moved to throw out the entire bylaws. An A.S. representative who was present tried to ask which section contradicts what, but Tom called for a vote, and in less than 30 seconds from the start of the meeting, the GSA had thrown out the entire elections bylaws. Garo, who had spent hours and hours compiling these bylaws, didn't object to or even comment on their demise.

This situation seems weird and slightly fishy, but upon reading the bylaws and the GSA constitution, it looks incredibly shady. The bylaws don't mention a required turnout or majority vote for a referendum to pass - they simply reference the campus-wide policies on fees (the same policies that would be used if there were no bylaws). So if that section truly did violate the GSA constitution, throwing out the bylaws wouldn't fix that problem. BUT, the bylaws don't even come close to conflicting with the constitution. The only mention

of raising fees and referenda in the constitution requires that if the GSA wants to raise the GSA Fee, they need a 20% turnout of grad students and a simple majority of grad students to pass, which makes sense, because undergrads shouldn't be voting about the GSA Fee. The constitution doesn't say anything about campuswide fees.

What a nice, convenient way to avoid having to deal with the petitions.

At the same meeting, the GSA decided that there should be a committee with three GSA people and three A.S. people on it to fix the bylaws. When this was brought up at the A.S. meeting fifth week, the outgoing council decided to appoint three people to this committee, and started to nominate people, then decided that the incoming council should make the appointments. When the incoming council held their meeting, however, president-select Jeremy Gallagher refused to recognize the legitimacy of the AS/GSA committee, and no one was appointed. No one was appointed to the Elections Committee either, since there are no elections bylaws.

As I write this, there will be a special election in a week, in which students will vote whether they will raise their fees by \$117 or not. There are no election bylaws, there is no elections committee. The campaigning has begun, and there are no standards of conduct governing the campaign. The task force refuses to allow the election to be delayed so that this can be sorted out, because they want it to happen during Sun God so that all of the drunk students can make good, informed decisions and vote. There are thousands of student signatures on petitions that are being ignored by our representatives.

This is what democracy looks like. Oh yeah.

Would you buy a house if you had no control over where it would be and what it would be like? How about if you wouldn't even OWN IT?



studentcontrol.org

## What the Fuck Happened With Students First!??

So if you're one of the few undergraduates who bothered to vote in the last A.S. election, chances are, at least a few of the candidates you voted for won, but weren't allowed to take office last week with the rest of the incoming A.S. What happened? How did 15 candidates (11 of whom won) get disqualified? And what sort of legitimacy will next year's A.S. have with the students, considering that only about half of its members will have been elected?

Let's start with what happened. What sort of heinous act could they have possibly committed to get 15 people disqualified? It must have been pretty serious, right? The Elections Committee found them guilty of having three posters hanging in the Student Cooperative Center; one promoting Kevin Shawn Hsu for President, one promoting Stephanie Augon for Diversity Affairs, and one promoting Harish Nandagopal for V.P. Finance. Holy fuck! With a crime like that, no wonder they got disqualified. Any reasonable person would consider that grounds for throwing out 15 candidates.

Confused? Me too.

So who is this elections committee, you ask? It's a group of students appointed by A.S. and the College Councils (don't get indignant that they're not elected - your A.S. isn't either...) to run the elections and act as a hearing body for allegations of violations of the elections bylaws. This impartial body included students who lost to Students First! candidates last year, and, when faced with similar or identical allegations against Students First! or a Students First! candidate and another slate or candidate, either found Students First! guilty and the other slate not, or gave the Students First! candidate a much harsher penalty.

The whole poster drama started when a grievance was filed against both Students First! and Unity for "poster saving" - the process of hanging posters advertising a student organization before the campaign period starts, then switching them for campaign posters. Both slates did it. Action and Students First! did it last year. The elections committee found Unity innocent and Students First! guilty. The distinction? KSDT is an A.S. Service and 703 Productions is not. Nevermind that Jeremy Gallagher's email address was on many of the 703 Productions posters. Nevermind that both slates "poster-saved". Somehow

it was a violation for Students First! to do it, but not for Unity.

The election continued in all its glory, with candidates of South Asian and Middle Eastern descent getting called terrorists, with Students First! candidates being followed, harassed, threatened, and stalked by members of the conservative group campaigning against them, and with fake Students First! flyers appearing all over the Price Center in an attempt to discredit Students First!

Meanwhile, KKK posters were appearing on campus, Muslim students were confronted by frat boys yelling "kill all the babies!", and queer students participating in the Day of Silence were harassed. The career center brought recruiters to the career fair who were openly and cheerfully discriminating against certain demographics of students, and representatives from the career center didn't see any problem with that when confronted about it. Basically, the campus climate at UCSD sucks. It's no surprise that the people who make it that way feel so threatened by the idea that a bunch of students of color with leftist politics could get on A.S. And it's no surprise that the people who want to fix it were upset when the only candidates they trusted to address these issues were thrown out by 4 people.

So, come Wednesday night of elections week, Students First! had to take down their posters to comply with the elections committee's ruling about poster-saving. They split up the campus, broke off into groups, and had all the posters down by around 11pm. They double, and in some cases, triple checked to make sure that they had gotten them all, then went home.

At this point, APSA decided that, since they wanted Students First! to win, they were going to make "APSA endorses Students First!" posters. So they had 20-some officers and GBMers in the SAAC lounge making posters in the middle of the night, then they hung them all up. Sometime between when they finished and 11 the next morning, three posters appeared in places in the Student Cooperative Center where they hadn't been before, and for this, the elections committee disqualified the entire slate.

The A.S. Judicial Board is now refusing to hear the appeal. This, despite the fact that the A.S. Elections Bylaws specifically state that they are supposed

to hear elections appeals. Their logic is that since Students First! didn't object to the due process violations at the time, they have no right to do so now. But why didn't Students First! object at the time? Because they were told that they're not allowed to. When they tried to make objections in previous hearings, they had been told that objections aren't allowed. So, since they had been told that objections weren't allowed, they didn't object, and since they didn't object, the Judicial Board is refusing to even hear their appeal. As the dissenting representative said, "Members of the judicial board were absolutely set on not listening to this appeal."

So yeah. That's what the fuck happened with Students First! It's not fair, it's not logical, it's not democratic. But it's what happened. And as for how much legitimacy the next A.S. will have, it's up to you all. How well does a half-elected student government represent you?

P.S. For all you white kids who still don't get what race had to do with it, here's a 30 second version of the way I see it:

Race both had everything and nothing to do with the elections and with the disqualification of Students First! It all depends on your perspective. To the elections committee, who was trying to be as neutral as possible, race had nothing to do with it. They never consciously considered race in their decisions.

BUT, to students who are faced with this super hostile campus climate and deal with hate crimes and hate speech and racism on a daily basis, who listened to what the students running for A.S. had to say, and came to trust that some of them would work on these issues, who put their hopes and faith in certain candidates, only to see them disqualified by the elections committee, it had everything to do with race.

So looking at the process, the elections committee didn't make their decisions based on race (of course, whether race had anything to do with the motivations of Phil Pailsoul, Robert Forouzandeh, et. al. is another question, and the elections committee certainly didn't try to do anything to stop them).

Looking at the effects, however, for the students who want to make UCSD a safe, accepting environment, and now no longer have an A.S. that's on the same page as them, the consequences have everything to do with race.

## Ten Reasons to VOTE NO

1. Raising fees permanently by \$117 per year makes this school inaccessible to low income and underrepresented students.

2. We don't have any control over how our money is spent. The administration considers our advice but anytime we disagree, we have no say.

3. Greek organizations have been promised most of the office space that would be increased by your fees. The referendum says that expanded office space would include SAAC organizations, Religious organizations and Greek organizations but the SAAC orgs are not getting any new space, they are just being re-located and the Religious orgs' space is being paid for by the Chancellor, not by our fees - they will get office space whether or not we expand the Price Center. In the end, we are paying for mostly Greek org office space.

4. We already pay \$112.50 per year to UCAB and they waste that on things like mechanical towel dispensers in the Price Center, a \$300,000+ marketing budget, and an unnecessary dark room in place of student meeting space to name a few. Why should we give them more money to waste?

5. We don't need a bigger strip mall. A Price Center expansion would be more expensive fast food joints. Don't let the wording on the referendum fool you: there are no plans for cheap alternatives in a Price Center expansion.

6. Vice Chancellor Watson has your Fees.

7. Do we really need to give high paid administrators more office space? According to their own statistics, 60% of the Price Center is used for "Administration."

8. Financial Aid CANNOT be guaranteed to cover ANY fee increases. Financial Aid is governed by the California State Budget. Even though any increases in fees will be considered in determining a student's Financial Aid, the final amount that that they are given is determined by many other factors. Also, UCSD administration's claim that Financial Aid will cover the fee increase is dubious because it doesn't take into account the fact that each year Financial Aid determines how many students will be eligible for Financial Aid based on how much money they have. It is very possible that for those students who have Financial Aid, this fee increase would be covered, but this would mean that fewer students would have their financial aid covered.

9. Student's recommendations were consistently ignored in creating this referendum. Proposals were made that would have made a cheaper Price Center, a smaller fee and a more efficient use of our current facilities.

10. The administration has been trying to pass this Fee Referendum for the past 7 years. They are obviously not listening to our voices. Last time students voted NO 56%-44% in the largest student voter turnout in UCSD history. Let's make this one even bigger. Get Out and VOTE NO! May 12 - 16th @ <http://studentlink.ucsd.edu>.

## History:

continued from page 5

and the Dark Room in the Student Center.

e. Why do we want to give money to the same people that brought us the architectural travesty that is the Price Center. For the size of the space that it covers, the Price Center could

give students much more room, instead there is a difficult to navigate area in the middle with some concrete forms. Even if they had just left it flat, it would have been able to accommodate more seating. Instead, the bottlenecks increase the feeling of crowdedness and make an otherwise adequate space seem too small.

These are only a few suggestions - the reader is encouraged to

think of their own as there are many.

3. The administration needs to allow students a significant voice in the decisions that effect them. This means more than a few positions on a few boards. This is also more than a student advisory board that can be ignored when necessary. Students need places in their campus life where they are in control.

4. Any expansion should be done

with the complete economics in mind not just the cost of the fee.

It may be cheaper for students to have a slightly larger fee raised if this means that they could be guaranteed that all businesses were student run non-profits. In the long run, this would save the student body much more than the extra rent generated by larger corporate businesses.

5. Special interest groups (like the Greeks) should not be offered

huge amounts of office space in a new expansion in an attempt to bribe them for a vote.

6. Students should be kept informed, even when the administration isn't actively trying to pass a fee.

7. Any new fee should include extra money to pay for financial aid of lower income students.

8. Replace UCAB with a student run, student elected, non-advisory board.

**VOTER NO**

**ON THE HIGH-PRICE CENTER  
EXPANSION REFERENDUM**

---

**DEMAND STUDENT CONTROL  
OVER STUDENT FEES!!!**