

**The University of Kansas
Financial Impact Statement**

**STUDENT UNION ACTIVITIES FEE
2005-2006**

I. PROPOSED FEE

Effective with the Fall semester, 2005, the Student Union Activities Fee would be established as follows:

	<u>Present Fee</u> <u>2004-2005</u>	<u>Proposed Fee</u> <u>2005-2006</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Percent</u>
PER SEMESTER Full-Time students* (six hours or more)	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	100%
PER SUMMER SESSION Full-time Students* (five hours or more)	\$0.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	100%

*Fee is assessed at an hourly rate for enrollments of five hours or less per semester or less than five hours per Summer Session.

II. FEE INCREASE JUSTIFICATION

Student Union Activities (SUA) operates as a department within the KU Memorial Unions. SUA was created in 1938 by the University of Kansas Memorial Corporation as a way to popularize the Kansas Union and make it the center of activity for students. SUA provides quality entertainment and an ongoing commitment to enriching the KU community through student involvement. It is the primary student event programming body at KU, coordinating more than 150 programs per year.

SUA receives funding from Student Senate, the Memorial Unions, and generates revenue from ticket sales. The current SUA budget is not large enough to pay the talent fees of prominent performers and lecturers, or allow much programming flexibility. This lack of funding is evidenced by the discontinuation of Day on the Hill and the declining prestige of the Student Lecture Series. At least ten of the eleven other Big XII universities have implemented a student fee that specifically funds student programming bodies. KU students would greatly benefit academically, culturally, and socially from additional, higher quality events, lectures, and other programming. Students could financially benefit in a myriad of ways, including reduced ticket prices and more free events.

The proposed SUA Fee is anticipated to yield approximately \$240,400 per year.

III. STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE FEE INCREASE PROPOSAL

Students and student leaders assumed the full responsibility for initiating and considering the Student Union Activities Fee. The President and Vice President of Student Senate proposed the fee to the Student SUA Executive Board, which endorsed the proposal. The \$5.00 fee charge proposal was favorably passed by the Student Senate Finance Committee on March 9, 2005. The Student Senate University Affairs Committee also favorably passed the proposal on March 9. The Student Senate approved this proposal on March 16, 2005. The proposed fee was placed on a referendum ballot during Student Senate elections held April 13-14, 2005. The fee was approved by student voters, with 62% of the voters supporting the fee. The final recommendation has been reviewed and approved by the central administrative staff of the University.

IV. NUMBER OF STUDENTS AFFECTED

All students, undergraduate and graduate, who pay the required campus fee, would be affected by the proposed fee increase. Students enrolled six or more hours each semester will pay the SUA fee of \$5.00 per semester. Part-time students will pay the hourly rate. The estimated income is based on a combined fall/spring FTE enrollment of 46,100 and summer FTE enrollment of 5,000.

V. IMPACT ON STUDENTS

This fee represents only a small portion of the full fees (tuition and required campus fees) paid by students. The expanded programs, both in quality and quantity, will benefit all students. It is not anticipated that this fee will adversely affect the ability of students to finance their education.