APPROVE INCREASE IN TRANSPORTATION FEE, CHICAGO

Action: Approve Increase in Transportation Fee, Chicago

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago recommends increasing the Transportation Fee beginning Fall Semester 2009. The fee supports the CTA U-Pass Program. Participation in the U-Pass program requires the assessment of a transportation fee for all eligible students, which is utilized to contract with the CTA to provide an unlimited pass for each eligible student to ride CTA buses and elevated trains, plus cover campus administrative costs.

The program is administered by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Campus Auxiliary Services. Consistently each semester, more than 90 percent of eligible students have picked up their passes.

CTA requires participating schools to enter into a five-year contract with an option for the University to cancel without penalty at the end of any semester by providing written notice to the CTA not less than 45 calendar days prior to the commencement of the next semester. Students at Chicago indicated overwhelming support of the five-year contract for the U-Pass program in a referendum held in April 2005. The current contract will expire at the end of Academic Year 2009-2010.

Payment to the CTA is calculated on a student daily charge. The payment rate for Academic Year 2009-2010 will increase from the current 70 cents to 81 cents per student, per day resulting in the need to increase the Transportation Fee 15 percent from \$95 to \$109 per semester (and \$84 for Summer Session 2010).

The Student Fee Advisory Committee unanimously recommended approval of this recommendation, based upon the increased cost charged by the CTA and comparative costs of paying for CTA services without a U-Pass.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The President of the University concurs.