

# Student service fees discussed by candidates

## HENSARLING

Jeb Hensarling, 19, Sophomore, Political Science, College Station.

**What are your qualifications for VP Student Services?**  
I have been an active member of Student Government (SG) for two years now; one year as an executive aide and the other as an Off-campus Undergraduate Senator. I am presently a member of the SG Student Services Committee where I have done a large amount of work particularly in the areas of the Student Purchase Program and the upcoming



Jeb Hensarling

Consumer Guide. Furthermore, I have been involved in various research projects concerned with Student Services. Also, I have had leadership experience in the MSC's Political Forum Committee and I served as the chairman of the President Ford Committee on the A&M campus. However, I do not like to press the qualifications issue, because what one plans to do with an office is more important than what he has done.

**What do you consider to be the most important issues facing you in this office?**

There are presently many important issues that SG needs to address. One of the major problems we in SG have is a lack of adequate publicity of our services and projects. All too often SG embarks on a new service and the students who pay for it, through student service fees, never hear about it. A project is only half complete until the publicity goes out. SG particularly needs to concentrate publicity efforts off-campus. Too many off-campus students have been effectively ostracized from the university due to their lack of knowledge of university activities and services. We in SG need to reach out to these students and let them know of the opportunities that await them. Furthermore, I believe that SG should run more surveys to give the students an opportunity to suggest projects for SG and evaluate our actions. We must receive student input to be effective. Also, SG needs to upgrade the electoral process. We need to develop some type of Voter Information Service so students can vote more intelligently. Unfortunately, many students are forced to vote for the candidates with the "best outdoor signs" because they know nothing else about them. If we want to upgrade SG, we must upgrade the electoral process. Also, I believe SG needs to concentrate more on obtaining increased board options. Particularly, we need to offer off-campus students a lunch-only board plan to enable them to eat on campus at a rate comparable to on-campus students. These are some of the most important issues I see facing SG.

To name just a few other ideas I have, I believe the size and scope of the Student Purchase Program needs to be increased as well as similar projects that save students money. I believe we need to acquire low-cost property insurance for students so they can protect such items as stereos and bicycles. Also, I believe we should institute a car-care center on the campus. A car-care center is a place where students, for a small service charge, can use various and sundry tools that SG has purchased. For instance, the cost of many tools like socket sets and timing lights is pro-

hibitive, but there are many students who would like to use them to fix their own cars. I believe that SG should and can institute this service. The feasibility of such a project was aptly shown at the University of Indiana.

There are many other issues I would like to address, but due to lack of space, I am forced to refrain.

**Should student service fees be paid in one allotment or would you be in favor of user fees?**

I believe in a partial user fee/partial student service fee subsidized concept. Too many students are being forced to pay for services they never use under the present system where many organizations are totally financed by student service fees. I believe many organizations that receive student service fees should and can go to this concept. A good example of this concept is Town Hall. This committee receives some student service fees and receives income in user fees from ticket sales. Too often, under the present system, student's money is needlessly wasted. I do not however believe in a total user fee concept because several student service fee allocations go to projects or services that tend to benefit the entire university community. Therefore, to minimize waste and to maximize benefits, I believe in the partial student service fee/partial user fee concept.

**Are there any services that should receive more or less student service fee allocations?**

I believe there are many services or organizations that should receive less student service fee allocations. There simply is too much "budget padding" of those who receive student service fees. I believe student services should spend more money on those services that provide publicity of campus services and activities.

I also believe too large of student service fee allocations tend to go to certain organizations that benefit a

minimal number of students. We need to provide for the greatest benefits at the least cost.

**What improvements should be made in the campus parking situation?**

The parking situation would not be near as bad if more off-campus students took the shuttle-bus. Unfortunately, many students consider the shuttle-bus to be mismanaged. Therefore, I believe SG needs to concentrate more time and effort in improving the system, particularly in getting the buses to stay on schedule. Unfortunately, the problem of parking is not an easy one to solve. The costs of constructing high rise parking lots is very prohibitive and, unless the students are ready to pay more in parking fees, I would not see this as the answer. Also, I think we all realize that there is only so many parking places close to central campus, and they obviously can't be used by everybody at once. I believe a correct avenue of approach is the improvement of the shuttle bus system. After all, it costs less to ride it than it does to take a car.

**Should the University continue its present laundry service?**

If there is sufficient demand for it at the price the university charges to keep them in the black, I do not believe that a large amount of money should be spent to keep the service afloat if only a small minority wishes to use it. However, if the people who use the service do not mind paying the costs involved in keeping the enterprise out of the red, there is no need to shut it down. I actually believe that there are more important problems than this that SG faces.

## WARREN

Harry L. Warren, 20, Sophomore, Biology, Houston.

**What are your qualifications for VP Student Services?**

A desire to do the job, a concern with the issues related to it, experi-

ence with Student Government and an ability to work with other people.

**What do you consider to be the most important issues facing you in this office?**

Allocation of the Student Service Fee for student services. This means that money is paid by students for services which they are to receive. The appropriation of



Harry Warren

\$42,000 for a day care center which will benefit only 30 people is a gross violation of the trust which we have placed in our elected officials.

**Should student service fees be paid in one allotment or would you be in favor of user fees?**

Student Service Fees which benefit the student body in general should be paid as they are presently. Fees which benefit only a small segment of the student population should be supported by user fees. This will ensure that students will not pay for services which they cannot possibly use.

**Are there any services that should receive more or less student service fee allocations?**

This year 5.2 per cent of the student service fees were spent on Student Activities. At the same time, nearly 5 per cent of student fees were used to subsidize a day care center which will benefit one-tenth of one per cent of the student population. This hardly seems to be a fair distribution of student money. The \$42,000 wasted on this baby-sitting service would be more appropriately spent on bona-fide student organizations which warrant spending of student funds. Also, a provision should be made for more student input into fee allocation in order to allow students to determine the best use of their money, in terms of their needs and priorities.

**What improvements should be made in the campus parking situation?**

More parking spaces should be given to underclassmen and day students. Expansion of present facilities is absolutely necessary in order to do this.

**Should the University continue its present laundry service?**

As long as students are willing to pay the price of the laundry service on their own, it should be retained. However, laundry machines should

be placed in those on-campus living areas which do not have them presently in order to provide an alternative for the vast majority of students who prefer not to pay the presently exorbitant rates.

## YOUNG

Vicki Young, 19, Sophomore, Zoology, Groves.

**What are your qualifications for VP Student Services?**

Off-campus undergraduate senator, fall '76. Haved worked to establish a shopping guide to assist



Vicki Young

my off-campus constituents (particularly freshmen) who are new to the household requirements of apartment living. Another area in which I have concentrated my attentions this spring is the development of a short course (part of continuing education) to serve the needs of students preparing for graduate or professional school.

**What do you consider to be the most important issues facing you in this office?**

Increased allocation to intramurals is in order to meet the needs of this growing program. The large allocation to the day care center requires some commitment from the College of Education to eventually assume part of the operating expenses in return for the benefit derived by student teachers.

**What improvements should be**

made in the campus parking situation?

The campus parking area expanded on the west side of campus to meet the needs of students. This should relieve some of the central campus parking problem where there is limited senior space. I would suggest a special lot on the west side of campus. The Traffic Committee should continue to periodically re-evaluate existing parking lots to meet existing needs.

**Should the University continue its present laundry service?**

I do not favor user fees as an alternative to one allotment fee. Payment of the student service fee by all students at preregistration time allows the budgeting of many good programs built on a solid financial framework. It is the job of V.P. Student Services to initiate programs which will be attractive to the diverse interests of students and worthy of the expense.

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**What improvements should be**

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