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2-16-2018

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Budget and Funding of Sports Shooting Center 2.0

Submitted by: Robert Costomiris

2/16/2018

Question(s):

- 1) What percentage of total RAC fees are used to support the Sports Shooting Center?
- 2) Is there a dollar cap on the amount of RAC fees that could be used to finance the Center's operations?
- 3) How many distinct individuals who are registered GSU students use the Center each semester?
- 4) How many total visits are made to Center each semester by registered GSU students?
- 5) How many members does the Center have who are not registered students?
- 6) How much of the Center's budget is devoted to security?
- 7) Why is there no financial support from the GDNR?
- 8) How was the \$200,000 from the Archery Trade Association spent? Is this a continued and reliable source of funding?
- 10) Are the Director and Assistant Directors and Archery coach full time employees of the University?
- 11) What is included in the Director's and Asst. Dir's "fringes" noted in the response to the October RFI?

Rationale:

These questions are follow-ups to Gene Sherry's response to the October RFI

Response:

Faculty Senate RFI Response

February 20, 2018

1. What percentage of total RAC fees are used to support the SSEC?

- a. In FY17 it was 7%

2. Is there a dollar cap on the amount of RAC fees that could be used to finance the SSEC's operations?

- a. There is not a specified "dollar cap", but it must be managed in conjunction with all recreational offerings.

3. How many distinct individuals who are registered GSU students use the center each semester?

- a. As of February 6, 2018 there are 502 current student members. The center serves additional students through various programs and events that are not members.

4. How many total visits are made to the SSEC each semester by registered GSU students?

- a. Fall 2016 = 4,619
b. Spring 2017 = 4,690
c. Fall 2017 = Not yet compiled

5. How many members does the SSEC have who are not registered students?

- a. As of February 6, 2018 there are 1,351 members who are not students.

6. How much of the SSEC's budget is devoted to security?

- a. Please define the scope of security. For example we would consider our staffing is part of security. In addition, supplies, and technology that is in place contributes to security.

7. Why is there no financial support from Georgia DNR?

- a. The MOU with the Georgia DNR only consisted of capital expense support.

8. How was the \$200,000 from the Archery Trade Association spent? Is this a continued and reliable source of funding?

- a. We currently have not spent the \$200,000, it is currently deposited in a foundation account serving as an operational reserve. This funding is not scheduled to continue at this time.

9. **Are the Director and Assistant Directors and Archery Coach full time employees of the university?** Yes

10. **What is included in the Director's and Assistant Director's "fringes" noted in response to the October RFI?**

- a. Fringes are the standard benefits provided all university full time benefited staff members and includes, FICA, Health Insurance, and Retirement.

11) **What is included in the Director's and Asst. Dir's "fringes" noted in the response to the October RFI?**

Minutes, April 4, 2018

RFI on Shooting Sports Education Center

While we were promised by members of the former administration that the Sports Shooting Center would pay for itself, that is not the case now, and is not likely to be the case anytime soon. Significant amounts of student fees are being diverted into supporting the center, so it was worth asking whether this is the best use of funds and whether adjustments should and can be made to better reflect student recreational needs. The Senate Executive Committee suggested that the new Senate Standing Committee on Planning and Budget might be the proper venue for considering this issue. That committee was in the process of being formed.

Robert Costomiris (CAH) commented on the response to his RFI re: the Shooting Sports Education Center. He thanked Mr. Sherry for providing the information, and asked that the numbers be included in the minutes:

"66% of the Shooting Education Center's budget comes from RAC fees. That's 7% total RAC fees. 502 students used the SSEC per year. . . . if you take the \$370,000 coming from RAC fees, divide it by the number of students, that's \$737 per student to use the [Shooting] Sports Education Center. Okay, if you take that number of \$370,000 and divide it by student individual visits, of 9,306 [that is] \$40 per visit for each student to visit the Sports Shooting Center. Now those numbers are meaningless unless you see

them in the light of what the general public pays, so there are 1,351 members from the general public, non-student members, who pay or contribute to the cost, the budget of the Shooting Center, \$193,000. If you divide \$193,000 by 1,351, you only come up with a cost of the general user of \$142 per year. [Secretary's Note: [link to fees](#)] So it's significantly less than what students themselves are contributing per student per year. Now, it's not clear to me. . . . These are very gross calculations. There are other things that I can't figure out based on the numbers that are given to me because the budget provided by Mr. Sherry does not provide exact numbers of what membership fees are, what user fees are, he doesn't break that down. So it may not look this bad, but . . . it's still odd, and oddly imbalanced. It seems to me that students, I think, the student RAC fees seem to be underwriting the public operation of this facility. And I guess what I would do is ask the students themselves, whether the Student Government Association wants to look into this and see if there's anything, what they think about the way this is dividing up."

Jake Simons (COBA) thought that the SEC suggestion that the new budget committee look into this matter was appropriate because that type of analysis can be very revealing, but also needs to be looked at in the totality of the RAC facilities.

Cyr agreed with Simons and with Costomiris's suggestion that the SGA think about those numbers.

Michelle Haberland (CAH) asked Cyr if he had a suggestion re: how faculty might look into the SSEC's and University's relationship with Daniel Defense Industries. Cyr thought that issue would be part of the parcel of issues looked at by the new budget committee, or she could contact the chair when the committee is staffed.

Minutes, March 6, 2018

Two RFIs on Shooting Sports Education Center budget

The first had received an answer, but the second had not because only recently submitted; Moderator Pirro expected an answer for next meeting. He asked the submitter of both, Robert Costomiris (CAH), to explain what led him to submit the queries.

Costomiris noted that building the Shooting Sports Education Center had been a matter of some debate, whether it was a wise decision to begin with, and there were promises

that it would be kind of a cost neutral place. He was asking for some verification of its cost neutrality, and to find out where the money is coming from and how it's being spent because that would tell us a lot about the operation. He submitted the second RFI because in the answer to the first one he had learned there were \$360,000 a year coming from student RAC fees to support the Center. No more money is coming from the Department of Natural Resources, which funded the building. He wanted to know, then, how many students are actually using this facility. He also wanted to know if there was ever a limit on how much money would be spent on the Center. He wanted to know how much students are getting out of it for their investment.

Michelle Haberland (CAH) wanted to know if the Center's relationship with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources has ended. She also mentioned GSU's relationship with Daniel Defense Industries, a manufacturer of firearms – one Daniel Defense weapon was used in the Las Vegas shooting. Our University receives financial support from Daniel Defense Industries. She imagined that our Center “does have and features Daniel Defense Industry firearms.”