

University of Oregon
HEALTH CENTER

Student Health Advisory Committee Meeting

June 9, 2006

Student Members:	Alternate	Interested Students	ExOfficio Members:
E Chiem, Jennifer	E Ronco, Noelle	Beseda, Addie	E Kerr, Shelly
* Kuzma, Urva	Faculty:	* Bentley, Dan	E DeHaven-Murdoch, Daralyn
E Scholl, Ben	E Munroe, Dennis	Mann, Todd	* Leith, Ramah
* Soetan, Folake	Meaux, Tenaya	Nethercott, Ashley	* Megerssa, Becky
E Stiffler, Lesley	E Spradling, Karen	Parker, Jenny	* Ryan, Tom
* Straight, Leslie		Takahashi, Chika	E Staight, Paula
* Teeter, Kelly	Applicants	Thrower, Ashley	* Stoop, Helen
* Wintermute, Ben	* Smith, Kaylie	* Kehdi, Norma	
* Wu, Angela	Phillips, Anne	Laws, Michael	
* Malasig, Cheryl	Wee, Brett	Yu, Lin	
* Kunerth, Allison	* Green, Maria (RTF)	* Green, Matt	

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.
2. **Health Center Budget** – Tom Ryan has gone through the whole budget with projections for the end of this year which shows revenue is down from the year before related, believed to be due to the impact of construction on the Health Center. Health Center Admin then went through the budget for 2006-07. At the end of that discussion the decision was made to raise the office visit cost from \$6.00 to \$7.00. There were also a couple questions that needed discussion by SHAC. The first is whether to charge more for specialist visits for gynecology, psychiatry, and allergy where the typical visit is anywhere from 30 minutes to at least an hour or more. Consultants are the most highly paid physicians so it would make sense to charge more. If so, how much more? The second question was whether we should look at the amount that we charge for the various services offered through the Health Center Laboratory and Physical Therapy and Dental departments. This is not something we intend to do but it would be to have discussion on and would be a discussion for those continuing on to next year's SHAC.

SHAC had asked about numbers of specialist visits so Tom went back to last year for cumulative totals which showed 2227 psychiatry visits, 343 gynecology consultant visits and 245 allergy consultant visits., allergist 245. The allergist is only here ½ day a week, the gynecologist 2 half days, and we have a psychiatrist scheduled every day to explain the disparity in the numbers of visits.

What do students think about charges for office visits for specialists? We do not want to create a cost barrier to students and do not want to come up to the costs for these specialists in the community. What do people think, should we charge more for one group of physicians as opposed to others in the Health Center or just leave it at \$7.00 for all?

Discussion:

Q: Is there a reason, are we falling short on revenue?

A: Yes, part of it is the interplaying balance between the student health fee and revenues from departments. That balance is out of kilter a little but more salient is trying to keep control over the amount of the health fee that we ask for. In looking at budget projections for next year we will probably be talking to SHAC about a health fee increase. If we can offset that by people actually using the services paying for the services they use as opposed to everyone on campus paying for them.

Q: Do you feel that certain physicians do more intensive work than others?

A: No, it does not have anything to do with the intensity but more the duration of the office visit. All of the other physicians do have some visits that last ½ to 1 hour, but those are more the exception rather than the rule where as the psychiatrist follow up visits are ½ hour and regular visits 1 hour.

Q: Have we figured out an amount or just the go ahead with changing the price for consultant visits?

A: Not even a go ahead, just what do students advice or recommend and thoughts on an increase.

Q: Is there a shortfall that says this is needed?

A: Not really a shortfall, but a decrease due, we think, to construction. Then it would be better to review the situation after we see how things are going next year.

This is being put on the table right now just to look at, but all actions would be predicated on next year. We expect that once the new facility is open it will be a moot point and student visits will increase. Department managers were reluctant to increase anything this year because of the low numbers this year. But Tom feels confident that visits will not only come back up to the level that has been in the past, but go up further. He agrees that we should try to keep costs down for students, but as the specialists are the most highly paid in the Health Center he feels that increasing the cost of these visits to something like \$10 per visit. Keep low for student cost but nothing wrong with a small increase.

One student agreed for increasing the psychiatry and allergy consultant visit charge, but is concerned about an increase in the gynecologist visit charge. When a student makes an appointment with the gynecology consultant only when it's really need and is an unplanned visit.

Even if you increase the cost, such as doubling the \$7 charge to \$14 to see the psychiatrist, in comparison for the going rate for seeing a psychiatrist in the community that is really just a drop in the hat. In fact, the Eugene community has very few psychiatrists available and it is difficult to get an appointment in the community. The Health Center makes access more easy for a student who needs to see a specialist. With regards to insurance, most students are going to have a co-pay, perhaps something like \$15-\$20 dollars out of pocket.

Q: Will an increase in the consultant office visit going to make up the shortfall?

A: Not really, even if we were to double the visit it will not have a huge impact.

SHAC agree this is not bad a bad idea to raise the revenue, but being able to provide this service at the low cost is very good for the students. The Health Center's low office visit charge generates considerable good will for the Health Center.

Consensus is that if were really necessary to raise the consultant office visit charge it would be reasonable to do so but most would really rather wait and see if it is really reasonable to consider it. Therefore, we will wait and see, perhaps to be discussed further next year if the need for more revenue becomes a reality.

3. **ACHA Conference Reports** – Urva Kuzma stated the conference was awesome and so was New York. The most important thing she learned is that our SHAC is really awesome. Although a lot of schools have SHACs, very few students were satisfied with their SHAC. Urva was asked lots of questions about getting students, keeping them, “making” them come to SHAC. Not only do we have a great SHAC but a very great Health Center.

Urva attended workshops talking about student involvement on campus where she got lots of ideas on ways to expand what we do. One great one for SHAC had to do with interaction with nurses and a doctor. This was a forum for students to talk to the Health Center staff; make a more personal connection.

Tom Ryan stated it was really great being able to take a student this year. He was busy attending administrative meetings and a variety of medical presentations regarding such things as Mumps and the Midwest experience. Because of the timing of the meeting students typically is not able to go. The Pacific Coast College Health meeting next fall (mid October) will be held in Vancouver B.C. Next year the American College Health Association meeting will again be right around Memorial day in San Antonio, TX.

Paula Staight also attended a lot of sessions on strategic planning and working with other campus partners in laying out a plan of how what Health Education does fits into the mission of the university. She will be

looking at our University mission statement and get SHAC and the Health Education Peers to look at this and give some input. Paula will look at university mission statement to add something about emotional and physical health relating to university students. Having SHAC and Peers working on this would add some more weight.

Tom Ryan stated that we should look not only at the university's mission statement but also that of the Health Center.

5. **SHAC Certificates** – Tom Ryan presented certificates of appreciation and recognition to the people who have served on this committee.
7. **Goodbye/Summer Plans** – Good by Dan, Urva Kelly. Those members who will be returning and interested students, we hope you keep coming back!
7. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Kim Barker, Recorder

****Next Meeting****
Fall Term 2006
Health Center Medical Library