Students: Pluses to flat rate

Tuition rate would help freshmen know college costs

By MIKE HAMMETT
HAYS DAILY NEWS

Students entering college might see the end of rate increases after they enroll.

With the Kansas Board of Regents set to vote Thursday on proposed tuition rates for

the 2007-08 academic year, Fort Hays State University students began to hear the
idea being proposed for the University of Kansas.

KU officials proposed to increase tuition by 16 percent for incoming freshmen. However, the students’ rates never would rise again as KU has proposed a guaranteed tuition rate.

At FHSU, the same idea might not be put in this year, but some students are receptive to the idea.

“It would be nice if (the rate) was low,” said Tanna Charbonneau, a sophomore.

“I think students probably would like that,” said sophomore Chelsey Weber. “Then they would know how much it would cost. If it cost this much this year, then that’s what it would cost when I’m a senior.”

While consistency would be a benefit, Weber said she didn’t know how it would affect tuition increases for future incoming freshmen.

“I don’t know how much more it would save them from increasing each year,” she said.

FHSU has the lowest tuition rate of the six universities governed by the Regents. Tuition costs $3,191 at FHSU in 2006-07. The proposed rate increase is 5.1 percent.

KU charged $6,153 in tuition in 2006-07.

For that reason, Weber said a guaranteed rate might not be necessary at FHSU.

“When it does increase, it’s only by a little bit,” she said.

Reporter Mike Hammett can be reached at (785) 628-1081, Ext. 139, or by e-mail at mhammett@dailynews.net.
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"They think it's a possibility that things can go back," she said. "Even adults can't fathom that it won't be back to some type of normalcy."

To help, adults should create routines with meals, bedtimes and discipline, Barnard said.

Mandy Sorg says she looks forward to the beginning of the school year when her 6-year-old son, Michael, will be back with friends, some of whom he hasn't seen since the May 4 tornado.

She has decided to have Michael repeat the first grade, so he will have the same teacher he had last year.

She has watched her children go through good and bad days since the storm.

"They all seem like people that don't have an anchor anywhere," Mandy Sorg said. "It's hard enough for adults to comprehend, I can't imagine what's in a child's mind."

Barnard, a child psychologist, said parents need to watch for abnormal behaviors, such as eating enormous amounts of food, temper tantrums, waking up at night and fear of future storms.

"You have to reassure them they're in a safe spot," Barnard said.

Both the Schmidt and Sorg families have pursued counseling for their children.

Mandy Sorg continues to have a positive attitude.

"When something like this happens, people do get better," she said.
DOUGHERTY: No search needed

“T’m honored,” Dougherty said during a press briefing Monday afternoon. “I feel it’s a privilege to gain the confidence of the commission to trust me to carry on the job.”

Dougherty, 39, became assistant city manager in March 2005.

“My intention when I hired Toby was that I was hiring my replacement,” said City Manager Randy Gustafson, who will retire Dec. 31. “He has my heartiest recommendation. I made that clear to the commission.”

Dougherty, who served as the city administrator in Gallatin, Mo., prior to moving to Hays, said his time under Gustafson’s management has been valuable.

“In my previous position as a city administrator, I was putting out fliers,” Dougherty said. “I didn’t have time to fine-tune my craft.

“(Working with Gustafson) gave me a lot of intuitive feel as a manager, coming here where the ship was running pretty well. It allowed me to step back behind the scenes and think about how I would like to manage and seeing what things worked and what things don’t. I’m looking forward to the experience.”

Prior to working in city government, Dougherty worked in the transportation industry for 12 years. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in political science and public service/civic leadership, as well as the University of Kansas certified public manager program.

The commission opted to make an offer to Dougherty, rather than open the position up to a nation-wide search.

“Opening it up to a nation-wide search would lead us to applicants we did not know or trust coming in,” Mayor Troy Hickman said. “We had the discussion among the commission, and our feelings were that we were confident in Toby’s skills and abilities.”

Other items for consideration include:

• Mayoral appointments of Dana Cunningham to the Hays Area Board of Zoning Appeals and Joseph Becker, Tobias Flores, Linda Genstrom and Carol Heiman to the Hays Beautification Committee.

• A beer and malt beverage license application for Lucky Hays and Wild West Festival Saloon.

• Commercial insurance renewal with St. Paul Travelers and Sunflower Insurance Group for 2007 and 2008. The cost is about $160,000, which is about 6 percent below last year’s cost.

• A Federal Aviation Administration grant offer. The grant for about $532,000 would help reconstruct a portion of the existing terminal apron. The city would have to pay about $28,000 toward the project.

• An agreement with Burns and McDonnell for the airport apron reconstruction. The contract is for about $100,000.

• The Guide for Renters, Landlords and Homeowners. The informational booklet has undergone several drafts and now is being considered for publication.
Regents say Kansas has lowest costs
Survey shows in-state tuition 15 percent less than in other states

By MIKE HAMMETT
HAYS DAILY NEWS

If you are looking for the lowest college tuition rates in the region, don’t look outside the Kansas border.

A Kansas Board of Regents survey has concluded tuition rates at the six state universities in Kansas in 2006-07 are lower than rates in other states in the region.

“A state university education in Kansas remains a great buy when compared to neighboring states,” said Nelson Galle, chairman of the Kansas Board of Regents. “Tuition rates have rapidly increased across the nation, but rates at our state’s universities continue to provide Kansans with an exceptional educational value.”

Kansas residents who attend the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and Wichita State University pay about 15 percent less than residents in Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma who attend similar universities. The cost difference per student is $831, according to the survey.

The average tuition and fees at KSU, KU and WSU is $5,482. The average ranks fourth out of the six states studied. Colorado, $5,180, and Oklahoma, $5,054, average less in tuition and fees than Kansas. Missouri has the highest average rate in the survey at $7,828. Iowa is second at $5,898.

Kansas residents who attend Fort Hays State University, Emporia State University and Pittsburg State University pay approximately 23 percent less than residents in other regional states who attend similar universities.

Kansas students pay $818 less than the regional average.

The average tuition and fees at FHSU, ESU and PSU is $3,522. The amount gives Kansas the lowest average tuition and fees for regional schools in the survey.

Iowa has the highest tuition and fees for regional institutions in the study. The Hawkeye State averaged $5,912 for those institutions. Missouri was second at $5,390.

In 2006-07, KSU’s tuition and fees rate was $5,779. KU was at $6,153, while WSU was at $4,515.

FHSU’s tuition and fees were the third lowest for in-state residents attending a regional university in the survey. FHSU’s rate was $3,191. Adams State College (Colo.) charged $3,171 and Metropolitan State College of Denver charged $3,040.

Emporia State University had a tuition and fees rate of $3,586. Pittsburg State University’s rates were $3,790.

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Parents help children cope after Greensburg tornado

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To help, adults should create routines with meals, bedtimes and discipline, Barnard said.

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She has decided to have Michael repeat the first grade, so he will have the same teacher he had last year.

She has watched her children go through good and bad days since the storm.

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County residents entered into Jawhawk Generations

LAWRENCE — New University of Kansas students and their parents from Butler, Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Greenwood and Sumner counties will be welcomed into the KU family at the Jayhawk Generations Welcome Picnic at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 12, in Wellington.

The KU Alumni Association and its South chapter will greet the next generation of Jayhawks at the Slate Creek Lodge. Area alumni, new students, students interested in learning more about KU and parents are invited to attend and enjoy complimentary food and beverages. Each new Jayhawk will receive a free T-shirt.

Chapter members coordinating the event are: Bob Bourdette of Winfield, president; Colette Kocour of Wellington, secretary; David Andreas of Winfield, co-student recruitment chair; Scott Ennis of El Dorado, co-student recruitment chair; and Cathy Mitchell of Wellington, event coordinator. Alumni association staff will arrive with the signature KU trailer full of grills, burgers and brats for the festivities. Current KU students, alumni and university representatives will mix and mingle with students to answer questions and offer advice.

Alumni association representatives and guests planning to attend are: Mike Davis, senior vice president for alumni programs; Danny Lewis, assistant director for alumni programs; David Ochoa, membership relations coordinator; and Heath Peterson, director of student programs.

New students at KU this year are; from Belle Plaine Elizabeth Burdette and Heather Foster; from Oxford Seth Patterson; and from Wellington Tanner Ford, Wade Hodson, Lyndsay Leisinger, Ariel Tazkargy, Jessica Miller, and Erika Raschke.
Parents try to help children cope

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LAWRENCE — University of Kansas students Alyson Marie Beach and Joshua Scott Winegarner, both of Winfield, were recognized at a ceremony May 10 for having completed the Global Awareness Program at KU. University of Kansas students from 20 disciplines completed the Global Awareness Program this spring.

Alyson, daughter of Kerry Beach, is a senior majoring in English and Spanish. Joshua is a son of Graydon and Crystal Winegarner. He is a senior majoring in English.

The 150 undergraduates received GAP certification on their transcripts to inform future employers that they have completed a course of study at KU that fosters international understanding. More than 80 students completed the program in the fall.

GAP recognizes students for studying abroad, taking courses with an international focus, including foreign languages, and being significantly involved in international co-curricular activities. All undergraduates are eligible to participate.

Launched by the Office of International Programs in fall 2004, GAP has recognized more than 400 students in the past three years. More than 1,300 students are now participating.

“GAP’s unique program of pairing academics with experience helped to widen my perspective and increase my understanding of the world around me,” said Michelle Goodrick, graduating senior in psychology. “This insight has served to further fuel my passion for helping humanity as I set off to serve in the Peace Corps. GAP offered an education that went beyond the classroom and insights that would stick with me long after commencement.”
Greensburg parents try to help children cope

By The Associated Press

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