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NEW STUDENT CHARGES
AT U OF MONTANA

IMMEDIATELY

MISSOULA--

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A new University Center operating fee of \$5 per quarter for all University of Montana students will be recommended to the State Board of Education, ex officio regents of the University System, at the board meeting next week in Helena.

Also to be submitted for board approval are increases in room and board fees for students living in residence halls, and advanced rates for married student housing. Both the increases and the new fee would become effective beginning with the fall quarter, 1970.

The new University Center fee will be proposed because the original student union fee of \$10 has been inadequate to pay the debt service and rising operational costs of the new center, according to George L. Mitchell, administrative vice president.

"The problem is further complicated," said Mitchell, "by the fact that neither the 3 percent interest rate nor the 900 additional student boarders originally scheduled to be fed in the center ever materialized."

Mitchell explained that bonds were sold in a rising market at 5 1/4 percent, resulting in additional interest. In addition, two high-rise residence halls, planned for construction adjacent to the center, were not built due to changing student attitudes toward dormitory living.

"Thus," continued Mitchell, "we have higher interest costs and lower income than was contemplated. These factors, coupled with advanced costs for goods and services, leave us with no alternative."

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Mitchell also attributed the increase in board, room and married housing rates to rising operational, labor and food costs. The proposed increases amount to an average of 5 percent in the cost of married student housing, 3 percent in the cost of the Food Service, and 3 percent in the cost of residence halls.

Mitchell said this action coincides with steps taken by other institutions throughout the northwest and the nation which have been forced by rising costs to raise rates for the purpose of meeting bonding commitments.

Planned rate increases are as follows:

Residence Halls (per quarter) - double room, \$94 to \$98; single room, \$120 to \$140. These rates include a \$2 social fee, \$10 telephone fee and 50¢ guest fee. Board--from \$588 to \$606 per academic year.

Married Student Housing (per month) - Craighead and Sisson, studio, \$81 (no change); one bedroom, \$90 to \$91; two bedroom, \$96 to \$101; three bedroom, \$103 to \$108; four bedroom, \$109 to \$114. Elliott Village, studio, \$66 (no change); one bedroom, \$76 to \$77; two bedroom, \$92 to \$97; three bedroom, \$102 to \$107.

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