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THE FALL 1985 STUDENT FEE SURVEY

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Executive Summary

Four hundred and seventy-two students, 95% of a random sample of previously registered, fee-paying Twin Cities Campus students were surveyed by telephone on their usage and opinion of services supported by the Student Services Fee. Key findings include:

Attitudes Toward the Student Services Fee

- A majority of respondents were willing to pay a higher fee in order to maintain current levels of service. Despite the fact the size of the fee has gone from \$79.40 in 1983 to \$91.10 in 1985, the 1985 results to those of a 1983 Fees Survey showed an increase in the percentage advocating a fee increase from 54.5% to 66.5%. The percentage advocating a freeze at current levels dropped from 23.7% to 18.9%, and the number preferring a reduction dropped from 17.0% to 13.6%.

Student Funding Priorities

Students were asked to rank generically-described services as high, medium, or low priority for funding from the Student Services Fee.

- The services with the greatest proportion of high priority responses were: Services that help students with problems at the University (62.7%), the Student Health Service (55.7%), and emergency loans (55.7%). Lowest priorities were given to student magazines, student television, and the University debate team.
- The rank ordering of services was very similar to that found in the 1983 Fee Survey, but the most services received lower ratings than in 1983. Compared to 1983, the biggest drops in ratings were for Unions, child care, and legal/consumer activism. The biggest gainers were the Minnesota Daily, band and music programs, and the debate team.

Minnesota Unions

Students were asked about their usage of the three campus unions, using some questions repeated from a 1979/80 Fee Survey.

- Sixty three percent had used or walked through Coffman during Fall quarter 85. Forty one percent used Coffman on weekdays once a week or more. These rates were down slightly from 79/80.

Fees Survey 2

- Twenty five percent of the students surveyed had used or walked through the St. Paul Student Center, up from 14% in 79/80. Among St. Paul campus students alone, 95% had used or walked through the Student Center and 87% used the Center on weekdays at least once a week.
- Forty-seven percent had used or walked through the West Bank Union, and 22% used the West Bank Union on weekdays at least once a week.
- Sixty-six percent said they had attended a Union-sponsored program in the last year, a rate identical to the 79/80 survey. Participation in individual programs was down slightly. Art exhibits, films, and lectures were the most popular, with about 30% participation in each.
- Among those who attended union programs, 89% were very or moderately satisfied with them.
- Priority ratings for Unions were lower than in the 1983 Fee Survey, going from 54% to 44% assigning a high priority. The Unions, though, remained among the top four in student priorities.

Boynton Health Service

Questions about Boynton concerned usage, satisfaction, and attitudes toward funding.

- Sixty two percent of respondents said they had used Boynton in the previous year, down from 68% in 79/80. However, heavy (6 or more times) usage of Boynton doubled, from 5% to 10%.
- Women were more likely to have used Boynton than were men, and on-campus residents were more likely than commuters to have used it.
- When asked where they would seek medical services, majorities said they would go to Boynton for minor medical problems (65%) and health information (62%), but would go elsewhere for major problems (70%) and emergency treatment (56%).
- Among those who had been to Boynton in the past year, 90% were very or moderately satisfied with its services.
- Over a third, 36%, had not read or heard about the option for refunding part of the fee going to the Boynton Health Service.
- Respondents were fairly evenly split between those who would like to see more user fees and a lower required fee for Boynton (53%) and those who wanted to keep the current mix of required and user fees or increase the required fee.(46%).
- As in 1983, Boynton was rated number two in student priorities for fee funding, with 63% rating it a high priority

University Student Legal Service

- Over a third of the respondents, 36% had not previously read or heard about the University Student Legal Service.
- Nine percent had sought help or advice in the past year from the Legal Service, and 1.5% had attended a Legal Service educational program. These usage rates were up slightly from the 8% and 1% found in the 1979/80 survey.
- Fourteen percent had used other legal services, down from the 17% who had used the service in the 79/80 survey.
- A small majority, 57%, favored keeping the current required fee funding of the Legal Service over a system with a lower required fee and more user fees.
- High priority rankings for legal aid to students dropped from 34% in 1983 to 25% in 1985. Legal aid remained in the middle of service funding priorities.

Recreational Sports

- Thirty three percent of the respondents had participated in intramural sports, and 8% in sports clubs in the previous year. These figures were identical to those obtained in the 79/80 Fee Survey.
- Forty seven percent had participated in self-service sports in the previous year, and 16% had participated once a week or more. These figures were down slightly from the 53% and 23% found in the 79/80 survey.
- Men were more likely than women to participate in recreational sports programs, and on-campus residents were more likely to participate than commuters.
- A small majority of students (57%) preferred a to keep or increase the current recreational sports required fee funding over a system with a lower required fee and more user fees.
- In terms of funding priorities from the student fees, recreational sports remained in the middle, showing some decline in high priority ratings from 29% in 1983 to 23% in 1985.

Child Care

- Seventy two percent favored using fee money to fund student child care programs; however high priority ratings for child care dropped from 36% in 1983 to 26% in 1985.
- Twelve percent of the students said they had children under 18 living with them, 7% had children under 12, and 4% had children under 6.

The Fall 1985 Student Fee Survey

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Background and Content of the Study

This is a report of the Fall 1985 Student Fee Survey. The Student Fee Survey is a survey of Twin Cities Campus student opinion toward the services funded by the Student Services Fee, currently a \$91.10 per quarter fee charged to full time University of Minnesota students. The fee supports a variety of co-curricular services, such as recreational sports, student unions, and health service, as well as several student organizations including student government and the Minnesota Daily.

Annual recommendations about the size and distribution of the fee are made by the Student Services Fee Committee, a student-faculty committee, reporting to the University administration. Final policy on each year's Fee is made by the University's Board of Regents.

Every other year, the Student Services Fee Committee commissions the Student Fee Survey. Repeated from survey to survey is a core set of questions asking whether each of several types of services should be given a high, medium, or low priority for student fee funding (See appended copy of the questionnaire). The questions describe the majority of current services in short, generic terms, and are designed to get a sense of students' priorities about student services. Also repeated from year to year is a question on students' general attitudes toward the future of the fee--whether it should be increased enough to expand services, increased just enough to keep up with inflation, held at its current level, or reduced.

In addition, more detailed questions were asked about five services of special interest to this year's Fee Committee: The Minnesota Unions, Boynton Health Service, University Student Legal Service, Recreational Sports and the Child Care Consortium. For all but the Child Care Consortium, questions about these services included how often respondents used the service, how satisfied they were, and what they thought about the way the service was funded. The funding questions asked about student opinion toward the concept of shifting more from mandatory fee funding paid by all students to user fees paid only by those using the service. The Child Care questions asked only whether student child care should be funded from the fee, and whether the respondent had young children in his or her household.

Survey Procedures

Survey items were developed by Data and Reporting Services in consultation with the Student Services Fee Committee. The data were gathered through telephone interviews by Koser Surveys, Inc., a professional surveying firm, between November 8 and 22, 1985.

The survey was conducted among 472 students, 95% of a random sample of 496 students from the Twin Cities Campus. The population from which the sample was drawn was defined as all previously enrolled (prior to Fall 85) fee paying (enrolled for 6 or more credits), Twin Cities Campus day school students enrolled in the Fall of 1985. Medical fellows and adult specials were excluded. Note that this survey population differs somewhat from some previous fee surveys in that international students were included and new students were excluded. The inclusions and exclusions were done in order to confine the survey to those who paid the fee and who had been on campus long enough to have had the opportunity to know something about the services in question.

The distribution of the respondents by college showed that 36.7% were in the College of Liberal Arts (CLA), 13.1% in the Institute of Technology, 6.4% in General College, 8.9% in St. Paul based undergraduate colleges (Agriculture, Forestry, Home Economics, and Biological Sciences, 21.2% in graduate and professional units (Graduate School, Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health), and 13.8% in other Minneapolis based colleges (Management, Education, Medical Technology, Dental Hygiene, Mortuary Science, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy). Directly comparable population statistics are not available, but the distribution of the sample in these categories is within 1-3% of the population distributions for all students in the colleges, suggesting that the sample is reasonably representative of the total population distribution by unit.

Margin of Error

The data in this study are subject to two kinds of error: sampling and non-sampling. Sampling error varies with the number of persons surveyed, the nature of the question, and the proportion of respondents answering in a given way. The average sampling error in this study is approximately 5% (i.e. a given percentage might be up to 5% higher or lower if all University students were surveyed.)

The non-sampling error in the study cannot be estimated. Errors of this type include keypunching and coding errors, unclear question wording, and respondent duplicity. Careful survey procedures can minimize such errors, but cannot eliminate them entirely.

Data Analysis/Report Format

Data and Reporting Services analyzed the study data and prepared this report. The remainder of the report presents the response percentages for each item, along with noteworthy subgroup comparisons. Where possible, comparisons were made with one of two previous survey reports, done in 1979 and in 1983. The 1983 study is used for the priority items, while the 1979 study is used for some of the specific service items, because some comparable questions were asked then.

Note that the comparisons should be made carefully. The 1980 survey used a smaller but comparable sample, including foreign students but excluding new students. The 1983 study, however, used a sample that included new students but excluded foreign students. Thus the samples in the two previous studies were not exactly comparable, and comparisons should be made tentatively.

Results

General Attitude toward the Size of the Student Fee

As in previous years, students were asked a general question about what they thought should be done with the Student Services Fee: Should it be reduced, frozen at its current level, increased enough to keep pace with inflation, or increased enough to expand services. The question wording in 1985 was consistent with the 1983 wording, except for the amount of the current fee. See Table 1.

Despite the fact the size of the fee has gone from \$79.40 in 1983 to \$91.10 in 1985, the 1985 results showed an increase in the percentage advocating a fee increase from 54.5% to 66.5%. The percentage advocating a freeze at current levels dropped from 23.7% to 18.9%, and the number preferring a reduction dropped from 17.0% to 13.6%.

Support for the maintenance of fee-supported services was relatively consistent across different constituencies. Majorities of students in all college grouping, commuters and non-commuters, men and women, supported the expansion of the fee to maintain services.

TABLE 1: PREFERENCES FOR FUTURE OF STUDENT SERVICES FEE

	<u>1983 Survey</u> (N = 476)	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 472)
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Increase to expand services	5.3	7.6
Increase to level of inflation	49.2	58.9
Hold at current level	23.7	18.9
Reduce	17.0	13.6
No opinion	<u>4.8</u>	<u>1.1</u>
	100%	100.1%

Note: Question was prefaced with the following introduction: "We would like to know your views about the future of the Student Services Fee. Because of inflation the fee will have to be gradually raised over the next few years to maintain current services. If services are expanded, the fee will need to be raised more. If the fee is held at its current level, inflation will cause services to be gradually reduced. If the fee is cut services will be reduced more. Now, in the future, do you think the \$91.10 fee should be—increased enough to expand services, increased just enough to keep up with inflation, held at its present level, or reduced?"

Student Fee Priorities

Students were asked whether each of the current services (generically described) should be a high, medium, or low priority for funding from the Student Services Fee. Table 2 presents the percentage distribution of responses to this question, comparing the 1985 results to the 1983 results, ranked in order of the 1985 high priority percentages.

The most general finding is that the percentage of high priority responses was lower most services in 1985 than it was in 1983. Only the Health Service, the Minnesota Daily, programs for foreign students, band/music programs and the University debate team increased their proportion of high priority responses. The largest drops in the high category were for Unions, child care and lobbying/legal action. The Union responses have traditionally been among the most likely to change. Between 1982 and 1983 the high priority responses increased from 35.7 to 53.6%. The 1985 responses represent a midpoint between these two previous surveys.

Regardless of the shifts between the two surveys, the ordering of student priorities was similar. The highest priority was assigned to services that are either clearly problem oriented, (such as ombudsman and health services) or serve large numbers of students (such as the Daily and the Unions). The lowest priority was assigned to services which primarily serve specialized education groups (e.g. child care, foreign students) or provide special non-classroom educational experiences (e.g. debate, television).

Some of the noteworthy subgroup breakdowns in the 1985 data were:

- More graduate/professional students (34%) than others gave high priority to child care.
- Fewer St. Paul campus students (16%) gave legal aid a high priority.
- More St. Paul students (21%) gave environmental/consumer action a high priority.
- More graduate/professional students (20%) gave a high priority to foreign student programs.
- St. Paul students had highest proportion (38%) giving recreational sports a high priority; CLA students had lowest proportion (14%).
- More General College students (40%) gave high priority to student government.
- Fewer General College students (33%) gave high priority to the Health Service.
- More St. Paul campus students (52%) gave a high priority to Student Unions.
- Fewer St. Paul students (33%) gave a high priority to the MN Daily.

TABLE 2: STUDENT PRIORITIES FOR FEE FUNDING
 Percentages based on N=472 for 1985 Survey

	<u>Year</u>	<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Medium Priority</u>	<u>Low Priority</u>
Services that help students with problems with the "U"	1983	66.2	28.3	5.5
	1985	62.7	30.7	6.4
Student Health Service	1983	57.9	31.3	10.8
	1985	55.7	37.1	7.0
Emergency loans for students	1985	54.2	38.3	6.1
Student Unions	1983	53.6	38.0	8.4
	1985	43.9	45.3	10.6
Minnesota Daily	1983	36.5	38.2	25.3
	1985	41.3	41.3	17.2
University band and music programs	1983	23.1	52.5	24.4
	1985	30.5	51.1	18.0
Student government	1983	30.0	51.6	18.4
	1985	28.0	53.0	18.9
Student exchange programs with foreign and domestic universities	1983	34.7	44.6	20.7
	1985	27.8	49.6	22.5
Service and programs for women students	1983	24.9	58.4	16.7
	1985	21.0	62.5	16.3
Legal aid for students	1983	33.8	46.7	19.5
	1985	24.8	53.6	21.2
Programs on minority student issues	1983	26.8	54.2	19.0
	1985	21.6	56.8	21.2
Recreational sports programs	1983	28.5	51.2	20.3
	1985	22.7	49.6	27.5
Child care for students' children	1983	36.4	43.6	20.1
	1985	25.8	34.5	39.2
Programs on foreign student issues	1983	12.5	51.8	35.7
	1985	14.2	47.5	37.5
Lobbying and legal action to express student views on consumer and environmental issues	1983	24.3	42.9	32.8
	1985	15.5	43.2	40.9
University debate team	1983	4.7	36.8	58.5
	1985	10.6	46.2	42.8
Student television training and production	1983	7.2	32.6	60.2
	1985	6.8	34.3	58.3
Student magazines	1983	7.3	30.7	62.0
	1985	5.1	33.5	60.6

Student Unions

The 1985 Fees Survey looked at usage of the three Student Unions in a fairly detailed way for the first time since the 1979/80 Fees Survey. Comparisons are made between the 79 and 85 surveys for Coffman Union, the St. Paul Student Center, and participation in union programs. Comparisons are not made for the West Bank Union, since it did not have clearly defined physical space in 1979.

Coffman: Two out of three students (66.3%) said they had used or walked through Coffman Union sometime during the current Fall 85 quarter. Table 3 shows the frequency of usage by time period for the 1985 and 1979 surveys. Compared to the 1979/80 study, usage was down during weekday evenings (from 30% to 20%) and on weekends (from 30% to 13%). (It should be noted that the sample in the 1979 study was much smaller, 160 vs. 472 for the 1985 study).

TABLE 3: USAGE OF COFFMAN UNION
(In percentages)

	1979-1980 Survey (N = 160)				Fall 1985 Survey (N = 471)			
	Weekdays (8-5)	Weekday Evenings	Weekends	During Quarter Break *	Weekdays (8-5)	Weekday Evenings	Weekends	During Quarter Break *
Never	33	70	70	81	36.7	80.7	86.7	79.8
Less than once a month	9	11	12		8.7	7.0	4.9	
1-3 times a month	18	9	13	19	18.9	7.4	7.0	20.2
About once a week	20	9	3		14.2	3.0	1.3	
More than once a week	21	3	1		21.6	1.9	.2	
	101%	102%	99%	100%	100.1%	100%	100.1%	100%

* Asked as a yes-no question.

Note: Totals may differ from 100% slightly due to rounding.

Subgroup differences in 1985 Coffman usage were found along predictable lines. Self-described commuters were less likely than non commuters to use Coffman in the evenings (25% vs. 35%) and on the weekends (15% vs. 30%).

Students in IT (81%) and CLA (75%) were the most likely to have used Coffman during Fall quarter, while students in graduate/professional schools (49%) and St. Paul Colleges (57%) were less likely. A similar pattern held for usage at specific times.

St. Paul Student Center Slightly more than 1 in 4 respondents (26.7%) said they had used or walked into the St. Paul Student Center. In contrast to the Coffman findings, usage at all times was up somewhat from the 1979/80 survey. (See Table 4)

TABLE 4: USAGE OF ST. PAUL STUDENT CENTER

	1979-1980 Survey (N = 162)				Fall 1985 Survey (N = 472)			
	Weekdays (8-5)	Weekday Evenings	Weekends	During Quarter Break *	Weekdays (8-5)	Weekday Evenings	Weekends	During Quarter Break *
Never	86	96	98	94	75.0	88.8	91.1	89.8
Less than once a month	2	2	1		4.4	1.3	2.1	
1-3 times a month	3	1	1	6	5.5	2.8	4.2	10.2
About once a week	2	1	0		3.8	3.6	2.1	
More than once a week	7	1	0		11.2	3.6	.4	
	100%	101%	100%	100%	99.9%	100.1%	99.9%	100%

* Asked as a yes-no question.

Note: Totals may differ from 100% slightly due to rounding.

As would be expected, St. Paul campus students are much more likely than other groups to use the St. Paul Student Center. Among St. Paul campus students (N=42), 95.2% had used or walked through the Student Center in Fall Quarter, 95% used it weekdays, 60% used it weekend evening, and 42% on weekends. Eighty-nine percent of the St. Paul students had used the Student Center on weekdays once a week or more. The percentages of other collegiate groups using the St. Paul Student Center at all ranged from 13% among General College students to 23% among graduate/professional students.

West Bank Union Among all students, the West Bank Union falls between Coffman and the St. Paul Student Center in usage. About 2 in 5 students (39.4%) said they had used or walked through the West Bank Union at least once in the fall 85 quarter. A nearly equal proportion (37.5%) said they used the Union during weekdays, while 12.9% said they used it during the evenings, and 8.9% during weekends (See Table 5).

TABLE 5: USAGE OF WEST BANK UNION

	Fall 1985 Survey (N=472)			During Quarter Break *
	Weekdays (8-5)	Weekday Evenings	Weekends (N=472)	
Never	62.5	87.1	91.1	90.2
Less than once a month	6.1	2.1	2.8	
1-3 times a month	9.3	5.7	4.4	9.8
About once a week	7.0	2.5	1.3	
More than once a week	15.0	2.5	0.4	
	99.9%	99.9%	100%	100%

* Asked as a yes-no question.

Note: Totals may differ from 100% slightly due to rounding.

Among collegiate groups, CLA students and those in the smaller Minneapolis colleges (including Management) were the most likely to have used or walked through the West Bank Union (52% for both groups). St. Paul and graduate/professional students were the least likely to have used it (24%) for both groups.

Union Program Participation: Table 6 shows the percentage of students who said they participated in various Union-sponsored programs within the past year, comparing the 1985 and 1979/80 survey results.

TABLE 6: PARTICIPATION IN UNION PROGRAMS

	<u>1979-1980 Survey</u> (N = 161)	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 472)
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Exhibit, art showing	41	35.2
Films	41	29.4
Lecture	25	24.4
Concert, music performance	22	16.9
Dance, party	14	13.3
Debate	11	9.3
Dance, performance, recital	8	7.4
Play	9	5.7
Mini Course	6	4.2
Trip, Outing	4	1.9

The ordering of participation rates was very similar across the two surveys. The highest attendance in both years was for art exhibits, films, and lectures, and the lowest for plays, mini-courses, and trips. For all types of programs, participation rates were down somewhat from the earlier survey. However, a similar percentage in both surveys, 66%, said they had attended at least one of the programs.

A number of subgroup differences were evident in the 1985 survey:

- Commuters were less likely than non-commuters to attend films, dance performances, and dances/parties.
- Compared to other collegiate groups, St. Paul campus students were more likely to have attended films, lectures, debates, art exhibits, and dances/parties.
- Women were more likely than men to have attended plays or art exhibits, and less likely to have attended a debate or lecture.

Satisfaction with Union Programs Those who had attended at least one Union program in the past year were asked how satisfied they were with the programs in general. Table 7 shows the percentage distribution of responses to this question first for all respondents (N=472), putting those who were not asked into the "Can't Say" category, and then for just those who had attended a Union program in the past year (N=261). Among those attending a program 9 out 10 were at least moderately satisfied, and over a third were very satisfied. Subgroup differences tended to mirror attendance differences, with St. Paul students the most satisfied.

TABLE 7: SATISFACTION WITH UNION PROGRAMS

	<u>Base=All Respondents (N=472)</u>	<u>Base = Attendees (N=261)</u>
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Very satisfied	19.7	35.6
Moderately	29.7	53.6
Only slightly	4.4	8.1
Not at all	1.5	2.7
Can't say	<u>44.7</u>	—
	100%	100%

Boynton Health Service

The survey questions on Boynton Health Service asked about usage of the service, satisfaction with it, likelihood of using Boynton vs. other services, knowledge of the Boynton fee refund, and attitudes toward Boynton user fees. In some cases, the questions were the same as those asked in the 1979/80 survey, so comparisons are possible.

Boynton Usage Table 8 shows the percentage distribution of usage of Boynton Health Service in the previous year for both the 1985 and 1979/80 surveys. Compared to the earlier survey, the percentage using Boynton at least once was down from 58% to 52%, but the percentage using Boynton over six times a year rose from 5% to nearly 10%.

TABLE 8: USAGE OF BOYNTON HEALTH SERVICE IN PREVIOUS YEAR

	<u>1979-1980 Survey</u> (N = 156)	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 471)
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0 times	42	48.2
1 - 2 times	30	26.1
3 - 5 times	24	15.9
6 or more times	<u>5</u>	<u>9.8</u>
	101%	100%

Note: Totals may differ from 100% slightly due to rounding.

Noteworthy subgroup differences in 1985 Boynton usage included:

- More women (58%) than men (46%) said they had used Boynton and had used Boynton 6 or more times (14% vs. 6%).
- On campus residents were more likely to have used Boynton (62%) than were commuters (47%).

Satisfaction with Boynton Those who had used Boynton were asked how satisfied they were with its services. Table 9 shows the 1985 figures in two ways, in terms of the percentages of all students (adding those not asked to the "Can't Say" category, and as percentages of those who used the service. Comparable figures were not available from earlier surveys.

TABLE 9: SATISFACTION WITH BOYNTON HEALTH SERVICE*

	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 472) (Base = All respondents)	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 242) (Base = Users)
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Very satisfied	25.4	49.6
Moderately satisfied	21.4	41.7
Slightly satisfied	3.6	7.0
Not at all satisfied	.8	1.7
Can't say	<u>48.7</u>	<u>100%</u>
	100%	100%

* Asked only of those that had used Boynton Health Service in the past 12 months. Non-users are added to the "can't say" category in total figures.

Nearly half of all who had used Boynton in the past year said they were very satisfied with it, and fewer than 1 in 10 said they were not at all or only slightly satisfied. Subgroup differences were parallel to those of usage: Women and on campus residents were slightly more likely to be very satisfied.

Boynton vs. Other Treatment Sources Students in the 1985 survey (but not earlier) were asked where they would be most likely to seek various kinds of medical services--Boynton or somewhere else. Table 10 shows the percentage distribution of responses.

TABLE 10: USE OF BOYNTON VS. OTHER HEALTH PROVIDERS
(Percentages)

For the following types of medical services, would you be more likely to go to Boynton Health Service or elsewhere?

	<u>Boynton</u>	<u>Elsewhere</u>	
(N = 471) Minor illness/injuries	65.2	34.8	100%
(N = 472) Major health problems	30.5	69.5	100%
(N = 472) Health/wellness information	61.9	38.1	100%
(N = 470) Emergency treatment	44.0	56.0	100%

Majorities of respondents saw Boynton as their most likely choice for treatment of minor illnesses and injuries and for health/wellness information, but saw other places as their most likely choice for emergency treatment and treatment of major health problems. For all types of treatment, commuters were less likely than non-commuters to name Boynton as their most likely choice: Minor illness/injuries--59% of commuters vs. 77% of non; major health problems, 28% vs. 34%, health information, 56% vs. 74%, emergency care, 39% vs. 59%.

Awareness of Boynton Refund

Students with other prepaid medical coverage can obtain a \$21 a quarter refund of Student Services Fee money. The survey students were asked whether they had previously known that a portion of the Student Services could be refunded. Table 11 shows that over a third of the respondents said that they were not aware of this refund.

TABLE 11: HAD READ OR HEARD ABOUT THE BOYNTON HEALTH SERVICE FEE REFUND:

<u>Fall 1985 Survey (N = 472)</u>	
	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	61.7
No	36.9
Don't know	1.4
	100%

Differences among collegiate groups were noted. The lowest rates of awareness of the fee refund were among St. Paul campus (50%) and General College (53%) students.

Opinions of Boynton Health Service Funding Options The Boynton Health Service gets the single largest portion of the Student Services Fee. In an effort to hold down the size of the Fee for all students, Boynton charges some additional fees to those who use selected services. Respondents were asked what they thought of the concept of user fees--would they most prefer the current mix of required and user fees, a lower required fee and more user fees, or a higher required fee and fewer user fees. The percentage results are show in Table 12.

TABLE 12: OPINIONS ABOUT BOYNTON FUNDING OPTIONS

	<u>Fall 1985 Survey (N = 472)</u>
	<u>Percent</u>
Keep current system	35.6
Lower required/Increase user	53.2
Increase required/Lower user	9.7
Dont'Know	<u>1.5</u>
	100.0%

Question was prefaced with: Curently, students paying the health service fee get general medical care without extra charge. They are charged a partial user fee for some speciality care, and a full user fee for surgery, dental care, prescriptions , and glasses. Which would be your preference for funding the Health Service--first, the current combination of a required fee and some user fees; second a higher required fee and fewer user fees; third, a lower required fee and more user fees.

The respondents were fairly evenly split between those who wanted to shift more of the burden of health service costs to those who use the service. Among collegiate groups, General College students were the most in favor of more user fees (67%), while graduate/professional students were least in favor of change (49%). As would be expected from their lower usage of Boynton, men were more in favor of user fees (58%) than were women (49%).

University Student Legal Service

Questions about the Student Legal Service asked about awareness of the service, usage of it, and opinions about required vs. user fee funding of it. As shown in Table 13, the percentage of students who had previously read or heard of the service was down from 70% in the 1979/80 survey to 64% in the 1985 survey.

TABLE 13: PREVIOUS AWARENESS OF UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

	<u>1979 - 1980 Survey (N = 156)</u>	<u>Fall 1985 Survey (N = 471)</u>
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	70	63.7
No	<u>30</u>	<u>36.3</u>
	100%	100%

The noteworthy subgroup differences in awareness of the Legal Service was by college: General College and St. Paul Campus students were the least likely to be aware of the Student Legal Service (53% in GC and 43% in St. Paul).

Usage of the Legal Service: Those who were aware of all the Legal Service were asked whether they had gone to the service in the past year for legal help/advice or had attended one of the service's legal education programs. All students were asked whether they had gone to other legal services for help or advice in the past year. Table 14 shows that usage of the University Student Legal Service was up slightly from 79/80 while the usage of other legal services was down slightly. Fewer students still went to the University Student Legal Service than elsewhere for legal assistance, but the difference was smaller than in 1979/80.

TABLE 14: USAGE OF UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE IN PAST YEAR

	1979 - 1980 Survey (Base = All respondents) <u>Percent</u> (N = 156)	Fall 1985 Survey (Base = All respondents) <u>Percent</u> (N = 472)	Fall 1985 Survey (Base = Aware of USLS) <u>Percent</u> (N = 300)
Attend educational program	1	1.5	2.3
Sought help or advice	8	9.3	14.7
Sought legal help or advice elsewhere	17	14.4	

The chief differences among subgroups were that fewer IT students (5%) than other collegiate groups sought help from the Legal Service and more St. Paul Campus students (21%) and graduate/professional students (18%) used other legal services. among St. Paul and 18% among grad/professional students) than were other collegiate groups.

Attitudes toward Legal Service funding The Legal Service currently provides most legal services to students without additional charge, except for mileage for attorney travel, and court/document filing costs. The survey asked whether students preferred this method of funding the Legal Service or a system with a lower required fee and additional user fees. Table 15 shows that a small majority of students favored the current system.

TABLE 15: PREFERRED SYSTEM FOR LEGAL SERVICE FUNDING

	Fall 1985 Survey (N = 472) <u>Percent</u>
Keep current system	56.6
Lower required/Increase user	41.5
	1.9%
	100.0%

Question prefaced with: "Currently, each quarter, \$3.82 of the Student services Fee goes to the Student Legal Service. Student can use all its services without additional charge, except for mileage for attorney travel and court filing costs. Which system would you prefer for the Legal Service—the current one, or one with lower required fee and additional user fees?"

More graduate/professional students (60%) and those in the smaller Minneapolis colleges (61%) preferred the current system.

Recreational Sports

Recreational Sports questions asked about participation in Recreational Sports programs and attitudes toward user fees. Unlike the previous two surveys, the 1985 survey did not ask about attitudes toward Recreational Sports facilities.

Recreational Sports Participation The survey asked students about their participation in the last year in intramural sports, sports clubs, and self-service sports. Tables 16 and 17 show that participation rates in intramural sports and sport clubs were identical to those in the 1979/80 fees survey, while participation in self-service sports was down somewhat.

TABLE 16: INTRAMURAL AND SPORTS CLUB MEMBERSHIP IN PAST YEAR

	1979 - 1980 Survey (N = 156)	Fall 1985 Survey
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Intramural sports team	33	32.8 (N = 472)
University sports club	8	8.1 (N = 471)

TABLE 17: PARTICIPATION IN SELF-SERVICE SPORT AT U OF M

	1979-1980 Survey (N = 156)	Fall 1985 Survey (N = 472)
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Never	47	53.4
Less than once a month	14	15.5
1 to 3 times a month	16	14.8
Once a week or more	<u>23</u>	<u>16.3</u>
	100%	100%

Overall, about 1 in 2 students participate in self-service sports, 1 in 3 in intramurals, and 1 in 12 in sports clubs. Participation rates, however, differ by sex, residence, and college. More men than women said they participated in intramurals (46% vs. 18%), sports clubs (11% vs. 5%) and self-service sports (52% vs. 41%). Compared to commuters, on-campus residents were more likely to have participated in intramurals (54% to 22%), sports clubs (12% vs. 6%), and self-service sports (67% vs. 37%). Graduate/professional students were less likely than other collegiate groups to participate in intramurals (24%) and in self-service sports (44%), but were more likely to be frequent (once a week or more) self-service sport participants (21%)

Preferences for Recreational Sports Funding. Recreational Sports programs are supported primarily by the Student Services Fee, but charge user fees for aerobics classes and team entry. Students were asked whether they preferred this current system, one with a lower required fee and more user fees, or one with a higher required fee and fewer user fees. Table 18 shows that a majority of students (58%) preferred either the current system or one with a higher required fee.

TABLE 18: PREFERRED RECREATIONAL SPORTS FUNDING SYSTEM

	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 472)
	<u>Percent</u>
Keep current system	49.6
Lower user/Increase required	6.8
Lower required/Increase user	42.4
Don't Know	<u>1.2</u>
	100.0%

Question was prefaced with: Currently \$8.10 of the required Student Services Fee goes to pay for Recreational Sports programs and facilities. Additional fees are charged for aerobics and team entry. Which if the following would be your preference for funding recreational sports—First, the current combination of a required fee and some user fees, second, a higher required fee and fewer user fees, third, a lower required fee and more user fees.

Subgroup differences in funding preference were similar to those found for recreational sports participation. A change to increased user fees was more likely to be favored by women than men (39% vs. 46%), and by commuters than non-commuters (46% vs. 36%). Among collegiate groups, General College students were the most likely to advocate more user fees, and graduate/professional students the least likely (31%).

Child Care

Besides asking about student child care in the series of questions on fee funding priorities, the survey asked students simply whether they thought child care should be funded from the Student Fee, whether they had children living with them, and if so, the ages of their children. Table 19 shows that over 70% of the respondents favored using student fee money for student child care.

TABLE 19: USE OF STUDENT FEE MONEY FOR STUDENT CHILD CARE

	<u>Fall 1985 Survey</u> (N = 472)
	<u>Percent</u>
Favor	71.6
Oppose	27.1
Don't Know	<u>1.3</u>
	100.0%

Support for the use of fee money for child care was consistent across the subgroups. Note, however, that the percentage supporting the use of fee money for child care was considerably lower than the percentage advocating that it should be a high priority for fee funding (26%).

Numbers of Students with Pre-School Children Of interest to those planning child care services is the number of students with children who might need child care. The percentage of students with children under 18 living with them was 12.3% (N=58); with children under 12, 6.7% (N=27), and with children under 6 yrs.. old, 4.3% (N=20)

Students from the St. Paul campus and those from the smaller Minneapolis had lower proportions (5%) of students with children under 18 than did other colleges. Graduate/professional students had slightly a slightly higher proportion with children (16%).

References

Matross, R., Mack E., and Gersmehl, C. The 1979-80 Twin Cities Student Services Fee Survey: Student Opinion Toward Five Major Services. Office for Student Affairs Research Bulletin. University of Minnesota, December 14, 1979, 20, (2).

Matross, R., and Hannaford, K. The Fall 1983 University Poll: Student Services and Fees. Office for Student Affairs Research Bulletin. University of Minnesota, February 3, 1983, 24, (1).

Fees Survey, Fall, 1985 Conducted by the University Poll for the University of Minnesota

Hello, I'm _____ from the University of Minnesota Opinion Poll. We're doing a survey on the \$91.10 Student Services Fee charged each quarter.

1. Are you registered for 6 or more credits at the "U" this Fall Quarter? Yes No
 ___ 1 ___ 2 >>> TERMINATE (1)

2. Do you consider yourself a commuter student? Yes No
 ___ 1 ___ 2 (2)

3. Have you looked at or read a list of the services and organizations funded from the student services fee? Yes No Don't Know
 ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 (3)

4. Part of the fees goes to the three student unions: Coffman Union, the St. Paul Student Center, and West Bank Union. Yes No
 ___ *1 ___ 2 >>> GO TO 5 (4)

So far this fall quarter, have you used or gone into Coffman Union? Ask *4a-b-c

4a. How often do you use Coffman on weekdays, from 8 am to 5 pm? Never Less 1-3 About More than than once once than
a a a a
month month week week
 -- never, less than once a month
 1-3 times a month, about once a week, more than once a week -- ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 (5)

4b. How often do you use Coffman on weekday evenings? ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 (6)

4c. How often do you use Coffman on weekends? . ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 (7)

5. In the past 12 months did you use Coffman during the winter or spring breaks between quarters? Yes No
 ___1 ___2 (8)

6. So far this fall quarter, have you used or gone into the St. Paul Student Center? Yes No
 ___1 ___2 >>> GO TO 7. (9)
 Ask
 *6a-b-c

6a. How often do you use the St. Paul Student Center on weekdays, from 8 am to 5 pm?
 -- never, less than once a month, 1-3 times a month, about once a week, more than once a week --
 Never Less 1-3 About More
 than than times once More
 once a a month week a
 a month week a
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (10)

6b. How often do you use the St. Paul Student Center on weekday evenings?
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (11)

6c. How often do you use the St. Paul Student Center on weekends?
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (12)

7. In the past 12 months, did you use the St. Paul Student Center during the winter or spring breaks between quarters? Yes No
 ___1 ___2 (13)

8. So far this fall quarter, have you used or gone into the West Bank Union? *Yes No
 ___1 ___2 >>> GO TO 9. (14)
 Ask
 8a-b-c

8a. How often do you use the West Bank Union on weekdays, from 8 am to 5 pm?
 -- never, less than once a month 1-3 times a month, about once a week, more than once a week --
 Never Less 1-3 About More
 than than times once More
 once a a month week a
 a month week a
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (15)

8b. How often do you use the West Bank Union weekday evenings?
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (16)

8c. How often do you use the West Bank Union on weekends?
 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5 (17)

9. In the past 12 months did you use the West Bank Union winter or spring break between quarters? Yes No
 ___1 ___2 (18)

10. The three unions put on various events and programs. During the past year, did you attend or participate in any of the following types of student union activities.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
a. a film or movie	___1	___2	(19)
b. a concert or music performance.	___1	___2	(20)
c. a dance performance or recital.	___1	___2	(21)
d. a play.	___1	___2	(22)
e. a lecture	___1	___2	(23)
f. a debate or discussion.	___1	___2	(24)
g. an exhibit or art showing	___1	___2	(25)
h. a trip or outing.	___1	___2	(26)
i. a dance or party.	___1	___2	(27)
j. a mini-course	___1	___2	(28)

IF NO TO ALL ITEMS IN 10, SKIP TO 12.

11. In general, how satisfied are you with the programs offered by the three unions? Would you say:	<u>Not at All</u>	<u>Only Slightly</u>	<u>Moderately</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Can't Say</u>	
--not at all, only slightly, moderately, or very satisfied?--	___1	___2	___3	___4	___9	(29)

12. Another part of the fee goes to Boynton Health Service.

Within the past 12 months, how many times have you gone to Boynton Health Service for health care or information?	None	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 or more times		
-- none, 1 or 2 times, 3 to 5 times, 6 or more times --	___	___1	___2	___3	___4	(30)

*GO TO 14.

13. In general, how satisfied are you with Boynton Health Service? Would you say:	<u>Not at All</u>	<u>Only Slightly</u>	<u>Moderately</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Can't Say</u>	
--not at all, only slightly, moderately or very satisfied?	___1	___2	___3	___4	___9	(31)

14. If you needed the following types of medical service, would you be more likely to go Boynton Health Service or elsewhere?

	<u>Boynton</u>	<u>Elsewhere</u>	
a. Treatment for minor illness or injuries?	_____ 1	_____ 2	(32)
b. Treatment for major health problems?	_____ 1	_____ 2	(33)
c. Health or wellness information?	_____ 1	_____ 2	(34)
d. Emergency treatment?	_____ 1	_____ 2	(35)

15. The Boynton Health Service fee is currently \$45.85 a quarter. Students who are covered by health insurance or HMO can get a \$21 refund. Before now, had you read or heard about this refund?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
	_____ 1	_____ 2	_____ 3	(36)

16. Currently, students paying the health service fee get general medical care without extra charge. They are charged a partial user fee for some specialty care, and a full user fee for surgery, dental care, prescriptions, and glasses. Which of the following would be your preference for funding the Health Service?

First ... The current combination of a required fee and some user fees _____ 1

Second .. A higher required fee and fewer user fees _____ 2

Third ... A lower required fee and more user fees _____ 3 (37)

Don't know (don't offer) _____ 4

17. Another part of the fee goes to Student Legal Services. Before now, had you read or heard about it?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
	_____ 1	_____ 2	>>> GO TO 19. (38)

18. Within the past year, did you:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	
a. Attend a legal education program sponsored by the Student Legal Service?	_____ 1	_____ 2	_____ 3	(39)
b. Seek help or advice from them?	_____ 1	_____ 2	_____ 3	(40)

19. Seek legal help or advice anywhere else besides the Student Legal Service?

	_____ 1	_____ 2	_____ 3	(41)
--	---------	---------	---------	------

20. Currently, each quarter \$3.82 of the Student Services fee goes to the Student Legal Service, students can use all its services without additional charge, except for mileage for attorney travel and court filing costs.

Which system would you prefer for the Legal Service--the current one, or one with a lower required fee and additional user fees?

	<u>Current System</u>	<u>User Fees</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	
	_____ 1	_____ 2	_____ 3	(42)

21. Another fee goes to the Recreational Sports Program. Within the past twelve months have you belonged to:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
a. an intramural sports team at the "U"	___1	___2	(43)
b. how about a sports club at the "U"	___1	___2	(44)

22. Within the past 12 months, how often have you used the facilities at the "U" for self-service sports such as swimming, handball, or running?
 -- never, less than once a month, 1-3 times a month, once a week or more --

<u>Never</u>	<u>Less than once a month</u>	<u>1-3 times a month</u>	<u>Once a week or more</u>	
___1	___2	___3	___4	(45)

23. Currently \$8.10 of the required Student Services fee goes to pay for Recreational Sports programs and facilities. Additional fees are charged for aerobics and team entry. Which of the following would be your preference for funding recreational sports?

First ... The current combination of a required fee and some user fees	___1	
Second .. A <u>higher</u> required fee and <u>fewer</u> user fees	___2	
Third ... A <u>lower</u> required fee and <u>more</u> user fees	___3	(45)
Don't know (don't offer).	___4	

24. Another 24 cents of the fee goes to help pay for child care for students' children. Do you favor or oppose using fee money for student child care?

<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	
___1	___2	___3	(47)

25. Does a child under the age of 18 live with you?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
___1	___2	(48)

Ask 25a.

25a. What is the age of the child (or children)? _____ (49)

26. For each of the following services please tell me if you think it should be a high, medium, or low priority for funding from the student fee.

	<u>High</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Don't Know</u> (Don't offer)	
a. Child care for students' children	___1	___2	___3	___4	(50)
b. Emergency loans for students	___1	___2	___3	___4	(51)
c. Legal aid for students	___1	___2	___3	___4	(52)