On behalf of Bob Donley:

Attached please find a one-page overview prepared by Iowa State University on the proposed Recreation Facilities Expansion and Renovation project. The project, and the associated student fee proposal, will be presented to the Board at the October 29 meeting. The University will release this overview to the media at 6:00 p.m. today prior to the University's presentation of the project, and the proposed recreation fee(s), to the Government of the Student Body at its 7:00 meeting this evening.

The overview indicates that the student recreation building fee will begin in FY 2010 at $40 per student per academic year, and increase to the full amount of $214 per student per academic year in FY 2012 when the facilities are operational.

The Board granted permission to proceed with the project at the May 1, 2008, meeting. At that time, the University assured continued student involvement in the project to include creation of a planning committee with student representation from across campus. The University stressed the importance of student involvement and leadership in this planning committee which would be developing the building program and determining the components to be included in the facilities. The University has addressed its efforts toward student involvement in the planning process in the overview.

Please contact us if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you.

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Iowa State University has been planning for a major expansion and renovation of its recreation facilities, based on student needs expressed in multiple studies between 2002 and 2007. The project involves construction of a new addition to State Gym, major renovations to existing State Gym, targeted remodeling in Beyer Hall, and air conditioning improvements at Lied Recreation Athletic Center.

→ Student leaders, together with RDG Planning & Design (the project architect), will present the fee proposal and program summary to the Government of the Student Body on October 8, 2008.
→ At the October 29 Board of Regents meeting, the University is requesting consideration of the student fee proposal; the financing plan, which includes the sale of bonds for the project; and the program summary.

Goals of the project:

- Engage students and meet their recreational needs
- Help students create lifelong habits that promote wellness
- Bring recreational facilities into alignment with peer institutions
- Address deferred maintenance and accessibility of existing recreational facilities
- Offer facilities and programs that attract students to Iowa State

Project funding:

- Total project cost is $52.8 million; proposed funding is student-fee-supported debt
- In February 2008 the student body voted to fund the project through student fees
- A proposed FY10 recreation building fee of $40.00 per student/academic year was approved by the Special Student Fee and Tuition Committee on September 19, 2008
- New future fees are projected to increase to a total of $214 per student/academic year beginning in FY12, when the new facilities will be available for use

Planning process and student involvement:

- RDG Planning & Design was hired as project architect in July 2008
- Students have been actively involved throughout the process and serve as members of the project’s Planning and Advisory Committees
- Project communications are facilitated through a communications committee, and a project website has been created to provide updates and opportunities for feedback
- Student input has been solicited through focus groups, surveys, and town hall meetings
- Student input has affirmed key elements of the building program