

# BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

## 1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Student Unions, CSN

**MEETING DATE:** March 2 – 3, 2017

## 2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The Associated Students of the College of Southern Nevada (ASCSN) and the Administration mutually began approximately three years ago a feasibility review for the development of three student unions in support of student success and engagement. The feasibility review included substantial and continuous discussions with student government, programming of facility requirements, student surveys, and revision and approval of the campus master plans. Initial programming development has taken place in concert with students and has identified the functionality desired for inclusion of the facility. This process included the deployment of a student survey and desired activities and services to be located and housed within the student unions.

CSN campuses currently provide little space for student collaboration, engagement, and gathering. Student Unions will enable students to have a location on campus to come together; engage with one another; provide for food service that meets student needs; and support a collaborative student experience.

The feasibility review concluded that construction of 3 student unions with a common design was the best solution. Each facility is estimated at 25,000 gross square feet (gsf) and to be located at each of CSN's campuses: Charleston, Henderson, and North Las Vegas. Planning, design, construction, infrastructure development, and furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the three buildings are estimated at a cost of \$79-\$81M. Through contribution from General Improvement CSN is contributing \$7M (10%) of the facility costs to reduce the obligation to students.

In September 2016, the Board of Regents approved the CSN Campus Master Plans for each of the campuses, which includes the student union facilities. Subsequently, at the December 2016 Board of Regents meeting, an increase in NSHE's bonding capacity on CSN's behalf was authorized. The increase in bond capacity will be considered by the State of Nevada Legislature in its 2017 session.

In addition to funding for the construction of the Student Unions, a fee for the operating and maintenance is proposed.

## 3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

President Michael D. Richards requests:

- 1) Approval of the concept for construction of three Student Unions;
- 2) Approval of a student fee in the amount of \$8.00 per credit hour registration fee (fall and spring semesters), effective Fall 2017, a \$3.00 per credit hour registration fee (summer term), effective Summer 2018, for the purposes of construction and for retirement of debt service; associated therewith;
- 3) Approval of a student fee in the amount of \$1.00 per credit hour registration fee, effective Fall 2019 (anticipated completion of the facility), for the purpose of operation and maintenance of the Student Unions.

A specific financing plan for the student union project, including a resolution or other documents necessary for the issuance of bonds or other debt instruments, will be brought forward for Board approval at a future meeting.

**4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

The feasibility study has been completed including coordination and support by the ASCSN and initial programming incorporating student activity and functionality priorities.

Financing plan has been completed.

Campus Master Plans have been completed and were approved by the Board of the Regents at the September 2016 meeting.

Request for increase debt capacity was approved by the Board of Regents at the December 2016 meeting, and will be presented to the Nevada Legislature during the 2017 session.

**5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

- The CSN Student Unions will facilitate an environment on campuses for:
  - Student Leadership – home for ASCSN at each campus;
  - Student belonging – gathering and sense of community;
  - Collaboration - environment for intellectual, civic, and community engagement;
  - Food service, meeting, and event space consistent on all 3 campuses;
  - Learning and work space – space for student groups/clubs and teams to come together in a central location. Additional space for study teams, celebration of academic work (art space, projects, etc);
  - Center place on campus – a beacon on campus to celebrate the college and communities.
- CSN Student Union space includes priorities established by the student surveys;
- CSN Student Unions are consistent with the Master Plans;
- Facilities will support an environment that supports student engagement, retention, and completion.
- Will provide a space for students and others to gather on campuses, current space is limited and does not enable large gatherings on the campuses in our communities.

**6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

The State of Nevada does not fund construction of student spaces; a new student fee is required to support the debt service and operating costs for the student unions.

**7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:**

None identified, facilities would not be able to be constructed.

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_

Amends Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_

Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # 7 Section # 11 (new section)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Fiscal Impact: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: CSN proposes the construction of three Student Unions with a not to exceed costs of \$81M which CSN is contributing \$7M from General Improvement fees. Per registration fee of \$8 for retirement of the debt service effective Fall 2017, and a \$3 per registration fee for summer session terms (beginning Summer 2018), and a \$1 per registration fee for operating costs associated with the additional space effective Fall 2019.

*NSHE Procedures and Guidelines Manual*

**CHAPTER 7, SECTION 11**

**Student Fees – Student Union Fee, CSN**

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

**Section 11. Student Fees**

A. STANDARD STUDENT FEES

The following student fees have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Regents (institutions may charge up to the amount approved).

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B. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FEE

The recruitment, admission and advising of international students represents a tremendous cost to the University of Nevada, Reno, and University of Nevada, Las Vegas. . . .

....

C. STUDENT LIFE FACILITIES FEE, UNLV

The following fee shall support the planning, construction, and operations of a new student recreation center and a renovation and expansion of the Moyer Student Union. . . .

....

D. STUDENT UNION FEE, UNR

Effective Fall Semester 2006, the following fee shall support the construction of a new student union at the University of Nevada, Reno. . . .

....

E. SPECIAL BUILDING FEE, NSC

The following fee shall support the planning, construction, and operations of new academic and student activities/administrative services buildings on the Nevada State College campus. . . .

....

F. STUDENT UNION FEE, CSN

*Effective Fall 2017, the following fee shall support the planning and construction of student union(s) at the College of Southern Nevada. The fee shall apply to all students, per semester.*

*(Fall and Spring) - \$8.00/credit*

*(Summer) - \$3.00/credit*

*Effective Fall 2019, the following fee shall support the operations, maintenance and ongoing support of the student union(s) at the College of Southern Nevada. The fee shall apply to all students, per semester.*

*\$1.00/credit*

G. SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION SURCHARGE/FEE

The following per credit fees are charged in addition to the subsequent fall registration fees that are approved as of March 1 of the current year. . . .

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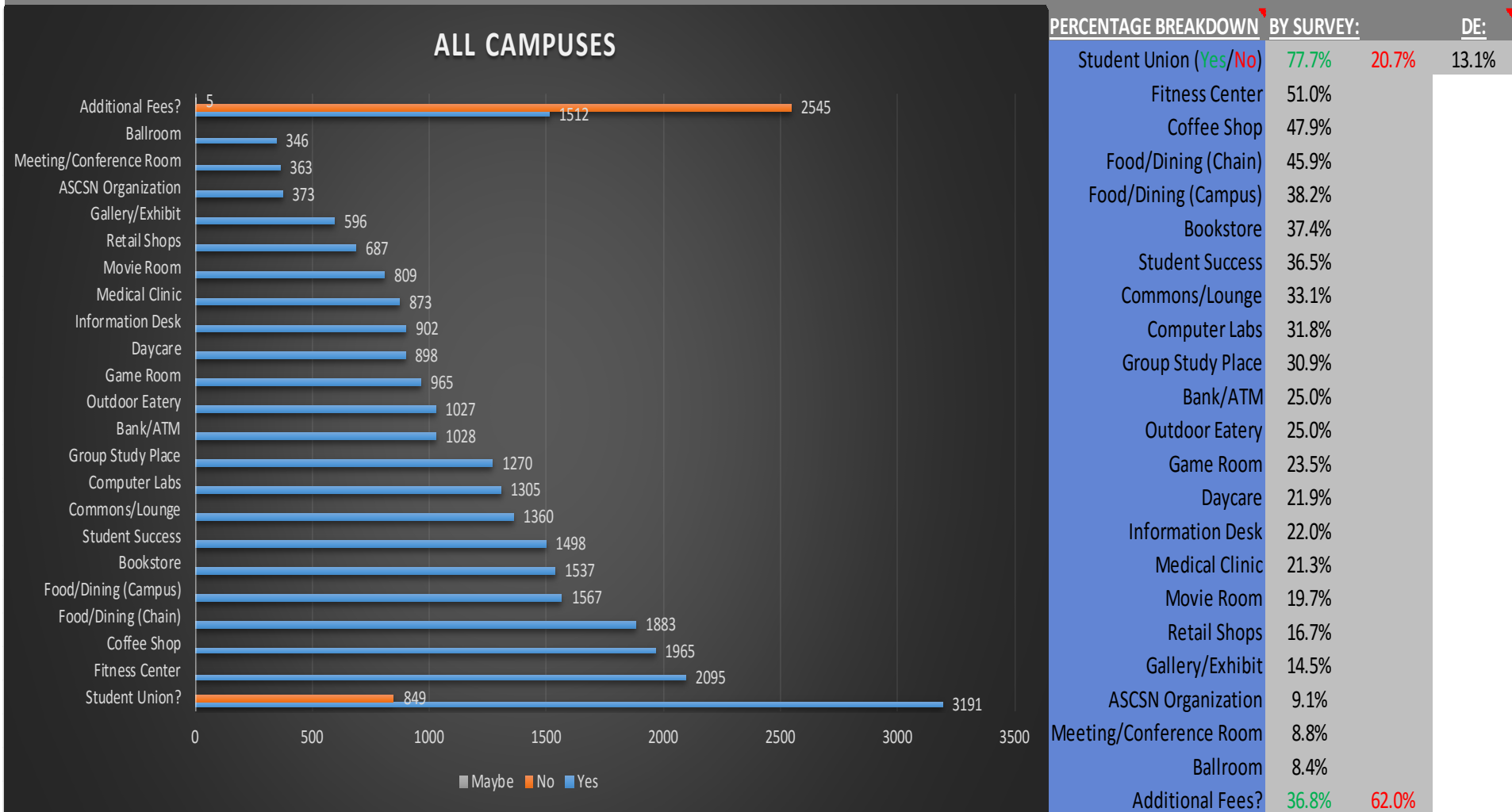
[G]H. HEALTH SERVICE/INSURANCE FEES

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[H]I. LATE FEES

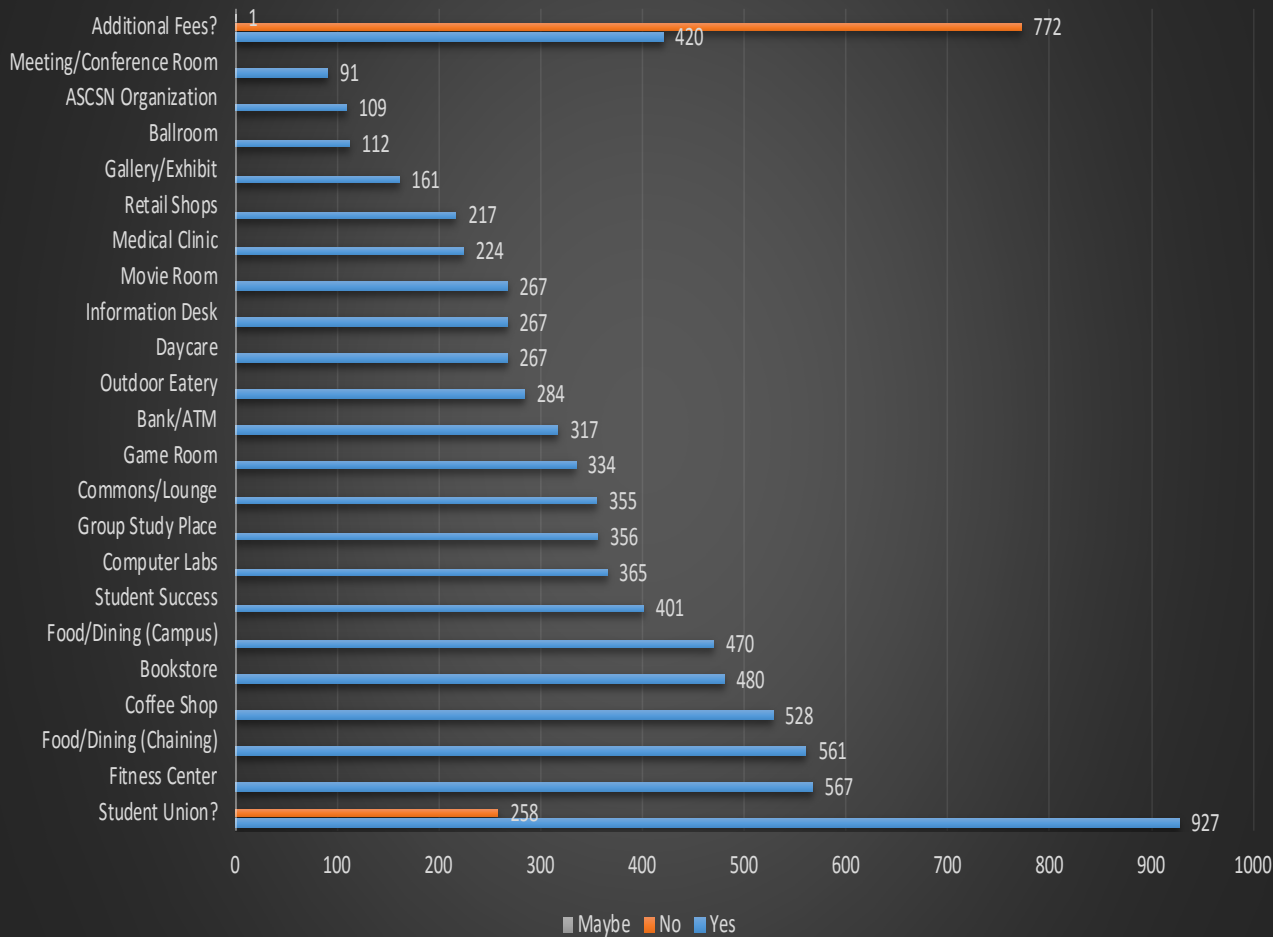
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# STUDENT UNION SURVEY: ALL RESPONSES



This is a combination of all campuses, for a total of 4,105 surveys turned in. Below you'll find the campuses separated, so you can get an idea of the difference in results.

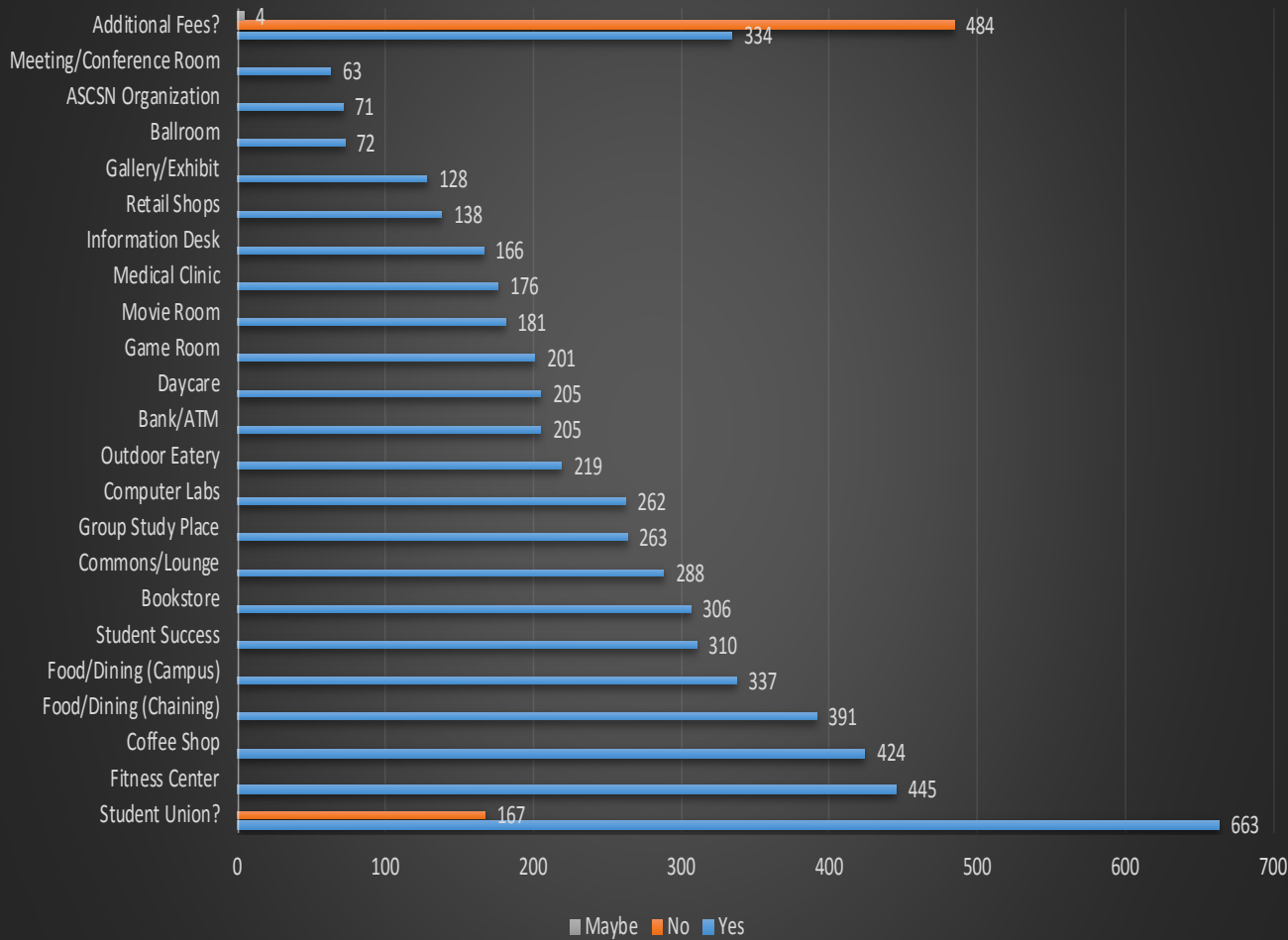
# CHEYENNE



PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN	BY SURVEY:		DE:
Student Union (Yes/No)	77.3%	21.5%	12.6%
Fitness Center	47.3%		
Food/Dining (Chaining)	46.8%		
Coffee Shop	44.0%		
Bookstore	40.0%		
Food/Dining (Campus)	39.2%		
Student Success	33.4%		
Computer Labs	30.4%		
Group Study Place	29.7%		
Commons/Lounge	29.6%		
Game Room	27.8%		
Bank/ATM	26.4%		
Outdoor Eatery	23.7%		
Daycare	22.3%		
Information Desk	22.3%		
Movie Room	22.3%		
Medical Clinic	18.7%		
Retail Shops	18.1%		
Gallery/Exhibit	13.4%		
Ballroom	9.3%		
ASCSN Organization	9.1%		
Meeting/Conference Room	7.6%		
Additional Fees?	35.0%	64.3%	

Total surveys: 1200

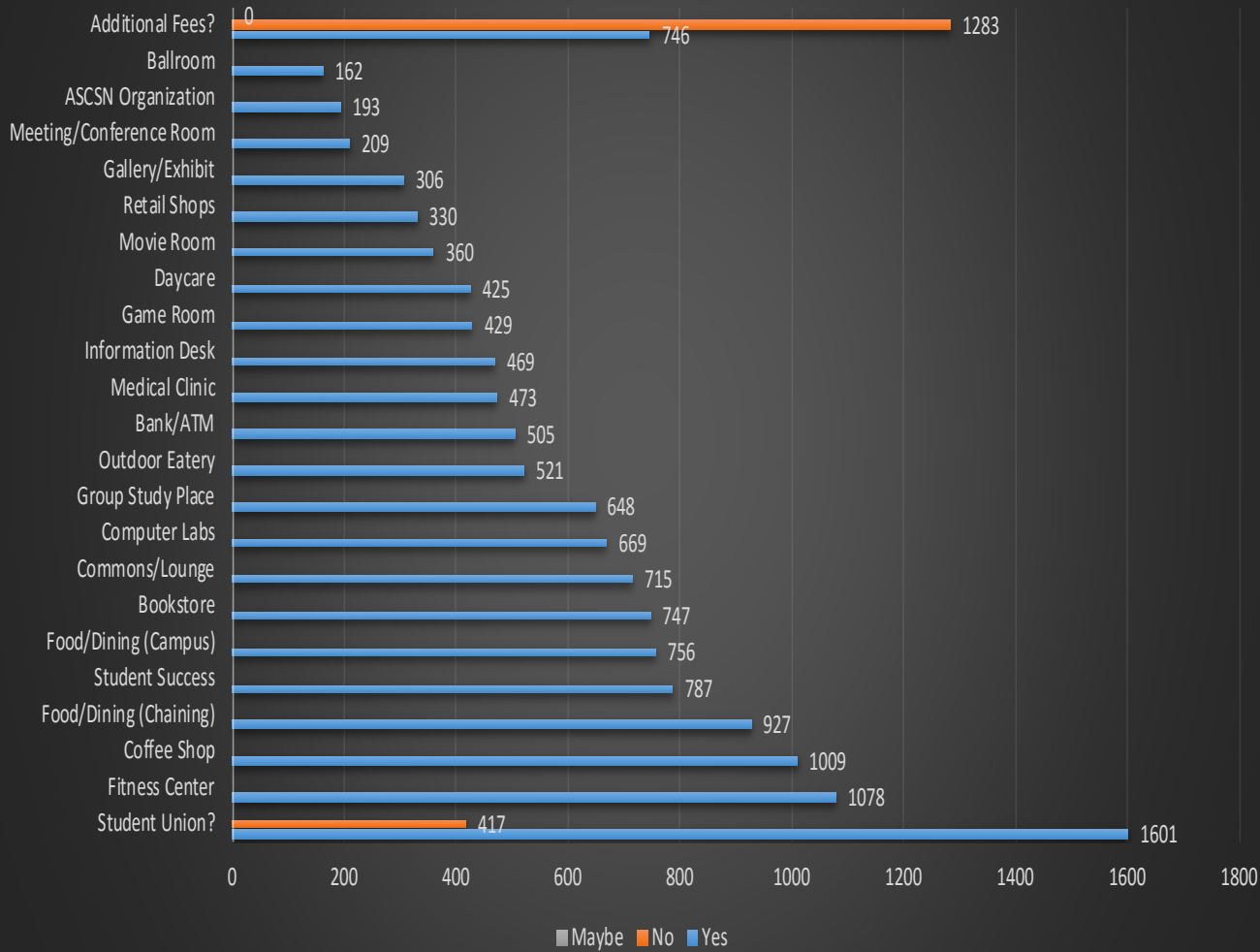
# HENDERSON



PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN	BY SURVEY:	DE:
Student Union (Yes/No)	79.6%	20.0%
Fitness Center	53.4%	
Coffee Shop	50.9%	
Food/Dining (Chaining)	46.9%	
Food/Dining (Campus)	40.5%	
Student Success	37.2%	
Bookstore	36.7%	
Commons/Lounge	34.6%	
Group Study Place	31.6%	
Computer Labs	31.5%	
Outdoor Eatery	26.3%	
Bank/ATM	24.6%	
Daycare	24.6%	
Game Room	24.1%	
Movie Room	21.7%	
Medical Clinic	21.1%	
Information Desk	19.9%	
Retail Shops	16.6%	
Gallery/Exhibit	15.4%	
Ballroom	8.6%	
ASCSN Organization	8.5%	
Meeting/Conference Room	7.6%	
Additional Fees?	40.1%	58.1%

Total surveys: 833

# WEST CHARLESTON



PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN	BY SURVEY:	DE:
Student Union (Yes/No)	78.3%	20.4%
Fitness Center	52.7%	
Coffee Shop	49.3%	
Food/Dining (Chaining)	45.3%	
Student Success	38.5%	
Food/Dining (Campus)	37.0%	
Bookstore	36.5%	
Commons/Lounge	34.9%	
Computer Labs	32.7%	
Group Study Place	31.7%	
Outdoor Eatery	25.5%	
Bank/ATM	24.7%	
Medical Clinic	23.1%	
Information Desk	22.9%	
Game Room	21.0%	
Daycare	20.8%	
Movie Room	17.6%	
Retail Shops	16.1%	
Gallery/Exhibit	15.0%	
Meeting/Conference Room	10.2%	
ASCSN Organization	9.4%	
Ballroom	7.9%	
Additional Fees?	36.5%	36.5%

Total surveys: 2046

DUPLICATE ENROLLMENT	
<b>Cheyenne:</b>	9539
<b>Henderson:</b>	4543
<b>West Charleston:</b>	14747
<b>Extension:</b>	2443
<b>TOTAL:</b>	31272

TOTAL SURVEY COUNT	
	1200
	833
	2046
	26***
	4105

FULL TIME ENROLLMENT	
<b>Cheyenne:</b>	3554
<b>Henderson:</b>	1908.4
<b>West Charleston:</b>	5952
<b>Extension:</b>	863.3
<b>TOTAL:</b>	12277

*\*Does not include online/distance education, which is 15,147 for DE and 5,606.2 for FTE*

*\*\*Duplicate Enrollment means a headcount for each individual at each campus, which means those who attend more than one campus are counted more than once for this census*

*\*\*\*These surveys are actually from an unknown location, it is only assumed they are representing the Extension sites.*



## Explanation of Survey Results

**Purpose:** This survey was designed to see how the Student Body would react to the prospect of a Student Union for each campus. The questions asked were designed to see how students feel about:

- Student Unions (Do students want one?)
- What would students like to see in the Student Union? (Eateries, study rooms, etc.)
- Raising tuition for Student Unions

**Methodology:** This survey was distributed in two ways, in person (With about 168 surveys being turned in this way) and over CSN Canvas (With 3,937 being turned in this way). There was no method of control to insure that a person turned in more than one survey online or in person, however this is an unlikely occurrence.

**Results:** These results show us the unanimously students want more amenities (In the form of a Student Union, or just additions to existing structures), but are not keen on the idea of additional fees. It is noted that while a large portion of students do not mind paying for extra fees, an even larger portion do not agree with this prospect. Whether it's because *they may not know where these fees are going to go, they're afraid they won't see any results* or that *they just think CSN charges too much already*, cannot be seen. It should be surmised that if CSN is to raise prices for amenities, there should be a price break down for students and maybe options to exclude/include *what* tuition fees they want to pay.

## **Conclusion:**

These results show that across **all campuses**, students want:

- Fitness Center/Gym
- Coffee Shop
- Food and Dining in the form of restaurant chains
- Food and Dining provided by CSN
- Bookstore

With the next five items (Student Services, Lounges, Computer Lab, Group Study Room and Bank) holding above a 25% approval rating. The conclusion to these results should be:

- Push for building Student Unions on all 3 Campuses, provided CSN can find different means for accessing funding.*
- Utilize CSN's available space more efficiently and establish (at least) the top five amenities desired by students.*
- Find a way for CSN to not only establish said amenities, but also a way to maximize possible profits CSN could utilize for future projects (i.e. Building a small gym at Henderson, then using the fees charged from that to build a lounge, etc.).*