UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000
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I. Attorneys Report

In accordance with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Legal Service Plan the staff attorneys are pleased to submit the 1999-2000 Annual Report to the Student Legal Service Advisory Board, the Board of Trustees and the general University community. The Student Legal Service program is now twenty two years old as a S.O.R.F. funded program. The S.O.R.F. Board approved the program’s budget for FY2000 of $192,171 with FY2001 budget at $207,731 with $20,000 contingency fund. This budget allows for stability and moderate growth in several budgetary line items, in particular preventative legal education. The United States Supreme Court ruling upholding mixed student fees permitted the S.O.R.F. Board to return to a three year budget cycle for the program.

Student Legal Service website is located at http://www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS. There students can access information electronically from the comfort of their homes at all hours of the day and night. At this time the website contains general information regarding the office; its location and hours of operation and eligibility to name a few things. It is also linked to the S.O.R.F. web page. There is also included information on court appearances (dress, timeliness, locations and contact numbers); information regarding various important housing issues (security deposits and roommates to name a few); and a substantial collection of links to sources of legal information on the internet (Illinois information, consumer protection, State and Federal laws, and cases). All informational brochures produced by the office are accessible on-line. In this reporting period students and others have accessed SLS website (See Website Statistics page 9).

The commitment to retaining staff on a long term basis has insured the stability of program and the ability of attorneys to provide experienced representation. Thomas Betz is currently nearing his fifteenth year as a staff attorney with the program. Betz is a 1981 graduate
of Wayne State University Law School, a member of the Illinois Bar and an inactive member of the Michigan Bar. Betz serves as a member of Champaign County American Civil Liberties Union Steering Committee and is a member of the Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union Community Advisory Board. Betz is also an elected member of the Champaign County Board. This year he served on the University’s Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing Task Force and as a member of the Predatory Lending Task Force of Land of Lincoln Legal Services.

Susan Y. Hessee, a 1982 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law, is in her twelfth year as a program staff attorney. Hessee is a member of the Illinois and Michigan Bar Associations. She is active with the Champaign County Bar Association, Health Care Consumers and Planned Parenthood.

James P. Biggins is in his second year as an SLS staff attorney. Jim is a 1998 graduate of Southern Illinois University School of Law. He has upgraded computer systems throughout SLS and improved the website as well as contributing three brochures: collection agencies and credit problems, spring break and fake ids. In August Mr. Biggins will be moving to San Antonio, Texas. The 2000-2001 Advisory Board will need to begin the process of recruiting a replacement as its first order of business this fall.

During this reporting period the office did one significant appellate case. The office provided representation to the defendant in People v. Allibalogun, a misdemeanor case for possession of cannabis. The defendant was stopped for a traffic violation when the police discovered that there was an active civil warrant for his arrest. The defendant was taken into custody based on the civil warrant and the police conducted a search of his vehicle based on the arrest. The Student Legal Service attorney presented a motion to suppress the evidence as the fruit of an illegal search which was granted by the trial court and the State’s Attorney appealed.
The Illinois Appellate Court reversed the decision and Student Legal Service has filed the case with the Illinois Supreme Court which will likely decide whether to hear the case in October, 2000.

In July of 1999 the staff attorneys attended the Annual Education Conference of the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, Student Legal Service Division in Vancouver, British Columbia. These continuing legal education seminars designed for student legal service offices are invaluable to the staff attorneys. In November Thomas Betz and James Biggins attended the Joint Midwest/South Conference of the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, Student Legal Service Division at St. Augustine, Florida. Mr. Biggins presented a paper on motor vehicle searches and Mr. Betz chaired a session on community advocacy.

**Preventive Legal Education**

The Student Legal Service Plan as adopted in 1978 mandates preventive law activities:

[The Students' Attorneys will furnish students with general information concerning management of their personal affairs under the law. The design of this assistance is to educate the student body and to enable individuals to avoid legal difficulties and promote greater concentration on academic pursuits. To this end the Attorneys may provide information to The Daily Illini or other publications in order to educate members of the student body as to their rights and responsibilities; and may speak to groups of students upon request and arrange speakers on practical aspects of the law as the need arises. The Students' Attorneys will make available to students the various informational pamphlets published by the Illinois State Bar Association, other bar associations, and other appropriate items. (SLS Plan at 4).]

During this reporting period the office published ten (10) informational/preventive advertisements in The Daily Illini and the office was mentioned in over twenty three (23)
articles in The Daily Illini, and News Gazette. On January 24, 2000, the Student Legal Service Housing Guide was inserted in the Daily Illini. This is prime rental season and was designed to prevent major housing problems.

The office participated in or sponsored eighteen (18) speaking engagements (see page 16). The office publishes twenty five (25) brochures and four booklets which are in wide circulation on campus.

**General Statistical Information**

**2015** filled out intake forms and had appointments with staff attorneys. 617 cases were opened although not all cases required a court appearance. In the previous reporting period 1998-99 students received in office assistance on 1998 cases. An increase of 17 students is of little statistical significance as the office over the past ten years has established a usage range of between 1850 and 2300 in office consultations.

366 students were seen on housing related matters. 447 students were interviewed on traffic matters. These two broad topical areas account for forty (40) percent of the total office intake. (See Statistics pages 6-8.)

Students are well aware of the existence of the program, learning about it in many ways. (See Statistics page 8.)

It is important when examining the raw statistics that it be kept in mind that for every student seen in the office a minimum of five students use the service through preventative education seminars. Additionally, numerous students use educational materials without direct use of the office. The web page is widely utilized based upon comments we have received in the office from students and the recorded hits.
Conclusion

The Student Legal Service Advisory Board and the University community can be proud that the program remains one of the outstanding Student Legal Service programs in the country.

The staff looks forward to the 2000-2001 year being exciting and challenging.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Betz     James P. Biggins     Susan Y. Hessee

TEB:JPB:SYH:nd
### II. Statistics

**July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000**

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<tr>
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<td>Traffic</td>
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<td>Victim</td>
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**TOTAL AOs = 1398**

**AO & Open Cases = 2015**
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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### How Students Heard About SLS

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**TOTAL** 1398

### Class Year

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**TOTAL** 1398
Each month is based on the addition of the weekly statistics kept by Computer and Communications Service Office (CCSO). The months shown do not correspond exactly with the calendar months. Non-US, Other.edu, UIUC, and Total each represent the users who accessed the Student Legal Service web pages, and from where they were accessing the webpage. Non-US means from outside of the United States. Other.edu means from another college or university computer system. UIUC means that the access occurred from a University of Illinois Computer. Keep in mind that many UIUC students use their own computers which would not necessarily be counted as UIUC.

Statistics are calculated on a weekly basis by CCSO, and are posted on <www.uiuc.edu/wwwStats/> for general public access. The access reports are only a very rough measure of how many people are actually reading the Web pages. For example, for an HTML page with 5 embedded images, anyone accessing that Web page just one time will generate six accesses to the Web tree, because each image retrieval counts as an “independent” access. The Student Legal Service Homepage and most of the link pages contain seven embedded images. Additionally, anyone with their Web browser set to bring up the UIUC home page as their default home page will generate an access to that web page (and all its embedded images) every time they start up their browser, whether or not they actually read or use that page. The Total line for each organization will, however, reflect ALL accesses to their web pages.
IV. Informational/Preventive Advertisements in Daily Illini

Welcome To The University of Illinois
   Welcome Back Edition, August 20, 1999
   Quad Day Edition, August 24, 1999

Student Legal Service Program
   New Student Guide
   Move in Edition, August 13, 1999
   buzz, September 9, 16, 1999
   September 23, 30, 1999
   October 7, 14, 21, 28, 1999
   November 4, 11, 18, 1999
   December 9, 1999

Kegger’s Delight
   October 6, 13, 20, 1999

Phony IDs
   September 13, 20, 27, 1999
   February 16, 23, 2000
   March 1, 8, 2000

Champaign’s Drinking Specials
   October 7, 14, 21, 1999
   November 4, 18, 1999
   December 2, 1999

Drug Deals for Students
   November 22, 29, 1999
   December 6, 13, 1999
   February 14, 2000
   April 12, 2000

Housing Guide Booklet
   Inserted January 24, 2000

Spring Break Tips
   February 18, 25, 2000
   March 3, 2000
Marijuana and Your Financial Aid
April 14, 17, 18, 19, 2000

10 Steps to Protect Your Security Deposit
April 28, 2000
May 1, 3, 5, 2000
V. Editorials

Fees not worth refunding
Daily Illini, August 30, 1999

Fees worth the price
Daily Illini, November 17, 1999

From the desk of the editor
Daily Illini, January 24, 2000

SORF—we can only benefit
Daily Illini, March 27, 2000

The customer is always...
Daily Illini, April 7, 2000
VI. Newspaper Interviews or Articles Mentioning Student Legal Service

Here's some advice for this school year

Fee refund not always a bright ideas for students
   Daily Illini cover story, August 27, 1999

Tenants' rights off campus
   CPnet.com, September 3, 1999

Payday loans: Are they just quick cash or money trap?
   Daily Illini, September 15, 1999

Test used with cars, not bars
   Daily Illini cover story, October 4, 1999

Supreme Court affects fees debate
   Daily Illini cover story, November 9, 1999

Tips before you leave
   Daily Illini, letter to editor, December 13, 1999

Renters Beware: You are subject to more liabilities than you know
   Daily Illini, housing guide, January 24, 2000

Letter to Leslie
   Daily Illini, buzz, January 27, 2000

Plan ahead and enjoy spring break
   Daily Illini, February 21, 2000

Who's using your money
   Daily Illini, February 24, 2000

Decision: Allocation of fees OK
   Daily Illini cover story, March 23, 2000

Ruling on fees is a relief for UI
   The News Gazette cover story, March 26, 2000
Delivering electronic complaints
Daily Illini cover story, April 4, 2000

Suburban Express halts ISR service
Daily Illini, April 5, 2000

Parallel parking causes grief
Daily Illini, April 19, 2000

Sublease Brings No Peace
Octopus, May 12-18, 2000

Activists need air time, too– CU leases don’t allow assignments
Octopus, June 9-15, 2000
VII. Speaking Engagements & Events

August 16, 1999  Residential Life Campus Resource Fair
August 17, 1999  International Student Orientation
August 24, 1999  Quad Day
August 24, 1999  International Student Orientation
August 30, 1999  Transfer Student Orientation
October 21, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, ISR
October 26, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, Garner Hall
October 27, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, PAR
November 3, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, FAR
November 4, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, Busey Hall
November 8, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, LAR
November 11, 1999 Tenant Union/Student Legal Service, Allen Hall
January 14, 2000 International Student Orientation
March 9, 2000  Graduate Student Advisory Council
March 27, 2000  Delta Gamma Sorority
April 10, 2000  League of Women Voters Career Fair
April 18, 2000  Theta Xi Fraternity
June 9, 2000  International Student Orientation
VIII. Brochures/Booklets

Brochures

Alcohol Laws in Illinois Students
Arrest Card
Bar–Opoly
Campus Cash
Can You Afford A Car
Changing Your Name
City Offenses
Collection Agencies
Consumer Rights
Court Supervision
Domestic Battery
False Ids

General Legal Advice for International Guidelines for Throwing a Party Guidelines for Traffic Offenses Informational Bookmark Information on Copyright Marijuana Laws Sexual Violence Spring Break in Florida Student Legal Service Program Your Court Appearance Your Personal Invitation Your Security Deposit Zero Tolerance

Booklets

Housing Guide
Know Your Legal Rights
Roommate Survival Guide
Students and the Law

16
IX. Special Letters of Acknowledgment

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Client

Client

Theta Xi Fraternity

Client
X. Special Requests for Brochure Distribution

Chemistry Department/Graduate Packets
200 Student Legal Service Brochures
July 1, 1999

Office of International Student Affairs
1,500 Student Legal Service Brochures
July 8, 1999

Medical Science Orientation
75 Student Legal Service Brochures
August 3, 1999

Campus ACLU
Arrest Cards
October 28, 1999

All UIUC Fraternities and Sororities
20 each domestic violence, spring break
January 5, 2000

UIUC Activity Day
Various Brochures
January 25, 2000

Chemistry Department/Graduate Packets
130 Student Legal Service Brochures
June 26, 1999
XI. Student Legal Service Listings

Crisis Line
1999-2000

Handbook for Graduate Students and Advisers
1999, Graduate College

Illini Book
1999-2000

UIUC Student/Staff Directory
1999-2000

Greek Telephone Directory
Fall 1999, Spring 2000

Family Service
The Help Book 2000
WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
The Student Legal Service Program at the University of Illinois welcomes you to campus. Each year our office serves nearly 3,000 students regarding various legal problems. The office is staffed by three full-time attorneys. The purpose of the program is to inform students of the practical aspects of the law as applied to their individual problems. Representation in court is available in many cases.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
All students who are enrolled at the University of Illinois who have not received a refund of the $7.00 Student Organization Resource Fee (SORF) are eligible to use the service. The Student Legal Service cannot even give you general advice if you have refunded your SORF fee.

WHAT KIND OF SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?
The office provides counseling and representation in landlord-tenant, traffic, misdemeanors, name changes, small claims, city ordinance violations, and in many other areas too numerous to list. All questions and concerns are kept completely confidential.

HOW TO USE THE SERVICE
To get help, you must come to the office in person and show your student identification and necessary research done prior to your appointment. Legal advice will not be given over the telephone. This policy is for the protection of your privacy.

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
324 ILLINI UNION
333-9053
Hours: 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30
Monday through Friday
Illinois

PHONY IDs
Possession or use of a false ID card carries up to a year in jail and a mandatory fine of $500.00 or 50 hours of community service. The second time is a class 4 Felony. You also lose your Driver’s License for a year, and face disciplinary charges from the University.

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St.
(217) 333-9053
www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

Paid for by S.O.R.F.
CHAMPAIGN'S DRINKING SPECIALS

NOW EVEN HARDER ON YOUR BUDGET! Supplies are unlimited so purchase any quantity desired.

$260 Fine - Possession or Consumption of Alcohol under age 19.

$260 Fine - Possession or Consumption of Alcohol age 19 - 20.

$2,500 Fine and/or 364 Days in Jail, and loss of driving privileges for 12 months - Fake ID

$260 Fine - Possession of Unlicensed Keg.

$2,500 Fine and or 364 Days in Jail - Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

*Searches through pockets, purses, and wallets for additional charges will be performed at officer's discretion only.*

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St, Urbana, IL 61801. (217) 333-9053 Fax (217) 333-0474 Hours 8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30 M-F
www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

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Thursday, October 7, 1999 • the Daily Illini • 15

Thursday, October 14, 1999 • the Daily Illini • 15

Thursday, November 4, 1999 • the Daily Illini • 11

Thursday, November 18, 1999 • the Daily Illini • 15

Thursday, December 2, 1999 • the Daily Illini • 13
DRUG DEALS FOR STUDENTS

CLASS 4 FELONIES INCLUDE
POSESSION OF THE FOLLOWING:
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF COCAINE
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF LSD
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF METH
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF HEROIN

THESE ARE PUNISHABLE WITH
1 - 3 YEARS IN PRISON
AND A FINE BETWEEN
$2,000 AND $200,000

POSESSION OF CANNABIS

2.5 OR FEWER GRAMS
$1,500 AND UP TO 30 DAYS IN JAIL.

2.5 - 10 GRAMS
$1,500 AND UP TO 6 MONTHS JAIL.

10 - 30 GRAMS
$2,500 AND UP TO 1 YEAR IN JAIL.

POSESSION OF UNDER 200 GRAMS OF GHB IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE UP TO $25,000 AND 1 - 3 YEARS IN PRISON!!!
GHB IS ALSO KNOWN AS LIQUID G, LIQUID X.

POSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE BETWEEN $750 AND $2,500 AND UP TO A YEAR IN JAIL.
USE OF INTOXICATING COMPOUNDS IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE UP TO $1,500 AND UP TO 30 DAYS IN JAIL.

THE UNIVERSITY WILL ALSO BRING YOU UP ON CONDUCT CHARGES AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR FINANCIAL AID!

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES
324 ILLINI UNION, 1401 W. GREEN ST., URBANA, IL 61801
333-9053 PHONE 333-0474 FAX
HOURS 8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

HOUSING GUIDE

Check out our website: www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

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324 Illini Union

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STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

SPRING BREAK

MARCH 11 - 19

TRIP TIPS

AVOID TRAVEL SCAMS !!!

→ DOES THE PRICE SEEM TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

→ HAVE YOU BEEN SPECIALLY SELECTED OR ARE YOU A WINNER OF THE PRIZE OF GETTING RIPPED OFF?

→ DO YOU HAVE TO WAIT 60 DAYS BEFORE YOU CAN USE YOUR PRIZE AND REALIZE THAT THEY STOLE YOUR MONEY? CREDIT CARD CHARGES MUST BE DISPUTED WITHIN 30 DAYS !

→ DO NOT GIVE YOUR CREDIT CARD NUMBER OVER THE PHONE, OR MAKE ANY IMMEDIATE DECISIONS.

→ DO YOU KNOW WHO YOUR ARE DEALING WITH? WHAT IS THE STREET ADDRESS OF THE COMPANY YOU ARE DEALING WITH? WHAT IS THE FULL NAME AND POSITION OF THE PERSON YOU ARE GIVING YOUR MONEY TO? IS THE COMPANY LOCATED IN ANOTHER STATE?

→ CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES BEFORE YOU WRITE YOUR CHECK:

www.dot.gov/airconsumer/flyrights.htm
www.ftc.gov/opa/1999/9908/triptrap.htm
www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR SPRING BREAK BROCHURE IN THE OFFICE.

324 ILLINI UNION, 1401 W. GREEN ST., URBANA, IL PHONE 333-9053, FAX 333-0474
HOURS M-F 8:30-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

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Daily Illini 2-18-00

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STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
At the University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign
MARIJUANA AND YOUR FINANCIAL AID

The Federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 permits the denial of Federal benefits to drug traffickers and possessors. Any individual who is convicted of any Federal or state offense involving the possession of a controlled substance (marijuana is defined as a controlled substance) upon a first conviction for such an offense and at the discretion of the court, will be ineligible for any and all Federal benefits for up to one year. Federal benefits include any grant, loan, or professional license provided by an agency of the United States. Most of the vast majority of all financial aid received by the University of Illinois students may be considered a benefit subject to loss upon marijuana possession conviction.

334 WILLIAM BROWN
140 ILLINOIS UNION
140 E. GREEN, URBANA
HOURS: MON 8:30-12:00 & 1:00-4:30
Phone (217) 333-0636. Fax (217) 333-0474

Paid for by SORF www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS
10 STEPS TO PROTECT YOUR SECURITY DEPOSIT

STEP 1: Call the owner before you move out to arrange a joint inspection and make sure to clean your apartment before you leave. Bring a written inventory of all your belongings removed before you

STEP 2: Before each apartment is vacated, make sure to have a detailed written inventory of all furniture and the condition of the area. Before you leave, be sure to have the landlord sign the receipt. In case the landlord refuses to sign the receipt, you should be responsible for all returned keys.

STEP 3: Get a camera and take pictures of the entire apartment. Walk through the apartment with the landlord and have him/her take notes. Use this form to have him/her sign and date the inventory form. Be sure to still use your camera at the end of the lease.

STEP 4: If the landlord refuses to sign the receipt or inventory form, have a witness sign. Pay particular attention to the walls and carpet for damage. You and your witnesses should both sign and date your inventory form in front of a notary.

STEP 5: If you sublet your apartment for the summer, return

STEP 6: If you sublet your apartment for the summer, return

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Fees not worth refunding

In roughly a month, students will be able to get a portion of their fee money refunded. Students will be able to get the $7 Student Organization Resource Fee, the $5 Krannert fee and the $1 Illinois Student Government fee back during the sixth week of instruction at the University.

But before you make spending plans with that $13, you might want to stop and consider just what these fees are used for.

The $7 SORF fee helps fund two critical and useful services: the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services. A large number of students do not live in either University residence halls or private, certified housing. Thus, they rent from local landlords and real estate companies. While many property owners in Campustown are good landlords and responsible businesspeople, there are those that will take advantage of an unsuspecting student. Using the resources that are available at the Tenant Union might very well prevent lost money and frustration when a student’s landlord doesn’t quite fulfill their contracted duties. The Tenant Union will read over leases and give prospective tenants advice and a detailed complaint history of the local landlord. Without fee money, this valuable service would not exist.

Like the Tenant Union, Student Legal Services provides more than adequate bang for the buck should a student get into legal trouble. Student Legal Services also receives money from the SORF fee and will provide students with legal advice and, in some cases, a lawyer for a relatively piddly $7.

The Krannert fee allows students the chance to buy discounted tickets to see some world-class performers at the internationally-renowned arena.

Lastly, the $1 ISG fee is also available for students to refund, should they choose. Before students get that dollar back, however, perhaps they should find out a little more about ISG. Contact Jeff Shapiro, ISG president or attend one of their informational meetings (there’s one today) before you decide to buy a bottle of Coke instead of giving student government $1.
The U.S. Supreme Court hopes to end a debate that has raged for years.

Scott Southworth, a law student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and today an aide to a Republican legislator there, filed a lawsuit with the university alleging that his First Amendment rights are violated when his student fees are used to fund organizations he does not support. The organizations mentioned were the socialist, militant and any gay, lesbian or bisexual student groups.

Southworth contends that the University blatantly ignores his First Amendment rights to free speech and to associate with whom he chooses by using this money for causes he does not approve of.

The University of Wisconsin is firmly opposed to Southworth's view, saying that the fees do much more to encourage free speech than suppress it.

Madison is right in this respect. If students were allowed to pick and choose where their fee monies went, organizations that proffered unpopular views would invariably be shut out in the cold.

Like cramped hair in the '80s, what's popular for the masses isn't necessarily what's good for them.

Students at the University of Illinois are charged $7 to fund student organizations, the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services. And all of us would undoubtedly suffer if this fee money were not distributed in a democratic way to all student organizations.

If student organizations had to fight for their funding directly from the student body, they would not be able to accomplish much during the year because they would have to direct their limited resources toward fund raising.

Universities were founded on maintaining and encouraging a free and lively discussion of diverse ideas. Restricting the diversity of ideas restricts the University's educational mission.

Perhaps Southworth feels his free speech is being oppressed, but taking away the fee money lessens the likelihood that the ideas of alternative organizations will ever enter the public forum; in effect, if the Supreme Court rules in his favor, it rules against the rest of us that can benefit immensely from a diversity of opinion.
From the desk of the editor

Dear reader:
First things first: Thanks for picking this up. You see, this is a DI supplement. This, hopefully, is something you haven't already thrown away.
Here, you'll find some useful stories about housing. We'll go through some of your options and share a few opinions about the types of housing we feel are best.
Ultimately, our goal is to make your decision on where to live next year a little easier.
We'll introduce you (or re-introduce you) to your pals at the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services - easily two of your best allies when apartment-hunting.
The Tenant Union will, among many other things, help you find a landlord with a good reputation.
Tenant Union employees can also translate your lease from landlord-speak to words you can actually understand. Those of you who didn't get your SORF fee back will probably find these services well worth your money.
Student Legal Services, in conjunction with the Tenant Union - hell, they're right next door to each other - will give you tips on how to avoid legal trouble with your landlord.
Feel free to send comments and feedback to di@illini.com.
Happy house hunting.

Salutations,

John Zaremba
Housing Guide editor
SORF — we can only benefit

The recent Supreme Court decision that followed a petition by students at the University of Wisconsin has sparked interest among students on campuses nationwide regarding student organization funding. The plaintiffs in the Wisconsin case were students who objected to their student fees being used to pay for speakers they found “offensive,” saying it violated their First Amendment rights.

The court ruled in favor of the university, allowing it to retain the right to collect the fee from all students and allocate it to registered student organizations who request funding.

At the University, the $7 Student Organization Resource Fee is collected, pooled and then doled out among all registered student organizations by the student-elected SORF board, subject to the approval of the vice chancellor for student affairs. The refundable SORF fee also pays for the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services. There are specific criteria for organizations requesting funds — SORF will not pay for things like alcohol, electioneering, purely social organizations or firearms — but those criteria have nothing to do with the ideas the group represents. Students who pay the fee cannot control which group receives the money.

Few would argue that the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services are valuable to students and deserving of this funding; however, students might not realize that the fee also supports many cultural, civic, social and religious programs campuswide, and it encourages and celebrates diversity on our campus. For instance, if a Christian student on campus garnered a refund of their SORF because they didn’t want money to go to a religious organization that did not share his/her beliefs, such as Hillel, then organizations that he/she might agree with, such as Intervarsity, would consequently lose funding as well.

Those who say that they don’t want their money going toward organizations they find offensive fail to recognize that part of the money collected by the fee goes toward organizations that they don’t find offensive and might actively participate in. Part of living in a democracy is contributing to the greater good so that all stand to benefit. The SORF fee is no different from paying taxes... those who “refuse” to pay (or get their $7 refunded) are then restricted from benefitting from all the services and programs that are available as a result of the funds received.

As members of a university community largely supported by public funding, we cannot pick and choose to only support organizations we are personally interested in. Being open-minded and encouraging an exchange of ideas is something we can all stand to benefit from on our campus. Diversity is an important part of campus life, and for only $7, it’s quite a deal.
The customer is always ...

Finding a ride home for the weekend isn't always the easiest thing for college students to do. Recent talk among students about the Suburban Express busline has raised questions about whether its owner is making it even harder.

As with any private company, Suburban Express is entitled to refuse service to any customer. Hopefully the rationalization for that action would be a good one, and as with any business, Suburban Express would offer a level of customer service that is called for from any business.

When Dennis Toeppen, president of the company that owns Suburban Express, refused service to two students on March 24, he might have been justified in doing so. But his conduct after the dispute casts doubts on his professionalism.

A certain level of maturity and respect should be expected from an adult businessman who caters to students' needs, even when problems arise. Toeppen's response to the assertions was just the opposite — to post his own allegations and insults on his Web site, stating that the complainant "perhaps ... has too much time on her hands" because she felt the need to circulate her complaint around campus, despite having been advised by a lawyer at Student Legal Services to do just that — inform other people of her complaint.

Toeppen named the extensions for his responses "/whiners.html" and "/numbskulls.html". Any respectable businessman would not resort to name-calling as a solution to a dispute with a customer. A response to the allegations against him was a rational thing to do. Insulting the people who keep him in business is not.

Companies who provide a service to customers who depend on them are expected to treat all with dignity and respect. Just because students depend on Toeppen's services does not mean he has the right to demean and disrespect those the busline is there to serve.

In light of any business transaction, there is a saying: The customer is always right. At the end of his Web response, Toeppen writes that "students who are not comfortable with Suburban Express terms and conditions should try ... other options."

He shouldn't be surprised if quite a few students take him up on that offer.
Here's some advice for this school year

Chapin Rose

As much as I hate to acknowledge the obvious, I must. As much as I don't like it, school is back in session. At least for me anyway. For those of you returning for your undergraduate degree, enjoy these last few days because it won't be long before the daily grind kicks in for you soon.

At any rate, as this is officially the beginning of my eighth and, hopefully, last year at Illinois, I've been asked to write a column on helpful hints for not only surviving, but thriving, at the University of Illinois. For those of you used to my usual political pontificating, rest assured it will return next week. For now, I hope the following choice words of advice make life just a little bit easier for all my readers.

The single best piece of academic advice I could ever give anyone is to take any class taught by Fred Galusha offered at the University. The man is, in a word, a god (small "g"). I don't care if you're an engineer, or a theater major. Everyone should have a basic economics class, and no one teaches the subject better than Galusha. I took all four economics classes he offered in my time as an undergrad. He is quite simply one of the nicest people I've ever met.

And speaking of gods, the second best piece of academic advice I can give is to take Classic Civ I and II, the mythology of Greek and Rome, and the Roman achievement, respectively. And I16 even fulfills a general education requirement. Besides its just an all-around interesting class.

Another piece of advice I can offer anyone coming to the University is to keep good records of all dealings that you might have with the financial aid office. There are many good people who work there, but sheer volume seems to inhibit the office's efficiency. Always keep copies of anything you file, and note the time, date and person you spoke with in any dealings. And as much as this shouldn't be your job, I would always double check with the financial aid office prior to important deadlines to make sure that they still have copies of these items you turned in. More than once, financial aid has "lost" items that I had filed in a timely fashion.

If you've got legal problems, call Student Legal Services. They are extremely competent, nice people, and, best of all, the service is free. Well, not really, your student fees actually help support the office, so you might as well utilize the office's services.

Before signing any lease, stop by the Tenant Union. Like the financial aid office, spending a little time up front can save you a headache later on. And the services are also included in the student fees. The Tenant Union can point out many potential problems prior to signing any irresponsible lease. Additionally, the office keeps complaint records on just about every landlord in town, so you can learn in advance if the company you're about to sign your lease with is reputable.

As I've never been a stellar student anyway, I will now turn to more pressing concerns than academics. First, football. Road trip as often as you can. Among this years away games, I highly recommend the MUN 6 Iowa game and the MUN 13 Ohio State match up. The Hawkeyes and the Buckeyes back to back. And both schools sport great campuses. Particularly appealing in freshman is Ohio State's 18 hour entry age, Before heading out, though, take heed of the time honored mantra here at Illinois. "Oh, how we hate Ohio State!"

And, finally, I'll leave you with Chapin's Top Ten list of fun-filled tasks to complete before graduating and departing from Champaign:

1. Visit Allerton Park in Monticello
2. On your way back, hit Alexander's Steakhouse for happy hour — their steaks are out of this world.
3. Go late-night shopping at Meijer.
4. Get a late night pizza from Dewey's. Speaking of Dewey's, does anyone remember when it was Greg's? Man, I'm old.
5. Go to the Original Pancake House (Springfield & Mattis) for breakfast.
6. Get active in your student government, you can start by going to the next Illinois Student Government meeting (every Wednesday night) in the Union.
7. Try in figure not what X-rated word the Student Trustees' phone number spells out (512-3823). Give it a try, come on, its not that hard in figure out.
8. Eat dinner at Apple Dumpling's.
9. Spend at least one night on the Quad.
10. In January, start a snowball fight after the bars let out when there are still hundreds of people milling around trying to figure out what to do — this is the best one on the list if you get enough people involved.

So there it is, my list of things that will lead to a fulfilling college experience. Notice I didn't say education. There is way more to college than studying — and don't forget it. Then again, be sensible Se, don't go getting in trouble and trying to blame it on me. Be reasonable, have fun and study every now and again. Welcome back and have a great year.
Fee refund not always a bright idea for students

Student fees provide valuable resource for colleagues in trouble
by Elizabeth Zeman
and Yvonne Zuel
Daily Illini reporters

Getting a refund on student fees is a quick $13, but students who cash it might regret it later.

Part of the fees fund three University services — Student Legal Services, the Tenant Union and specific programs of Registered Student Organizations.

Students who take back their money lose the legal benefits provided by Students Legal Services and the rental advice and help from the Tenant Union, though the University cannot bar students from registered organization programs.

Each semester, all University students are charged a $7 Student Organization Resource fee, a $1 Illinois Student Government fee and a $5 Kramermert fee. These portions of a student's fees can be refunded during the eighth week of instruction, though the specific date and place have not yet been announced.

Hank Walter, University associate director for programs, said students should consider the benefits of the fee before requesting a refund.

Eighty-four percent of the Tenant Union's budget is funded by the SORF fee, Tenant Union Coordinator Esther Patt said.

"The Tenant Union could not exist without the SORF fee," she said.

The service helps tenants by checking landlord complaint records, reviewing student lease contracts and mediating problems between landlords and tenants.

Registered Student Organizations can also apply for SORF funding for specific events and activities, these

It's like paying an insurance policy. For seven dollars, you know you've got a lawyer. It's a hell of a deal when you think about it.

— Hank Walter
Associate director for programs

events must be free and open to all students. The 13-member SORF Board then decides which groups receive the funding.

Some examples of SORF-funded activities include guest speakers, performances, films and sports tournaments. Groups can also receive funding for advertising costs and rental space.

Walter emphasized that SORF does not fund the organizations individually, but offers funding for programs open to the entire student body.

Student Legal Services is also completely funded by the SORF fee. It provides attorneys and legal advice free of charge to all University students who have paid the SORF fee.

According to a pamphlet distributed by Student Legal Services, in-court representation is also available in many cases, with priority given to those unable to afford a private attorney.

Walter said the service handles most cases, with the exception of felonies and conflicts between students and the University.

"You never know when you're going to need legal services," he said.

"It's like paying an insurance policy. For seven dollars, you know you've got a lawyer. It's a hell of a deal when you think about it."

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Residents' rights off-campus
By Jessica Turco, CPNet.com Staff

Neighborhoods surrounding college campuses have been buzzing with moving trucks and packed cars as collegians settle into their homes-away-from-home for the fall semester. Students living off-campus need to know their rights, especially when dealing with an unruly landlord.

Recent S.U.N.Y. Albany graduate, Lisa Gratzel and her housemates had to deal with a landlord who made broken promises and unjust decisions.

"We were promised a new stove and never got it. We complained of a broken toilet and he propped it with a piece of wood," she says, "and two days later the floor was flooded and it had to be torn up or we would have fallen through."

To top it all off, Gratzel and her housemates never got their security deposits back.

Problems between landlords and tenants range in severity and can sometimes be avoided, says Jim Biggins, staff attorney in the Student Legal Services office at the University of Illinois.

"If there aren't legal services on-campus, local landlords could get away with a lot of bad business practices."

"The most common problems that I've heard from students is in terms of repairs not being made on the apartment," says Shannetta Mennenga, assistant director for the center of community life at the University of Maine.

Another major complaint is when the landlord keeps the security deposit," she says. They may claim that the student damaged something: the student claims that it was there before.

To avoid this, Mennenga strongly recommends that tenants record all damages in writing before signing the lease. With the landlord present, survey each

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room and document the present damage, she says.

Students should document all interaction with the landlord, says Mennenga.

"From something as serious as discrimination," she says, "to the landlord ignoring requests for repairs to be made," keeping it on record will assist student legal services to help you further.

"We respond to students' needs just like anyone else," says Bob Schmitz, a local real estate agent in the Duke University area.

"We actually provide more services for students," says Schmitz, "because it's the first time they've lived on their own."

The landlords aren't always to blame for problems.

Most students are great, Schmitz says. "But there are times when I have to keep some of the security deposit."

Last year, he had problems with tenants who were on the lacrosse team -- one of whom was Ben Qualye, Dan Qualye's son.

"Dan Qualye talks about family values. These guys knocked holes in the wall ... left rotting food in the refrigerator. I kept their deposit, sent their parents a bill and photographs. It's been a year and I haven't collected a nickel from these kids," says Schmitz.

To avoid misunderstandings with tenants, he sends a checklist with all leases, in which they have 10 days to complete and return. The checklist includes everything that needs to be fixed, present damage, and any other pertinent information.

"When they move out, we use the exact same list. That is one reason we don't have problems," says Schmitz.

"I can't speak for other landlords," he says, "but I work hard to keep real straight lines of communication. I don't want any problems, (students) don't want any problems."

Unfortunately, not all landlords and real estate companies play by the same rules.

Therefore, if students do find themselves in trouble, Attorney Biggins suggests that students be aware of their rights and utilize legal resources on campus or on their college's Web site.

"If there aren't legal services on-campus, local
landlords could get away with a lot of bad business practices," says Biggins.

Related Information:
Student Legal Service home page of the University of Illinois
Landlord Retaliation: What your landlord can't do

9/02/99
Payday loans: Are they just quick cash or money trap?

by John Reid
Daily Illini reporter

The Payday Loan Review Commission held a hearing Tuesday afternoon in the Illini Union to determine whether legislation is needed to regulate the allegedly questionable practices of payday loan institutions.

Payday loans are loans which require no credit check to get and can be granted quickly. They are short-term loans in small dollar amounts and are typically loaned for two weeks in amounts ranging from $100 to $300.

Tom Rez, an attorney of Student Legal Services, explained how these loans might affect students and said the University offers short-term, interest-free loans to students — a much better alternative.

"There's no need for the average student to deal with (payday loans). The University has an interest-free loan service, unlike the payday loan places, which are actually just 'legal loan shark ing,'" he said. "Many students aren't employed, anyway, and that's one requirement for getting this quick cash. Besides, they'd be better off going to the mafia ... they have better interest rates."

Valerie McWilliams, who heads the Champaign Predatory Lending Task Force, said she is concerned that the interest rates accompanying these loans are too high for low-income customers to pay off, which she said leads to filing bankruptcy.

"We're on the record as saying we don't condone that type of action," said Steve Brubaker, whose public relations firm is representing payday loan companies. "We want nothing to do with people who practice that way."

McWilliams testified before the commission that payday loan institutions do more harm than they prevent.

"There is a disproportionate number of low-income families using these institutions," she said. "It is detrimental to their long-term financial health."

She reminded the commission that people are free to make their own decisions, but said there is an appropriate role for government legislation.

Mike Daugherty, president of Credit Union Plus in Rantoul, said the loans provide people with a way to get money in an emergency.

"There is always a need," he said. "Some people are embarrassed to go to a bank or family members for money."

Rez said payday loans take a few hours to obtain, the University service is practically instantaneous. He said educating students about the "legal but stupid" payday loans has been a top priority of Student Legal Services.

Check Into Cash Vice President Sam Choate said the current small loan regulations are adequate and that the business provides a service that people use knowing what the terms of the loans are.

"We are subject to federal and state laws regulating fair debt collection practices. We are a responsible service," he said. "All customers are fully informed of cost, as we are required to do."

"We engage in focus groups with our customers and ask them what they have come to us. They save money by using our service, they save money by not making credit card or rent payments late."

He also said that two other states have removed their small loan limits in order to let companies like his exist.

"We are filling a demand in the market, and the industry will grow if the customers are mistreated," he said.

Students in need of money should be aware of the consequences of going to a loan company and should be aware of better alternatives, he said.

"The best place to go for students who need money is Mom and Dad," he said. "They might lecture, but they don't charge interest."
Test used with cars, not bars

Breathalyzer tests required only for those suspected of driving under the influence

by Kasumi Wada
Daily Illini reporter

Although the breathalyzer is one of the most common police tests of sobriety, it is not always legally required.

The fixed breath-testing unit, or the breathalyzer, provides the blood-alcohol level in the body. Ninety-nine percent of the time, breathalizers are used in cases when the driver is charged with driving under the influence or a zero-tolerance violation, said Tom Betz, an attorney for Student Legal Services.

"Police must have probable cause to stop you," Betz said. "It's not illegal to drink and drive. What's illegal is to be driving under the influence."

Usually after the initial stop, the police officer talks with the driver and asks for a drivers license, registration and car insurance. In the case that the driver shows signs of intoxication — a slight odor on the driver's breath, bloodshot eyes, fumbling through to get their identification or a hard time standing up — it is enough for the officer to give a field sobriety test.

"It is up to the officer to determine whether or not he or she would to go with the zero-tolerance case or whether they want to go with a regular DUI case," said Sgt. Scott Friedlein, Champaign police liquor enforcement officer. "And a lot of times, it's dependent on the person's actions and ability to perform the field sobriety test."

After failure to pass the sobriety test, an on-site breathalyzer test is given.

"The law allows us to ask for a breathalyzer or any other chemical based test — so we can ask for urine samples or blood," Friedlein said. Breathalyzer tests can be used in all alcohol enforcement activities, and it is up to the officer's discretion whether to use the device.

A portable fixed breath-taking unit is used for basic field testing. Because the unit is used only in field testing and does not give numbered readings, rather an indication of the range of intoxication, an officer cannot use the results as evidence in court. Friedlein said it is used as a probable cause tool, mostly in zero-tolerance cases.

A second device is a fixed breath-testing unit with a computer built into it, which allows an individual's data to be entered, such as age, height, weight and driver's license number. The accuracy range is much tighter compared to the portable unit and therefore can be used as court evidence. The reading comes out in printed format and becomes part of the case file. In order to ensure that these breath-taking units are operating correctly, the units require a recalibration every six months by state officials.

Before the driver blows into the unit, it goes through a series of three to four steps, with each step taking about five minutes to purge excess air and clean the unit. The driver is then asked to take a deep breath so the air at the bottom of the lungs is exhaled into the unit.

The results are almost instantaneous. The process is monitored by video camera because it is sometimes difficult to do a sobriety test with just one officer or if the environment does not permit. The tape can also be used as evidence in court.

However, getting charged with a zero-tolerance or a DUI does not necessarily require evidence from a breathalyzer.

"Evidence is not solely based on the breathalyzer test; it is officer observations, driving behaviors and other signs of intoxication," Friedlein said. "An officer can articulate what those behaviors were. The officer can actually take that case without ever going through a breathalyzer or if the person refuses and still win a case on a DUI charge."

If the individual does not consent to a breathalyzer after being stopped behind the wheel, the consequence could either be a six-month suspension or a DUI charge.

"Under the implied consent law, every driver on the road implies consent to take the breathalyzer," Betz said. "When the driver refuses and there's evidence of intoxication, the secretary of state has the right to suspend you."

Brad Livesay, senior in commerce, said he was pulled over and asked to take a breathalyzer.

"I knew I didn't have to blow, but if I didn't, I knew I'd lose my license for six months. It sucks," he said.

If a breathalyzer test is offered to someone who is in a car or walking on public property, the individual is not required to take the breathalyzer test.

"It's not required by law to take it. It's used strictly as a tool to determine whether that person has been consuming alcohol," Friedlein said. "Our legal department, if we offer a PBT (breathalyzer) and the person consents, the results will be used in court."

"In that case, students have every right to refuse it -- they should," Betz said. "There are no legal requirements. I would strongly suggest that students don't take it."

more Bars on 6
Supreme Court affords fees debate

Court's decision will not be optional in cases of women not being able to afford fees.

Wisconsin funds organizations with fees, says the Supreme Court. The Wisconsin edition contains the original story.

The Wisconsin Daily Union reports that the Wisconsin Supreme Court has ruled that fees for organizations seeking funding must be equitable and not discriminatory.

The decision was made by the court in a case involving the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which has been seeking funding for several years. The court ruled that the university's fees were not discriminatory and that the fees were reasonable.

The decision has been met with mixed reactions. Some have praised the court's decision, while others have criticized it.

The decision is expected to have a significant impact on the future of funding for organizations seeking funding from the university.

More from:

By Kristen Meyer

Women's rights organizations have long been fighting for equitable funding in the state of Wisconsin.

The court's decision is a victory for women's rights organizations, and it is expected to set a precedent for other states.

The Wisconsin Daily Union is an independent student newspaper at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
letters

Tips before you leave

Dear Editor:

Just a few friendly reminders to student-tenants before winter break.

1. Don’t turn the heat off just because it’s warm out now. Frozen pipes and a bill up to $7,000 in damages from the landlord will be in your mailbox when you return from break.

2. Take your valuables home with you. Winter break is prime time for burglars.

3. Rent is due on January 1, 2000, but classes begin the 18th. In order to avoid huge late fees remember to pay January 2000 rent before you leave for break.

4. Don’t leave your car parked on the street over break. It will likely be towed for either snow removal or general street cleaning.

Have a great New Year.

Thomas E. Betz, Director
Student Legal Services
Plan ahead and enjoy your spring break

Travel consultants warn students to be careful when making travel plans

by Tonfa Poelc
Daily Mini reporter

Six students sit around their hotel room drinking beer in celebration of the first day of spring break in Panama City, Fla.

Around 10 p.m., the hotel manager knocks on the door and tells the students he will not tolerate underage drinking. If they leave within 30 minutes and forfeit their deposit, he will not call the police. The students are so grateful not to be in trouble with the law that they leave with no questions asked.

As this group leaves, a new group of six checks into the same room. What these students do not know is that both groups originally had the room booked.

"I’ve heard this story at least once a year for 16 years," said Tom Betz, senior staff attorney for Student Legal Services. "I’m sure it happens more, but students think that just because they were doing something illegal, they don’t have a right to complain. Hotel managers look specifically for reasons like this to throw people out and solve overbooking problems."

Betz said those situations happen because students are not careful in making spring break plans when focusing mainly on price and location.

"After students figure out price and location, they don’t pay attention to anything else," Betz said. "My advice to students is to treat spring break like any other $700 investment. If you were going to buy a car, you’d take it for a test drive, kick at the tires and ask questions. Do the same thing with spring break."

Betz recommends having a complete contract in writing, including how many people will be in one room, the exact location and flight information.

"I would say about 80 percent of students I talk to don’t even know what airline they are flying," Betz said. "If a company cannot give you the ticket number and airline, I would recommend not using that company."

Champaign Plaza Travel consultant Cindy Stover said her company stopped booking trips through spring break companies about four years ago because their clients had problems confirming hotel reservations.

"My advice is: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is," Stover said.

In the 11 years Stover has worked in travel, she said she has seen many problems with spring break traveling. According to Stover, these fees and technicalities might not be included in a contract between a student and a company.

Companies claim that tickets can be used at any time, but booking can be difficult when trying to go at a time convenient for the traveler. Contracts might also say plane tickets are transferrable, but there is usually a fee to complete this transaction.

Many hotels require deposits ranging between $100 to $200, which students usually charge to a credit card. If a student does not have a major credit card, this fee has to be paid in cash, which often leaves the student with no spending money for the rest of the trip.

Students should also be aware of hidden fees that are not included with the initial price. One such fee is called an energy surcharge, in which some hotels — particularly in the Bahamas — charge their guests for electricity used during their stay. If students are going on a cruise, they might also be subject to port charges which going from island to island. The fees can range from $100 to $100 for each person.

Another fee sometimes not included in contracts is the departure fee. Students should be aware of this fee if they are traveling to Mexico, as this fee allows the student to leave the country.

Betz also recommends asking a company that advertises a hotel as "near the ocean" how near really is.

"Near the ocean is a relative term," Betz said. "That could mean five miles."

Keeping these precautions in mind, Betz said students will feel at ease and have a better time.

"For most students, spring break can be a wonderful time," Betz said. "If you’re cautious, bad things won’t happen."
Who's using your money

Brita Siepker

St udent government has quickly become one of the wealthiest student organizations on campus, amassing tens of thousands of dollars in its accounts without even fundraising. Earning over $35,000 a semester from the Student Government Service Fee, $250,000 per semester from the Student Organization Resource Fee, and office-supply funding from the Illini Union, student government is well worth your attention.

The average student is probably walking to class reading all the Quad chalkings and ads in the DI, pondering why everyone gets all worked up about a few students getting elected to essentially figurehead positions with which to fill their resumes.

Don't be fooled. These organizations control your money — $8 per semester in student fees plus University funding. These elected students stand before the board of trustees, University administrators and the media and purport to speak for the student body on issues such as parental notification, Chief Illiniwek and tuition increases.

Perhaps a lesson in University student governance is in order, because most of us don't even know who our state governor is, let alone our student body president. During the elections held March 6th and 7th, four main bodies will be elected.

First, students will elect a student trustee, who sits on the University Board of Trustees. One student trustee from the three University campuses receives a binding vote on the BOT, giving students enormous power in the legislative process. Our current trustee, David Cocagne, holds the binding vote.

Next, you'll be electing a student body president and elected assembly, comprising Illinois Student Government. While ISG holds very little legislative power over University policy, it touts itself as "the official voice of students."

Students will also be elected to the Student Organization Resource Fee Board, which controls the $7 a student SORF fee. They review applications from student organizations and decide which events and organizations to fund with their budget of $250,000 a semester, as well as regularly funding Student Legal Services and the Tenant Union.

Finally, you'll be electing 50 students to the Urbana-Champaign Senate, a 200-member body comprised of faculty and students. The U-C Senate is responsible for all major policy decisions relevant to our campus, passing legislation such as the academic calendar and the student code. The 50 elected students comprise the Student Senate Caucus, which functions like a union within the larger body.

When the ballot is available online on March 6th and 7th, there will be over 100 candidates running on multiple slates, plus independents. With four main bodies of student government on the ballot, the uninformed voter is easily confused. Therefore I've comprised your Guide to Student Government at UIUC, including the powers of each organization, their funding, and what they've done for you lately.

Beginning with the student trustee, power is unrivaled. With a binding vote on issues that will affect all three campuses, the student trustee is well versed on a wide genre of policy issues, from the position of Chief Illiniwek as a symbol of the University to how much Chancellor Aiken gets paid.

ISG also wields significant influence on the University by its student appointments to campus committees that advise campus units such as the Office of International Student Affairs, McKinley Health Center and the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. Through representation on these advisory boards, students may lobby for policies more beneficial to the student body as well as act as a resource of information on University policies. Additionally, ISG controls a budget of over $35,000 a semester from the Student Government Fee. When the fee was defeated by student referendum, it was $1 a year. Upon reinstatement of the fee in Spring 1997, it was increased to $1 a semester, doubling the ISG budget to over $70,000 per year — and a lot of money is left to ISG discretion. In the last year, ISG has established a Web-based bank of professor evaluations and created a Web-based student advocacy service, among other student services.

Student senators, as official voting members of the U-C Senate wield considerable influence over University policy. Nearly all policy governing our campus has been drafted and approved by the Senate, ranging from general education requirements to student disciplinary policy to academic calendars to courses and curricula. The Student Senate Caucus attempts to create consensus among the student senators and promote a student-based agenda in the 200-member Senate. Recent accomplishments by student senators include the extension of Thanksgiving break to an entire week as well as significant revisions in the student code.

The SORF board controls over $200,000 a semester. The board decides which of the organizations and events that apply for funding to fund. With over four times their budget requested during each funding period, SORF members act upon their discretion in selecting who to fund, with some established guidelines.

These elected students control nearly $600,000 in student fees and nearly all University policies. They merit your considerations and votes in the upcoming elections.

Brita Siepker is a senior in LAS. Her column appears alternate Thursdays. She can be reached at di@illimedia.com.
Decision: Allocation of fees OK

Supreme Court rules that mandatory fees do not violate First Amendment rights

by Cindy Glerhart
Daily Illini reporter

The Student Organization Resource Fee can continue to freely allocate the $7-a-student semester fee to University programs and activities, the Supreme Court decided Wednesday.

The decision came after a group of University of Wisconsin students filed suit against the school in 1996, saying mandatory fees violated their First Amendment rights by distributing their money to student organizations they found offensive. A federal district court ruled in favor of the students in 1998, but the Supreme Court unanimously overturned the decision Wednesday.

"The First Amendment permits a public university to charge its students an activity fee used to fund a program to facilitate extracurricular student speech if the program is viewpoint neutral," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote in a Supreme Court briefing.

Had the court ruled the other way, SORF would have had to drastically rethink its means of collecting and redistributing funds.

"We would have a huge problem on our hands," said Kristin Acuff, senior in LAS and ISG vice president.

The fee would either have to be optional or eliminated entirely.

As it is now, students can ask for their $7 refund, but they give up the privileges funded by the fee. This includes the Tenant Union and Student Legal Services, among others. Student Legal Services provides free legal representation to all students, ranging from apartment eviction and bar raids to Internet fraud and domestic violence.

"The victory was for the Illini Union Board and the

more Fees on 6
Ruling on fees is a relief for UI

High court decision OKs mandatory charge for student activities

By JULIE WURTH
News-Gazette Staff Writer

URBANA — University of Illinois student organizations breathed a sigh of relief last week when the Supreme Court approved mandatory activity fees on college campuses.

UI student groups reap about $475,000 a year from the $7-a-semester Student Organization Resource Fee, which is mandatory but refundable.

The Supreme Court upheld the University of Wisconsin's student activity fee, which was challenged by conservative students who objected to their money going to liberal groups. The court commented that students have a "First Amendment right not to speak."

The court, however, said activity fees are legal as long as the allocation process is "viewpoint neutral."

When the legal case first surfaced, the UI thought its fee might not be affected because it differed from Wisconsin's in several ways. Most notably, UI students can get their money back each semester.

But the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed with the Wisconsin fee. The court said the refund option wasn't necessarily a remedy.

That threw the UI fee into question, said UI student Richard Miller, former chairman of the student-run SORF Board that allocates the money to campus groups.

"I find it a little ridiculous myself, " Stockton said, arguing that the UI system is much less "egregious" than Wisconsin's.

Nonetheless, worried students and administrators drew up contingency plans in case the Supreme Court decided not to take the case, or sided with the appellate court.

"It hangs by a thread," feared former Vice Chancellor Stanley Levy, who helped draft the fee language in the 1970s.

One idea was to allow students to opt out of paying the fee in the first place when they register for classes. It was fairly clear some modifications would be needed if the appellate court decision was upheld, Stockton said.

"Now we're all off the hook, " he said.

In fact, it appears the UI could make the fee completely mandatory and eliminate the refund option, as long as it follows the court's "viewpoint neutral" guidelines.

But there appears to be little sentiment to do that.

The fee has strong student support, especially winning approval every four years. Making it mandatory might erode that support, Stockton said.

"Part of the strength is the way it operates," Levy said. The refund option add's accountability and "keeps the whole system honest," he said.

Besides, only about 2 percent of the student body gets refunds each year, so it doesn't really affect the bottom line, said Rob Dolin, the current SORF Board chairman.

There have been refund campaigns by disgruntled student groups, but they never amounted to much, Levy said.

"I think it's fine as is, " said Stockton. "I'm not so sure it needs that extra layer of protection."

When SORF was created in the late 1970s, the student government first proposed a mandatory, nonrefundable fee. But it went down to defeat in a student referendum, Levy said.

A student-administrative team then crafted a refundable fee that would have to be renewed every four years. It passed in March 1978.

Previously, the campus had a voluntary student collection each semester. As students stood in line to pay fees, volunteers would ask them to make a $3 contribution for student activities, Stockton said. When the UI started billing fees by mail, a new system had to be created.

The fee was designed to help underwrite UI student organizations that spent half their time trying to raise money just to exist. The Student Legal Service and the Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union, which are now heavily funded by SORF, were also "shoestring operations" and needed more support, he said.

Some trustees and administrators had reservations about using the money for political purposes. Levy argued that there was a difference between "political," which could refer to any public policy issue, and "partisan."

Under SORF rules, the money can't be used to support a candidate, but it can be used for debate on abortion, rights or a flag amendment, for instance.

Once that was clarified, most of the opposition faded, Levy said.

The other thing that made SORF more palatable is that it supports specific activities, not organizations themselves, Levy said. So while the money can't go toward religious instruction, it can fund a speaker on a public policy issue at the Hillel or Newman Foundation.

There are other restrictions. The money can't be used for anti-group events, to enhance the marketplace of ideas on campus. Also, SORF works on a reimbursement basis, to keep tabs on how the money is spent.

"There haven't been any serious legal challenges to the fee over the years, says campus legal counsel Steven Vezzie.

"But it hasn't escaped controversy, either."

"From time to time, one side in a hot-button issue — abortion or the Equal Rights Amendment — accused the board of favoring the other side."

"It really depended on how fair and even-handed the SORF Board was, " said Levy, who attributes a few gray hairs to board decisions over the years.

"Occasionally you had a board that was too far one way or the other. Or a SORF chair who sometimes let his or her own personal judgments get in the way, " he said.

And there are always groups who don't think they get enough money. Hank Wauter, an Illini Union administrator who works with SORF, said sometimes the board has to sit down with those groups and review the allocation process.

"That's generally convinced people that SORF doesn't tend to fund anything 100 percent, but they fund things all over the map, and it is content-neutral, " Walter said.

SORF pays for hundreds of student activities each year, from the College Republicans to the College Democrats, pro-abortion to anti-abortion, religious and cultural organizations of all shades, even sports clubs.

The allocations are controlled by students through the democratically elected SORF Board.

Levy noted:

"I always took the position that you really have two choices: You can get your money back if you don't like it. Or you can run for SORF, " he said.

That was the route chosen by Stockton, who was vice president of College Republicans as an undergraduate. When he was SORF Board chairman, he served alongside students from varied backgrounds and political stripes. "I think we funded things fairly," he said.

Student activity fees are "lightning rods," Levy said, and there are always people who'd prefer to see them disappear.

But he and others argue that the fee has improved campus life, giving birth to hundreds of new student groups and creating opportunities for dialogue.

"That's what a university ought to be about," Levy said. "You really need to have a framework where extremes of all points of view can be reasonably represented. Sometimes you have to reach out and fund them."

See STUDENT FEES, A-10
Delivering electronic complaints

University student uses Internet to air grievances with local bus company

by Lisa Smith
Assistant news editor

In just over a week, an e-mail has been circulated to students and organizations across campus describing a recent confrontation between two University students and a local business owner.

Annabelle Benin, the author of the e-mail, said she used the Internet to communicate because it was more efficient than telling people through word of mouth or with written letters.

"E-mails are just as efficient and the newsgroups had a bigger audience," she said.

The e-mail described an incident that occurred March 24 between Benin and her friend Kenneth Lee, both juniors in engineering, and Dennis Toeppen, president of College Transportation, the company that operates the Suburban Express bus line.

Benin was unsatisfied with the service provided by Suburban Express, 313 E. Green St., a local company that provides transportation between campus and the Chicago suburbs. She said she did not like the way Toeppen treated her and Lee when they were confused about the destination of the bus they had boarded.

"When Ken was trying to tell me it was the wrong bus, (Toeppen) kept yelling (to Ken), 'Get out of the way. You're blocking the way. Get out of the way,'" Benin said.

In an e-mail response to an inquiry from The Daily Illini, Toeppen said Lee was interfering with the boarding of passengers, which is why he told Lee to get off the bus.

"(Lee) delayed the ISR boarding," Toeppen said. "We denied him transportation." Benin said she was not sure if the bus she had boarded was going to arrive at Chicago Ridge Mall so neither she nor Lee boarded the bus.

"(Toeppen) wouldn't clear up the misunderstanding," Benin said.

Benin and Lee later received a letter from Toeppen that stated he would not refund their money and would no longer accept their business because their conduct violated
Suburban Express halts ISR service

Company doesn’t offer clear explanation
by Lisa Smith
Assistant news editor

The Suburban Express bus line has announced that it will discontinue service from the Illinois Street Residence Halls.

A notice was posted on the Suburban Express Web site sometime between Monday night and Tuesday afternoon. According to the statement, the company is no longer offering bus services from ISR because of a recent incident when a passenger misunderstood the destination of a bus and interfered with its departure.

The change came a day after a story in The Daily Illini described a March 24 incident between two University students and Dennis Toeppen, president of College Transportation, the company that offers the Suburban Express bus line. The bus line provides transportation between campus and the Chicago suburbs.

The students, Annabelle Benin and Kenneth Lee, both juniors in engineering, were denied transportation after an argument with Toeppen.

Benin said she and Lee were confused about the destination of the bus Benin had just boarded. When Lee boarded the bus that Benin was to tell her she was on the wrong bus, he and Toeppen got into an argument. Toeppen said Lee was interfering with the boarding of other passengers. Benin said Toeppen was yelling for Lee to get off the bus and treating him rudely.

Benin said both Toeppen and Lee were swearing and shouting at each other.

Neither Benin nor Lee boarded the bus and neither received a refund.

The incident has also been discussed on University newsgroups and through an e-mail that has been circulating both on and off campus.

Toeppen would not specifically confirm that the incident with Benin and Lee was the reason the ISR service was discontinued.

The statement on the Web site said service will be suspended until further notice.

Sometime between Monday night and Tuesday afternoon, the Web site was modified to include a response to newsgroup postings and e-mail accounts written by Benin about her experience. The response, a posting of an e-mail between Toeppen and The Daily Illini, explains why Toeppen denied Benin and Lee bus service. He said they interfered with the loading of other passengers, which violated the terms of transportation referenced on their bus tickets.

The response was originally posted under the address “www.suburbanexpress.com/whiners.html”, but that address was changed to “humbskulls.html” late Tuesday.

Benin has told University officials about the incident, explaining that she and Lee feel they received unsatisfactory treatment from Toeppen; however, there may be little the University can do to help the students because the business is not affiliated with the University.

“We are trying to figure out what, if anything, we can do, because certainly (Benin) is distressed about this,” said Mary Ellen O’Shaughnessy, assistant dean of students. “It’s a difficult situation.”

“We don’t regulate private business in this town,” she added.

Although the buses chartered by Suburban Express, 313 E. Green St., Champaign, board passengers in front of several University buildings, including several University residence halls, the local bus line does not have a contract with the University.

“I am Voitik, director of campus parking and transportation, said there was no agreement between the campus parking office and Suburban Express. “As far as I know, there is not an agreement with Suburban Express.”

Benin has also filed a complaint with the Central Illinois Better Business Bureau.

In a letter addressed to Benin and Lee, Toeppen told them he would not be accepting their business anymore.

“Suburban Express faces stiff competition from student automobiles, ride boards, Amtrak, Greyhound and rides from parents,” he wrote in the e-mail to The Daily Illini. “Students who are not comfortable with Suburban Express terms and conditions should try these other options.”

One term/condition provides that passengers who misbehave will not be permitted to board.

— Dennis Toeppen
president of College Transportation, in e-mail

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Parallel parking causes grief

Car owners try to get money back after tickets, tows

by Leslie Hague
Daily Illini reporter

Owners of cars parked on Oak Street that were ticketed or towed last week because of a new parallel parking rule are not likely to be compensated for their monetary loss.

Last Monday, a sign was posted that cars were to parallel park on Oak Street in Champaign between John and Daniel streets. Cars had previously been angle parked.

On Tuesday, several cars that were angle parked received $15 tickets and were towed on Wednesday. Residents were upset that they were not notified beyond one sign and did not receive any warnings.

"I just think it's unfair when it's all said and done," said graduate student Barry Federici, whose car was ticketed and towed.

Champaign Traffic Service Officer Marie Hardin, who oversees parking enforcement, was not available for comment.

Federici said he had called the city about the enforcement of the area and had asked for a list of people who had been ticketed. The city has not attempted to return contact, he said.

Federici said he sometimes has looked up to an hour to find a parking space and that the parking situation in Champaign is poor.

"I've been parking there for a long time," he said. "The least (the city) can do is give reasonable notice, maybe a week."

Chris Sokolowski, Champaign civil engineer, said that normally cars do not receive tickets on the first day a new sign is up, but after that, tickets would be issued.

"There's no waiting period on a law," added Tom Betz, senior attorney at Student Legal Services. "Even if (the city) gave six weeks notice, there'd still be the same problem."

Betz said that there wasn't much students who had ticketed or towed cars could do legally.

"Everyone is presumed to know the law," he said. "It's sufficient that the city passed an ordinance and had a sign posted."

However, Betz said that he had "a lot of sympathy" for the students who had cars towed. He said that the city usually does not put a lot of effort into informing residents of parking changes.

As for further action, Federici said, "I don't think I can do anything. The city doesn't care. They know when they have you."

Drivers who park their cars along the 800 block of Oak Street in Champaign must now park parallel to the curb or risk being ticketed or towed by the city of Champaign.
Sublease Brings No Peace

By Chad Marshall

They left her with nothing. Actually, that’s not 100 percent true. They did leave her with a desk, computer, and books which they made on a rail bed and chair. She was left with some furniture — and her heavy sleeper sofa in the living room. They made her put a black and green wood floor, of painted black and silver, and shiny wooden bars.

Obnoxious, isn’t it? So she left the bill for all that had to be replaced. And a bill for the apartment’s black, baby off the windows. And a bill for the last month’s rent. She made sure she was paid. Then there was the front door. Pretty door. And, loveliest of all, a used dressbag hanging in the bathroom.

I guess they left her plenty. But plenty of nothing they expected from a simple sublease.

HEAVY IRON TIME

"I was looking for my own place, and a friend of mine wanted to move in with her, and I was looking to sublease her apartment and she said, ‘oh, you know, don’t bother. She said she didn’t know,’ said the Champaign woman who got mugged, and wished not to be identified.

MISTAKE BY MISTAKE

Mistake #1: "So I told my roommate, I was moving but would pay her so she could afford to be near her, and we’d keep our furniture there. Ms. X (we’ll call her) continued. “But then my roommate decided to move out, so we decided to sublet for the two months left on our lease there.”

According to Joan Walls, Public Service Coordinator of the Champaign Police Department (CPD), this was the first mistake. "The only advice or tip the CPD can really offer is that you should always be careful when subleasing your property to someone else. Walls said, “In the future, keep your property as secure as possible.”

Sometimes, when you’re up against the wall and have no other options, subleasing may be the only answer. But you do have the option of doing it right.

Mistake #2: "We took out a classified ad and subleased to the first people who answered it,” X said.

It’s always best to sublease only to someone you know, but if you’re not sure about something, "Schedule your sublet with a babysitter,” Walls advised. "And, if you can, the company they keep.

Mistake #3: "We took them over to the rental agency office and signed the sublease. Our victims were in going through the agency routine, they rented their apartment from X to do the sublease. Every rental agency contacted by The Chicago Tribune advised a sublease should be done through the agency office, but what wasn’t done was a walk-through. Before turning over your apartment to someone else, always walk through it with your landlord to be sure or she can see what condition you are leaving it in and know what, if any, damage would be the responsibility of the sublessors.

"Prior to turning over your apartment to your sublessee, advise Susan Y. Hennes, Staff Attorney of UI Student Legal Services, “you should conduct a walk-through of the unit with them and note the condition of the unit as specifically as you can. This way, everyone will be clear on what damage, if any, was caused by whom.”

Mistake #4: "The couple subleasing them didn’t have any furniture, so I thought I’d be nice and leave mine there so they wouldn’t have to sit on the floor,” X explained. "Where I was subleasing already had furniture, so couldn’t fit mine there. Plus, it was just basic furniture I left and didn’t think anybody would want to steal it.

"Never buy a boat and have strangers take anything that they might be tempted to take. Not just furniture, but anything where the potential of ripping you off, especially utilities.

"Never leave utilities in your name once you sublease,” Hennes stated. "Your sublessee might complain about the cost of transferring the accounts, but do it anyway. Your sublessee might well have friends and relatives all over the world with whom he or she likes to maintain frequent phone contact. One of the recent clients involved a student who took phone on his sublease and kept the phone bill in his name. For this kindness, he was stuck with a $7,000 phone bill. Air conditioning is very popular here during the summer as well, and your sublessee might prefer the atmosphere of a cool breeze to more ecologically sound window temperatures. If these falls remain in your name, you might well wind up being held responsible for them.”

THE COST OF CARELESS MISTAKES

In this instance of X, it was in excess of $3,000 with the damages, unpaid rent, and storage fees involved.

"The rental agency called us on a week day and told me my roommate that the sublease note had paid the last month’s rent and that we were going to be charged for it,” X said. "So we went over there to talk to them. As we walked in the building, I saw all three holes in the wall of the hallway, and I knew right then my furniture was gone. I opened the door and it was completely empty inside. Except for their garbage.

I filed a report with the police, who are currently searching for the sublessors and sublessors. But the police said to hold onto any hope of recovering any of her furniture, which has probably been passed by now. X’s lawyer said if the two sublessors are caught, they can be held responsible. But her lawyer said they probably wouldn’t have any money in pay her.

I’ve learned something else. I learned something from all this.

I’ve learned not to trust people.

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COMMUNITY RADIO SHOULD SERVE ACTIVISTS' NEEDS
Dear Editor,

As a supporter of WEFT and a person who enjoys jazz and blues, I would like to respond to Swingin' Dave Deshorn's recent letter ("Don't Let WEFT Pure Down Blues, Jazz Programming," The Octopus, May 26, 2000) against a slight reduction of music programming on WEFT. It brings up the question of how we conceive community radio, and especially how we define the community.

Community radio is by definition an alternative to the commercialization of the corporate media, and this alternative is not only for music, but should also include culture and politics. Those of us old enough to remember the struggles against the Vietnam War might remember the crucial role that radio played in educating and mobilizing people at that time. I don't know about Champaign-Urbana, but I have fond memories of Duane Schobert, your news director, on WBN in Boston. But we don't need to be nostalgia for the late '60s and early '70s to understand the critical need for information outside the narrow confines of the mainstream media.

WEFT is doing a good job, but it could be doing a lot better. I would especially like to see news and current events programming on WEFT. News shows in the morning and evening, NPR, even providing consistent alternative opinions many years ago. It seems to me that WEFT should consider the needs of those of us who do not or cannot listen during the normal weekday. Let me also emphasize that student activism is on the rise, note the WTOWWorld Bank demonstrations, and the local campaigns against sweatshops, for good student administration, and to reduce The Chief. The news and public affairs audience is growing again, and I hope WEFT will be better able to serve the needs of the activist community.

CU LEASES DON'T ALLOW ASSIGNMENTS
Dear Editor,

John Watson makes a very good point in his letter ("Consult Attorneys When Subleasing") in the May 26, 2000 edition of The Octopus regarding the desirability of assigning one's interest in a lease over the practice of subleasing. Unfortunately, at least in this community, assignment is not an option. Virtually every lease we see in the office of Student Legal Services contains written prohibitions against assignment. Here is an example taken from a local lease:

"12. Tenant has the right to sublet or assign said lease provided that the sublet or assignee shall in writing be approved by Landlord. If Tenant does sublet or assign said lease, Tenant shall deliver to Landlord a copy of the sublet or assignment contract within ten days. Landlord agrees that Tenant shall in no event be responsible for the conduct of the sublet or assignee."

Assigning the tenancy to our closest neighbors for a month is the closest most of us are going to come to a sublet or assignee. Landlord in this context usually means a disinterested party, often an out-of-town landlord.

THE CHIEF IS NOT A MASCOT, BUT A SYMBOL
Dear Editor,

Great harm is being done to our fellow citizens, the American Indians, by the anti-Chief protestors. Their constant use of the "A" word, "mascot," has not only denigrated these original settlers, but has been so inappropriate a term that even the President of the University of Illinois (who is Native American) cannot insist that this desecration be stopped. It was the Trustees' intent to honor them by inference, by association, as a symbol of a great university acknowledging its responsibility to the romantic roots from which it sprung.

The anti-Chief protestors have completely underestimated the importance of association by inference. Take away the Indian symbol and the university remains; but the beautiful Indian inference is gone. Out of sight, out of mind! Just as the infamous hoards, Maurine O'Hara and Robert Simon, showed mightily to remove the crosses from public buildings in the supposed interests of separating the church from the state when their true intent was to separate the state from God (Contrary to the wishes of our founding fathers and their Constitution of the United States.) You had better believe that these attorneys want Christ out of sight and out of mind, too.

Where are the Great Chiefs today? The ones who understood the importance of association and inference? Why don't they step forward to defend and protect their people from their own ignorant people... the anti-Chief protestors? Don't let them rob you of this beautiful association! Let wisdom and peace prevail.

— Edward C. Reynolds

We welcome letters from our readers. Please try to keep your letters to 300 words; we reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. If possible, please e-mail your letters to editor@octopus.com. We may also send your letters by fax to (217) 398-8300 or stamp it and mail it to Editor, c/o The Octopus, PO Box 344, Champaign, IL 61824. Please include your name and a phone number. Words and ideas we receive cannot be returned. We thank all contributors.

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The Promenade
at Krannert Center

VI.xix 54
August 5, 1999

Tom Betts
324 Illini Union
MC - 384

Dear Tom,

The annual Transfer Student Reception is being planned for Monday, August 30 from 6-8 p.m. in Illini Room A of the Illini Union. We would like to invite your department to participate by providing information and a staff member to respond to any questions.

To confirm your participation, please return the enclosed form by Monday, August 16, 1999. If you have any questions, please contact me at 333-4057 or r-kirts@uiuc.edu.

Since 1995, the Office of the Dean of Students has hosted this reception for new transfer students. The success of this event is due to your involvement and willingness to help acclimate our transfer students to the University. As always, we appreciate the attention you give to making sure this reception continues each year.

Thank you, in advance, for your assistance with the 1999 Transfer Student Reception.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Kirts
Assistant Dean
February 15, 2000

Mr. Tom Betz
Student Legal Services
324 Illini Union, MC-384
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Mr. Betz:

The Graduate Student Advisory Council would like a representative from Student Legal Services to speak at our next meeting. We would like the representative to give an overview of the activities of Student Legal Services. There will be approximately 30 graduate students at this meeting. The meeting will take place in 223 Gregory Hall, 810 S. Wright St., Urbana. The date of the meeting is March 9 and the time is 5:30 p.m. The representative would only need to speak for approximately 15 minutes, since there will be a representative from the University Police as well. There is street parking available for the speaker, in front of the building. Thank you for your time. Please contact me at 244-2234 or sonnebor@uiuc.edu, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Amanda A. Sonneborn
Coordinator, Graduate Student Advisory Council
February 20, 2000

Student Legal Service
324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St.
Urbana, IL 61801

To the Student Legal Service:

Delta Gamma sorority would like to invite a speaker to a chapter meeting for the dates of March 27, April 10, or April 24. Meetings begin at 6 p.m. for each of the prospective dates. The presentation would be in the chapter house dining room for up to 180 people. The theme for the meeting is Alcohol Awareness. The executive board feels that chapter members would benefit from information concerning the laws about underage drinking, the use of false identification, and the purchase of alcohol for a minor. I hope to confirm a date soon and look forward to your presentation. Please contact me, Sally, at 344-9885 or trcknbrod@uiuc.edu at your earliest convenience.

Thank You,

Sally Truckenbrodt
Vice-President of Programming
April 3, 2000

Dear Mr. Betz,

My name is Mike Rodenbaugh. I am the elected “Health Advocate” for my fraternity, Theta Xi. I am writing you today because I am interested in hosting a speaker for the members of my house on the topic of alcohol violations on campus and their legal/disciplinary consequences. With a small handful of men in the fraternity who have already run into trouble with fake identification and underage drinking charges and a large population of young members currently in the house, I think it would be a beneficial experience for my fraternity. We had a similar presentation on this topic two years ago which was very well-received. I expect a similar response if we can organize another presentation in the near future.

I would like to hold this presentation on either Monday, April 17 or Monday, April 24 at around 5:30 in the lounge of the Theta Xi house. The house is located at 205 East Armory Street in Champaign. There will be parking available for the speaker in our parking lot behind the house (at the intersection of 2nd and Armory Streets). I will be expecting between 30 and 50 members to be in attendance at the presentation and, if possible, I’d like the presentation to run between 45 to 60 minutes.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please contact me at 328-1748 or rodenbau@uiuc.edu if I have left out any necessary information or if we need to discuss the presentation further.

Sincerely,

Mike Rodenbaugh

328-1748
Dear Thomas,

Thank you for sending me a copy of the 1998-99 Annual Report for the Student Legal Service. Congratulations on both the quality of services offered by the Student Legal Service and the twenty-one year history of these services being offered to Illinois students.

The statistical information presented in the annual report offers valuable insights into those areas which students most feel a need for legal assistance.

I believe it is a reflection of how well you serve students in that the vast majority of students using your services heard about Student Legal Service from their friends. Word of mouth is the best form of advertising.

Student Legal Service is to be commended for not only providing legal service to Illinois students for more than two decades, but also coming forward and remaining as one of the outstanding student legal programs in the country.

Pat Askew
Patricia E. Askew
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

cc: Bill Riley

August 16, 1999
Dear Mr. Beth-

Thank you so much for handling my case. I appreciate you working on this case. Thank you.
Dear Mr. Betsy,

Thank you very much for helping me get my money back. I really appreciate it.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

"The Lord bless you and keep you."

NUMBERS 6:24 (NIV)
April 24, 2000

Dear Mrs. Hessey,

Thank you very much for taking the time to speak to the members of my fraternity about alcohol violations last Tuesday evening. They were all very interested in the topic and the information you gave them all should prove to be helpful in keeping many of them out of trouble and in just being a little smarter about things in the future.

Again, thank you very much for your time and information.

Sincerely,

Mike
June 25, 2000

Dear Mr. Betz:

I received your letter indicating that the charges against me by the city of Champaign have been dropped. I want to sincerely thank you for your efforts in this matter. On the evening the infraction occurred the police appeared to be out of hand. They were neither serving nor protecting but rather harassing. By ticketing a man and his friends celebrating his 21rst birthday they demonstrated an extremely low level of dignity. While the other gentlemen were unable to avoid their charges it pleases and reassures me to know that some limits still remain to police power. The fact that these limits are a direct reflection of your efforts is in itself a compliment.

Upon completion of my bachelor’s degree I plan on attending law school. Any reservations I have with this decision are derived from the law profession itself. From an outside view, the profession appears very corruptible with the majority of lawyers contributing to the ills of society rather than attempting to solve them. You have proven to me that that is not necessarily the case and for that I am truly grateful. Once again thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
December 1999

Dear Valued Community Resource Provider,

Enclosed you will find a copy of your Agency’s profile we have listed in our community resource manual. Please make appropriate changes – additions/deletions or if you want to leave it as is, please indicate this on the form and mail or fax it back to me at your earliest convenience.

Laura Hines
202 W. Park Avenue
Champaign, IL. 61820

Fax: 217-373-2444

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Laura Hines
Crisis Triage Program Assistant

Enclosure
STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

Illini Union, Room 324
1401 W. Green
Urbana, IL 61801

Services: For U of I students who have paid $7 SORF fee, the program provides services for tenant/landlord cases, consumer law, traffic cases, and misdemeanors, but not for felonies. Speakers on selected legal topics for community groups are available.
Phi Sigma Sigma, 902 S. Second, C. ........................................ 344-7732
Pi Beta Phi, 1005 S. Wright, C. ........................................ 344-0571
Sigma Delta Tau, 1104 W. Nevada, U. .............................. 337-4000
Sigma Gamma Rho, 2 Student Services Bldg .................... 333-7062
Sigma Kappa, 303 E. John, C. ........................................ 344-5833
Sigma Lambda Gamma, 256 Illini Union ......................... 328-0313
Zeta Phi Beta, 2 Student Services Bldg ........................... 333-7062

CCSO Services
CCSO Resource Center, 1420 DCL .................................. 244-1258
CCSO Onsite Consulting .............................................. 333-8628
Illini Union—First floor, southwest ............................... 244-7935
Illini Hall—Room 23/24 .............................................. 244-7530
Everitt Lab—Room 146 ................................................ 333-4936
English Building—Room 8 ............................................ 244-0386
Lincoln Hall—Room 200 .............................................. 333-0309
Oregon—901 W. Oregon .............................................. 244-7513
Commerce West—Room 70 ............................................ 333-4500
Undergrad Library—1st level ...................................... 244-2562
Psychology—Room 453 .............................................. 333-7815
N120 Turner Hall ..................................................... 333-8170

Campus Copy Shops
Dup-It, 808 S. Sixth, C. .............................................. 337-7000
Kinko's, 607 S. Sixth, C. ............................................ 398-0003
Kwik Kopy, 50 E. Green, C. ........................................ 359-1191
Notes-N-Quotes, 502 E. John, C. ................................ 344-4433
UpClose, 714 S. Sixth, C. ............................................ 384-7474
I-notes, 602 E. Green, C. ........................................... 355-2923

Important Phone Numbers
Tenant Union, University Of Illinois Office .................... 333-0112
Tenant Union, Community Office ................................ 352-6220
Student Legal Service at the University of Illinois ........... 333-9053

Utility Companies:
Ameritech (phone) .................................................... 1-800-244-4444
Ameritech (Calling from outside Illinois) ....................... 1-800-451-2761
Consolidated Communications (phone) ......................... 1-800-500-7000
Illinois Power Company (gas & electricity) ................. 1-800-755-5000
Gas Leaks—call 24 hours ........................................ 1-800-755-6000
Northern Illinois Water Corporation ........................ 352-1420

Housing Inspectors:
Champaign ................................................................. 351-4427
Urbana ................................................................. 384-2436

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Back the
Telecommunications, Office of
See CCSO (Computing & Communications Services Office)

Television Station
See WILU, AM, -FM, -TV

Tenant Union: 333-0112
326 Illini Union, 1401 W Green, U, MC-384
EMAIL: tenant@uiuc.edu
URL: http://www.tenantunion.uiuc.edu
COMMUNICATIONS: C-U Tenant Handbook, ed. Esther Patt

Testing Center
See Dean of Students, Office of

Theatre, Dept of: 333-2371
4-122 KCPA, 500 S Goodwin, U, MC-072
FAX: 244-1861
URL: http://www.theatre.uiuc.edu/theatre/
Acting head: Robert Graves, 4-121a KCPA, MC-072, 333-3538
Assoc head: James Berton Harris, 4-120, KCPA, MC-072, 333-0245
Secy: Cindy S. Hall, 4-122 KCPA, MC-072, 333-3538
Design, Technology, & Mgt Div of: James Berton Harris, 4-120 KCPA,
MC-072, 333-0245
MA/PhD program: Robert Graves, 4-121C/KCPA, MC-072, 333-8060
Performance Studies program: James Zagar, 4-122, KCPA, MC-072,
333-1819
Professional Acting program: Henson Keys, 4-122 KCPA, MC-072, 333-2372

Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Dept of: 333-2322
213 Talbot Lab, 104 S Wright, U, MC-262
FAX: 244-5707
EMAIL: adm@tam.uiuc.edu
URL: http://www.tam.uiuc.edu
Head: Hassan Aref, 212 Talbot Lab, MC-252, 333-2329, h.arel@uiuc.edu
Adm secy: Carol J. Porter, 212 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-0334,
cjporter@uiuc.edu
Dept secy: 213 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-2322
Assoc head: James W. Phillips, 221 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-4388,
wpj@uiuc.edu
Machine shop: Kent A. Elam, Jr., 4 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-3515,
kelam@uiuc.edu
ALUMNI AFFAIRS:
Susan K. Mummm, 218 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-3294, s.mummm@uiuc.edu
BUSINESS AFFAIRS:
Business mg: Sydney P. Cromwell, 214 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-2323,
s.crom@uiuc.edu

LABORATORIES:
Composite testing lab: Nancy R. Sottos, 256 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-1041
Dynamics research lab: Richard L. Weaver, 219 Talbot Lab, MC-262,
333-3656
Fluids research lab: Ronald J. Adrian, 100 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-1793
Structural testing lab: James W. Phillips, 221 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-4389

STUDENT AFFAIRS:
Graduate Program:
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Richard L. Weaver, 219 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-3656, r.weaver@uiuc.edu
Student coord: Barbara J. Kirts, 218 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-0087,
b.kirts@uiuc.edu
Undergrad program: Robert B. Haber, 111 Talbot Lab, MC-262, 333-3846,
r-haber@uiuc.edu

COMMUNICATIONS:
TAM Reports, ed. James W. Phillips, 333-4388, wpj@uiuc.edu

Ticket Offices
Athletic: see Athletics, Division of Intercollegiate
Show: see Assembly Hall, Ilini Union or Krannert Center for the Performing
Arts

Transportation, Division of Campus
See Parking & Transportation, Division of Campus

Trio/Student Support Services: 333-0059
130 Stud Serv, 610 E John, C, MC-306
FAX: 244-0349
Dir: Greta Hogan
Principal counselor: 333-0059
Grad counselors: 333-0059

Trustees, Board of
See Board of Trustees, Office of the Secretary & Secretary of the University

UI-OnLine
See University of Illinois Online

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July 2000

Dear Human Service Provider:

The First Call for Help Program of Family Service is updating our entire database of information about human services in Champaign County for the 2000-2001 edition of the Help Book, a directory of community resources. Over 30,000 copies of the print version of the Help Book will be distributed with all Champaign County editions of The News-Gazette on November 6. Thousands of extra copies will be available at Family Service for distribution throughout the year to churches, human service agencies and other organizations and individuals. While the print version will be limited to about 335 listings, an expanded version of the Help Book is now also available on-line at www.prairienet.org/helpbook as well as at www.helpsource.org. The on-line version has over 1,000 listings of local resources, and includes additional information such as hours of operation, eligibility criteria, e-mail addresses and fax numbers.

Accurate information about services is essential if the Help Book data is to be useful. Please look over the enclosed description(s) of your services carefully and make any corrections on the update form(s). Family Service will edit the information as needed. We have expanded our listings to include Web site information, so please include your Web site and e-mail address if you want those listed. We also welcome any comments or suggestions you may have that would improve the Help Book, and ask that you make a note of them in the space provided.

The Help Book is a service of Family Service First Call for Help, which provides information and referral to callers seeking assistance with a personal situation or problem. There is no fee required to be listed in the Help Book. Your donations to Family Service, however, help make it possible for us to do annual updates, and we appreciate this tangible evidence of your support. We suggest a donation of $40.00 to Family Service for each listing. These funds go directly to Family Service to support the costs of database updating for the print and on-line versions of the Help Book.

Please return the enclosed update form with corrections and any donation you wish to make. Mail by August 21 to: First Call for Help, Family Service, 405 S. State St., Champaign, IL 61820. We are enclosing a self-addressed return envelope for your convenience. You may also fax the form to us at (217) 352-9512.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Anne Wilson, Manager
Family Advocacy and Support
Database/Help Book Information Update Request

From: Family Service First Call for Help
405 S. State
Champaign, IL 61820
Telephone: 217-352-0099

06/27/2000

WE ARE UPDATING OUR RECORDS ON THE SERVICES OFFERED BY YOUR AGENCY.
PLEASE MAKE ANY CORRECTIONS OR CHANGES REQUIRED DIRECTLY ON THIS FORM. RETURN
FORM TO FAMILY SERVICE FIRST CALL FOR HELP OR FAX TO 352-9512 AT YOUR EARLIEST
CONVENIENCE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN KEEPING OUR INFORMATION CURRENT.

Operating Agency: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Program Name:
Student Legal Service
Illini Union, Room 324
1401 W. Green St.
Urbana, IL 61801
Our Program #: FS01EA126

Telephones: (217) 333-9053 Direct Office Line, Secretary
( ) -
(217) 333-0474 Fax

email/Web site: www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

Person in charge: Thomas Betz
Title: Director

Also Known As:

Hours: 8:30-4:30, M-F (closed 12-1)

Languages:

Fees: free for students who have paid the $7 SORF fee

Eligibility Requirements: U of I students who have paid the SORF fee - will give advice for many types of
problems except felonies.

Intake Procedure: by appointment only

Service Area Description:

About the Program:

For U of I students who have paid $7 SORF fee, the program provides services for tenant/landlord cases,
consumer law, traffic cases, and misdemeanors, but not for felonies. Speakers on selected legal topics for
community groups are available.