BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION/FISCAL, FACILITIES AND AUDIT

ACTION:

Approve Restructuring of Matriculation Fee and Degree/Graduation Fee

Matriculation/Processing Fee

The System has been required to assess a Matriculation Fee because it was specifically identified in RRS 85-307:

The president of each state college shall receive and collect the fees for matriculation, board, room and such other fees as may be payable at such school, and shall disburse the same under direction of the board and according to law.

The rate was identified in RRS 85-311:

Students, when entering any state teachers college for the first time, shall pay a matriculation fee of five dollars. The money thus received shall be paid into the hands of the State Treasurer, and shall be held and disbursed as an institutional cash fund for the college wherein the students shall matriculate.

Further, because there was a separate processing fee, both components had to be listed on the Board tuition and fee schedules. With the passage of LB887 (Statutory Cleanup Bill), the fee reference was removed from RRS 85-307, and RRS 85-311 was repealed, so the fee will no longer need to be separately assessed.

As part of the fee restructuring and clean-up for FY23, it is proposed that the revenues generated by the matriculation fee (\$5.00) and processing fee (\$10.00) will be converted to a per credit hour fee and added to the Technology Fee component of the College Support Fee. The FY21 college revenues and the conversion to a per credit hour fee are provided in the following table:

Conversion of Matriculation/Processing Fee to Per Credit Hour Fee						
		Total Credits Less Dual				
College	FY21 Revenues	Credit Hours	Per Cr Hr Fee			
CSC	\$14,000	54,249		\$0.25		
PSC	\$19,605	38,538		\$0.50		
WSC	\$35,295	98,249		\$0.35		

Degree/Graduation Fee

The colleges currently handle the costs of diplomas and graduation differently. At PSC and CSC the student pays a Degree/Graduation fee, but purchase their own caps and gowns in order to attend the graduation ceremony. At WSC the student pays a Degree/Graduation fee that covers the full cost of attending the ceremony and the diploma costs. It was agreed by the colleges that the process used by WSC would be easier to manage and would eliminate problems with gaps and gowns.

The FY22 Degree/Graduation Fees assessed by the colleges were as follows: CSC - Undergrad and Grad - \$20.00; PSC - Undergrad - \$50.00 and Grad - \$75.00; WSC - Undergrad - \$60.00 and Grad - \$85.00. As part of the fee restructuring and clean-up for FY23, it is proposed that the Degree/Graduation Fee is converted to a per credit hour fee that will cover the cost of diplomas and the full cost of the graduation ceremony, including the cost of caps and gowns. The per credit hour fee will be part of the Event Fee component of the College Support Fee. The FY21 college costs and the conversion calculations to a per credit hour fee are provided in the following table:

Degree/Graduation Fee FY21 Costs and Credit Hours

Diploma and Graduation Costs	CSC	PSC	WSC		
Estimated Cost of Caps and Gowns (1)	\$21,872	\$11,011	\$27,118		
Cost of Diplomas	\$5,520	\$6,543	\$10,183		
Other Costs	<u>\$26,860</u>	<u>\$25,404</u>	<u>\$23,765</u>		
Total Estimated Cost	\$54,252	\$42,958	\$61,066		
Cost per Graduate	\$113	\$145	\$82		
Credit Hours to be Assessed Fee					
FY21 Credit Hours Less Dual Enrollment Credits Summer Hours to be Assessed	54,249	38,538	94,892		
Extended Hours to be Assessed			912 2,784		
Extended flours to be Assessed			2,704		
Event Fee Rate For Summer			\$13.50		
Event Fee Rate for Extended Campus			\$0.50		
Event Fee Increase to Cover Cost	\$1.00	\$1.11	\$0.50		
(1) Assuming 70% of students attend graduation for PSC and CSC.					

Board Approval

The Board is being asked to take the following actions related to these one-time fee for FY23:

- Approve an increase to the Technology Fee component of the College Support Fee to replace the Matriculation and Processing Fee as follows: CSC \$0.25; PSC \$0.50; and WSC \$0.35.
- Approve an increase to the Event Fee component of the College Support Fee to replace the Degree/Graduation Fee as follows: CSC \$1.00; PSC \$1.10; WSC -

\$0.50.

These changes will be made to the FY23 fee schedule upon Board approval.

The System Office recommends approval of the Restructuring of Matriculation Fee and Degree/Graduation Fee.