Child Care Fee 1996 -1997

QUESTION: Shall the existing Child Care Programs Fee of $3.00 per student per quarter be increased to $8.00 per student per quarter effective Fall Quarter 1997 to support campus child care programs serving students with children?

DISCUSSION: This question was placed on the ballot by the vice chancellor, Student affairs and a resolution of the Graduate Student Association. Measure A applies to both undergraduate and graduate students. As a compulsory fee, this measure requires that a two-thirds majority (66.6%) of a combined minimum voting pool of twenty percent (20%) of the undergraduate and graduate student body must vote in favor of the measure in order for it to pass. Abstentions will count towards the establishment of the minimum voting pool requirement.

All students are asked to add $5 per quarter to the existing $3 per quarter fee supporting Child Care Programs which serve UCSC student parents. The initial Child Care Programs Fee was approved in 1986, and was increased in 1991 to $3.00 per quarter. Three programs currently operate on campus: a State Department of Education development program for very low-income student parents providing free or very low-cost preschool care; an infant program for children 3 months to 3 years old; and a vendor-operated child development program at the Granary.

Income from the Child Care Programs Fee is used to partially support the costs of caring for the children of UCSC students only. The current fee generates income of approximately $90,000. An increase of $5 would generate an additional $150,000 per year.

Use of Child Care Programs Fee income will include the following: correct operating deficits, keep open the Infant Program, maintain student work-study salaries, guarantee a reduced fee for student parents at the Granary, leverage increased grant funding from the State Department of Education to provide subsidized care foe infants, and support efforts to expand child care facilities, services and funding base.