

## Facts Regarding the Faculty/Staff Athletic Pass Issue

March 2007: EOU Student Fee Committee (SFC) allocated the student fee budget to fee-funded units. Athletics, along with other units, had “budget notes” attached. The budget restrictions for athletics included no more free passes to faculty and staff for athletic events.

As a result of that budget stipulation, Athletic Director Rob Cashell brought this issue forward in the Spring of 2007 to the VP for Student Affairs at that time and to the President’s Cabinet. He was asked to develop a fee structure that provided discounts to faculty and staff and to research what other schools in the OUS did. His research showed that no other school in the OUS system provided either discounted tickets or free passes to faculty and staff.

The fee structure Rob prepared was approved by the President’s Cabinet, and Rob was charged with implementing such. Contrary to what other institutions did, the EOU fee structure proposed by Rob did provide a sizable discount for faculty and staff to attend athletic events.

For example, at \$116 for a season pass to cover 70 athletic events, the cost per event is less than \$2/event. The single ticket cost for faculty and staff was set at \$4/event. The general public per ticket price is \$6 and a season pass is \$260. Faculty and staff may purchase a season pass for just volleyball and basketball only for \$60; the general public will pay \$135.

To return to a free pass arrangement will require replacement of the subsidy that is no longer funded by the Student Fee Committee.

Anticipated gate receipts for 2008-09 need to be \$22K in order to meet the athletic budget. There is some reliance on faculty/staff attendance at \$4/event built into that budget.

Some faculty/staff have joined the Booster Club at a certain level which provides an annual pass. Others have attended athletic events by paying \$4/event or by purchasing the \$116/season pass.