

TO: Hastings Students - 1Ls and 2Ls

FROM: David Seward, Chief Financial Officer

DATE: March 21, 2011

RE: *JD Fees for Next Academic Year - Update for 2011-12*

Hastings strives to maintain the lowest possible fees, an approach driven by concerns over student debt levels, an improving but still uncertain market for legal employment, and reflective of the College’s institutional commitment to providing access to as affordable a legal education as possible given the constraints imposed by state funding instability.¹

For the upcoming 2011-12 academic year, the General Enrollment Fee is being increased to \$37,747. This amount includes a supplemental fee increase of 1.8% over the 3% previously approved by the Board of Directors at its September 2010 meeting. To mitigate financial hardship, forty percent of the incremental revenue will be earmarked for need-based financial aid.

	Authorized <u>2010-11</u>	Approved <u>2011-12</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Enrollment Fee	36,000	37,747	1,747
Nonresident Tuition	11,225	8,500	(2,725)
Activity Fee	82	82	-
Health Services Fee*	460	460	-
Grad. Student Health Insurance Program*	2,364	2,364	-
 Total Resident	 \$ 38,906	 \$ 40,653	 \$ 1,747
Total Nonresident	\$ 50,131	\$ 49,153	\$ (978)

Nonresident students pay a fee in addition to the General Enrollment Fee. For 2011-12, nonresident tuition was reduced to \$8,500 to allow Hastings to be priced competitively with benchmark institutions. With the increase in the basic enrollment fee, total cost for nonresident students will be \$49,153.

The 2011-12 budget recently passed by the Legislature adopted the Governor’s proposal to reduce Hastings state funding by \$1.5 million (-18%). Two-thirds of this cut will be derived from administrative and other operating budget reductions with the remainder generated by the 1.8% supplemental fee increase (to 4.8% overall). However, the Governor’s budget proposal is predicated on the Legislature passing legislation to place before the voters a ballot initiative seeking approval of various revenue measures. As such, the 18% state budget reduction currently being addressed represents the “best case” state funding scenario and, consequently, fees are subject to further change. If the Legislature elects not to place the Governor’s revenue measures on the ballot or if the voters reject the Governor’s proposal, and Hastings budget is further reduced, additional 2011-12 fee increases will need to be considered.

We will keep you informed as the budget process unfolds. Please feel free to contact me at 415-565-4710 or at sewardd@uchastings.edu if you have questions or concerns.

¹ For 2010-11, resident fees are 6.7 percent below the average fees charged by all UC law schools (\$41,793).

* The Health Services Fee and Graduate Student Health Insurance Program fee are set at the June 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors.