August 13, 2013

Dear Student Organizations:

As of August 19, 2013, the Missouri Student Unions will assess all on-campus customers a $10 room charge for all room reservations within the Memorial Student Union and the MU Student Center. On-campus customers include academic, administrative and campus departments. **Student organizations are exempt from this new policy as your student fees pay for the space you use.**

Though student union activity fees offset usage of our facilities by student organizations, many of our room reservations are from academic, administrative and campus departments and we have found ourselves unable to meet the current campus demand for meeting room space. In addition, the Missouri Student Unions continues to absorb the rising costs of utilities, labor and equipment. As good stewards of our limited resources, we can no longer cover these rising costs. We believe that the new $10 fee for campus departments will allow us to address a small portion of the operating expenses related to campus use and allow us to maintain our facilities at a standard expected by the MU community.

As good stewards of your student fees, the Missouri Student Unions is committed to keeping costs low. In the past few years, we have:

- reduced our full-time work force and replaced with part time student labor
- decreased operating hours during intercession and summer session
- replaced traditional light bulbs in both facilities with LED long-lasting energy saving bulbs, which reduces labor and electric costs
- installed light sensors in Brady Commons atrium of the MU Student Center to automatically shut off the lights and reduce electric costs
- purchased environmentally safe supplies and equipment for cleaning our facilities, which reduces our environmental footprint and actually lowered housekeeping costs

We will continue to find ways to achieve savings in order to maintain the facilities and programs that you expect of the Missouri Student Unions. As a reminder, student organizations will not be charged a $10 reservation fee.

Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Heath Immel
Associate Director
Missouri Student Unions