An act relating to the stabilization and management of the Student Activities Fee; creating Section surplus management, Student Activities Fee Guidelines; providing intent, providing definitions, providing guidelines, providing directives, providing an effective date.

“SAF Stabilization Act”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE HAMPSHIRE STUDENT UNION TOWN MEETING

Section I: Intent

 Whereas the Hampshire Student Union distributes the Student Activities Fee on a rolling basis, based upon the Student Activities Fee Guidelines. Whereas the Hampshire Student Union currently operates with a surplus in the Student Activities Fee. Whereas the Student Activities Guidelines were created by the old Community Council, and are in need of significant revision. Whereas the Hampshire Student Union oversees the distribution of the Student Endowment, and has a vested interest in seeing the principal of said endowment grow. Whereas the Hampshire Student Union lacks governing documents, preventing an orderly amendment of our funding processes, and modification of our Union. Therefore guidelines for the management of the Student Activities Fee surplus, an audit of the Student Activities Fee Guidelines, and creation of governing documents are primary concerns of the Union.

Section II: Definitions

(1) “SAF” shall mean Student Activities Fee.

(2) “HSU” shall mean Hampshire Student Union

(3) “discretionary spending” shall be defined as any request for funding from SAF that is not required for the regular functioning of the college, or other essential activities as specified by the HSU Town Meeting.

Section III: Guidelines:

Section surplus management, SAF Guidelines, is created to read:

(1) On May 1st of each calendar year the Funding Committee of the Hampshire Student Union shall provide an in-depth update of the status of the SAF, as well as a proposed summer operating budget, to the HSU Coordinating Board. This budget must include the requests, from the office of Campus Leadership and Activities as well as Scope Groups, regarding discretionary spending over the period between May 20th and September 1st of that calendar year.

(2) Upon the update provided by the Funding Committee, Coordinating Board shall vote upon approval of the summer operating budget. Coordinating Board may not adjourn until a summer operating budget is passed. (Not CoordBoard, but Co-Coordinators of SGs)

(3) Upon the successful passage of the summer operating budget, Coordinating Board shall direct the Funding Committee to deposit the remainder of the SAF into the principal of the Student Endowment.

Section IV: Directives

For the successful functioning of the rolling funding system, and well-being of the HSU, the Town Meeting now instructs Coordinating Board to carry out the following directives:

(1) Coordinating Board shall assemble a (open?) committee, coordinated by one coordinator of Student Experience and coordinator of Budget and Policy, to assemble governing documents for the Union. This committee shall contain two at large members from the Coordinating Board, and two other Scope Group Coordinators. The committee must complete its work by the November Town Meeting, in order to ratify the documents for the next calendar year. The work produced by this committee must be ratified by the HSU Town Meeting. (member of each Scope Group?)

(2) Coordinating Board shall instruct the Scope Group on Student Leadership to audit and revise the Student Activities Fee Guidelines. The intent of the revisions is to create a more efficient and fair rolling funding process, that includes significant clarifications of procedures, appeals, and criteria for decision making. This audit and revision must be complete by the February Town Meeting.

Section V: Effective Date

This act shall take effect immediately upon its passage.