You pay $612.24 in fees each semester – where does it go?

Andrés Marquis Washington

Dakota Student

Is UND a research institution, hockey school or liberal arts university? That was the question posed randomly to more than 500 UND students. For some, the answer is obvious. But for most UND students, the look of puzzlement on their face revealed their confusion. What was even more puzzling was their answer to the follow-up question: “Every semester you pay tuition and fees. Where do you think your student fees go?”

Total mind-boggler.

It was made clear that most UND students have no idea where their student fees go.

“If a student wants to know where their money goes, they could ask someone like Cindy Fetsch, Budget Manager of UND. “Student fees support costs that are associated with services, activities, facilities and infrastructure that support students outside the classroom,” Fetsch said.

But let’s get a bit more specific with the allocation of student fees. Let’s, say, combined roughly 1 percent of student fees goes to the Writing Center, Women’s Center and Multicultural Student Services.

If you do not know whether that is a sufficient amount, notice the new and limited hours of operation for the Writing Center and then try to locate the Women’s Center and its staff.

“Groups that do not continue to innovate or use fees more efficiently may see a reduction to their fees, while groups that perform well and show need for increased funding received more about 15 percent of student fees,” Cole Rachmiller, UND Student Body President said. Apparently, the Writing Center and Women’s Center were not performing well. UND is an institution of higher learning where the best and brightest come to be educated and properly equipped with the tools for success in the real world. Therefore, it may seem questionable that UNDs Student Success Center and Career Services are allocated about 5 percent of student fees. Maybe the Student Success Center and Career Services have not been innovative enough. For some students, the trials and tribulations of college life can be daunting, daunting, exciting, exciting, calm or crazy. But that is okay because the UND’s Counseling Center (UCC) has been consistently with their annual allocation of around 11 percent of student fees. “I can say that our services continue to increase here at the UCC as it has been nationally as well,” Dr. Ken Carlson, UND Counseling Center Director said.

Many students are aware of the notorious “freshman 15” curse. It is the amount of pounds put on during a student’s first year in college. Considering that something like 25 percent of student fees is given to the UND’s newly named Wellness Center, no UND student should ever be confronted with the “Freshman 15” curse, as well,” Dr. Ken Carlson, UND Counseling Center Director said.

All enrolled UND students are automatically eligible for what most students think is free gym membership. It is not free, student fees cover that gym membership. It is not free; student fees cover that gym membership. It is not free; student fees cover that gym membership. It is not free; student fees cover that gym membership.

Inclusively, that’s Memorial Union, Student Involvement and disbursement post-gym food: free pizza or Chic-fil-a brought to campus by Student Involvement and disbursement in the Loading Dock. While chilling, chit-chatting or reading the Dakota Student in the Memorial Union, students may catch themselves in the midst of a Student Body President or Vice-President debate session. Inclusively, that’s Memorial Union, Student Involvement, Student Government and the Dakota Student that receive about 15 percent of student fees. And there is another 25 percent of student fees allocated to other student amenities. Added up so far, that equals about 70 percent of student fees.

Students may be curious to know what the money-maker, or rather money-taker of UND student fees is. The $3.5 million-dollar answer to such inquiry is UND Athletics, which receives almost 50 percent of student fees. “The allocation to Athletics may seem like a large dollar amount, however it is a very small percent of Athletics overall budget. Students do not have to pay to go to athletic events or if they do, the ticket price is reduced from face value,” Fetsch said. If you are a UND student and you are unsatisfied with how and where your student fees are allocated, there is something that can be done about it. “It’s important that students communicate with leadership about the services and resources they value and that have enhanced their experience as students and learners,” Anna Kinney, Coordinator of the Writing Center, said.

If you really want to have some say-so on the allocation of your student fees, organize your campaign posse and run for Student Body President 2019. Put your mouth where UND’s money is.
How does UND measure up?

Diane Newberry

Shiran Hamasoor has had an interest in law since high school, but it wasn’t until the news of the Trump administration’s immigration ban broke last year that she was sure she had found her purpose.

I saw all of these immigrants trying to get into the country and decided whether or not they had visas or not at that moment I knew I wanted to be one of those lawyers at the airport helping them,” Hamasoor, a child of Kurdish immigrants, said.

Law is attractive to students who have spent their undergraduate years immersed in liberal arts classes geared toward critical thinking and communication skills, but the law school application process can be grueling and there are many factors to consider.

UND’s law school is one of the smallest nationally ranked law schools in the country, and its bar passage rate in 2017 was 72 percent. The Dean of the Law School, Kathryn Rand, said this number has been relatively consistent over the years, with a passage rate of 73 percent in 2016 and 76 percent in 2015.

Bar passage rates have been trending downward nationally, particularly in the multiple-choice portion of the exam.

Hamasoor said that a school’s bar passage rate was one of her “main concerns” when deciding where to apply. This is a view Steven Miller, former UND undergrad, current law student at the University of Michigan, didn’t share.

“It’s not something that mattered that much to me,” Miller said. “You either pass or you don’t.”

Of course, the University of Michigan Law School’s bar passage rate consistently hovers in the low 90’s. For Miller, a more important consideration was the clinical positions available to students at the university he applied to.

Clinics at law schools provide benefits to two parties: law students looking to gain field experience and people who would typically not be able to afford quality legal assistance.

The University of Michigan’s clinic focuses on juvenile criminal charges, and Hamasoor’s top choices all have immigration clinics.

“Perhaps the most unique about the University of ND law school is that it is situated in a unique place facing a variety of legal challenges in 2018,” Hamasoor said. “We have one of the lowest rates of attorneys per capita,” Rand said. “But also in our state is largely rural, so there are a lot of communities that are in need of lawyers and where we’re working with the State Bar Association to help encourage students to seek career paths in our rural communities.”

The law school’s Rural Justice Program research financial support to students who take on summer jobs and internships outside of North Dakota’s four largest cities.

Hamasoor, active in UND’s relatively new Mock Trial organization, has had the chance to interact with a wide network of prospective and current law students, most of whom have advised her to look at schools in areas she would genuinely be interested in living in long-term.

“When you go to law school, you’re going to live in that city for the rest of your life,” Hamasoor said. “That’s what they usually advise you.”

Lisa Edson-Smith, currently practicing in Voelk Law Firm in North Dakota, said that when she was giving her son advice about where to go to law school, she suggested that he stay in-state if this is where he wanted to practice.

“Edson-Smith herself found it difficult to break into North Dakota law, even though she went to law school in Minnesota. “If you’re a new attorney who’s trying to start a practice you don’t automatically have that peer group,” Edson-Smith said. “You just don’t have that network of connections. That was something that took me a long time to cultivate.”

The law school was last accredited in 2014 after the successful completion of renovations to their building. Though the next accreditation hasn’t been scheduled yet, it will likely be 2021.

Rand has announced that she will be stepping down as Dean in August. After nine years in the position, she is one of the longest serving law deans in the nation. Rand said that she has aimed to leave the school “in very good shape for new leadership.”

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Before becoming a professor, learn to teach

Bilal Suleiman

The way we prepare professors for their jobs is woefully inadequate. We can’t expect someone who’s never taught before for eight years, looking at a desk covered in communicability formulas, to get that piece of paper that says “Ph.D.” and magically become a skilled teacher. That is unreasonable. Universities need to acknowledge this and incorporate some sort of training during the hiring process before a professor can teach. I don’t know of any other field where one actually exists. What I do know is that I pay a lot of money to go to college - far too much money to be okay with bad teaching. As a communications major, I have been blessed with some excellent professors. They are not only knowledgeable in their field but are genuinely fun to talk to. Maybe it is because they are in the field, but my professors are all people who have charisma and are passionate about their field. So, I am grateful for all my professors. I have been told by many, and once I graduate and go off into the working world, I will not have time to eat or call my professors back. That being said, I have had some awful professors as well. Not only do they have none of the good qualities I mentioned, but they usually have at least one really bad quality. Some of the bad qualities include but are not limited to talking down to students, inadequate explanation of topics, too much reliance on textbook curriculum and poor public speaking skills just to name a few. Don’t get me wrong, there are far more good professors than bad ones. However, when you’re paying thousands of dollars a semester to attend college, a bad professor becomes a big problem. Students frequently complain that they cannot understand their professor’s accent. There is no doubt that those professors in question are experts in their given field. Anyone who holds a Ph.D. is clearly knowledgeable and has put in much effort to get that degree. But if your accent is so thick that I can’t understand you, what good does your expertise do me? This brings me to my main point: there are good professors and good teachers, and the two are not mutually exclusive. In Latin, a professor is “a person who professes to be an expert in some art or science,” according to the Online Etymology Dictionary. Ideally, a professor should be an expert in their field as well as an expert in sharing that knowledge with others. The Latin definitions also emphasize that a professor is a “teacher of the highest rank.” How can we expect professors to be teachers of the highest rank without learning the skills required to be a good teacher? During my freshman year I ended up taking a chemistry class. I actually enjoyed the content. It wasn’t as fun to watch, but the emphasis on learning the skills required to be a good teacher is critical. Of course, I have been a bad professor at times, and yet we still get paid. Part of the reason is because of the lack of support. We don’t get that kind of supportive fan base everywhere. UND is a pretty special place for that reason. Jill Morton is a columnist for Dakota Student. She can be reached at jill.morton@und.edu.
I felt as if I were stepping into an alternate universe as the hum of lightsabers met my ears. I watched the lightsabers glow and dance as I waited for my first lesson in lightsaber combat to start. My son Liam, an avid Star Wars fan dressed up as Darth Vader, jumped into the fray with his blue lightsaber. Liam was full of confidence and excitement. I was also filled with excitement but was extremely nervous. Then, I remember the wise words of Master Yoda: “Fear is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate, hate leads to suffering.”

I have no time for such things in life, so I put any fear or worry aside and put my best foot forward, beginning my lesson at the Grand Forks Lightsaber Academy. I had no idea what a Lightsaber Academy would be like and expected it to be all fun and games. But, as we began with stretches and a safety talk, I quickly reassessed my expectations. Lightsaber combat is much more than just waving lightsabers around at your opponent. This was serious training for real sport combat...with lightsabers.

Ludosport lightsaber combat was created in Italy in 2006. It has since grown into an international sport. A hybrid form of martial arts and fencing, Ludosport was created to fit the same style of lightsaber combat as the Jedi and Sith in the Star Wars universe. Thomas Arntzen and Jennifer Hoffman run the Grand Forks Ludosport lightsaber Academy and teach the lightsaber training. They were extremely welcoming and the class was excited to have someone new join them.

Although Liam was not interested in learning the techniques of a Jedi, I was attempting to contain my excitement of having a “real” lightsaber in my hands and took things seriously. Liam contended himself with practicing on his own, occasionally sparring with some of the other students in the class. Arntzen started the class by walking everyone through the blocks and attacks for Form 1: Shii-cho. Hoffman stood next to me, correcting my form and giving encouragement. My classmates pitched in with tips and created a fun atmosphere, despite the seriousness of the training. Training was taken seriously, with safety coming first and preparing students for future combat competitions.

After learning the different positions for blocks and attacks, we moved on to practice sparring. Jedi training is not for the faint of heart and is a lot harder than it looks. Learning the positions was not hard and I thought I had things down pretty well. I was wrong. Putting everything together and having to move my feet at the same time was harder than I expected. Ludosport takes a lot of practice and dedication to master. My training was quite the workout but was a lot of fun. I felt a little odd when we first started, as a person normally does when trying something new but I quickly became comfortable. Liam and I had a wonderful time, fulfilling our dreams of training with lightsabers and feeling like a real Jedi.

If anyone is interested in learning lightsaber training, I highly suggest the free class offered on Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. The instructors and students are extremely welcoming and nice.

The Grand Forks Lightsaber Academy is an excellent addition to the Grand Forks community. They are excited to welcome all who are interested in Ludosport. Thank you to the Grand Forks Lightsaber Academy for the amazing training. May the Force be with you!
Little Bangkok is a well-known part of the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks downtown, and recently they expanded to a new location in the basement of the Memorial Union. This new addition to our community called for a taste test so I, along with a cohort of review assistants, went to check it out.

My friend Katherine and I ordered the same thing: a Philadelphia sushi roll and a soda. The taste was everything our community has come to expect from Little Bangkok. The salmon had a strong, but not overpowering smoky flavor, and the avocado was the freshest I've ever tasted in a Philadelphia roll. The sushi was well portioned. For someone with a small appetite, you can definitely score leftovers from a single roll, as I did. I was also pleased to leave satisfied, but feeling energized by the healthy meal. Katherine was also impressed. She commented on the overall quality of the house made sushi and the wide selection of soda. We were both content with the atmosphere.

Little Bangkok recently opened in the former Terrace Dining Center space in the Memorial Union basement. Photos by Trevor Alveshere / Dakota Student

Little Bangkok
A welcome addition to UND

Maddie Ardelean
Dakota Student

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Current After 9 Specials:
$7 Camel Sliders with Tabbouleh,
$9 Fried Chicken with greens,
$6 Mules, $4.50 Taps, $3.50 Rails

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Maddie Ardelean
Dakota Student

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Our writer Maddie gave Little Bangkok 3 1/2 out of 5 sushi rolls.
UND forward Mimi Eiden sprints with the ball down the pitch at Bronson Field during a match against Idaho State earlier this season.

Mimi Eiden, a freshman on the UND women’s soccer team, made herself right at home this year.

After a short settling-in period she began contributing points consistently. Eiden ended up with two goals and three assists by the end of the season, the second leading scorer on the team behind junior Katie Moller.

Happy but not satisfied, Eiden is excited to continue working towards an even better season in years to come.

“I think we can definitely improve. We didn’t quite reach my goals for the team this year, which we were to make it to conference playoffs,” Eiden said. “It was a little bit of a heartbreak being one point away from reaching that goal.”

Eiden is confident in her teammates and herself regarding the look for the next thing.” Eiden is positive that through the hard work and dedication of the team they will be able to reach their goals.

The soccer team has a short spring season which will provide a chance to work on improving against some teams in the North Dakota/Minnesota region.

“Everywhere in the community, there are soccer teams or right at home with her family. She is one of 17 children who range from age one to 25 years old. They’re a self-proclaimed “soccer family” and Eiden talked about how they would constantly be playing soccer in their backyard.

Five of the children, including Eiden, were adopted at the same time from Liberia. The other 12 children are all biological.

“My dad wanted to adopt one child and my mom wanted to put down six children (on the adoption form),” Eiden said. “It was crazy because they ended up getting five of us who all came from one family there.”

They’re a super close family and Eiden said she wouldn’t have it any other way.

“It’s a big family and I love it,” Eiden said. “Everyone in the family has a part. The oldest two are super alike and it goes down from there. My closest brother and I are always together.”

Eiden was looking at a couple other schools closer to home, one of which was the University of Minnesota, where she would’ve played soccer as well. However, she fell in love with the campus and the personality of the team when she came to visit UND. There was something right about Grand Forks that she couldn’t turn down.

Although Eiden moved away from her large family she was able to find a second one right here at UND.

“The best part about the team is that we’re like a family. I know other teams hang out during practice and games but we’re together all the time. It’s like a support system. If one person is down we lift them back up.”

Mimi Eiden, UND forward

Eiden “soccer family” led her here to UND.

“Soccer has always been a part of Eiden’s life whether it was through high school and club soccer teams or right at home with her family. She is one of 17 children who range from age one to 25 years old. They’re a self-proclaimed “soccer family” and Eiden talked about how they would constantly be playing soccer in their backyard.

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Mimi Eiden, UND forward
Former UND forward Chris Wilkie has never had being four years older than his brother. "With my brother already being committed to Colorado College, he was familiar with the program and spoke highly of it," Wilkie said. "I am excited to play with him in the next couple years here as well." While playing alongside his brother, the ice on the cake and the fit in Colorado was exactly what he was looking for, the brotherhood he developed in North Dakota is something that he is looking forward to returning to, among of some Grand Forks great attractions.

"Winning it all freshman year, that is a memory that I’ll always cherish for the rest of my hockey career," Wilkie said while reminiscing about being a part of the 2015-16 National Championship team. The adjustments have been long and tough and there’s something that UND’s program can’t get back and that’s a special attitude that Wilkie brings with him everywhere he goes. "His laugh, it’s just contagious. He’s a funny guy, he’s just fun to hang out with," Gerich said. "He’s a good kid, he has a good heart.

Making his return to the Ralph

Alllyson Bento
Dakota Student

Stepping into the Ralph for the first time is an experienced hockey player. The game is not the first time they have played here. The game is not the first time they have played here.

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"We always had really good chemistry off the ice and on the ice. One game we played together freshman year and the first two shifts Wilkie scored on both shifts," Gardner said. "I understand why he did it and I hope everything works out for him at Colorado College." While Wilkie won’t be eligible to play in this weekend’s game against UND, his former teammates are gearing up for the day that they see him on the ice in yellow and black. "I’ll be a little bit different playing on another team for the last two years, hopefully I can give him a lift and Gornall has headed for the Waterloo Blackhawks to play with Colorado College Will soon be home to two Wilkie’s, so that was a big factor." "Winning it all freshman year, that is a memory that I’ll always cherish for the rest of my hockey career," Wilkie said while reminiscing about being a part of the 2015-16 National Championship team. These factors have been long and tough and there’s something that UND’s program can’t get back and that’s a special attitude that Wilkie brings with him everywhere he goes. "His laugh, it’s just contagious. He’s a funny guy, he’s just fun to hang out with," Gerich said. "He’s a good kid, he has a good heart. Former UND forward Chris Wilkie visits Grand Forks with Colorado College

Allyson Bento is the sports editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at allysonmarie.bento@und.edu Photos by Nick Nelson / Dakota Student
The importance of bye week in sports programs

Nick Erickson
Dakota Student

UND sat idle on a bye week this past weekend and it seems to be coming at a good time for them. They’re 12-8-4 while being tied for fourth place with the University of Minnesota Duluth in the NCHC with only eight games remaining in the season.

Head Coach Brad Berry seems to be optimistic about the season going forward due to this bye week timing for the team. “We didn’t have a bye week in the first half, a lot of teams did,” Berry said. “This comes at a good time on a few different things on a mental and physical break, as far as getting recharged and refocused for the remaining eight games.”

UND has not had their bye week this year lined for a few weeks now, as well as leading scorer Nick Jones battling an injury as well having been held out of the lineup on Saturday of last weekend. These are two key players UND has needed in the lineup and will need in the lineup going forward until the pairwise is set at championship weekend.

The bye week this year is also being considered a potential measuring stick for how they could handle SCSU. UND goes into Nebraska to play a team that has been lighting up their scoreboard at home recently. Their last four home series they have scored 13, 15, 10, and nine during those weekends. UNO 3-5, and 2-6 in the series on the road with Nebraska-Omaha could be considered a potential measuring stick with how they could handle SCSU at the end of the season.

This bye week is also going to allow for North Dakota more time to prepare for their more difficult matchups coming at the end of the season. UND is going to need to get past Colorado College, Nebraska-Omaha, Miami and St. Cloud State. The more difficult matchups of these final four series are with Nebraska-Omaha, SCSU, and St. Cloud State. UND has needed in the lineup going forward until the pairwise is set at championship weekend.

Berry said, potentially foreshadowing the return of Nick Jones, who is hopefully joining the lineup sooner rather than later, Rhett Gardner’s injury hopefully will not keep him out for much longer. Gardner has been sidelined the past weekend beating Miami, Western Michigan, and 13 points from first. However, Brad Berry remains optimistic and steadfast with his process for the team going forward in the final push at the end of the season.

“We really got concerned about the rankings at the end of the year. You have highs and lows throughout the season. You get some adversity and you try to get through those things to make you a better team,” Berry said.

UND has faced some adversity and will continue to some in the remaining months losing Ludvig Hoff to the Norwegian Olympic team in February. Berry seemed hopeful that the return of the injured players will ease that adversity heading into the home series weekend with Colorado College.

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The bye week this year is also going to allow for North Dakota more time to prepare for their more difficult matchups coming at the end of the season. UND is going to need to get past Colorado College, Nebraska-Omaha, Miami and St. Cloud State. The more difficult matchups of these final four series are with Nebraska-Omaha, SCSU, and St. Cloud State. UND has needed in the lineup going forward until the pairwise is set at championship weekend.

Berry said, potentially foreshadowing the return of Nick Jones, who is hopefully joining the lineup sooner rather than later, Rhett Gardner’s injury hopefully will not keep him out for much longer. Gardner has been sidelined the past weekend beating Miami, Western Michigan, and 13 points from first. However, Brad Berry remains optimistic and steadfast with his process for the team going forward in the final push at the end of the season.

“We really got concerned about the rankings at the end of the year. You have highs and lows throughout the season. You get some adversity and you try to get through those things to make you a better team,” Berry said.

UND has faced some adversity and will continue to some in the remaining months losing Ludvig Hoff to the Norwegian Olympic team in February. Berry seemed hopeful that the return of the injured players will ease that adversity heading into the home series weekend with Colorado College.

Nick Erickson is a sports writer for Dakota Student. He can be reached at nick.erickson@und.edu

The importance of bye week in sports programs

Nick Erickson
Dakota Student

UND sat idle on a bye week this past weekend and it seems to be coming at a good time for them. They’re 12-8-4 while being tied for fourth place with the University of Minnesota Duluth in the NCHC with only eight games remaining in the season.

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