Print Quota Situation

Background

The approved Print Quota for Student Tech Fee 2010-2013 was $2.50 for 50 prints (per quarter). For the current STF cycle—2014-2018—the student-approved Print Quota was changed to “$2.00 for a print quota of 50 prints per quarter.” The number of prints remained constant, but the cost was reduced.

Diane Bateman recently realized that she had overlooked the change and, consequently, had not communicated the change to ATUS. (ATUS manages the Print Quota via its network of copiers/printers and the related reporting.) This means that, since 2014, students have correctly continued to receive 50 prints, but the Student Tech Fee has continued to reimburse ATUS—incorrectly—at the higher $2.50 rate.

In addition, the Student Technology Fee Operational Guidelines AY 2014-2018 document was not revised to reflect the cost reduction.

Possible Corrections

Option 1

*Starting with fall quarter 2016, make the student referendum correction going forward. That is, retain the 50 prints and reduce the ATUS reimbursement to $2.00.*

Although this is the right thing to do per the outcome of the student referendum, there is a drawback to this option.

ATUS would lose money on the print quota if we reduced the reimbursement rate from $2.50 to $2.00 going forward, because the cost of prints remains constant. In hindsight, to be consistent and account for the cost of prints, the student referendum language in spring 2013 should have been “$2.00 for 40 prints”; however, the language voted on was “$2.00 for 50 prints.”

Please note that it would be very difficult to make the corrections retroactively for 2014 and 2015.
Option 2

*Reduce the print quota to 40 prints, and reduce the ATUS reimbursement to $2.00.*

Again, this change would be consistent with the previous print quota by taking into account the cost of prints. It would also be better for ATUS’s printing budget than Option 1. However, from the students’ perspective, it might appear as if the STF were shortchanging them, instead of making a reasonable correction. (All ATUS marketing reflects 50 free prints, so students would be aware of the print reduction.)

From a perception and goodwill standpoint, Option 2 may not be the best choice.

Option 3

*Recommend that the AS Board revise the original Print Quota contribution for the 2014-2018 STF cycle to “$2.50 for 50 prints.” In other words, maintain the Print Quota at the same level as it was for the 2010-2013 cycle.*

This option would include revising the *Student Technology Fee Operational Guidelines AY 2014-2018* document from “$2.00 for a print quota with 50 prints per quarter” to “$2.50 for a print quota with 50 prints per quarter.”

The Print Quota portion of the Student Tech Fee has more than enough funds to accommodate this revision. We have been reimbursing ATUS at the $2.50 rate for three years as it is, and we still have surplus funds in the Print Quota portion for those years. See the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Print Quota Allowance (per total revenue)</th>
<th>Print Quota Expense</th>
<th>Remaining Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AY 2016</td>
<td>85,573.81</td>
<td>63,131.20</td>
<td>22,442.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY 2015</td>
<td>81,249.83</td>
<td>67,617.70</td>
<td>13,632.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY 2014</td>
<td>74,500.59</td>
<td>64,170.18</td>
<td>10,330.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on this history, we anticipate similar Print Quota surpluses for academic years 2017 and 2018 as well.