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MPIRG Study on UMM Fee Collection

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MORRIS (1/28/76) -- Results of a study requested by the Minnesota Board of Regents last Spring show that the majority of University students are aware of the Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG) and approve of having the \$1 MPIRG fee automatically included on their tuition fee statements.

A survey of 642 students conducted by telephone with a mail follow up revealed that 75 per cent of those surveyed approved of the current fee collection method, and that 90 per cent said they knew the MPIRG fee was voluntary. Eighty-one per cent knew the fee could be refunded and 64 per cent had read or been told where they could obtain fee refunds.

Fifteen per cent of those surveyed felt that the method of the collection for the fee should be changed so students could check off their preference prior to paying tuition fees, and six per cent said the MPIRG fee should be discontinued.

Eighty per cent of those contacted were from the Twin Cities campus, 11 per cent were from the Duluth campus and three per cent were from the Morris campus.

"I hope the results dispel the notion that students are sheep and are coerced into paying the fee," said Check Lear, administrative director of MPIRG.

Survey results will be presented to the Regents' Student Concerns Committee at their February meeting.

-UMM-

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