

## **STUDENT FEE BOARD TO REALLOCATE PORTION OF UHS STI TESTING FUNDS TOWARDS FLU VACCINE CLINICS**

*Vote Passes 11-1 for Student Fee Board to Reallocate 27% of UHS STI Testing Fund Towards Free Flu Vaccine Clinics For Penn State Students*

**State College, PA** - (September 2, 2020) -- In March 2020, the University Park Student Fee Board (UPSFB) voted to allocate \$420,000.00 to University Health Services for an “at no additional expense” gonorrhea & chlamydia testing pilot program for the 2020-2021 school year. This first-time fee would allow UHS to provide 10,000 tests to students, or until funds are exhausted. UHS believes this pilot program will help alleviate confidentiality issues that come with STI testing appearing on parents’ insurance statements and encourage more students to seek testing.

In early August 2020, the UPSFB received a proposal from University Health Services to divert funds from the STI testing program to fund the flu vaccine clinics for students at University Park. The full proposal received from UHS requested for \$226,800 to fund flu vaccines for 9,072 students.

On August 28th, 2020, the University Park Student Fee Board held a vote to fund half of the flu vaccine proposal, or \$113,400, which is 27% of the STI testing funds. The remaining \$306,600 from the STI funding of \$420,000 will go towards the STI testing program as soon as possible, as documented in the original STI proposal. The vote passed 11-1.

The UPSFB feels it is unlikely that the STI testing funds are going to be fully implemented and utilized this year, as UHS has limited capacity and not as many students have returned to campus due to COVID-19. Therefore, the UPSFB believes more students will benefit from the fee dollars if some funds are redirected towards flu vaccines. However, the UPSFB has also received enthusiastic support from the student body for the STI testing program, so the UPSFB wants to continue to give that program the resources it needs to succeed.

Please contact Claire Kelling, the Chair of the University Park Student Fee Board, with any questions at [studentfeepsu@gmail.com](mailto:studentfeepsu@gmail.com)