Committee: Student Scholarships, Fellowships, and Financial Aid

Meeting Date: Monday, October 25, 1999

Person Presiding: Philip Rothman

Actions of Meeting:

1. Brenda Killingsworth acknowledged the disruption caused by the hurricane. She reiterated the purpose of the committee and charged the membership with setting goals and working toward completion of those goals.

2. Nominations were taken for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. Motions were made and seconded to nominate Philip Rothman for Committee Chair, Jean-Luc Scemama for Vice-Chair, and Teresa Conner-Kerr for Secretary. All nominees were elected.

3. Linda Allred expressed concerns about the process for students who appeal the loss of financial aid. She noted that students make appeals based on perceptions of injustice rather than on legitimate grounds for appeal. Members discussed the appeals process and considered ways to limit appeals for which there is no basis. The following is a summary of the discussion.

* There is no assurance that financial aid will be continued after one year. Rose Mary Stelma and Rosie Thompson noted that as stated in #2 on the back page of the East Carolina University Grant in Aid Agreement, "there is no obligation to renew a grant-in-aid for the following year and no commitment can be given that it will be renewed."
* Rose Mary Stelma explained that even when rules of appeal are thoroughly explained, students elect to continue the process.
* There is no basis to overturn the decision of the athletic department and failure to follow policy is the only basis for appealing decisions.
* Students do have the right to make appeals.
* Assistance is available for students who appeal financial aid decisions so that information sent to the committee is clear, concise, and well written.
* It was suggested that students who are considering appealing financial aid decisions should contact the Chair of the Student Scholarships, Fellowships, and Financial Aid before appearing before the Committee.
* Coach Thompson explained that #6 has been eliminated from the Summary of Principal Terms and Conditions on the last page of the East Carolina University...
Athletic Grant-In-Aid Agreement.

4. John Tilley noted that although the minutes of July 22, 1999 were extremely complete, confidential information should be deleted. He suggested that the confidential information should be maintained in the Office of the Director of Financial Aid. Members of the committee agreed that future minutes should only include the number of petitions heard, and whether the petition was approved or denied. Accordingly, these minutes were not approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 22, 1999 at 3:00 PM in Rawl 106, at which time there will be a hearing of financial aid appeals.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Cox