Committee: Student Scholarships, Fellowships, and Financial Aid

Meeting Date: 3/22/99

Person Presiding: Philip Rothman

Actions of Meeting:
Thomas Powell, Director of Admissions, gave an overview of the process by which scholarship funds are allocated. He related that approximately 250 applications are received each year for merit scholarships.

Presently, ECU has 28 merit scholarships. These scholarships are typically awarded to the top 10% of high school students with a minimum SAT of 1200. Overall grade point average, SAT scores, school awards, school-related activities, and high school guidance counselor recommendations are all considered during the selection process. The top 65 candidates are chosen based on SAT scores and overall grade point averages. Subsequently, the top 45 candidates are chosen from this initial group based on leadership potential and subjective information such as student locale. The top 45 are then extended an invitation to scholarship weekend for an interview. Candidates are interviewed by a mixed panel of judges including potential donors, high school guidance counselors, and a faculty member.

Presently, there are 2 $7,500.00, 20 $5000.00, and 5 $2500.00 scholarships available that are renewable each year for 4 years.

The merit scholars are also given priority status for the Rivers Funding ($2500.00) for travel abroad. Other perks include: a room at the honors residence hall, leadership opportunities, guaranteed pre-early registration and social opportunities with the Chancellor and other university officials. Future offerings for merit scholars may include guaranteed slots in Medical, Physical and Occupational Therapy Classes.

The committee also asked Mr. Powell for information on how faculty might become more involved in choosing the merit scholars. This issue was not resolved.

The committee decided to hold further discussions on the possible role of the faculty in choosing merit scholars at the next meeting.

The committee asked Lori Lee about the charge of the committee. The charge will be researched and discussed at the next meeting.

Appeal date for July will be set at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 19 March 1999 at 3:30 p.m., Rawl Building, room #105.

Meeting adjourned.