FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes
Thursday, April 14, 2011, 2 – 4 pm, CAS Dean’s Conference Room

Attendance: Karla Hayashi (Academic Affairs), Hank Hennessey, Dexter Irvin, (OIA), David Miller (CAS), Marcia Sakai (CoBE), Jeff Scofield (FAO/Ex Officio), Mike Shintaku (CAFNRM), Kalena Silva (CHL), Leonard Woods (TRiO Programs), Luoluo Hong (Chair/Ex Officio)

1. Reminder that notes from last meeting on December 10, 2010, were approved electronically. Meeting notes from 9/28/10 approved by acclamation.

2. At last meeting, only College of Pharmacy had submitted a merit aid award plan that was vetted and supported. We reviewed the remaining colleges’ plans: (all drafts are attached):
   a. CAFNRM – what was shared is what has historically been the practice (what appears on the website); committee members expressed concern that the current process still lacks specificity, clarity and transparency, as it is unclear how much a student could potentially receive; the question of whether or not students should be required to actually submit an application was raised, if all we are basing it on is academic performance
      i. The greater transparency there is, the better informed students are, and the more the University can withstand appeals – in the end, the colleges decide how the dollars are distributed, but they are still expected to do so in a manner that is explainable and defensible
      ii. Jeff Scofield also strongly recommended that awards be split up between Fall and Spring, and not frontload it only in the 1st term
   b. CAS – they were informed that a portion of their College allocation would be set aside to fund two TA’s for the TCBES program
      i. The criteria and selection process are pretty simple – one application requirement is for the student to submit a list of their current aid awards but it was suggested that since the scholarships for CAS are merit-based that they consider only the amounts of other merit-based aid received
      ii. The selection committee will have a representative from each of the three CAS divisions and possibly also from the School of Nursing
iii. Need to define/describe the timeline, and again, need to define the range of the possible awards or specify the amounts  

c. CoBE – is already in the process of awarding scholarships to meritorious FTFTF who are Hawaii residents, in an effort to improve the caliber of the incoming cohort of accounting, business and econ majors; plan was developed by a faculty committee  

i. Plan has a clear stated purpose and award amounts are well-defined  

ii. The plan is not based on an application process; rather, admitted students who meet the criteria (using admissions application to UH Hilo) will be offered the scholarship on a “rolling basis,” e.g., they have a certain amount of time within which to accept the award and if they do not, then the next admitted student on the list is offered a scholarship  

iii. Continuation into Spring is contingent on maintaining 3.0 GPA in Fall term – it was noted that the College needs to be committed the checking the grades and notifying the student over the Winter Break  


d. CHL – question was raised whether or not these funds could be used unclassified students and the committee acknowledged that this is the College’s prerogative should they wish; they will adopt some of the comments made in reviewing the other colleges’ plans; Kalena asked for feedback on the application assessment they are proposing; it was suggested that GPA, community service and personal statement be used to determine merit, and then only use amount of other merit aid received to “break a tie;” also, it was suggested that the criteria be quantified in some way to make assessments easier to do  

e. HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:  

i. CAFNRM, CAS and CoBE’s revised drafts will be submitted by April 30th 4:30 PM  

ii. For those with application forms, please supply them to Financial Aid Office and we will work to add these to our central scholarship resource page  

3. Overview of Office of Intercollegiate Athletics  

a. Scholarship aid is determined on the basis if “equivalencies” – in PacWest Conference, equivalencies are calculated on the basis of the cost of room, board, tuition, fees and books (note that other conferences use the total cost of education as determined by the Financial Aid Office) – all athletic aid a student receives whether from on- or off-campus sources must count towards the equivalency  

b. At UH Hilo, these amounts are $14,106 for in-state, $16,922 for WUE, and $25,774 for out-of-state, and we are allowed a total of 81 equivalencies
c. All prospective student athletes who wish to receive athletic aid must apply to the NCAA Clearinghouse, who reviews and determines their eligibility and confirms their amateur status; they notify the campus if the student-athlete can receive a grant-in-aid.

d. There is a national signing date when all student-athletes can sign letters of intents to indicate their attendance the following year (which is today!)

e. We also ask all student-athletes to submit a FAFSA to ensure we don’t over-award them.

f. Awards of grants-in-aid are made as follows (along with max Division II equivalencies allowed), and this determines how much the program receives in their total scholarship budget to allocate as they wish:

i. **Tier One Sports** – Men’s Basketball (10), Women’s Basketball (10), and Women’s Volleyball (8) – FUNDED AT 100% OF THE WUE EQUIVALENCY EXCEPT WOMEN’S BASKETBALL IS AT IN-STATE EQUIVALENCY

ii. **Tier Two Sports** – Men’s Soccer (9), Women’s Soccer (9.9), Baseball (9), Softball (7.2), Men’s Golf (3.6), Women’s Tennis (6) – FUNDED AT 50% OF THE IN-STATE EQUIVALENCY

iii. **Tier Three Sports** – Women’s Golf (5.4), Men’s Tennis (4.5), Men’s Cross Country (5), Women’s Cross Country (6) – FUNDED AT 25% OF THE IN-STATE EQUIVALENCY

4. The topic of identifying guiding principles for deciding the 2012-13 allocation was deferred. In the meantime, committee members were asked to think about the kinds of clarifying questions they would like to see addressed as we begin to formulate the next allocation. As a reminder, we would need to deliver a recommendation to the Chancellor for review no later than November 2011. Possible questions might include, but are not limited to:

   a. Do we want to increase the proportion (we are now mandated at 60% but we have awarded at 65%) of the tuition assistance allocation fund that is directed to need-based aid?
b. Do we want to increase the percentage amount of tuition (currently 15%) that is “taken off the top” from tuition revenue?

c. What should be our level of continued investment in graduate/professional student aid versus undergraduate student aid?

d. Do we want to continue our current process for awarding the college-based central merit pool?

Respectfully submitted,

Luoluo Hong

4/14/11