

CORRECTION

The PASFAA Newsletter dated December, 1980, should have been indexed as Volume XIII, Number 1. You may wish to make that change on your copy of that Newsletter.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Executive Council met in the Hauptert Union Building of Moravian College on January 12, 1981. PASFAA Vice President, William Irwin of Lock Haven State College, the Chairman of the Government Relations Committee, reported that his committee was anxious to learn of President Reagan's budget proposals as they would impact the various federal student financial aid programs. Dr. Irwin noted that the Committee was set and ready to respond independently and through NASFAA as information on those proposals becomes available.

Art James, 1981 Conference Chairman and Director of Financial Aid at Harrisburg Area Community College, reported that Dr. Gene Causby of the North Carolina Department of Education, had been contracted to provide two half-day sessions on "Conflict Resolution" at the PASFAA Conference. Those individuals who attended the PASFAA Conference in 1979, will recall that Dr. Causby was very well received as one of the main speakers at that conference. The Conference is set for the Pocono Hershey Resort on October 4-7, 1981.

Sal Ciolino, PASFAA Past President and Chairman of the Membership and Elections Committee, reported that technical problems had resulted in a delay in the production of the PASFAA Directory. He anticipated that distribution of that directory will be possible in late February. (As of mid February, PASFAA has a total membership of 310 persons.)

Jack Ferrara, PASFAA President and Director of Financial Aid at East Stroudsburg State College, reported that the membership professional liability insurance contract had been finalized with the Fred S. James and Company, Inc., of PA, Harrisburg. It is anticipated that this liability insurance will become effective with the 1981-82 PASFAA year and that the fee for this insurance will be part of the PASFAA dues structure for that year.

John Brugel, PASFAA President-Elect and Director of Financial Aid at the Pennsylvania State University, was authorized to represent PASFAA at a meeting to be held in Chicago on January 26. The purpose of that meeting, which was called the Ad Hoc Meeting on Needs Analysis and Financial Aid Forms, was arranged by a number of Financial Aid Officers from the midwest and eastern portions of the country. It appeared to Council that, based on the information available, there was consideration being given to the possibility of establishing a more conservative needs analysis formula for the distribution of student aids than was thought to be the likelihood at the federal level. Dr. Brugel will report to Council in this regard at Council's March 10 meeting.

Dr. Brugel also reported that for 1981-82 the State Student Financial Aid Training Project (SSFATP) had not been funded and that the continuance of broad-based financial aid training was in jeopardy. PASFAA and PHEAA, as a joint venture, will be applying for grant funds from the federal government consistent with the Education Amendments of 1980 as soon as appropriate guidelines and application procedures are available. It was the concensus of Council that PASFAA needed to be involved in professional training projects regardless of the source or availability of funds, even if the effort must be a greatly reduced one.

PHEAA UNIFORM METHODOLOGY SERVICES

Nearly 100 postsecondary institutions have now become at least partially involved in the PHEAA Uniform Methodology Needs Analysis/Packaging Service. In its recognition of the commitment made by these institutions and of the disruption that the withdrawal of such service could cause, the PHEAA Board of Directors, at its January 22 meeting, adopted policy that would protect participating institutions from the short notice withdrawal of those services. The text of that adopted policy is:

WHEREAS the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency provides a free Uniform Methodology and Need Analysis Packaging Service for students and institutions of higher education and through its terminal network, provides financial aid data accessible by the financial aid officer personnel at postsecondary institutions located throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS the disruption of these services or a change in the arrangements under which they are offered could have severe repercussions on the institutions that avail themselves of this service and consequently on the students attending these institutions as well;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency will make every effort, should it become necessary to terminate the PHEAA Uniform Methodology Need Analysis and Packaging Service or to begin charging the institutions for the service, to notify the financial aid personnel at Pennsylvania institutions using the service at least one year in advance of January 1 of the first application year for which the service will not be offered, or offered only at a charge, so that the institutional personnel will have sufficient lead time to revise their letters of instruction, financial aid brochures, application procedures, and other pertinent materials as well as to redevelop their own internal procedures for need analysis and packaging.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGREEMENT

In December, 1980, the Association was asked to send five (5) representatives to Washington under the auspices of the American Council of Education for the purpose of meeting with federal and state Vocational Rehabilitation personnel to finalize an agreement for the coordination of financial aid funds with Vocational Rehabilitation funds in the Commonwealth. The President of the Association, a representative of a private institution, a representative of a major state university, and a representative of a major wheelchair campus were to be among the five persons attending the meeting. PASFAA President Jack Ferrara, President-Elect John Brugel, Past President Sal Ciolino, Council Member Kenneth Brandt, and PASFAA Member Charles Coulton represented Pennsylvania at this meeting.

Consistent with the expressed wishes of the PASFAA Assembly at the October, 1980, Association meeting, and consistent with federal law, the Executive Council has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. This Memorandum of Understanding provides for voluntary institutional participation in a coordinated effort to make more uniform the handling of financial aid and Vocational Rehabilitation for their support to handicapped students throughout the Commonwealth. A copy of that agreement is being provided to all PASFAA members in a

separate mailing. It should be clearly understood that individual institutional participation in this project is strictly voluntary. It should also be clearly understood that federal law forbids the discrimination or special handling of financial aid applicants on the basis of their handicap.

CORRECTION

The December, 1980, Newsletter indicated in error that August 1, 1981, was the deadline for PHEAA Grant applications for 1981-82. The correct deadlines are May 1, 1981, for ALL renewal applicants and ALL new applicants planning to enroll in Baccalaureate Degree programs. August 1, 1981, is the deadline for non-renewal applicants who plan to enroll in business, trade, technical schools, hospital school of nursing, or two-year terminal programs at community, junior, or four-year colleges.

CORRECTION

The December, 1980, Newsletter recognized the 1980 PASFAA Conference Committee. Unfortunately, Frank Dutkovitch, of Duquesne University, was not mentioned as a member of that committee. We apologize for that and certainly extend to Frank our thanks for his efforts in the Association's behalf.

HELP NEEDED

All PASFAA members are encouraged to submit items for publication in the PASFAA Newsletter. Certainly, some aid officers conducted original research concerning financial aid which would be of interest to other aid officers. Why not share it with us. Information and/or articles should be submitted to PASFAA Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Jenny M. Taylor, Williamsport Area Community College, Williamsport, PA, 17701.

REAGAN PROPOSAL

All of us have been reading in various communications the number of distressing proposals that President Reagan made in his budget message in regards to student financial aid programs. One of the proposals which this writer has not seen in print, but which was being expressed on the NASFAA hotline during the week of February 23, is that the \$10 per student Basic Grant Administrative Allowance which educational institutions have already been authorized to draw down for 1980-81 be rescinded and that the institutions be ordered to repay those dollars to the fund. NASFAA is seeking legal assistance in combating that particular nightmare.