

SUMMARY OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Executive Council held its January 4 meeting in Harrisburg at PHEAA, Towne House.

Treasurer Nan Meyer reported to Council that PASFAA's records had been audited by Vince Femia of Villanova University on November 20, 1981. Following a review of 65 per cent of the Association's expenditures, no exceptions were found. The corporation's 1980 federal tax return has also been completed and has been submitted to the IRS.

Chairman William Irwin reported that the Government Relations Committee had met on December 11, 1981, with PHEAA staff in a liaison capacity for planning for the 1982-83 state grant program. The number of dollars which will be available is a major concern. PHEAA projects a need for \$11 million in addition to its current funding to "hold its own" in terms of awards made to students (assuming that SSIG funds will continue to be available). PHEAA staff has taken the position that the Agency will return to a maximum grant of \$1,500 for academic year 1982-83.

Dr. Irwin proposed that his committee be divided into two subcommittees. One of these would be concerned with the regulatory process. The second would deal with the need for impacting on the appropriations process and would be responsible for finding PASFAA members who would be willing to help accomplish this objective.

Ken Reeher met with Council, pointing out that there appears to be a disturbing new emphasis on the PLUS program. Many graduate students would be forced into this program after being eliminated from GSL eligibility. Most graduates borrowing money under PLUS would be forced to let interest accrue. Since lending institutions must pay interest on this amount, even if uncollected, banks would choose to make fewer loans. Also, since graduate students would be paying interest on interest during repayment, it would cause the loan to be so expensive that many students may consider the expense to be too great; hence, anticipated decreases in graduate school enrollments.

Targeted federal cuts which would be effective April, 1982 (affecting those enrolling in Summer, 1982, and after) include (1) 10% origination fee on GSL, (2) GSL maximums will equal remaining need for all borrowers (an estimated 41% of the 1981-82 borrowers would be ineligible in 1982-83), (3) eliminate graduate students from GSL borrowing, (4) increase annual PLUS limits from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and allow an aggregate maximum of \$40,000 instead of the current \$25,000, (5) state guarantee agencies would be required to send one-half of the money collected in insurance premiums to the federal government, (this would cost PHEAA \$2.5 million in 1982-83, would probably cause PHEAA to double its current insurance premium), (6) eliminate special allowance paid on borrower's behalf two years after student finishes school.

Pennsylvania Aid Administrators Training Program Announces 1982 Schedule

Pennsylvania Aid Administrators Training Program is a joint effort of PASFAA and PHEAA whose goal is to provide opportunities for the financial aid community to obtain current information regarding changing regulations, to develop management skills and techniques, and to provide for training of recent initiates into the financial aid profession. Following is a list of training activities of PAATP.

March 11 and 12, 1982: Workshops for high school counselors will be presented at the 26th annual conference of the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association at Hershey (depending upon interest generated at the conference, a two day workshop may be scheduled later in the summer).

March 17, 24, 31, 1982 (tentative dates): Half-day regional workshops will be presented for lenders and aid administrators. Information regarding definite dates and times will be forthcoming from PAATP.

April 6, 7, 13, 14, and 15: One day regional workshops will be presented for new and experienced financial aid secretarial staff. Sites have not yet been determined but there will be three workshops in the western region, three workshops in the eastern region and two workshops in the central region. Information regarding topics and locations will be mailed in the near future.

July 18-23: In conjunction with the office of Student Financial Assistance, Student Financial Aid Training Program and the New Jersey Financial Aid Administrators Association, a week-long workshop for new financial aid and fiscal officers will be held at Dickinson College. The workshop will be approximately \$175 which will include room and board and all conference materials. Information regarding the workshop will be forthcoming from SFA in Washington.

October 3-6: Training for new aid administrators will again be part of the annual PASFAA Conference at the Harrisburg Marriott.

Further information about the PAATP training program can be obtained from Arthur James, President-Elect, PASFAA.

1982 Conference Committee Reports

The 1982 Conference Committee met at the conference site in January for its first official session.

Chairman William Boyd reports that the site, the Harrisburg Marriott, and the dates, October 3-6, 1982, have been confirmed. The facility is little more than a year old and offers first quality meeting space, recreational opportunities, and the flexibility to accomodate a large group.

As the Committee puts together the conference agenda, your input is welcome. Please contact Bill Boyd at Penn State if you have any ideas for topics which you would like to see included as part of the program.

Changes in Social Security Laws Affect Student Benefits

taken from the Chronicle of Higher Education, January 20, 1982

Under new federal guidelines, college students may continue to receive Social Security benefits only if they:

- Are enrolled full time in an institution of higher education before May, 1982.
- Were on the Social Security rolls - either as a high school or college student - before September, 1981. (Children who became eligible for benefits after that date, even if they are now enrolled in college, will receive payments only until July, 1982.)

Eligible students can continue to draw benefits until April, 1985, or their twenty-second birthday - whichever comes first - as long as they are unmarried and enrolled full time.

However, those benefits will be subject to the following reductions:

- Students will receive 25 per cent less in the academic year beginning September, 1982, 50 per cent less as of September, 1983, and 75 per cent less as of September, 1984. All payments will be eliminated after April, 1985.
- Annual cost-of-living increases will be eliminated.
- Benefits will no longer be paid for the months of May, June, July, and August.

New Members Join Association

G. Robert Converse, Director of Financial Aid
Williamsport Area Community College
1005 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
(717) 326-3761

James Donahue, Financial Aid Director
Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales
Station Avenue, Center Valley, PA 18034
(215) 282-1100

Steven Riley, Admissions Director
Erie Business Center
246 West Ninth Street, Erie, PA 16501
(814) 456-7504

Tony Summers, Financial Aid Director
Community College of Allegheny County-Boyce
595 Beatty Road, Monroeville, PA 15137
(412) 371-8651

Please add these names to your PASFAA membership directory.

Message to Private Four-Year Members
from Barry W. McCarty

As your representative on the PASFAA Executive Council, I strongly encourage you to communicate your views to the appropriate officials on pending rescission and other legislation in Washington and in Harrisburg. If I can be of assistance in interpreting information or handling requests for lobbying input received, please telephone me at 215/250-5055.

The upcoming six months may prove critical in our attempt to ensure access and choice in higher education. We may be asked to take valuable time to convey our views and have students and families get involved when other matters are pressing. Please try to do your part.

Renee Saleh Receives Award

The College Board Middle States Regional Association, Financial Division, held its 1982 meeting at the Franklin Plaza Hotel in Philadelphia on Thursday, February 4, 1982. At this meeting, Renee Saleh, Director of Financial Aid at Kutztown State College, was named the recipient of the Association's Outstanding Service Award for outstanding contributions to the field of financial aid administration.

Mrs. Saleh is currently Treasurer of EASFAA and has previously served as PASFAA President, the PASFAA community college at-large representative, SSFATP trainer, as well as participating on a number of PASFAA committees. She has also created a course as a public service in her community for parents and students entitled, "How To Finance A College Education".

Obituaries

Calixto (Cal) Marques, Chief, Program Review Branch, OSFA, Department of Education's Region III office and former PASFAA member, passed away in December, 1981. The family has asked that contributions be made to the American Cancer Society. For those wishing to extend their sympathy, Mrs. Marques' address is Huckleberry Hill, P. O. Box 148-C, R. D. #2, Factoryville, PA 18419.

H. Robert Fleming, former PHEAA Regional Director, passed away on January 4, 1982. Bob had served the Lancaster region for thirteen years, from June, 1967, through May, 1980.

EASFAA Initiates Hotline

EASFAA is now offering weekly messages in the form of a hotline. The telephone number for this service is (617) 495-1900.