

## **Admissions and Enrollment Management Council**

### **Meeting Minutes for November 13, 2012**

**Attendance:** Committee Members Christina Aiello, Aria Cheo, Shan Feng, Robert Wolk, and Karen Decker

In addition the Committee was joined by:

Kristen Cohen, VP, Enrollment Management

Nancy Norville, Director, Annual Giving and Special Development Programs

Amanda Vasquez, Director, Office of Scholarships

Amanda Vasquez shared information about the policies and procedures associated with Institutional scholarships and Alumni and Foundation scholarships. Most students at WPU who have scholarships have Institutional scholarships. Current requirements for Institutional scholarships are SAT scores, High School GPA, and High School class ranking. There is a matrix used to determine how much of a scholarship (\$2000-\$8000) a student is offered. Students do not apply for these. They get awarded through admission applications.

Nancy Norville explained the funding and procedures of Alumni and Foundation scholarships. These are funded through private donors and money raised through the foundation. These scholarships are for currently enrolled students and are competitive in nature. Although the scholarships are competitive, most are for very high achievement, but there are some based on work ethic, community involvement, and other qualities. Most foundation scholarships are renewable each year, but students must reapply annually. Most scholarships are earmarked for tuition and other direct costs such as books, fees, and room and board.

Requirements for scholarships are currently under review and will be changing in the Fall, 2013 semester. This is part of the strategic plan.

Information about scholarships is shared with students through a variety of sources. There are some pamphlets and fliers that are available to students. Information is sent to the Deans and Associate Deans in all colleges to share with faculty and students. They are seeking avenues for more advertising.

Amanda Vasquez shared that applications for scholarships are usually due by March for scholarships for the following year. Last year about 1100 students began the application but only 332 students completed the application. It seems many stop at the essay although it is unclear why. Workshops are available to assist students with the application process. Robert Wolk suggested that research be done to get a clearer ideas of why students are not completing the application.

Suggestions from the committee included:

1. Collect more data about why students are not applying for scholarships and/or completing the applications as then we can specifically target those issues.
2. Directly contact high achieving students like those on the Dean's list.
3. Have a Scholarship Day for faculty in each college to share information that they can bring back to students.
4. Have a university Scholarship Day for students. Possibly partner with financial aid. Faculty Senate can encourage faculty to attend and support.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Decker