Scholarship Administrators Meeting – Minutes

October 3 2018

Special guest presenter: Carrie Ryan Gallia-Associate General Counsel: Important things to know about scholarships:

- It is a constitutional issue regarding who we can restrict scholarships to;
- Scholarship decisions have the same factors as Admissions;
- Race can be considered one of many factors for both public and private schools.

The University has as part of its mission statement a commitment to diversity. Our actions are considered the actions of the state. The University’s definition of diversity is broader than any law. We open our scholarships to green card holders, those with lawful status – beyond being a U.S. citizen.

Race is the most scrutinized element – cannot restrict solely on the basis of race; no demographic replica of the state population either – it’s unconstitutional. Sex/gender (since 1976) is recognized as a protected class – no restrictions for male/female only. You cannot restrict on a protected class basis so can’t have a named scholarship “Women in science” as the name could pose a barrier.

The University of Minnesota can give preference to students who contribute to diversity on campus. It is ok to give a (+) factor so that in your eligible pool you can elevate someone for race, in other words a “bump” in consideration which is not the same as a de facto decision.

→ If a group has underrepresentation that is meaningful and significant there is no obligation to document this, rather you need to act in good faith.

University Endowments (Carrie representing inside U of M) vs Foundation (separate from the University): responsibility lies separately at the school for enforcement of stipulations. Carrie has years’ worth of work to review the various existing scholarships for compliance with current standards. You are welcome to make her aware of scholarships you know about that might not be meeting the newest standards.

STAR Training Video Demo

Special guests: Mary O’Brien & Peter Dahl, Foundation Data management: STAR Training Video Presentation. There are 400 people in the user community and previously you would have to attend an in person training session (1.5 hrs. long) and try to remember the few nuggets of information that applied to you whereas now you can use the on demand videos to provide self-training. Each report has its’ own video. The hope is these will make it easier for teams to use the STAR tool.

Admissions Update: Jenny Malek

- For 2018 we expected 5900 (and ended up with 5977 figure now available)
- 3 Platforms for applications to get in (Institutional, Common Application, Coalition)
-Key Dates Early Action Nov 1 (full consideration for admissions, honors, and scholarships) will hear back by January 31.

- Regular Deadline Jan 1 (full consideration for admissions, honors, and scholarships) will hear back by March 31

-Self reported Academic record (will still submit later by July 1 for confirmed students)
  a. Self-reported grades
  b. Self-reported test scores
  c. Goal to give students control over their applications and timeframe

-Rolling out scholarship offers in October

-Admitted freshman are considered for Admission to UHP (Honors Program) and most academic scholarships. Most are awarded to MN residents with a number of competitive National Scholarship awarded to non-residents (Tuition waivers set dollar amounts are: $15K, $10K, $5K)

Poll of the group- Nate Rosckes

Consensus seemed to be that the university community represented in the room agreed that they support students receiving their scholarships when they are in a final period of enrollment and are enrolled in less than full time. However, there were some who raised concerns because they had specific scholarships that indicated “full-time” is mandatory. For now - OSF will continue to work with admins/students on individual basis to authorize scholarship disbursement at less than full-time.