

No-need:

Scholarships based on academics, not need, may increase

By PHIL GALEWITZ
Collegian Staff Writer

The use of no-need or academically based merit scholarships has become an increasingly important issue with the increased competition in recruiting highly ranked students.

The University's Presidential Committee for Recruiting Academically Superior Students has studied the recruitment policies and has come up with a proposal to improve recruitment techniques with an increase in scholarships based on academic excellence rather than financial need, the chairman of the committee said.

Paul Axt said this proposal is now on University President Bryce Jordan's desk waiting for action. "It is an ambitious proposal to use University funds to recruit students with no aid," Axt said. "Penn State should be competing very strongly with other public colleges but we are not at the moment."

Axt added that the University's offering of no-need scholarships is quite small for a school its size.

Of the 580 scholarships sponsored solely by the University, only 42 are specifically for no-need students, said Charles Boland, assistant director of institutional programming.

"An increase in no-need scholarships will not detract from funds directed to student aid but will complement them," said William Richardson, executive vice president and University provost.

Students who receive aid from the federal government would not be affected by an increase in the University's no-need scholarships, said John Brugel, director of the Office of Student Aid. Funds directed to students will go to the students regardless of other programs developed.

In the past, the University has not made a great deal of effort to support an increase in solely merit-based scholarships, Axt said. He said he hopes the situation will change in the near future.

Although the University has many highly academically ranked students, we "don't have our fair share of those on top of the heap," he said.

In earlier years, there was a reluctance by the University Board of Trustees to recruit students based solely on academic excellence because of monetary reasons, Axt said.

The trustees were more concerned with removing financial barriers to students in need. Richard-

son said access was the important emphasis in response to public policy in the 1960s and 1970s.

Another reason for the minimal number of no-need scholarships is the low number of donated awards for academic excellence that do not stipulate a need for funds, Brugel said.

Other large schools in the East have taken many different views on the no-need scholarship issue.

The University of Pittsburgh has 160 scholarships and awards that are not based on financial need but rather on awarding academic excellence, said Betsy Porter, associate director of admissions and student aid.

"No-need scholarships make schools who use them more attractive to students," Porter said.

The primary reason for the no-need scholarships is to recognize academic superiority. Attracting better students is only of secondary importance, she said.

"If schools are in need of higher ranked academic students then they deserve their fair share, but if an institution does not have the services and programs available to the student then the school is providing a disservice," Porter said.

"Students must be attracted for the right reasons, not only to improve the school's image," Porter said.

Ivy League schools basically follow the principle of not giving out any no-need scholarships to students, said Marilyn Tschubudi, financial aid adviser at Columbia University.

About 60 percent of the students at Columbia receive some type of federal aid and 90 percent receive some kind of assistance, Tschubudi said.

"The tradition at Columbia has always been not to favor some students over others, and is fairer to reward students based on need rather than academic excellence," Tschubudi said.

Whether to have no-need scholarships is up to each school and if some institutions prefer them, "more power to them," Tschubudi said.

At the University of Michigan, several hundred of these no-need scholarships are set aside for in- and out-of-state students, said Mike Donahue, assistant director of admissions.

In 1980, the Michigan policy of not handing out any scholarships not based on financial need was changed in response to the actions of other schools, said Donahue.

"The University of Michigan did not want to lose highly ranked academic students to other univer-



Minority cultural center to be rededicated Sat.

By DON HULL
Collegian Staff Writer

In an effort to increase the visibility of minority students, the Walnut Building will be rededicated as the Paul Robeson Cultural Center by staff members and University administrators in a short ceremony at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow.

Larry Young, the center's director, said the rededication will give blacks and other minority students a newly renovated building where they can come to relax and enjoy the company of students who have much in common with each other.

The Paul Robeson Cultural Center used to be known by some students as simply the Walnut Building. Young said the rededication better reflects the various functions of the center.

"The fact that the Paul Robeson Cultural Center has been housed in the Walnut Building has generated some misunderstanding in the function and has lessened the interest of the University in Paul Robeson's visibility," said James Stewart, director of the Black Studies Program and associate professor of economics.

The building was used solely as a cultural center, but the name did not represent that. The name 'Walnut Building' carried a non-descriptive purpose which meant nothing, Young said.

"Now the function of the center is to provide facilities for existing programs and to create programs for the black experience," Young said.

Young said Paul Robeson was one of the few successful blacks who refused to turn his back on the

'Now the function of the center is to provide facilities for existing programs and to create programs for the black experience.'

—Larry Young, the center director

lynchings that occurred during the 1930s and '40s.

"What (Paul Robeson) represented to blacks was what the black collegiate experience was all about in the areas of intelligence, athletic ability and conscience," he said. "In many ways he was a forerunner for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

The building was renovated at a cost of \$200,000.

"The renovation made the building more usable for a variety of things. The center has had no real renovations in many, many years," Young said.

The center now has two new meeting rooms, one with a movie screen, to accommodate smaller groups. Before, if two meetings were taking place at the same time, some confusion resulted because the groups were within a few feet of each other, Young said.

The center also has new furniture, draperies and carpeting throughout the building. Additional renovations include the remodeling of the kitchen, increasing security for artwork displays in the gallery and redecorating of offices.

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Hub Reading Room any time between 9 am and 4 pm

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The Professional Staff of the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) invites you to consider joining a group

The following groups will be offered to full-time students during the Fall Semester:

- Relationships** — Learning to handle various difficulties, such as conflicts with peers, intimates, parents or other authorities; break-ups; loneliness, etc. Offered at various times.
- Stress Reduction** — Learning to relax and examining beliefs and feelings in order to effectively handle a variety of stressful situations. Tues., 2:30-4:00 P.M., Wed., 3:35-4:45 P.M., Thurs., 2:30-4:00 P.M.
- Weight Control Readiness** — Dealing with attitudes, beliefs, and feelings related to being overweight so as to more effectively participate in various weight control programs. Fri., 10:15-11:45 A.M.
- Bulimarexia Readiness** — Identifying emotional and personal patterns related to bingeing and weight reduction as a first step in dealing with these problems. Wed., 3:30-5:00 P.M.
- Bulimarexia** — Focusing on problem eating patterns and the personal/emotional concerns that accompany bingeing and weight reduction. Wed., 7:00-8:30 P.M.
- Bulimarexia, Self-control** — Behavioral self-control for dealing with problems of bingeing and weight reduction. Tues., 2:30-4:00 P.M.
- Art of Friendship Building** — Learning to make, deepen, and sustain friendships by examining blocks and learning communication skills. Tues., 2:30-3:45 P.M.
- Beating the Clock with Time Management** — Focus on strategies to better planning and managing time pressures, or dealing with procrastination. Tues., 2:30-3:45 P.M.
- Perfectionism: Fear of Being Human** — Focus on measuring success and failure realistically and valuing yourself without the pressure to be the Perfect Person. Tues., 2:30-3:45 P.M.
- Assertiveness** — Learning to effectively assert personal rights and what you stand for, without harmful aggression. Fri., 10:15-11:45 A.M.
- Self-criticism/Self-esteem** — Exploring and modifying the harsh judgments we make toward ourselves, learning self-acceptance. Wed., 3:30-5:00 P.M.
- Loss** — Examining and dealing with reactions to personal loss of someone close resulting from death or serious illness. Thurs., 7:00-8:30 P.M.
- Graduate Student** — Exploring and dealing with the problems and stresses of graduate student life, such as with relationships and academic progress. Time to be announced.
- Substance Abuse** — Learning to control abuse of alcohol and other drugs and to resolve the personal/emotional difficulties that may be related to abuse. Time to be announced.
- Personal Problems/Emotional Concerns** — Learning to better deal with anxiety, depression, confusion, anger, frustration, etc., in various aspects of your life. Offered at various times.

For information and help in deciding about participating, call 863-0395 or stop by Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. at 217 Ritenour Health Center.

Tuesday, Sept. 11th is BLUE LETTER DAY

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