Financial Aid Update

Johnson & Wales University is transitioning to direct lending for the 2010-11 academic year. Borrowers no longer need to research and then select a private lender for their federal loans, such as Stafford or Parent Plus. Going forward, each federal loan borrower (new and returning) will be required to have the same lender, the Department of Education, as well as the same loan benefits.

Students are encouraged to take the following steps to ensure the timely processing of awards:

1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available online. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov and file before the priority deadline of March 1, 2010 using school code 003404.

2. Complete required entrance counseling online at https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/BorrowerWelcomePage.jsp (this requirement only applies to borrowers who have not borrowed previously).

3. Both new and returning students must complete an updated electronic master promissory note online at https://dlenote.ed.gov/empn/index.jsp as early as January 1, 2010 (and no later than May 1, 2010).

Both parents and students will need their Personal Identification Number (www.pin.ed.gov). The same PIN used when completing the FAFSA will work for the electronic master promissory note. Any questions about these websites should be directed to Applicant Services for Direct Loans, 1-800-557-7394.

Student Financial Services encourages parents interested in the Plus Loan to apply early. The process takes 1-5 business days to obtain loan status results with the Department of Education. Parents who have applied for a PLUS loan in the past and were denied (thus making their child eligible for increased Stafford money) should re-apply for a PLUS loan and can do so as early as January 1, 2010.

Student Financial Services looks forward to working with you and your student along the path towards graduation.

Tips for Parents from Experiential Education & Career Services

1) If you are catching those "after-holiday" deals, give your student a perfect "career-friendly" gift: a nice tie, dress shoes, a suit or a leather notebook.
2) Help your student acquire technological skills since computer competencies are a “must” for many career paths.
3) Encourage your student to stay up-to-date with current events.
4) Stress the importance of networking and encourage your student to attend networking events.
5) Start the new year off right -- encourage your student to participate in events sponsored by Experiential Education & Career Services!

Making the Most of Winter...

Now that the holidays have come and gone, the coldest stretch of winter can seem like an eternity as students wait with baited breath for spring break. Encourage your student to take advantage of these campus and community resources and make the most of winter!

- Visit www.jwu.edu/charlotte > Student Life > Events Calendar for a glimpse of events happening on campus.
- Check out www.charlottecultureguide.com for a list of Charlotte’s cultural events and happenings, including theatrical and musical performances.
- The official Charlotte travel resource, www.charlottesgotalot.com, has a calendar of events that can help inform your student of various events around Charlotte, including gallery crawls and sporting events.