

# Annual Goals for Student Financial Services (SFS)

2011-2012

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<b>Goal 1:</b>	Staffing and Training Initiative
<b>Description:</b>	At the date of writing this report, SFS had one new SFS team member in her probationary period of employment. We have three more team members who have less than two years of experience. We also have one new student employee who began in June 2011. Therefore the training process in Federal Student Aid regulations will continue in earnest through the coming year. All of these employees will require ongoing training for some time to come. (Supports University Goals 1, 2, and 4; University Priority Initiatives 4 and 9)
<b>Budget:</b>	0
<b>University Goals Supported:</b>	1,2,4
<b>Strategic Goals Supported:</b>	
<b>Responsibility:</b>	Director of SFS
<b>Participation:</b>	
<b>Results:</b>	Institutional financial resources are budgeted for this initiative. No additional employee funding is anticipated. Increased funding for conference and training workshops is desired. Status of Priority Initiative/Action Item 1 (to be completed in June): This initiative has been met through in-house training and by sending employees to webinars, conferences and workshops as planned. Six SFS team members have been able to attend at least one training workshop or conference in the 2011-2012 year. Expenditure for Priority Initiative/Action Item 1 (completed in June) Costs have been paid for through the departmental budget. No additional funds are needed for the remainder of the year.
<b>Actions/Improvements:</b>	

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<b>Goal 2:</b>	Federal Reporting Initiative
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**Description:** Complete Federal student aid program reporting in compliance with regulatory requirements. (Supports University Goals 1, 2, and 4; University Priority Initiatives 4 and 9)

**Budget:** 0

**University Goals Supported:** 1,2,4

**Strategic Goals Supported:**

**Responsibility:** Director of SFS

**Participation:**

**Results:** Institutional financial resources are already budgeted for this initiative. No additional funding is anticipated. Status of Priority Initiative/Action Item 2: (completed in September 2011) All Federal Aid programs were balanced for the 2011-2012 award year. Expenditure for Priority Initiative/Action Item 2: No additional funding from SFS is anticipated.

**Actions/Improvements:**

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**Goal 3:** Financial Aid Awareness Initiative

**Description:** Getting students to apply for financial aid in a timely manner is a universal problem across the industry. Students today are very prone to procrastinating about the many steps of the financial aid process. Students are not likely to apply for scholarships that require an essay. Students will put off filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) because they think it is difficult to complete. Students rely heavily on parents to help them in all phases of applying for financial aid. This initiative is for the SFS Team to take a proactive approach in disseminating information about applying for financial aid. We hope to conduct more financial aid workshops at various schools to accomplish this initiative. We might offer one or two small scholarships to encourage students and parents to attend these workshops. No additional funding is needed. Costs will be handled from the SFS budget. (Supports University Goals 1, 2 and 4; University Priority Initiatives 4 and 9)

**Budget:** 0

**University Goals Supported:** 1,2,4

**Strategic Goals**

**Supported:**

**Responsibility:** Director of SFS

**Participation:**

**Results:** The Office of SFS conducted nine (9) separate financial aid programs at area high schools in Feb. and March 2012. We were able to reach 16% of the eligible senior class students of these high schools. The office also conducted four (4) FAFSA workshops in March and April 2012 at which students and parents were able to file the Federal Student Aid application form. The office also conducted eight (8) sessions on campus in March and April 2012 to help bring awareness to new Federal Aid regulations. We had a lower than expected response rate from UNA students at these workshops.

**Actions/Improvements:** I will continue to try to provide financial aid workshops in Jan. - April 2013 to students and parents in order to provide critical information about the federal aid process. I hope to find a way to improve on the response rate at these workshops.