**ANNUAL REPORT**

**Date Due: July 31, 2021**

*Student Financial Services Committee*

**University of North Alabama**

**Florence, Alabama**

**\_Dr. Kristy Oden\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_6/22/2021\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Committee Chair Date submitted

Submitted to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title/Committee (if applicable) Date received

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020-2021**

1. Executive Summary

The Student Financial Services (SFS) Committee met virtually via Zoom four times and once via E-business during the 2020-2021 Academic year. The committee considered two athletic appeals during this year. Dr. Kristy Oden served as Committee Chair.

Committee Members for Academic Year 2020-2021:

Ms. Shauna James (non-voting, by position)

Ms. Melissa Bolton (staff)

Dr. Lisa Clayton (faculty 2023)

Mr. Kevin Haslam (by position)

Dr. Lorie Johnson (faculty, 2021)

Dr. Tim Loughrist (faculty, 2022)

Mr. Mike Nelson (by position)

Dr. Kristy Oden (faculty 2022)

Dr. Erin Vaughn (faculty, 2021)

1. The Committee’s Charge (from the Shared Governance Document)

The Committee’s Charge is as follows:

1. To serve as an advisory committee in the area of student financial services
2. To serve as a board of appeal on financial aid awards
3. To gather information on student financial series and allied fields and assess these services in light of the information obtained
4. To propose change in student financial aid policies and procedures consistent with federal, state, and NCAA regulations and donor agreements
5. To handle any proposals the committee may make affecting university policy according to section C.2 “shared Governance Procedure for Policy Change Recommendations”
6. To submit a final written report electronically by the first day of the fall semester to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost with a copy sent to the Chair of the SGEC.
7. The Committee met on the following dates:

The Committee held virtual meetings on the following dates:

* July 22, 2020 – Athletic Appeal
* September 9, 2020 – Edward F. Mauldin Scholarship Interview
* September 22, 2020 – Athletic Appeal
* April 29, 2021 - Edward F. Mauldin Scholarship Interview

The Committee held an E-business meeting on the following date:

* May 7, 2021 – Endowed Scholarship Selection Meeting
1. What were the Committee’s actions and accomplishments this year relative to each of the items of the charge?
2. The SFS Committee was not asked to perform any services related to item 1.
3. The SFS Committee was asked to review over 1840 Endowed Scholarship applications and make selections of 40 students and 15 alternates for scholarship receipt. The SFS Committee conducted a total of 12 interviews (6 in April and 6 in September) for the Edward F. Mauldin Scholarships. The Mauldin Scholarships are worth $10,000 per year for five years. The Mauldin Scholarship is one of the largest scholarships offered by UNA. Due to the large value of this scholarship, the SFS Committee has always been used to conduct interviews and select the student(s) to receive the scholarship. The SFS considered two athletic appeals.
4. The committee was not asked to perform any services related to item 3.
5. The committee was not asked to perform any services related to item 4. While no formal proposal changes were made, a Memo of Concern was drafted and shared with the Athletic Department voicing concerns that have risen from Athletic Appeals due to process and/or documentation. No policy or procedure was violated or a formal change needed.
6. What were the Committee’s formal recommendations?

The committee met via E-business on May 7, 2021 for selection of 40 recipients of various scholarships for the academic year 2021-2022. The committee reviewed and analyzed over 1840 applicants for these scholarships. The SFS heard two athletic appeal hearings and rulings were made by the committee after thorough investigation and discussion with the athlete and the athletic department.

1. What does the Committee plan to accomplish
	1. In the coming year?
		1. To continue to assist the SFS office with decision on student athlete appeals when called upon
		2. To continue to assist the SFS office with decisions on scholarship selection and scholarship appeals when called upon
2. In future years?
	1. Same as 1(a)
	2. Same as 1(b)
3. What are the Committee’s weaknesses?

Weaknesses of the SFS committee is often difficulty in scheduling and ensuring that a quorum of members is present. Faculty and staff members struggle with overloaded schedules that make scheduling difficult. The use of virtual meetings did slightly improve this issue.

* + 1. What can the Shared Governance Committee help you do to address the weaknesses? NA
1. Comments

The members of the SFS Committee perform a vital service to the administration of the financial aid process at the University. This year’s committee members worked diligently and as a team to serve the University and its students.