Executive Summary:
This report summarizes the efforts of staff members in the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid during the 2008-2009 academic year. The staff continues to diligently work to adapt to a multitude of changes to federal aid programs while also still dealing with “recovery” issues with our local families who were impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

Mission Statement:
As part of the Office of Enrollment Management, staff members in the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid are committed to supporting the University’s goals of enrolling and graduating a highly talented and diverse student body.

Changes to Federal Financial Aid Programs
Implementation of the Higher Education Opportunity Act - The Act was enacted on August 14, 2008, and reauthorizes the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). This Act made significant changes in many federal programs. These changes will be implemented during the next two years.

Many changes revolve around increased mandatory consumer information disclosures. Some of these disclosures are effective with the 2008-2009 year)

- **Summary of Changes** (DCL GEN 8-12) – This summary is 219 pages. Title IV information begins on page 62 and ends of 148. We are also impacted by changes to Title VIII which are described starting on page 167 and the Truth In Lending changes posted on page 173.
  - **Readmission Requirements for Service Members** (effective August 28, 2008)
  - **Voter Registration** (effective August 28, 2008) – We have worked with Kathy Gros in the Student Records Office to meet these requirements.
  - **Code of Conduct** (effective August 28, 2008)
  - **Professional Judgment Disclosures** (effective August 28, 2008)
  - **Expanded Entrance** and **Expanded Exit Counseling** (effective August 28, 2008) – to supplement the intent of these regulations, we posted and began to routinely “push out” Money Management Tips” for students through our newsletters and social media pages

- **Report to Congress on Efforts to Simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance** (January 16, 2009)
We continue to support outreach efforts in our community. We expanded the information available in the Preparing for College section on our website to include several pages on Early Awareness Programs (including a page highlighting local programs) and a dedicated page on information for First Generation College Students. We continue to support Lisa Martin and her efforts with the students served by Loyola’s Center for Intercultural Understanding.

- “Red Flag ” Rule Update (May 21, 2009) – The Bursar’s Office and the Student Finance Office took the lead in developing Loyola’s policy which is posted online at http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/RedFlag.html. We assisted when asked.

Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (also known as The Post 9/11 GI Bill).

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is for individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. The Post-9/11 GI Bill will become effective for training on or after August 1, 2009. We have posted information about this program at http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/post911-gi-bill

We have committed to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program which will provide supplemental assistance to veterans. Information as it is finalized will be posted at http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/yellow-ribbon-gi-education-enhancement-program-yellow-ribbon-program

This will add an extra strain on the staff but until we begin and see how many veterans are interested in attending Loyola, we cannot predict the ultimate impact on workload.

Hurricane Gustav

New Orleans was only minimally impacted by Hurricane Gustav. We received a small amount of additional aid from the Department of Education to assist our students from the impacted areas

- Letter to Campus Presidents Related to Responding to Natural and National Disasters (EA-Announcement 10/24/2008)

Internal Projects:

- With the help of many other interested parties, we have identified the College Board’s “PowerFAIDS” system as our preference for the long-awaited conversion from the University’s legacy mainframe operating system. However, due to the university’s ongoing budgetary
challenges, the system will not be purchased until the 2009-2010 year with a planned implementation date to correspond with 2010-2011 academic year processing.

**Community Service**
- I made presentations throughout the year to high school students and parents. These presentations are documented at [http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/school-presentation-archive](http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/school-presentation-archive)
- I continue to volunteer as a Media Contact for the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.
  - [Talk to Ronette King and Loyola’s financial aid director about college finance today at noon](http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/financialaid/conferences) – October 20, 2008
  - [Instituting a New Program, While Holding Their Noses](http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/financialaid/conferences) – July 1, 2008
  - [The Best Ways To Get Loans For College Now](http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/financialaid/conferences) – August 13, 2008

**Upcoming Challenges:**
- Federal Aid Programs:
  - We still have a lot to do to fully implement all the massive changes mandated by the Higher Education Opportunity Act.
  - I continue to work with Tommy Screen, Cyndy Littlefield (AJCU Office) to formulate effective responses to all legislative proposals. As access to higher education is important to the Obama administration,

- The conversion to PowerFAIDS will be a massive challenge, especially if we have to do it with no additional staff.
- We will continue to work with the Institutional Advancement staff to improve the administration of the endowed scholarship program.