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The University of Dayton Faces Enrollment Dilemma

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DAYTON, Ohio, June 26, 1972 --- The cost of a college education may be prohibitive at first glance. Around the nation, rising tuition figures have students scrambling for dollars and, many times, turning to the less expensive state-supported institutions for the answer.

When this occurs, the private university is confronted with a dilemma: to attract students, its costs must be in line with the state colleges', yet because of the enrollment drop and other factors, it often must raise its tuition to cover its costs.

One way in which the University of Dayton is facing this problem is through its extensive financial assistance program. During the 1971-72 school year, over half (54.3%) of the undergraduates on the campus received some form of assistance administered by the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid. A large portion of this assistance (45.2%) was of a non-repayable form. 49.1% of those receiving aid obtained educational loans, while 5.7% of the students were on work study plans.

An interesting fact is that 55.3% of last year's freshman class received assistance of one type or another. The largest percentage of the dollars available was in the non-repayable form (48.5%).

The vast amount of assistance available assures the student that the opportunity for financial aid will continue, not just for the freshman year, but throughout his undergraduate stay at UD. And these figures do not include earnings from employment other than work study; social security benefits; GI benefits; and deferred payments. James Hoover, director of Scholarships and Student Aid says "I would conservatively estimate that school year employment other than work study, social security benefits, and GI benefits would total in excess of $2,000,000."

The University of Dayton has recently started an extensive campaign to provide financial assistance to those students from middle income families who would not normally be eligible for aid. One aspect of this campaign is the Kettering Fund grant of $50,000 for student assistance to graduates of Montgomery County high schools.

The University of Dayton has attracted outstanding students to the campus in recent months. Eight Valedictorians from local high schools have elected to attend UD, along with 46 other high school graduates who have received the President's Scholarship. Twenty eight local graduates have accepted Dayton Area Scholarships based principally on academic merit and service to the community.

National Merit Scholars are always an added plus for any college. The University of Dayton has ten Scholars presently attending. This compares favorably with other private schools in Ohio and the Catholic colleges in the nation.