ASLMU Senate

Resolution SR 21-08

Resolution on Resources through Financial Aid

Authored by: Senators at Large Abbey Wineglass and Saúl Rascón Salazar

- *I.* WHEREAS, on March 9th, 2021, the Loyolan wrote an article about Loyola Marymount University's tuition increase for the 2021-2022 school year, reporting that the school increased the tuition at an all-time low of 0.94% in comparison to their usual 3-4% increase annually¹.
- II. WHEREAS, US Colleges tend to increase their tuition by about twice the general inflation rate and, on average, is about 8% every year.
- III. WHEREAS, around "44.7 million Americans have outstanding student loan debt, totaling over \$1.86 [trillion], with 42.3 million Americans holding federal student loan debt."²
- IV. WHEREAS, studies show that the stress of Financial Aid, loans, and inaccessibility to find resources and programs to aid students in a crisis leads to mental health issues, and increases in students struggling with academics due to said stress³.
- V. WHEREAS, one of Loyola Marymount University's core values include a commitment to students through educating "the whole person by nurturing mind and body while challenging students intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and socially to become ethical and compassionate leaders."
- VI. WHEREAS, Loyola Marymount University's Financial Aid Department strives to help students learn about their Financial Aid Awards, loans, and the several other options students can discover through the Financial Aid website: https://financialaid.lmu.edu/
- VII. WHEREAS, students can make an appointment with a Financial Aid counselor at the following link if they find themself in need of financial advice: https://financialaid.lmu.edu/generalinformation/contactus

VIII. WHEREAS, if a student has completed their 2022-2023 FAFSA, they should check PROWL to see if they have any pending requirements which need to be completed ASAP to

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¹ https://www.laloyolan.com/news/lmu-announces-historically-low-tuition-increase/article_bdc000df-2b10-5bee-bf5f-6e448b1dda78.html#:~:text=LMU%20will%20increase%20tuition%20by,9.

²https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/dec/09/us-student-loan-crisis-payments#:~:text=About%2044.7%20million%20Americans%20have,holding%20federal%20student%20loan%20debt.

³ https://doi.org/10.1177/20503121211018122.

 $^{^{\}bf 4} \ \underline{\text{https://resources.lmu.edu/strategicplan2021-2026/strategicplan2012-2020/theplan/corevalues/.}$

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allow students to receive their financial aid awards for the 2022-2023 school year in late April or in May: https://financialaid.lmu.edu/prospectivestudents/prowl/#d.en.193785.

IX. WHEREAS, students that need immediate assistance can apply for a Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (also known as HEERF 3.0), in which the form should be completely filled out, signed, and dated by the student:

https://financialaid.lmu.edu/current/emergencyreliefgrantheerf30/.

X. WHEREAS, students can search "LMU Endowed Scholarships" and apply for open scholarships for the Spring semester: https://financialaid.lmu.edu/current/scholarships/.

XI. WHEREAS, students can also register with Scholarship Universe to find outside scholarships in order to pay their tuition:

https://financialaid.lmu.edu/current/scholarships/scholarshipuniverse/

XII. WHEREAS, students in need of additional assistance can fill out and submit an Appeal form for the 2022-2023 school year: https://financialaid.lmu.edu/current/appeals/

XIII. WHEREAS, students in need of additional assistance can also apply for the LION Emergency Fund by emailing the Dean of Students (deanofstudents@lmu.edu) for a maximum of \$500 of immediate relief.

XV. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of Loyola Marymount University calls upon the University to make resources about Financial Aid and opportunities for students more accessible on the website and keep in touch with students when they are struggling with a crisis regarding financial aid.

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