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Scholarship Program for Community and Junior College Students

University of Texas at Tyler

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Memorandum

To: The Honorable C. Quentin Abernathy
Chairman, Finance and Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Jeff Austin, Jr., Member
The Honorable H. J. McKenzie, Member
The Honorable B. H. McVicker, M.D., Member

From: James H. Stewart, Jr.

Subject: PROPOSED TYLER STATE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

A very significant need at Tyler State College is that of financial assistance to deserving students. Although our financial aid through state and federal governmental programs is adequate, financial assistance through scholarships is limited at this point. As one way of meeting this need, the attached proposal has been developed for a scholarship program that would not only benefit students but would benefit students through the community and junior colleges of Texas on whom we depend as the primary source of our students.

Although the scholarship program is explained in the attached proposal, some of the advantages of awarding these scholarships may not be apparent. Therefore the following advantages are called to your attention:

1. The recipients would be determined by the local community or junior college under the guidelines established by Tyler State College. The fact that each community and junior college can recommend students should enhance the enthusiasm of these institutions concerning the scholarship since they will be deeply involved in the selection process.

2. The scholarship is a generalized scholarship, not requiring a student to be outstanding in one field but to be above average in several. Of course, it does not preclude students who are outstanding in one field but they must have above average records in other areas as well.
3. The administrative costs of selecting the recipient are the responsibility of the local community or junior college.

4. The "Tyler State College Scholarship" will probably be listed in each community and junior college catalog, as well as perhaps other institutional publications, thereby providing wide exposure for Tyler State.

5. The recipients of the Tyler State College Scholarship will return to their community and junior college campuses, as well as their home communities, during vacations and at other times, and will most likely discuss the program and merits of Tyler State with prospective senior college students.

As you will note, the final page of the proposal specifies the maximum cost for underwriting the program based on the fifty-two community and junior colleges operating in Texas at the present time. These costs are calculated on a scholarship that would include tuition and required fees for registration at Tyler State College. The scholarship could be made more attractive, of course, by including an allowance for housing or commuting expenses, meals, etc. It is felt, however, that awarding the scholarships on the basis of tuition and required fees would be of significant assistance to Tyler State students and would be a worthy and attractive scholarship.

In examining the estimated cost page of the proposal, it can be determined that a tuition and fees scholarship amounts to $237 per student for one year (two long semesters). The proposed program is based on continuing the scholarship for two years which means that potentially each scholarship would amount to $474 per recipient. The recipient, however, would be required to renew the second year of the scholarship by a specified time, and continuation of the scholarship would be dependent on the student maintaining eligibility under the scholarship rules.

The maximum cost, or total commitment, for the community and junior college scholarship program based on present legislative tuition rates and governing board student fees amounts to $12,324 for the first year but would double the second year to $24,648 when the first year recipients move to the second year of enrollment at Tyler State and others enter the first year of the program. Thereafter, the maximum potential of $24,648 would remain constant so long as all variables involved, i.e., number of community and junior colleges, fees, etc., remain constant.

Although the maximum potential cost is $24,648 as is detailed above, it is anticipated that initial participation would more nearly approximate some twelve community and junior colleges. The cost for this number as is
detailed on the estimated cost page would be $2,844 for the first year and $5,688 for the second year.

This scholarship program is one that I feel would be of great benefit to deserving community and junior college students throughout East Texas as well as the state as a whole, and therefore it is recommended for favorable consideration by the Finance and Appropriations Committee and the Board of Regents for implementation beginning with the 1974-75 academic year. It is further recommended that the Finance and Appropriations Committee and the Board of Regents consider funding this scholarship program through the Tyler State College Educational Foundation, Inc. A program of this nature directly affecting students would certainly be highly appropriate to the worthy goals and objectives of our College Foundation.