

Diversity Reporting for Financial Aid 2018-2019

Staff in Student Affairs, Upward Bound Programs, and Branch Campuses are asked to submit an annual Diversity Report of Diversity Awareness and Engagement events, activities, programs, support services, and special initiatives.

- 1. Name of Reporting Office:** Financial Aid
- 2. Year of Report:** 2018-2019
- 3. Number of special events/activities/programs/initiatives that were designed to serve diverse populations of NWOSU students, faculty, and staff.** Financial aid staff provided information nights to 9 area high schools during the fall and spring semesters. Students and parents were offered help with completing the FAFSA and staff provided answers to their questions regarding financial aid. Financial aid advisor attended all Ranger Connection classes (13) to assist Freshman students in understanding how financial aid works, verification, their award letter, and answered any questions.
- 4. Outreach services provided which support minority student enrollment/retention.** A portion of the high schools that were visited contain large numbers of minority students. High school seniors and their parents were presented information on who needs to and how to complete the FAFSA along with applying for scholarships. Many of these visits were held in computer labs so that parents/students could log on and complete their FAFSA immediately. The NWOSU Athletics department also hosted a mandatory student athlete meeting where the financial aid director presented on the importance of completing the FAFSA in a timely manner and shared financial aid information.
- 5. English Language Learners—what accommodations are provided to support language differences that may impact understanding of FAFSA, Admission Forms, Student Services programs and services?** Foreign language department faculty members are utilized to assist the financial aid office when needed to help communicate through language barriers.
- 6. Trainings and conferences attended by staff which focuses in whole or in part of diversity awareness and engagement.** The financial aid director, assistant director, and packager attended the SWASFAA (Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) conference in Little Rock, AR during the fall semester. Breakout sessions were attended that targeted providing services to diverse and multi-generational students on campus. In March, the financial aid advisor along with the Dean of Students presented on financial aid and first generation students to faculty and staff for their annual diversity training.