

## Chancellor's Scholarship Program: Boom or Bust?

By Elizabeth Willet

For those of us who are involved in the Chancellor's Scholarship Program, we know the advantages and importance of this valuable program within our university. In light of this knowledge, I was surprised and concerned when I noticed that a number of former Chancellor's Scholars were missing from the program's initial meeting in August. In fact, I was so curious as to why students weren't returning to the program that I decided to do some research on the Chancellor's Scholarship Program itself and possibly uncover the reasons why the program wasn't more successful.

In the Fall of 1988, Chancellor Lloyd V. Hackley initiated the Chancellor's Scholarship Program after discovering a need at Fayetteville State University for a scholarship program geared towards first-time freshmen considered to have high academic standards. The program was put into place not only to guarantee these students the opportunity to attend college, but also to promote an increase of enrollment of these types of students at the university. This program was entirely funded through private donations and foundation awards including automobiles donated by Lee Hyundai and funds donated by Chancellor Hackley himself. Because the program is supported by private funds, each student is currently required to apply for financial aid so more funds can be recycled back into the scholarship funds to support other scholars.

Since 1988, the eligibility requirements for the Chancellor's Scholarship Program, in accordance with increased enrollment, have become stiffer. In order to qualify as a Chancellor's Scholar, an applicant must be a first-time freshman and meet the following eligibility criteria;

Graduated from an accredited high school

Completed the following courses:  
English: English I, II, III, and IV

Mathematics: Three courses--Algebra I and II, Geometry, or a course with Algebra II as a prerequisite.

Social Studies: Two courses--U.S. History and an elective.

Science: Three courses--one must be a lab course.

Earned at least 1000 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test

University

In order to retain their scholarships, each student must adhere to the following obligations and responsibilities:

Complete each year of enrollment a Fayetteville State University Financial Aid Information Sheet and applications for federal and state aid.

Perform at least six hours per week of community service as approved by the Director of Public Education Outreach.

Successfully complete a minimum of 15 credit hours each regular academic semester (Fall and Spring).

Earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.6 the freshman year, 2.8 the sophomore year, and 3.0 the junior and senior years.

Maintain high personal and scholastic behavior.

For a student who was able to meet the eligibility criteria to be accepted as a Chancellor's Scholar, these requirements don't seem to be that hard to attain--or are they?

It seems that, according to statistics furnished by Dr. Daniel J. Green, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, the Chancellor's Scholarship Program only has an average 70% retention rate each successive year. For example, the number of freshman who retained their scholarships for the 1994-95 academic year was 68 out of 92, or 73.9%. For sophomores and juniors during the same timeframe, the retention rate was even slightly lower than that: 71.8% and 64.1% respectively.

So why are these students with such high potential failing to meet the minimum requirements of the program and retain their scholarships? Surprisingly, Dr. Green cites the reasons as "mainly academic," with failure to complete community service requirements a contributing cause in a few cases. It's almost hard to believe that students who had such high academic standards during their high school careers are lacking the same during their uni-

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## A WORD FROM THE THRONE

By Christi D. Bradford

Kingdom greetings! My name is Christi Darnelle Bradford, and I am your campus queen for the 1994-95 school year. Previously a commuter student, I now reside in New Residence Hall. I look forward to making your acquaintance and representing you honorably this year. Now, let's get down to business.

We each have different experiences shaping our attitudes and behavior, and those experiences are still taking place in the present. Some of us are freshmen, away from home for the first time. Remember that our first year often follows us for the rest of our college careers. After that, have a little fun! Those of us who are sophomores and juniors are plugging away at the books, anxious to declare majors and settle down into reality, anxious to just "get out of school!" And then... there are those of us who are talented, mature, self-confident, self-sufficient, all-seeing, all-knowing geniuses. No disrespect to the other classes, but I am talking about the MIGHTY CLASS OF 1995! This is our final year and, despite all the suffering at the hands of professors and cafeteria cooks, we have made it. I salute us.

Anyway, my point is that we are all at different stations here at FSU and in life, and what makes us family is the realization of that fact. Families are like three-fold cords - NOT EASILY BROKEN. I submit a challenge to all Broncos: Let's strengthen the ties that bind and make this year like none other in FSU history.

Attention Spring Graduates

You must submit your application for May graduation to the Registrar's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. September 28, 1994.