

Tuition hike typical

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A random survey of several colleges and universities has determined Scranton's announced 9.8 percent tuition hike is in line with national tuition trends.

All the universities polled plan increases.

Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, has passed a 17.5 percent increase for the 1990-91 academic year. The cost per credit will rise from the current \$194 to \$228 next year.

Wilkes' increase reflects not only the current inflation rate of approximately 4.5 percent, but also the costs involved in this year's transition from college to university status.

Marywood College students have seen the cost of their credits rise 11.9 percent between 1988-89 and 1990-91.

In 1988-89, Marywood charged \$210 per credit, \$225 this year, and will charge \$235 per credit next year. Over the past two years the cost of a single room has risen \$100, from \$400 to \$500.

Many other private schools around the nation, including King's College, Wilkes-Barre, and Georgetown University, Washington D.C., would not disclose next year's as yet unannounced tuition

figures due in part to a pending federal inquiry investigating possible price fixing by several private northeastern institutions.

Ivy League schools expect tuitions to jump approximately 10 percent, as Princeton University recently announced it would cost \$20,498 to attend their school next year, a 6.7 percent jump from 1989-1990.

Tuition increases
1989-90 to 1990-91

Scranton 9.8%

Marywood 11.9%

Wilkes 17.5%

Princeton 6.7%

State schools are expected to increase accordingly, as federal aid decreases and operating budgets continue to increase.

The Higher Education Price Index, a barometer of the costs colleges pay for goods and services, is expected to rise five to six percent in the 1990-91 academic year, The Wall Street Journal reported.

University loan defaults below national average

TOM CAPPER
Aquinas News Staff

The rate of unpaid federal student loans at the University is below the national average, according to William Burke, director of financial aid.

The University default rate for guaranteed federal loans is near the 4.4 percent reported in a 1987 financial aid study, he said. The national default rate at the time was about 10 percent.

In a UPI article, the U.S. General Accounting Office said loan defaults have increased from \$44 million in 1983 to \$1.9 billion in 1989.

"Proprietary schools-- technical and two-year community colleges-- increase the rate of default," Burke said.

"Many students in these schools are encouraged to borrow but may not be able to find employment when they graduate," Burke said. "The students cannot repay or don't feel they should make a repayment."

Traditional four-year colleges generally have a lower default rate, Burke added.

The federal student loan programs also loses money from illegal lending methods.

"Some banks have fudged collection processes, fraudulently,"

Burke said.

The University administers the Perkins Loan and determines borrowers. Federal funds provide for most of the loan and the University matches one-ninth of the cost.

An outside agency employed by the University bills the students and collects the funds. The default rate at the University for the Perkins Loan is 2.5 percent while the national average is 7.5 percent, according to Bernadette Gilmartin, student loan account coordinator.

"Under the Perkins Loan the University does not graduate any student who owes more than \$6,000," Burke said. "If the loan is defaulted the University no longer can lend that money to other students."

However, the Stafford Guaranteed Loan can be obtained at banks or credit unions. It is not run by the University.

"More people receive this guaranteed loan and more banks admini-

ster it-- the dollar amounts are larger than the Perkins," Burke said.

The federal government backs the banks 100 percent, he added.

Burke believes the government may limit borrowing at schools if the default rate is above 30 percent. "Some schools have a rate as high as 50 percent."

The government may also reduce guarantees to only 90 percent, which puts pressure on lending agencies, banks, and borrowers.

Students should be aware of the amount of aid they are receiving.

"Some students don't realize how much they owe-- one person owed up to \$12,000," Burke said.

Before signing the aid check, borrowers must first attend an entrance interview at the financial aid office that explains the responsibilities and consequences of the loan.

A similar exit interview that describes the students payment options is conducted when the student leaves the University.

Acclaimed author to speak on civil rights both past and present

CHRISTINE DULISSE
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Juan Williams, who wrote on the history of the civil rights movement in the highly acclaimed novel "Eyes on the Prize," will speak Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the Houlihan-McLean Center.

Williams, who has spent the last two weeks in South Africa, will address the origins of the civil rights movement and its current status in the United States.

"Williams appeals to both those in the communication field and those in the political science department," said Joyce Corbin, president of the African-American society.

"I am hoping he will talk about *Eyes on the Prize* as well as his work at the *Washington Post*," Corbin said.

Associated with the *Washington Post* since 1976, Williams began as an intern and worked his way to eventually become a White House and national correspondent, covering both political and social issues.

Williams covered Jesse Jackson's 1984 presidential campaign and from August to November of that year George Bush's vice-presidential campaign.

During his career at the *Post*, Williams held such positions as City Hall reporter, editorial writer, opinion-editorial columnist and metropolitan staff writer.

Williams has published articles in *Fortune*, *Inside Sports*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, *The New Republic*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Discovery*, *Parenting*, the *London Sunday Times* and *London Independent*.



Juan Williams

Williams has served as correspondent and writer for various PBS documentaries including *Riot to Recovery*, and *Dateline Freedom-- Civil Rights and the Press*.

He acted as commentator for several news programs including the *Macneil-Lehrer News Hour* and was an invited guest on *Nightline*, *Firing Line* and *National Public Radio*.

Over the past 12 years, Williams has been the recipient of such awards as the Bill Pryor Memorial Award for Investigative Reporting, the Washingtonian Magazine Award for "Best Washington Columnist" and the National Journalism Award from the DuSable Museum of Afro-American History.

Linda Desmond, chairperson of the University Lecture Series, described Williams as the high profile speaker of the year.

Williams' appearance is co-sponsored by the University Lecture Series and the African-American society in observance of Black History Month.

The lecture is open to the public and admission is free.

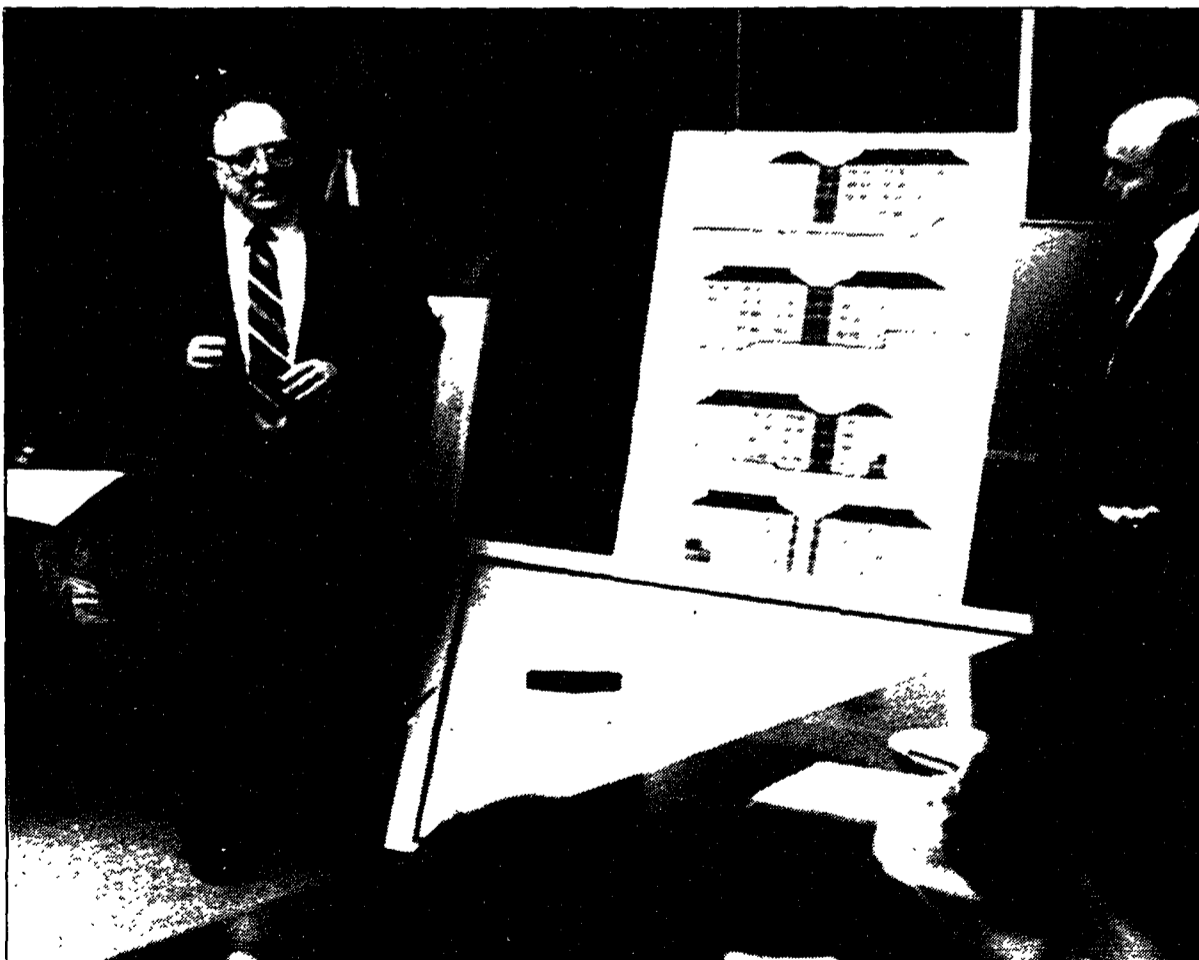


PHOTO BY BRIAN DOYLE

John Flanagan, vice president of Administrative Services, left, and Dave Wilson, University architect, right, discuss the plans for Poly-Hi Field and the proposed Nevils' Beach dorms with the Student Life Board and members of the University administration on Thursday, Feb. 22. The board called the meeting to air their views about the lack of communication between the two groups about the dorms proposed site. University officials called the decision to build on Nevils' Beach "inevitable" and admitted that the lack of student input was due to meeting the proposed dorm completion date in 1991. Both groups pledged greater communication about future University building plans.