



*Unified Student Loan Policy*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Common Manual Leadership Changes***

The *Common Manual* Governing Board proudly announces the following changes to its Executive Management Committee Team leadership for the 2007 – 2008 fiscal years, and new Policy Committee members for the 2007 – 2009 fiscal years. All positions have terms beginning on August 1, 2007. The Executive Management Committee is charged with all the activities for the production of the annual *Common Manual* update, and e-Collection CD-ROM. Our Policy Committee performs extensive policy analysis and research, drafts proposed policy text, works with industry representatives and experts to evaluate policy implications and develop policy consensus, edits the manual and proposed updates, and identifies and tracks all policy proposals that will be incorporated into the manual.

Ms. Jacki Fairbairn, Director of Policy and Regulatory Compliance for Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, begins her second term as Chair of the Governing Board. An original member of the *Common Manual* Policy Committee, Ms. Fairbairn is responsible for all policy and regulatory compliance requirements for her agency, along with collection support, program review and ombudsman activities. Ms. Fairbairn has twenty two years of experience in the FFEL program.

Ms. Cindy Davis, Director of Guaranty Compliance Services for AES/PHEAA, has been elected as Chair-Elect of the Governing Board. Ms. Davis has served on the Policy Committee in the past as member, Co-Chair, and Chair of the Committee. Her responsibilities at AES/PHEAA include regulatory compliance, program review, investigative services, institutional eligibility and loan discharge/forgiveness functions. After serving in the Chair-Elect position for the 2007 – 2008 year, Ms. Davis assumes the Governing Board Chair position on August 1, 2008.

The *Common Manual* is also fortunate to have the following Policy Committee members elected or re-elected. All terms begin August 1, 2007 and end July 31, 2009.

Most recently serving as Co-Chair of this committee, Carolyn Small of the Iowa College Student Aid Commission has again been elected to serve on the Policy Committee. With over eight and one-half years of *Common Manual* Policy Committee experience, Ms. Small acts as policy analyst and trainer for her agency.

Mr. Dan Tryon of the Michigan Guaranty Agency is also serving as the current Co-Chair of the Policy Committee. Mr. Tryon is an Audit Manager for the Audit and Program Review Section of his agency with extensive experience in researching and interpreting regulations for the schools, lenders, and servicers participating in FFELP, and has been a member of the Policy Committee for the past four years.

Ms. Michele Anderson brings eight years of prior Policy Committee service to her newly elected member position. Working for the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, Ms. Anderson is also Co-Chair of the National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHELP) Program Operations Forms Subcommittee. In her current position at TG, Ms. Anderson responds to external and internal policy inquiries and provides industry training for agency team members and their business partners on FFELP regulations and policies.

Ms. Shari Mecca is a past member and past Chair of the Policy Committee. Currently, as Manager of the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation Customer Communications, Ms. Mecca oversees the Client Services Department, the Claims and Default Aversion area, and the Guarantee Fee Department. Ms. Mecca has been with Connecticut for almost fourteen years working in various divisions within her agency.

Ms. Stephanie Aylor is with the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation and will begin her new term in an administrative position on the Policy Committee. This non-voting position on the committee is critical to the effectiveness of the Committee's completion of precise and clearly written policy proposals which are later referred to the Governing Board for approval and to ensure accurate tracking of the Committee's decisions in each of its meetings. At Tennessee, Ms. Aylor is a Student Loan Program Administrator with twenty years of experience with the lending and guarantor community. Ms. Aylor develops policy for her agency's administration of FFELP, and presents these and other financial and policy topics at conferences and workshops.

Our congratulations again to all of these individuals, who are giving their time and energy on the many tasks involved in the production and maintenance of the *Common Manual* – Unified Student Loan Policy, and our gratitude to the agencies who provide active and vital support to the common policy effort.

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*First published in December 1995, the Common Manual is a cooperative effort of all of the nation's guarantors that participate in the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). The manual, one of a number of efforts by guarantors to simplify and streamline the FFELP for schools and lenders, provides a single, standardized set of current student loan rules and FFELP policy guidance for schools and lenders. Guarantors provide the Common Manual in a user-friendly, searchable electronic format to thousands of colleges, universities, and financial institutions nationwide via Web-based and compact disk formats. Some also provide the manual in print.*

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