# Student Indebtedness May 10, 2013

Diane Corbett

Director of Financial Aid

## A National Issue

 Student debt topped 1 trillion dollars, exceeding credit card debt

 College affordability and student debt are national issues

Student loan defaults are on the rise

## **UAlbany Students**

- Approximately 80% of our undergraduate students apply for need-based financial aid
- Average need of UA aid applicants is \$12,374 and has been increasing
- Of the 2012-2013 undergraduate financial aid applicants (FAFSA filers) 46% had family incomes of less than \$50,000
- Approx 25% of aid applicants have a zero Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

# Percentage Pell Grant Recipients\*

University at Albany	36%
Stony Brook University	36%
University at Buffalo	31%
Binghamton University	28%

Syracuse University 27%
University of Connecticut 21%
University of Delaware 12%

<sup>\*</sup>www.collegenavigator.gov

## Federal/State Funding Tightens

- Federal Pell Grant
  - Year Round Pell eliminated
  - Number of semesters *reduced*
- ACG/SMART Grant eliminated
- Loan Subsidy during Grace Period <u>eliminated</u>
- Subsidized Stafford Loans for Graduate Students <u>eliminated</u>
- Graduate TAP <u>eliminated</u>

# In-State FT Undergraduate Costs

	4	2011-12	2012-13
Tuition	\$	5,270	5,570
Fees	\$	1,902	1,955
Room and Board	\$	10,958	11,276
Total Direct Costs	\$	18,130	18,801
Books	\$	1,200	1,200
Other Educ Exp	\$	1,432	1,515
Cost of Attendance	\$	20,762	21,516

UNIVERSITYATALBANY

THE WORLD WITHIN REACH

# Net Cost/Borrowing

- 1<sup>st</sup> year student from family of four with \$xx,xxx income:
  - Net price after grants and scholarships = \$xx,xxx (\$xxx NYS TAP Grant, \$xx SUNY Tuition Credit)
  - Student borrowing=\$x,xxx
  - Cost to family after student loan= \$xx,xxx
- Over four years if no tuition/fee/room/board increase:
  - Total \$xx,xxx payments + \$xx,xxx student loans

# **Net Cost/Borrowing**

- 1<sup>st</sup> year student from family of four with \$xx,xxx income:
  - Net price= \$xx,xxx (\$x,xxx NYS TAP Grant, \$xxx SUNY Tuition Credit, \$x,xxx Pell)
  - Student borrowing =\$x,xxx Stafford + \$x,xxx Perkins
  - Federal Work-Study = \$x,xxx
  - Cost to family after self-help aid = \$x,xxx
- Over four years if no tuition/fee/room/board increase:
  - Total \$xx,xxx payments + \$xx,xxx student loans

## How Do Families Pay Costs?

- Federal PLUS (parent loans)
  - Interest rate fixed at 7.9%
  - Credit-based loan
  - Approx \$19.5 million in 2012-13
- Private Alternative Loans
  - Interest rates vary, no cap
  - Credit-based loan
  - Approx \$6.2 million borrowed in 2012-13
- Payment Plans 8 monthly installments
- Savings/ 529 Plans

### Student Debt

#### Average Indebtedness

- National 2011 \$26,600
  - Monthly payment of \$306.11
- UA 2011 \$23,039
  - Monthly payment of \$265.13
- UA 2012 \$24,126
  - Monthly payment of \$277.64

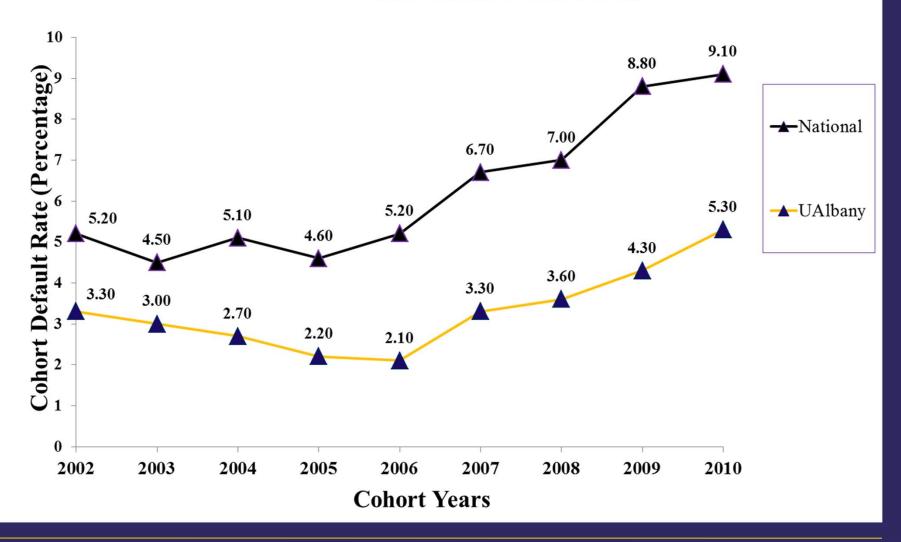
\*Repayment based on 10 yr. standard repayment at 6.8%

## Cohort Default Rate (CDR)

- National CDR
  - -2YR FY 2010 is 9.1%
  - -3YR FY 2009 is 13.4%
- UA CDR
  - -2YR FY 2010 is 5.3%
  - 3YR FY 2009 is 6.1%



## Historical Official 2 Year Cohort Default Rates



## University-Wide Issue

- Funding for institutional grant and needbased scholarships
- Cost containment
- Financial literacy
- Time to Degree

### **Educate Students**

- Early awareness
- Outreach efforts -Fin Aid Day, H.S. Fin Aid Nights, Orientation Sessions, EOP meeting
- Sharing messages about responsible borrowing and making sound financial decisions

## **SUNY Smart Track**

- Engaging entire University in default prevention through retention and student success
- Financial literacy
- Default aversion
- SUNY Award letter

# **Shopping Sheet**

- Effort to make financial aid awards and college cost info more transparent and easier to understand
- Clear distinction between loans and grants
- Net Cost = COA minus total grants and scholarships
- Adopted as an award letter for 2013-2014

# Managing Debt

- In School Deferment
  - During a period of at least half-time enrollment
- Loan Forgiveness
  - http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/forgivenesscancellation
- Repayment Options
  - http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans

## Education as an Investment

- Our goal is to provide access and improve options for students through financial aid policy
- Student loans provide a pathway allowing students to invest in their future
- UAlbany offers a quality education at a great value