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Tuition rates in Kentucky are set to rise. The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education has approved tuition increases ranging from \$180 to \$618 dollars for public universities. Effective beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year, the increases will affect several institutions, including the University of Louisville. The college's trustees have approved a 9.9% tuition hike. This raises tuition for in-state undergraduates by \$309 per semester, to \$3,435. The increase will help the university hire new faculty members, augment scholarships, improve academic programs, and account for increasing health-insurance and utility expenses. The University of Louisville has seen 9%-orgreater increases in tuition for the past five years.

Don Davis named UT's acting director of financial aid

The University of Texas has named Don Davis as its acting director of financial aid. Davis, who is currently serving as Associate Director of the Office of Student Financial Services, will now oversee the day-to-day functions and administration of the office. The move comes as a result of paid leave given to Lawrence Burt, the office's associate vice president and director. Burt's paid leave was required on account of investigations alleging conflicts of interest.

Columbia University alumnus donates \$400 million in financial aid

A 92-year-old graduate from Columbia University, John Kluge, has announced he will donate \$400 million to the institution's financial aid program. The funds will be received upon his death.

\$200 million is slated to be utilized for supporting and expanding existing undergraduate financial aid programs.

The other half will reportedly be used for graduate scholarships and fellowships. Between 1987 and 1993, Kluge donated more than \$110 million to the university, primarily to help undergraduates from disadvantaged backgrounds. Known as a mogul of the television industry, Kluge earned his B.A. in Economics from Columbia University in 1937. The huge amount is expected to contribute significantly to the university's aid programs and also give it an edge on competing institutions. Ironically, the university has received the good news at a time when its financial aid officer is involved in an alleged student loan scandal.

Oregon proposes bill to expand financial aid

The Oregon Senate has unanimously approved a bill that increases the state's grants for working- and middle-class students attending college. Senate Bill 334 proposes that students who contribute portions of their tuition costs be provided with state assistance if family income and federal grants do not suffice. Students will have to come up with the money they earn by working 40 hours per week during the summer and 10 to 15 hours per week during school sessions. A student attending Oregon Community College would have to contribute \$5,200 per year, while an Oregon State University or private-college student would need to contribute \$7,950. If passed by the state's house, the new legislation would increase the average state grant from \$1,200 per student to approximately \$2,100 per student.