



Haas Office of Financial Aid

April 2nd, 2007

Information regarding Federal Loan Consolidation

You may be receiving solicitations encouraging you to consolidate your student loans again; the Haas School's Office of Financial Aid strongly encourages you to not respond to these advertisements, mailings, and/or phone calls.

In December of 2005, congress passed the Deficit Reduction Act which included many changes to the Federal Student Loan programs. These changes were implemented this past July, and as a result, many of the benefits of consolidation (fixed interest rate, longer repayment term) have been included in the terms on the federal loans students have borrowed for the 2006-07 academic year.

The Haas School's Office of Financial Aid will be conducting information sessions this April regarding loan repayment strategies, along with information on how to decide whether or not consolidation truly is in your best financial interest. The dates of the sessions are as follows:

For Graduating Students

- April 4th, 12:30 – 2pm **F320 Room Updated**
- April 9th, 12:30 – 2pm **F320 Updated**

For 1st year students (soon to be 2nd)

- April 11th, 12:30 – 2pm **F320 Room Updated**
- April 16th, 12:30 – 2pm **F320 Room Updated**

We will also be posting an online version of the information for the Evening & Weekend students, shortly after April 16th.

Again, we urge you not to make any decisions regarding consolidating your loans until after attending one of the sessions.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your loans, including any mailings you might have received, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Haas Office of Financial Aid
finaid@haas.berkeley.edu
(510) 643-0183



debi fidler, Director
Charles W. Conn, Assistant Director
Laquel Wright, Specialist