Deans of Financial Aid – Questions

1. Could you begin by stating the name of your institution and provide a general overview of its geographic location, general size, and institution type (e.g. public, private, comprehensive, liberal arts, college, university, etc.)?

2. Could you provide a general overview of your professional role at this institution and describe some of your key responsibilities in this role?

3. When considering issues of financial aid and college access what are some key issues you feel all aspiring applicants should understand about financial aid? specifically in regards to financial aid at your institution?

4. How important are dates and deadlines within the application process and what are key dates within your specific application process related to financial aid?

5. As your institution creates various financial aid packages, what are the various factors considered?

6. Could you briefly provide an overview of the main categories within a financial aid package?

7. When a student receives a financial aid package from your institution, how long do they generally have before making a final decision?

8. If a student receives a financial aid package, but is still unsure about how to best interpret the package, what advice would you give them to gaining a better understanding?

9. As a student does become enrolled at your institution what are some key things to remember as an enrolled student related to issues of financial aid?
10. Generally speaking, there still remains gap in what a financial aid package may expect of a student's family to pay and what a student's family is able to pay, particularly if they are the first in their family to go to college. If a student receives a package and feels this is the case what advice would you have for him or her? Are there specific actions they should take if they are applying to your institution?

11. Generally speaking, it has been shown that students who are the first in their family to go to college are much more sensitive to the prospect of taking out loans, and in many cases decide to go part-time in order to save up enough money before enrolling full-time, do you have any advice for students that might find themselves in such circumstances, specifically in regards to the benefits of successfully earning a post-secondary degree?

12. Finally, any parting words of advice for students specifically considering your institution, specifically in regards to issues of college access and/or financial aid?