



National Student Loan Program

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NSLP Expands Positions to Enhance Product Development, Promotion

(Lincoln, Nebraska, February 16, 2001) NSLP, the nation's seventh largest student loan guaranty agency, has created two new leadership positions that will enhance its efforts to provide innovative products and services for schools and lenders. Rick Johnson was named Vice President of Technology Solutions last August, and Sharon O'Neal assumed a new role as Assistant Vice President of Corporate Promotions in January.

As Vice President of Technology Solutions, Johnson will oversee NSLP's use of technology in providing electronic products and student loan guaranty services to schools and lenders. Previously NSLP's Vice President of Lender/School Relations, Johnson was instrumental in the development and management of many NSLP electronic products including ELITE, NSLP's student loan processing software, and EASI-App™, an online student loan application. Johnson brings over 13 years of student loan experience to his new role, including several years as Manager of Technical Support at Midwest Computing, a company that created and provided many electronic products for NSLP.



O'Neal will serve as Assistant Vice President of Corporate Promotions, and manage the promotion of NSLP's products and services, and oversee the development of publications, materials and training for schools and lenders. She will also publish *Operations Alert*, a monthly student loan program newsletter; *Newsbriefs*, a weekly e-mail publication; and will manage NSLP's website at www.nslp.org, where schools and lenders can find information about NSLP's products and services. O'Neal was previously NSLP's Assistant Vice President of Policy and Planning, and has over 18 years of student loan experience managing marketing, operations, customer relations, policy development, and publications.



"By creating these new positions, we are taking better advantage of Rick and Sharon's student loan industry knowledge and expertise," said NSLP President Nancy Wiederspan. "Their contributions will help us develop, deliver and promote more innovative products for our schools and lenders."

Headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska, the National Student Loan Program is a private, nonprofit corporation in its second decade as a student loan guaranty agency. NSLP works with lenders and post-secondary schools across the nation to help students gain access to low-cost student loans. With annual loan guarantees of over \$810 million, NSLP is ranked 7th among 36 guaranty agencies in the country, and continues to serve as the designated guaranty agency for Nebraska.