

TO: Secretary Paige  
FROM: Acting COO Candy Kane  
RE: FSA Weekly Report  
DATE: August 12, 2002

### **THE WEEK AHEAD**

**GAO “Middleware” Audit:** A follow-up meeting is planned for the week of August 12 to clarify information gathered during the August 6 entrance conference. At the meeting, FSA, OS, OPE, Accenture (FSA’s Modernization Partner), and GAO discussed the objectives and scope of GAO’s follow-up of the November 2001 report on FSA’s middleware integration strategy. GAO indicated its objective is to determine FSA’s progress in using middleware technology to integrate student aid delivery systems data, particularly for Common Origination & Disbursement (COD).

**e-Gov/e-Loans:** A meeting with private sector partners is tentatively set for August 14. ED (which is leading the e-Loans initiative for OMB) met with other federal agencies on July 30 and August 6. The agencies will form workgroups to develop proposals for an e-Loans gateway, improving Business to Government reporting, sharing lender/citizen data, and receiving electronic lender payments. The proposals will be used to prepare a joint OMB 300 business case due September 30.

**Acting COO:** August 16, Acting COO Candy Kane retires from federal service. Dep. Sec. Hansen told the FSA Senior Leadership team in a meeting August 12 that announcement of the Interim COO would be forthcoming this week from OS.

### **KEY NEWS**

**Federal Financial Management Status Report:** FSA has completed its annual update. Revisions were submitted to ED CFO on August 7. All agencies are required to prepare and annually revise a plan to implement the Federal Financial Management Status Report in accordance with the CFO Act.

**OIG Draft Report on Enterprise Architecture:** OIG’s draft report was distributed to ED and FSA CIOs for review and comment. The audit was to determine the status of the development of the ED IT architecture. The draft report said both ED and FSA have made progress but critical elements still need to be completed. Responses are due to the OIG on August 31.

**Debt Collections:** Total Recoveries for July are almost \$1.147 billion. Recovery totals without loan consolidations are about \$842.2 million, putting us ahead of pace to exceed the FY02 baseline goal of 7.2% (we’re now at about 6.6% with two months remaining in the fiscal year). Significant milestones were achieved during July:

- Collections produced the highest recovery total for the month of July in our history (\$118.6 million).

- Collections exceeded \$100 million for the first time during any month when not including treasury offsets.
- Private Collection Agencies produced the highest recovery totals for any month in our history (\$90.7 million). (Less than half the total came through loan consolidations.)
- Private Collection Agencies produced the highest “voluntary” payments total for any month in our history (\$25.7 million).
- Recoveries on National Directory of New Hires-matched accounts reached a record amount (\$37 million).

**RESOLUTION OF KEY ISSUES**

Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES**

Nothing to report.

**REGULATORY ACTIVITIES**

Nothing to report.

**POLICY DOCUMENTS**

Nothing to report.

**GRANT ACTIVITIES**

Nothing to report.

**ON THE HORIZON**

**Private Collection Agency Meeting:** Our next Private Collection Agency Meeting has been scheduled for August 21 in Philadelphia. Collections staff from Atlanta and D.C. will attend, along with all our private collection agency contractors. The primary topics discussed will be FY02 Performance, Loan Consolidation and Rehabilitation procedural changes for FY03, new System Security requirements, and the new Total and Permanent Disability guidelines.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please contact Karen Santos Freeman at 377-4001 with any questions.