

**Barry W. Simmons Sr.**, a native of Southside Virginia, graduated from Elon University. His master's and doctorate are from UNC Greensboro with studies in higher education and public policy. As Director of University Scholarships of Financial Aid at Virginia Tech, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Simmons oversees \$346 million in assistance to more than 21,000 students and serves on the University Council on International Programs, Enrollment Management Committee, Undergraduate Admissions Advisory Group, McNair Scholars Advisory Committee, the Computer Requirements Steering Committee, as an academic coach for the local chapter of the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and was a charter member of the Multicultural Affairs Committee.

He has held various enrollment management positions at Elon University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, St. Paul's College, Virginia Commonwealth University and as a private consultant.

Recognized as an advocate of access to post high school educational opportunities and educational diversity, Simmons began his term as national chair of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) in July 2009. Dr. Simmons was a member of the Virginia College Access Network Founding Steering Committee, served as its second president and continues to serve on the board of directors and served on the board of Project Discovery, a state-wide high school drop out prevention program. He is a frequent speaker at state, regional and national conferences, has co-authored several NASFAA Monographs and has published in the Journal of Student Financial Aid. He has served on the NASFAA Institutional Program Management, Research, Association Governance and Membership, Diversity Committees and currently holds a seat on the Executive Committee of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities' Commission on Access, Diversity and Excellence. He serves as an institutional representative on the U. S. Department of Education's FAFSA Design Team and in an advisory capacity to several Virginia state agencies.

On the personal side, Simmons' hobbies include emceeding high school band competitions, restoring pipe theatre organs and reading science fiction. When not in Blacksburg, he resides with his family on The Farm in Baskerville, VA.