

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING STUDENT LOANS**

You may have read various news articles implying that there are some improprieties in the relationship between a few lenders and post secondary institutions. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure our students and parents that Midlands Technical College does not participate in any lender/school relationships whereby Midlands Technical College or Student Financial Services staff would benefit from promoting a particular lender to our students.

The mission of the Student Financial Services department is to assist students in obtaining the financial resources to complete their educational goals. The integrity of the college and this department is of the utmost importance to us. While we do offer students the opportunity to choose a lender from our preferred lenders list, students always have the option of choosing a lender not on our list. Our hope is to simplify the selection process by providing a list of lenders to those that want help selecting a lender. Our preferred lender list is comprised of lenders that responded to our survey and were evaluated by an unbiased committee based on the lenders' response to questions relating to customer service, borrower benefits and other areas important to our students.

We are dismayed by the negative press releases regarding the student loan industry and do not condone any of the troubling practices alleged to have occurred. We strongly encourage students and parents to review all the information available and make an informed decision regarding the selection of a lender for their student loans. We welcome any questions or concerns you may have about the loan process at Midlands Technical College, please stop by our Beltline or Airport Student Financial Services office for more information or call 803-738-7792, option 3.

Michele Bowles  
Director, Student Financial Services