As most of us are beyond busy this month, I hope you are taking some time for breaks and re-energizing. Despite the craziness, I love this time of year! The leaves are turning yellow, the smell of overripe berries is in the air, darkness returns and I’m excitedly awaiting the first snowfall (I might be alone in this…). I try my hardest to take a morning and afternoon break to head outside for a brief walk in the woods. I might miss a phone call or email, but I’m so much more productive after the refreshing break.

WASFAA volunteers were hard at work this past months to support members and prepare for future events:

The Federal Relations Committee met several times to prepare comments for the Borrower Defense NPRM.
Fall Training will kick off this month. Trainers will be traveling to each state to provide a full day session on SAP and important conversations. Dates, locations and registration will be available soon.

The Jerry R. Sims Management and Leadership Institute will take place in Tempe, AZ November 7-9. This is a great training opportunity for financial aid directors, associate and assistance directors or anyone considering a leadership role within a financial aid office. A tentative agenda is available now and registration will be open soon.

That November week will be busy in Arizona! The WASFAA Executive Council will be meeting in Tempe, AZ November 8-9 to create a budget for the next year and make sure we’re on track to meet our Strategic Plan. The Conference Committee will also be visiting to view the location and continue planning for the 2019 Conference (May 20-22) and our 50th Anniversary Party.

Thank you to all the WASFAA Volunteers! You have all made my role easier. I appreciate your dedication and look forward to seeing all current and potential volunteers this fall as I attend state conferences.

Ashley Munro
2018-2019 WASFAA President
Editor's Corner

Nicholas Dehaan
Content & Implementation Administrator
Student Financial Services
University of Phoenix

Hello WASFAA! Fall is just around the corner. HOORAY. For us folks in Phoenix, we can’t wait for the cooler months. WASFAA has a lot planned for the coming months, Please email me what you have going on this fall and I’ll make sure it in a future WASFAA newsletter.

As always, if you would like to send any feedback or contribute to the newsletter, please send your articles or submissions to communications@wasfaa.org by September 30th.

WASFAA Social Media Links

WASFAA Communications Committee

Sun Ow • David Downing • Ashley Coleman • Wendy Olson

Newsletter Ads

Newsletter ads are a great way to advertise your products and services. The newsletter will be published electronically on a monthly basis. To purchase ad space click here.

Cost for 3 months:
- Full page: 7 ½” x 10” $500
- Half page: 7 ½” x 4 ¾” $250
- Quarter page: 3 ½” x 4 ¾” $100

WASFAA is pleased to share web-based training opportunities for financial aid administrators provided by our industry partners during the month of August.

Topics range from financial aid compliance to helping students managing debt and repayment. These training and informational sessions are available to you free of charge.

Click here for more detailed information on the sessions offered and the registration links.

WASFAA welcomes all views and invites submissions of articles, essays, photographs or information of general interest to all members. Submissions should be brief and should not advertise specific products or services. Submissions may be edited. It may not be possible to publish all articles submitted. Opinions expressed in the WASFAA Newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily of WASFAA, its members or the institutions represented by the authors. Email items for publication to communications@wasfaa.org.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

JERRY R. SIMS MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  NOVEMBER 7-9  |  Tempe, AZ

The Jerry R. Sims WASFAA Management & Leadership Institute (MLI) is WASFAA’s premier training event for financial aid directors, associate or assistant directors, and other professionals who aspire to leadership roles within the student aid profession. MLI offers attendees a unique opportunity to network with their peers in a collaborative and engaging cohort setting, led by experienced faculty who are themselves accomplished leaders within their institutions, and the financial aid community.

MLI is limited to approximately 25 attendees and is designed to maximize your interaction with the MLI faculty in a collaborative and engaging environment. You will meet with faculty and your peers in large group training sessions as well as in small group coaching/mentoring sessions to help you sharpen your management skills and enhance your leadership abilities as we look to the future of student aid administration together.

Questions? Contact the MLI Chair, Jim Brooks at brooksja@uoregon.edu.

MLI Faculty

- Phil LeBlanc, University of Phoenix
- Jim Brooks, University of Oregon
- Teresa Buchmann, Green River Community College
- Mary McGlothlan, Concordia University
- Isabelle Mora, California State University – East Bay
- Lauren Patterson, The Art Institute of Portland

Register Here

JERRY R. SIMS MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Nov. 7-9, 2018 | Tempe, AZ

Click here for more details
SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE EXTENDED

Apply now to attend the Jerry R. Sims Management & Leadership Institute this November

WASFAA is offering Ethnic Diversity and General Scholarships for the:

Jerry R. Sims Management & Leadership Institute.

This premier training event is for financial aid directors, associate or assistant directors, and other professionals who aspire to leadership roles within the student aid profession. MLI offers attendees a unique opportunity to network with their peers in a collaborative and engaging cohort setting, led by experienced faculty who are themselves accomplished leaders within their institutions, and the financial aid community.

The institute will be held in Tempe, Arizona at Tempe Mission Palms - November 7-9, 2018. TEMPE MISSION PALMS

More information is available at www.wasfaa.org

WASFAA has several different scholarship opportunities, so please take the time to check out this link for more details.

The Scholarship deadline date is September 26, 2018. Apply now!

WASFAA LOGO DESIGN CONTEST REMINDER

WASFAA is looking to update their logo for the 21st Century. We are seeking current WASFAA members who can design a creative, innovative and professional logo to replace the current WASFAA Logo to celebrate WASFAA’s 50th Anniversary.

The designer of the winning submission will win one free conference registration to the 2019 Annual WASFAA Conference this coming May in Tempe, AZ.

Click here to learn more and instructions on how to submit your winning design
Seems like just the other day I was wishing everyone a great summer, and now here we are with fall upon us. WASFAA Training Committee members spent their summers reading, studying and preparing an impactful training for the membership.


We are offering the traditional full-day sessions in each state as usual, as well as half-day sessions at state conferences including Washington and California. Arizona will have the best of both worlds as we plan to offer a full-day session in conjunction with the AASFAA spring conference in Tucson.

Registration is now open for most sites at WASFAA.org, where you can view all currently scheduled dates and locations. The full-day session fee will be $55 for WASFAA members, $105 including the membership fee or $105 for nonmembers. The fee for the half-day sessions at state conferences will be $35 for current WASFAA members, $85 includes a WASFAA membership, or $85 for non-members.

We hope you'll consider sharing this opportunity with non-financial aid staff on your campus, who can learn more about SAP and gain some valuable skills in the process. With our non-member rate, they are not required to become WASFAA members to register.

See you soon at an event near you!

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**Save the Date**

**WASFAA**

50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Tempe Mission Palms | Tempe, Az | May 20-22
Greetings from the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE), Alaska’s higher education agency! Our 2018-2019 academic year is off to a great start as we roll out many exciting loan program changes. For those of you who aren’t familiar with ACPE, we’re one of a handful of state agencies that not only is responsible for state higher education (think school licensing, consumer protection), we also promote access to postsecondary education and training. One of the ways we do this is through our unique state education loan programs.

We’re all aware of the problems associated with over-borrowing, taking out a loan without understanding about interest rates, or starting down the postsecondary education/career training path unprepared or without a goal. Yet when students are academically prepared, have a plan, and understand what it means to borrow, education loans can provide important benefits. Loans help students reduce financial stress, create a credit history, and enable timely degree completion – meaning borrowers can enter the workforce sooner. Moreover, because individuals with degrees or certificates are more likely to obtain higher-wage jobs, they’ll find it easier to repay their student loans. ACPE promotes responsible borrowing by offering students and families low-cost state loans for those situations where loans can support student success!

One way ACPE balances the need to pay for college with preventing over-borrowing is through messaging that encourages students to take advantage of all federal aid before taking out a private loan. After federal financial aid, state education loans are to be a low-cost option for students seeking supplemental financial assistance. And, because we don’t want students to become overburdened with debt, we set annual and aggregate borrowing limits.

(Continued on page 8)
Another approach we take is through our credit-based, tiered, interest-rate structure for our loan programs. This approach allows us to expand the availability of our student loans while maintaining highly competitive interest rates. Borrowers unable to meet the minimum credit criteria can still obtain a loan with a credit-worthy cosigner. In addition, borrowers who qualify on their own are advised that they can reduce their interest rate by applying with a cosigner who has a higher credit score. There are other ways ACPE reduces borrowing costs. We recently expanded our interest rate discounts; not only are they available to students attending an Alaska school (including online enrollment!), but to borrowers and cosigners making qualifying payments during in-school periods. And, we continue to offer loans with no origination fees, meaning the amount borrowed is the amount the school receives!

For borrowers who’ve completed their post-secondary education or training and are seeking ways to lower repayment costs, ACPE offers an education loan refinancing program to meet the needs of Alaska residents. By refinancing educational debt with some of the lowest rates in the industry, Alaskan residents may save a significant amount of money during repayment. As the State of Alaska’s higher education agency, ACPE is proud to offer mission-driven programs serviced in Alaska, by Alaskans. To learn more us and what we do, visit ACPE.alaska.gov, email us at ACPE@alaska.gov, or call our Customer Service Center at 800-441-2962. We’d love to hear from you!

Provided by:
Adam Weed
Operations Analyst
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

STATE NEWS

OREGON

The smoke has cleared from Portland, and it feels good to be back outside. However, I know the wildfires continue to impact our families and institutions around the region.

We’ve been busy in Oregon this summer! We held our Oregon Trail themed Summer Drive In Workshop this summer at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. With lots of references to the Oregon Trail video game many of us played growing up, it was a fun day and I’m pleased to report that no one died of dysentery! In addition to break-out sessions about developing effective processing guides and college and career readiness, we offered a presentation of the NASFAA U Application Process module to prepare attendees to take the NASFAA U credential exam. Next up is our FA 101/201 workshop to be held in October which will bring together novice and experienced financial aid administrators for a day of learning the basics as well as more advanced topics.

This summer, I had the privilege of representing OASFAA at the WASFAA EC meeting in Reno and then at the NASFAA Conference in Austin where I had the chance to meet with many other state and regional association Presidents. My summer travels also took me to Fairbanks where I got to say HI! to WASFAA President Ashley Munro and Alaska President Rebecca Phillips at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Financial aid folks are a great bunch and involvement with state associations and WASFAA really helps you broaden your network and meet lots of terrific people!
NEVADA

It is that time of year where the entire financial aid office at the University of Nevada, Reno is a perfect combination of chaos and a well-oiled machine. We are elbows deep in completing files while providing our students with excellent customer service as their fall classes begin. To say we’re feeling busy, is a vast understatement. Despite the hectic life we lead every year in August, the NAFAA Executive Council is still hard at work organizing and planning our annual conference. This year, we will be in Reno, NV at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino October 22nd – 24th. We are planning a jam packed conference to include our Annual PeopleSoft pre-conference session, several sessions from our representative at the US Department of Education, the Office of Inspector General, WASFAA’s very own President Ashley Munro as well as a new post-conference session on Cost of Attendance (a NASFAA Certification). We are excited to see everyone at the conference!

This fall semester kicks off the beginning the Nevada Promise Scholarship. This scholarship will cover the cost of registration and mandatory fees not already covered by other gift aid for up to three years for eligible students. The institutions participating in this scholarship program include College of Southern Nevada, Great Basin College, Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada College. For more information check out the Nevada System of Higher Education’s website https://nshe.nevada.edu/administration/academic-student-affairs/financial-aid/nevada-promise-scholarship/

CALIFORNIA

CASFAA’s Annual Conference will be held at the beautiful JW Marriott Resort in Palm Desert, CA from Oct 28-30th, 2018

Reasons to join your colleagues at the CASFAA Conference:
The trip is cost effective when compared to the FSA Conference in Atlanta this winter! The agenda includes 9 sessions presented by Department of Education The agenda also offers several other educational tracks; Advocacy, Student Loans & Financial Literacy, and a Customer Service. The weather in Palm Desert in October will range from a high of 91 to a low of 61

My year as President will come to an end as I pass on the gavel to Barbara Bickett at the end of October. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve. I do encourage all of you to get involved in your State Association. We each play such a valuable role in our service to students. Participating in your Association will bring a broader perspective to the role you play on your campus, as well as open you up to a new world of opportunity when networking with other financial aid professionals.

Hope to see your name on a volunteer list, or election ballot, or conference program soon!

Ashley M Salisbury, Nevada State President
Senior Financial Aid Advisor
University of Nevada - Reno

Anita Kermes, California State President
Director
CSU - Sacramento