President’s Highlights- November

October was a very busy month. As president, I had the opportunity to attend and present at four state conferences: IASFAA in Boise, WFAA in Yakima, NAFAA in Reno and CASFAA in Palm Desert. I am grateful for the chance to talk with many of you in person and to learn from you. My favorite speaker was Idaho state representative Melissa Wintrow, who spoke about civility. (Since I’m writing this message on Election Day, it seems fitting to ponder her words today.) It doesn’t matter if we can’t agree on situations, we can find common ground with our students and colleagues. When we see others as people, we can build relationships, listen to learn and then start to invite change.

Thank you to the volunteers in Idaho, Washington, Nevada and California. You all held fantastic conferences, with lots of learning opportunities and fun activities. Planning a conference is one of the hardest volunteer jobs to take on. I appreciate the work you put forth to ensure all attendees were welcomed and taught.