



**Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators  
2011 Business Meeting Minutes  
Showcase Live @ Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA  
November 3, 2011**

President Bernie Pekala called the annual MASFAA Business Meeting to order at 12:54 p.m.

**President's Remarks – Bernie Pekala**

- The President noted that we had met a quorum for the meeting.
- The agenda for the meeting was reviewed.

**Treasurer's Report – Leah Barry**

- Treasurer's reported financial were distributed to the members.
- MASFAA had another successful fiscal year.
- We have stayed within the budget.
- Thank you to Executive Council and the Committee Chairs.
- At the end of the year we were left with approximately \$18,000 extra, which will be moved to reserves.
- Our other investment total is approximately \$4,000.
- We have approximately \$18,000 in appreciation at Edward Jones.
- The reserve currently has three times the average current annual budget.
- We are in the process of deciding how to manage the money as a result of the strategic planning initiative.
- A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was offered by Christine McGuire; the motion was seconded by Iris Godes; there was no discussion.
- The membership voted unanimously and the motion passed.

**Secretary's Report – Bernie Pekala for Migdalia Gomez**

- The minutes from the 2010 Annual Business Meeting were distributed.
- Bernie Pekala facilitated the discussion.
- There were no questions, corrections, or changes that were presented.
- A motion to approve the Secretary's report was offered by Sherry Avery; the motion was seconded by Leah Barry; there was no discussion.
- The membership voted unanimously and the motion passed.

**Strategic Planning – Christine McGuire**

- At 1:03 p.m. the Strategic Planning Consultants from Cambridge Hill Partners, Ed Hudner and Janet Baker, facilitated an exercise with the membership, which concluded at 1:48.

**Old Business**

- No old business from the floor.

**New Business**

- No new business from the floor.

The annual business meeting was drawn to a close by President Bernie Pekala. A motion to adjourn the Annual Business Meeting was offered by Iris Godes; the motion was seconded by Marilyn Jaye. The membership voted unanimously and the motion passed. President Bernie Pekala adjourned the annual MASFAA Business Meeting at 1:49 p.m.

The 2011 MASFAA Business Meeting minutes were respectfully recorded by Christina Coviello, MASFAA Communications Committee Co-Chair in the absence of Migdalia Gomez, MASFAA Secretary. These minutes will be reviewed and their acceptance voted on during the 2012 MASFAA Conference's Business Meeting.

## Other Business\*

### Award Recipients

- **2011 Charles E. Jones Achievement Award**

- The Charles E. Jones Achievement Award is named in memory of Chuck Jones, who dedicated his career to helping students. A member of the financial aid staff at The College of the Holy Cross, Chuck was concerned about the access and delivery of aid to ALL students. Chuck was a wonderful person who had an extremely promising career that, unfortunately, was cut short by a terminal illness. This award recognizes the achievements and development of a "new" financial aid administrator.
- **Recipient: Jonathan Sparling**

- **2011 Charles “Jack” Sheehan Distinguished Service Award**

- The Charles Jack Sheehan Distinguished Service Award was named in honor of ‘Jack’ Sheehan, one of the most respected and talented financial aid administrators in our nation. Jack was called upon by Federal officials for advice; he was influential in helping shape Federal legislation and regulation. Most of all, Jack was an affectionate advocate for students and it shone clearly through in every detail of his work. One example of his caring for students was that he drove all over New Mexico to encourage disadvantaged students to enroll at the University of New Mexico and made visits to Hispanic parents to persuade them to let their daughters go away to college. It was a fortunate day for Massachusetts when Jack came from Texas to be the Director of Financial Aid at Boston University. Jack was strongly committed to helping other aid professionals, especially those less experienced. He was always willing to answer questions and he never made anyone think that their question wasn't a good one. His management style was to walk around the office with his cup of coffee and drop into the offices of staff to chat and see how things were going. Jack served as President of this Association in 1983-84, and it was a tribute to Jack that he was also elected President of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). Unfortunately, a terminal illness prevented him from assuming that office. This award was created in Jack’s memory to recognize distinguished service to the financial aid profession.
- **Recipient: Gail Holt**

- **2011 Edward M. Kennedy Public Service Award**

- Following the passing of Senator Edward Kennedy, MASFAA established a new award to honor the Senator. The award speaks to his tireless public service, his unflinching drive to champion the rights of the disadvantaged and his efforts to ensure every American has access to high-quality education. The Edward M. Kennedy Public Service Award was established to recognize sustained service as a champion for the needs and rights of underserved and disadvantaged groups and to promote student advocacy within the financial aid profession.
- **Recipient: Joe Russo**

- **2011 Presidential Award**

- MASFAA’s Presidential Award recognizes outstanding service and time dedicated to MASFAA during the past years. This award recognizes important contribution to MASFAA either by a single achievement or achievements accomplished over a period of time. The recipient can be counted on to complete tasks for the Association often with little fanfare.
- **Recipient: Meredith Stover**

\*The “Other Business” of the 2011 MASFAA Business Meeting minutes were added in January 2012 by MASFAA Secretary, Migdalia Gomez per conversation that occurred during the December 2011 MASFAA Executive Council meeting. Minutes to the December 2011 Executive Council meeting are available on the MASFAA website.