

**Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
Executive Council Meeting
Waltham, MA
January 18, 2007**

In attendance: Sherri Avery, Cathy Kedski, Tony Erwin, Jason Burke, Leslie Bembridge, Dave Kelly, Carla Berg, Jason Shumaker, Shawn Bennett, Ina Frye, Pam McCafferty, Elayne Peloquin, Scott McIsaac, Shawn Morrissey, Bernie Pekala, Beth Feinberg, Karen Derouin, Kathy Osmond, Jill D'Amico, Lori Seuch, Rob Callahan, Nick Zinser, Martha Savery

Absent: Mike Ippolito, Cheryl Constantine, Leah Barry, Donna Wood Lozier, Val Harris, Gail Holt, Sandra Coswatte, Kim Truong, Lauren Urbanek, Joe Lahoud, Duane Quinn, Yvonne Gittens, Robin Randall, Paul Lynskey

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Sherri Avery
savery@brandeis.edu

President Sherri Avery called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M.

Sherri discussed the NASFAA state awards. Just the FACTS! can't be submitted since it is more than two years old. She asked if anyone had any other thoughts on items to submit.

Sherri read information on a NASFAA pre-conference session that is about college access for regional and state organization presidents. Sherri asked if anyone would be interested in attending. Sherri thought that CEED or Early Awareness might be interested.

Sherri mentioned Learn Student Aid.org, reminding everyone that MASFAA has signed on and Sherri sent information to the list. There is information in the current newsletter. She will be sending reminders to the list every other month, as is required.

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REMARKS

Tony Erwin
a.erwin@neu.edu

Nothing to report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Tony Erwin (Acting)
a.erwin@neu.edu

Tony presented the minutes from the December Executive Council meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

Tony presented the updated Handbook of Standing Rules. A motion to accept the Handbook of Standing Rules as amended was offered, seconded, and approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Pam McCafferty
pmccafferty@fsc.edu

Pam distributed College Goal Sunday budget information, and the monthly Treasurer's report.

Pam indicated that the total donation to Crossroads for kids was \$8,142, of which \$4,071 was the MASFAA contribution. This was slightly higher than was presented last month because the contribution From Goal Financial was larger than anticipated. Pam reviewed several items from the reports which reflect activity through the December bank statements.

Lori asked when we will be talking about the funding for College Goal Sunday next year. Sherri said it will be on the agenda after CGS.

Sherri asked Scott if all conference expenses are in and he said yes as far as he knew. Sherri thanked Scott for the great work on the budget.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

Pam indicated that the change to dual signatures has been made, and now only checks over \$1500 need to be countersigned. New checks are in place.

DEVELOPMENT

Carla Berg
cberg@bentley.edu

Sherri asked Carla about sending a letter to vendors earlier this year. Carla indicated that the letter might be able to go in March. About half of the vendors might sign up then, but the other half don't generally sign up until the notice for the conference is sent.

NOMINATIONS/PAST-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Cathy Kedski
ckedski@bridgew.edu

Nothing to report.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER AT LARGE

Lori Seuch
lseuch@mefa.org

Nothing to report.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Shawn Morrissey
smorris@frc.mass.edu

Duane Quinn
quinn@amsa.com

Newsletters back to 1998 are on the website. Sherri found one missing issue, as well as a lot of other materials and delivered them to Shawn today for the Archives. Shawn reported he has drafted a letter to those in aid for longer than twenty years to see if they have anything for the archive. There are 146 people. Shawn and Sherri need to coordinate stationary. Jen Roberts has some materials to submit. Shawn indicated he has not yet begun work on the history.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Beth Feinberg
b.feinberg@neu.edu

Leslie Bembridge
Leslie.J.Bembridge@citizensbank.com

Leslie reported there are 885 paid members as of this week. There are four people that attended the conference but who have not paid for membership. They are working to collect payment. Leslie and Beth have a wish list for Noetic to update membership processing. They will submit that to Rob and Leah.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Scott McIsaac
scott.mcisaac@nelnet.net

Yvonne Gittens
gittens@mit.edu

Anne Marie Juckins
ajuckins@edfund.org

Scott reported that about twenty people have volunteered for the Committee. He reported that the evaluations will be complete this week and will be sent to the presenters. He has contacted the scheduling office for Deval Patrick to see if he is available to speak this Fall at the conference. There will be a meeting next week with Scott, Yvonne and Anne Marie to select the members of the Committee for next year. Scott ask Technology if anyone had submitted their conference session for posting to the website. Rob indicated only Bernie had made a submission, but that they have space to host what is submitted.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Leah Barry
lbarry@bu.edu

Rob Callahan
rcallahan@collegeboard.org

Rob indicated that there has been a lot of regular maintenance done to the site recently. He also reported that an issue that was causing a lot of spam to Tony and Cathy has been resolved temporarily. However, Rob indicated that a long-term fix would be to have users log in to the website before being able to complete forms such as the award or election nominations. Another option would be to have the forms turned on and off as they are needed; this would require ongoing attention. Nick suggested some kind of form verification. Rob indicated that Technology would prefer just having people log in to complete a form. After some discussion, that was the option selected.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mike Ippolito
mippolit@brandeis.edu

Joe Lahoud
jlahoud@amsa.com

No update on the logo copyright project. There are thirty people signed up for the event in Springfield next week. They are drafting a survey for the membership for the Final Fling locations.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

Jason Shumaker
jasons@mit.edu

Jason Burke
jburke@amsa.com

Jason Burke reported on the emerging leaders workshops. They will be held on March 5th and May 22nd at the Wellesley College Club. He reviewed the agenda for both days. Sherri volunteered to present the session on MASFAA. The Committee is planning to have a couple of people from business do a session on leadership. They are also looking to accumulate materials for the participants. The potential speakers have been published, so they may purchase the publications for the leaders. Lori offered suggestions for additional speakers if they needed them. There also will be a session on management. Cathy and Tony both offered to present. At the end of the day, they are looking to offer a mentor panel. For the second day, the tentative agenda includes sessions on technology, supervision and hiring, networking, etc.

Martha asked if PD&T might be able to check with Just the FACTS to see what topics have been requested from those participants that might be appropriate for the emerging leaders.

They would like to have an email list for this program.

February 14th is the support staff workshop. Jason Shumaker indicated that the agenda is stronger than last year and several items come from suggestions last year. They will offer a session on basic need analysis, technology, and student employee management. Kathy indicated that financial aid support staff generally need to know significantly more than those with similar grade levels in other offices.

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Cheryl Constantine
cherylc@bu.edu

Val Harris
harrisv@harvard.edu

No report submitted.

NEWSLETTER

Lauren Urbanek
lurbanek@newenglandconservatory.edu

David Kelly
dave.kelly@bankofamerica.com

Dave reported that the conference edition of the newsletter has been published. They were able to add an article at the last minute, which is a great benefit of the new format. Dave reported that the navigation is working well, and all issues discussed last month have been resolved.

The Committee is meeting next week to discuss the Winter edition. The edition should be out in March. Cathy suggested more pictures in the Newsletter.

EASFAA

Donna Wood Lozier
dwoodlo@spfldcol.edu

A written report was submitted as follows:

MASFAA, in conjunction with EASFAA will be presenting NASFAA's training: *Leadership Foundations for Aid Professionals*. Train the trainers will be held on Friday, Jan. 19, in Manchester, NH. MASFAA representatives who will be trainers are Tony Erwin, Cathy Kedski, Troy Davis and Donna Wood Lozier. This day long event will be held at two sites: Northeastern University on Feb. 16 and at Springfield College on Feb. 23. Watch for sign up.

The next EASFAA quarterly meeting will be held on March 11th through 13th in Washington DC, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, site of this year's NASFAA meeting.

The next EASFAA Quarterly will be out within the next few weeks, watch for that. There will be much information from all of the states and committees.

Tony asked if MASFAA could offer scholarships to this training as we did in the past for this topic. Discussion followed. A motion to offer up to five scholarships from the EASFAA budget, first to any interested emerging leaders and then to the membership, with the selection being based on financial need was offered, seconded, and approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE ON ENHANCING ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Kimberly Truong
ktruong@bhe.mass.edu

Ina Frye
ifrye@bu.edu

Sandra Coswatte
coswatte@lesley.edu

Ina reported that the Committee is working on getting confirmation for mentors. Dr. Peter Nien-chu Kiang from the University of Massachusetts at Boston will be the speaker for the diversity training they are planning in June. Ina indicated his fee fits in their budget. They are looking at hosting the event at the Boston Foundation or another free venue. Ina distributed a bio for Dr. Peter Nien-chu Kiang for review.

The Committee is considering purchasing more books for the diversity library. Several people have been using the library. The Committee is thinking of asking those who borrow books to write articles for the newsletter.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Bernie Pekala
pekala@bc.edu

Kathryn Osmond
kosmond@wellesley.edu

Kathy reported that the Committee had a very productive meeting recently. They received an in-depth update on the loan issues negotiated rulemaking process. The Committee would like to hold a program on preferred lenders in June. They would like the event to be a conversation with legislative aides to discuss how schools use preferred lenders and to share best practices.

Kathy reported that they have scheduled a meeting with Dr. Clantha Carrigan McCurdy tomorrow to review the approved MASFAA State talking points.

Kathy discussed H.R. 5, a bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives today regarding student loan interest rates. Kathy distributed a draft thank you letter to the House Committee Chairman. The bill authorizes a step-down reduction in interest for subsidized Stafford loans only, graduate or undergraduate. Discussion followed on the bill proposed in the Senate. A motion to approve the letter as amended was offered, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Bernie reported some updates to the draft of the Sunshine Act. The language has become much more restrictive on the gifts. It will cover both FFEL and private loans, but is not written to cover consolation loans. The whole process revolves around having a preferred lender list. Schools that have a preferred lender list would have to have at least 3 non-affiliated lenders, and report all gifts. Two types of lenders are exempted, credit cards and residential mortgages. Discussion followed about other aspects of the proposed act, and the potential impact to MASFAA schools.

EARLY AWARENESS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Jill D'Amico
jdamico@amsa.com

Jean Berg
jberg@finaid.umass.edu

Jill reported that Debbie Moroney has resigned from the Committee because of her new work. Jean will take over as co-chair for the rest of the year.

Jill reported that the *Jump Start Your College Savings* is moving forward. It should be complete in March. This is later than the Committee wanted, but they can use the mailing of the publication as an introduction for the Journey to College event.

Jill reported that the Committee had a good discussion about the Journey to College event. She provided background about how they have organized this in the past. They would like to use their scholarship to fund early awareness programs that are created as is the result of the event. They would like to make three \$200 awards, which could fund busses, etc.

COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

Gail Holt
gholt@mtholyoke.edu

Martha Savery
Martha_savery@nelliemae.com

Paul Lynskey
plynskey@mefa.org

Sherri reported on some publicity that CGS is involved in currently. Sherri indicated that they have distributed materials. Lori reported that over 500 guidance counselors heard information about CGS through the MEFA workshops. Beth reported that there is a volunteer in Framingham who has used UTube and MySpace to promote the event. There is a legislative aid training next week and CGS will also be covered then.

Elayne indicated that her staff had not yet heard from their site coordinators. Several people indicated that they have not yet heard from their site coordinator. Lori is going to contact Martha about it.

Martha thanked all the associate members for their donations of materials for the sites. They made sure that each site has materials from each vendor. Martha indicated that they have a lot of leftovers, and would be happy to send them to Early Awareness. Scott indicated that perhaps Crossroads for Kids might like some of the materials. He will provide contact information to Martha.

Martha indicates that things are progressing well for all seventeen sites. She thanked everyone for their participation. The Steering Committee had a meeting with the site coordinators to help them get in contact with their volunteers. Martha will make sure that those volunteers haven't heard yet will soon. There should be in excess of 200 volunteers, not all MASFAA members. Next year they are planning on adding a field to collect which volunteers are members. The presentation is housed on the masscollegegoalsunday.org website under the resources link.

Martha reviewed the plans in case of snow. There will be a telephone bank housed at ASA for the day. She will be contacting people to ask them to be on call for that. She also requested that people bring extra FAFSAs to their site.

JUST THE FACTS! TRAINING COMMITTEE

Robin Randall

rrandall@wheatoncollege.edu

No report submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Sherri discussed the KnowHow2Go campaign. She was on a call recently with TERI and several other organizations. The campaign has been launched. Materials are available for free, however the cost of distribution would be assumed by MASFAA. Sherri thought the materials might be included with other mailings Early Awareness is already planning. Lori indicated that she has reviewed the materials and is more comfortable with them. Several people agreed.

Tony reminded everyone of the meeting schedule for the rest of the year:

February 15 at the College Board Regional Office

March: No meeting

April 12 at the College Board Regional Office

May 17 at Stonehill College

June: To be announced.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

A motion to adjourn was offered, seconded and approved unanimously at 1:05 P.M.