

Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

January 11, 2013 at 10 a.m. at Quinsigamond Community College

Attendees: Migdalia Gomez*, Cathy Nelson*, Meaghan Hardy-Smith*, Joanne Dashiell, Dan Forster, Lisa Talbot, Lynne Myers*, Donna Kendall*, Bernie Pekala*, Diana Beaudoin, David Janey, Chris Hart, Bob Coughlin*, Catherine Ryan*, Aaron Clark-Melcher*, Jennifer English*, Alex Gonzalez, Kendra Lider-Johnson, Katie Kelsall, Amy Johnson, Bonnie Quinn, Iris Godes*, Gail Holt, Leah Barry*, Jillian Glaze, Colleen Burke, Lori Moore*, Kori Ferris, Karensa Macgregor, Denice Carryl, Kim Gargano, Kathy Osmond, Kristin Hawley-Johnson,

Absent: Janet Turner*, Debbie Gronback, Ryan Forsythe,

**Voting Members*

Meeting started 10:07 a.m.

Secretary

- December Meeting
 - Add “And Congress” to President section regarding report
 - Aaron motioned
 - Bob second
 - All in favor, 0 opposed
 - 1 abstained
- Handbook
 - Will continue to develop Handbook

President

- Presented at financial aid panel at State House offered with AICUM, OSFA and MEFA
 - About 90 attendants
 - Discussion:
 - Will this be a MASFAA or ACIUM event moving forward? In past has been a MASFAA event, but after skipping a year became harder to get back on the agenda.
 - Suggestion for Government Relations to look into hosting the event next year.
 - First event was very well attended, it was close to 100.
 - There was press coverage of the event.

Treasurer

- Financials were distributed via e-mail yesterday

- Conference registrations aren't up to date.
 - Will come in around \$63,000; should have all the money in by next month
- Membership is up

FAFSA Day

- Register to Volunteer!
- Will be sending pleas regarding registering
- Number updates
 - Last year had 362 volunteers as of 1/11; today have 337 registrants
 - Last year had 625 registrants as of 1/11; today have 716 registrants
 - Twitter followers: 456
- Hosting the Steering Committee and FAFSA Day Site Coordinator meeting today after MASFAA Council

GPCC

- Symposium is a month away
- Distributed agendas
- Registration will open next week
- February 15th (Friday before President's weekend)

Communications

- Newsletter should be finished and up on the website soon

EASFAA

- Now has a Facebook page
- Conference agenda will be up beginning of February
- Jeff Baker, and Justin Draeger will be there
- Dates are May 7th through May 10th

Strategic Topic of the Month: Leadership and Governance

- As of a few days ago, current membership based on geography:
 - 58% comes from Greater Boston Area
 - 10% Northeast,
 - 7% Southeaster
 - 10% Western,
 - 9% Central Mass
 - 6% Out of State
- As of a few days ago, current membership type based on school type:

- 60% Private,
 - 8% Graduate
 - 12% 4 year public
 - 14% 2 year public
 - 6% Technical or training school
- Discussion regarding whether we should have regional or sector Member at Large representatives.
 - Should we have more members at large or less?
 - Can you still represent schools that you don't work in the region?
 - What if no one wants to run for a category that has small percentages?
 - Would need to refine graduate category?
 - Should we make a change now or should we try to have the at Large members be more engaged moving forward and then build from that?
- If we change the number and designation, then we would want to have memberships vote on it.
- You would run for your sector/region but would still a MASFAA at Large representative not just focusing on your area.
- Other ways to engage members not just through sectors; also engage by helping through Year End event and other areas.

**Migdalia Gomez had to leave the meeting early, and Bob Coughlin took the following minutes.*

- Continuation of the discussion regarding whether we should have regional or sector Member at Large representatives.
- Is there a role for At-Large members to represent committees at Executive Council, thus reducing the need for Committee Chair presence at meetings? Recommendation to have At Large members work more closely with committees.
- Bernie motioned to: increase At-Large member representation to 12 members, as follows:
 - 4 general representatives (from any sector),
 - 2 four-year public representatives,
 - 2 two-year public representatives,
 - 2 graduate/professional representatives,
 - 2 technical school representatives.
- Lynne seconded the motion.
- **Discussion:**
- Concern that 12 members would be too many.
- Concern that motion does not specifically give private schools sector representation.
- Why have 4 generalists? Do we need 2 members per sector? Should there be proportional representation?
- Is there a need for a graduate representative if there is the GPCC committee?

- Concern that this recommendation is not solving the definition of the At-Large role: either representation should be evenly divided by sector, or should be proportional.
 - Motion vote: 9 opposed (unanimous); 0 in favor. No abstentions.
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- Bob motioned to: maintain the current At-Large member representation at 6 members, as follows:
 - 1 private representative,
 - 1 four-year public representative,
 - 1 two-year public representative,
 - 1 graduate/professional representative,
 - 1 technical school representative, 1 general representative (open to member from any sector).
 - Motion was seconded by Meaghan.
 - Donna amended Bob's motion to include a survey to the full MASFAA membership for feedback/comments regarding this motion. Bernie seconded Donna's motion to amend. Vote for amendment: 9 in favor (unanimous), 0 opposed. No abstentions.
 - Vote on Bob's motion to maintain membership at 6 representatives, with all sectors represented and one general member: 9 in favor (unanimous), 0 opposed. No abstentions.
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- Iris will draft survey to MASFAA membership requesting feedback on this proposal. Draft will first be distributed to Executive Council for review. Target: send to full membership in early February, with two-week comment period.
 - Inquiry addressed whether there was a motion to consider regional representation. No motion made. Hearing none, discussion on regional representation will be tabled at this time.
 - Iris inquired whether there were other activities for At-Large members to be addressed at this time. At-Large members are currently planning the Year End event. No other activities being discussed among current At-Large members at this moment.
 - Is there a role for At-Large members with committees? Would committee representation by At-Large members reduce the need for committee chairs at Executive Council meetings? Recommendation: maintain current structure, encouraging committee chair representation at meetings.
 - Discussion regarding the number of times MASFAA Executive Council meets during the year. Challenge for committee chairs to attend Executive Council in addition to their committee meetings.
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- Meaghan motioned to: remove the December Executive Council meeting from the MASFAA calendar. Catherine seconded the motion. Vote: 9 in favor (unanimous), 0 opposed. No abstentions.

- Google Drive – Aaron informed committee that requests to access Google folder have been sent to MASFAA Council. Working out some issues with access. Future notifications will be sent to work email, but the Technology Committee will create/maintain access via email in Google Drive folder for those who are unable to access drive through work email. Despite some issues, Google Drive seems promising and cost effective.

New Business

- Aaron announced that Joe Eng has resigned as Technology Committee tri-chair.

Review of Action Items

- MASFAA Council list with phone numbers: Iris is working on this project
- Membership Committee – will be discussed at next meeting
- May Executive Council meeting – challenges coordinating meeting during EASFAA conference
- Committee web pages – notation that many are outdated

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Bernie first, Donna seconded. All voted unanimously. 0 opposed. No abstentions. Meeting closed at 1:19pm.