



WASFAA Highlights is a bi-monthly electronic news update provided by the WASFAA President for the benefit of the WASFAA membership. The electronic publication will contain informational items pertaining to WASFAA activities and newsworthy items of interest to the WASFAA community. Past issues are archived on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>. Additional information regarding any given issue may be obtained by emailing the current WASFAA President, Mindy Bergeron, at bergeron@jfku.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of August, 2009 - (Vol. 5, No. 2)

- The annual Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute (SDBSI) was held in June, 2009 at the University of Nevada, Reno, campus. This is an annual six-day intensive residential training program designed to provide attendees with training on the fundamentals of administering the Federal Student Aid programs. This year's co-chairs were former SDBSI faculty, Nick Valdivia from CSU Long Beach and Andy Promsiri, from UCLA School of Management. Seventy-four students successfully "graduated" on Thursday night at their graduation banquet. Maia Hoover, a Financial Aid Advisory from Oregon State University, was the valedictorian. If you or your staff is interested in attending the next Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute which is scheduled for June 2010 in Arizona, contact the chair, Jack Edwards at Stanford Graduate School of Business, at Edwards_Jack@GSB.Stanford.Edu or (650)736-1758.
- Our favorite federal trainer, Marianna Deeken, was back in action and looking good at the SDBSI in Reno.
- Catherine King-Todd has been appointed the newly formed WASFAA position of Communications Chair. It is the hope of WASFAA to publicize its activities on a timelier basis.
- The WASFAA Executive Council conducted their first board meeting of the 2009-2010 year at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Reno, NV on June 11 and 12. The 2009 WASFAA budget was reviewed and reduced from \$355,400 to \$318,230. The following expenses were reduced: the cancellation of the October 2009 Management Leadership Institute - \$15,000; 2009 Conference - \$13185; Fund Development - \$3500; General Administration - \$500; and Scholarships - \$5485. \$500 was added to the new Communications budget.
- Dr. Phil Day has submitted his resignation as President/Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). Joan Crissman was immediately named Interim-President. Joan has been with NASFAA for over 30 years.
- Congratulations to WASFAA's own Steve Herndon. Steve, a former WASFAA president and treasurer and current Fiscal Committee chair, was awarded the NASFAA Regional Leadership Award at the recent NASFAA Conference in San Antonio. The individuals selected for this award must: exhibit high integrity and character; have shown creative leadership; have inspired and encouraged others to participate actively in professional development activities; and have continued active involvement in professional organizations after holding elected office.
- On July 24th, the minimum federal pay rate was increased by \$.70 from \$6.55 to \$7.25. Students participating in the Federal Work Study program must be paid at least this minimum pay rate. In the WASFAA region CA, NV, OR and WA have a higher State minimum wage than the Federal. In Alaska and Hawaii, the Federal and State minimum pay rate is the same.
- From WASFAA Graduate Professional Issues Committee: SAFRA sounds like another financial aid association but it is the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009 (H.R. 3221) which has among

other proposals, the elimination of subsidized loans for graduate students. This part of the bill was amended to allow graduate students to continue to receive subsidized loans.

- As of June, 2009, there were 430 WASFAA members. These members represent the following states: Alaska-53; America Samoa-2; Arizona-51; California-118; Guam-2; Hawaii-32; Idaho-23; Marshall Islands-2; Nevada-28; Oregon-34; Washington-55; and Out-of-Region- 30
- The WASFAA region has several new representatives on the NASFAA Board of Directors. Dr. Patricia Hurley, Associate Dean at Glendale College, CA, was recently elected as Representative-at-Large for NASFAA. Tami Sato, Director of Financial Aid at Southern California College of Optometry, has been appointed by NASFAA Chair, Barry Simmons, as a NASFAA Commission Director for 2009-10.
- And there's more --- members from the WASFAA region who are serving on NASFAA committees. They include: Transcript - Melissa Moser, Orange Coast College, CA; Federal Issues - Bert Logan, Lane Community College, OR; Finance & Audit - Kay Soltis, Pacific Lutheran College, WA; GPIC - Donna Espinoza, Western State University - Law, CA; IPMC - Lois Kelly (Chair) Cal Poly SLO, CA and Heidi Granger, College of the Desert, CA; Leadership - Doug Severs, Oregon State University, OR; Nominations - Tami Sato, Southern CA College of Optometry, CA; ADE - Jannine Oyama, Honolulu Community College, HI; AGMC - Catherine King-Todd, Thunderbird School of Global Management, AZ; Awards - Sheri Dewey, Idaho State University, ID; Conference - Susan Murphy, University of San Francisco, CA; Journal - David Levy, Scripps College, CA and Kathleen Koch, Seattle University - School of Law, WA; Research - Lynn Fox, University of the Pacific, CA; Training - Nicolas Valdivia, CSU Long Beach; Technology - Kevin Jensen, College of Western Idaho, ID
- Leonard Walker, WASFAA Site Selection Chair, wants to know if you'd like to host a meeting, big or small, at your campus within the next year. We're looking for meeting-friendly locations for our training events. Contact Leonard at 775.682.8104.
- It's never too early to mark your calendars for the annual WASFAA conference which will be held in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho from April 18 through 20, 2010. Coeur d' Alene resembles a quaint European village tucked away by a lake in the mountains. Take a tour at http://wasfaa.org/docs/toc_conferences.html
- The Summer 2009 edition of the WASFAA Newsletter can be found at <http://wasfaa.org/docs/newsletters/2009/SummerNewsletter.pdf>
- Stay tuned for information on WASFAA's upcoming Fall 2009 training. The Training Committee Co-Chairs are Cindy Pollard from Warner Pacific College, OR (cpollard@warnerpacific.edu) and Sue Shogren from NELA (susan.shogren@nela.net). As a result of our successful webinars in Spring 2009, we hope to conduct a few more webinars in the upcoming year. You can also take the following WASFAA training survey to tell us what you need at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=a8t5WMT5X9NXfUSj3xHuww_3d_3d
- The WASFAA Treasurer's books were reviewed by our own Fiscal Planning Committee at the June 2009 EC meeting in Reno. There were no major findings.
- Did you know that the WASFAA state association presidents have their own committee meetings before the regularly scheduled Executive Council meetings? They also participate in an exchange program which means that a state president may attend another state's conference. This is a way to get a truly regional flavor of what other states are doing or not doing.

I hope you're having a little bit of fun as the summer winds down.

Mindy Bergeron
2009-10 WASFAA President