



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csb.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of April, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 1)

- For those WASFAA members who were unable to attend the 36th annual WASFAA Conference held April 17-19, 2005, at the Doubletree Hotel Portland - Lloyd Center, you truly missed an outstanding conference. A record number 600 WASFAA members attended the conference, with some 162 being newcomers. Conference Chair Tracy Reisinger and her Conference Committee organized an impressive set of keynote speakers, interest sessions, and social activities that made the event special for all in attendance. A more detailed report of the conference activities will appear in the next issue of WASFAA News.
- By now most of you are aware of the passing of Sister Dale Brown, who served as the Associate Director of Financial Aid at the University of San Diego. Sister Dale was beloved by all and was a tireless supporter of the financial aid profession in the Western region having served in numerous leadership positions with CASFAA, WASFAA, and NASFAA. For her many contributions to the aid profession, she was recognized at the recent WASFAA Conference as the 2004 NASFAA State & Regional Leadership Award recipient. Many knew Sister Dale as a quintessential trainer, and in recognition of her years of involvement with the WASFAA Summer Institute, the 2004-05 WASFAA Executive Council voted at their final meeting on April 16, 2005, in Portland, OR to rename the institute the WASFAA Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, in her memory. In addition, a scholarship fund has been established in Sister Dale's honor at the University of San Diego. Donations may be made to the Sister Dale Brown Scholarship. Checks for that purpose should be made payable to USD and sent to: University of San Diego, Sister Dale Brown Scholarship, Degheri Alumni Center 312, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110-2492.
- WASFAA members are reminded that the Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute is being held this year at the University of Nevada, Reno, NV, June 5-10, 2005. The curriculum is geared toward financial aid administrators with less than four years of experience in the profession, or those individuals who want a thorough review of all the financial aid basics. The faculty of the institute is made up of 13 practicing financial aid administrators from campuses or organizations throughout the west. Additional information concerning the Institute can be obtained at http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/toc_summerinstitute.html.
- The WASFAA Ethnic Diversity Action Committee (EDAC) provides scholarships to the Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute to support ethnic minority financial aid professionals and encourage their active membership and participation in WASFAA. The scholarships provide funding for expenses that cannot be covered by the applicant's institution including registration fees, transportation, and room and board. The application deadline date is Wednesday, May 4, 2005. Additional information concerning the scholarship application process can be found at http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/forms/ethnic_diversity_app_SI.html.
- There are many volunteer opportunities available to the WASFAA membership. The 2005-06 Executive Council plans on enlisting the services of some 21 committees including Awards, Bylaws, Conference, Electronic Services, Ethnic Diversity Action, Federal Relations, Fiscal Planning, Fund Development, Graduate/Professional, Historical Archives, Membership, Newsletter, Nominations & Elections, Policies & Procedures, Research, Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute (MLI), Site Selection, Strategic Planning, Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, Training, and Volunteer Development. Please consider

volunteering for service on one of these committees. The WASFAA Volunteer Form is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/forms/memVolunteer.html>. Please take the time to complete the form by Friday, June 3, 2005, so the volunteer information can be collated and shared with the 2005-06 Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs at their first meeting in mid-June.

- The 2005-06 WASFAA Conference Committee is seeking ideas for the conference theme for the 37th annual WASFAA Conference to be held at The Nugget in Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006. Suggestions can be submitted to Sandra Guidry and Leonard Walker, Conference Co-Chairs, at lrwalker@unr.edu. The WASFAA member who submits the conference theme suggestion that is ultimately selected will win a \$50.00 gift certificate to Amazon.com!
- Members of the 2005-06 WASFAA Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs will be meeting at The Nugget in Reno, NV, June 16-17, 2005. The morning of the 16th, members of the Strategic Planning Committee will meet from 8:00 - 9:45 a.m. to continue working on the WASFAA 5-year Strategic Plan and WASFAA Investment Policy. Members of the Fiscal Planning Committee will meet from 10 - 11:45 a.m. to review WASFAA FY 2005 Committee/Activity Budget Revision Request forms submitted by the various Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs to determine the impact of the requests on the WASFAA FY 2005 budget in order to make appropriate recommendations to Executive Council. The Executive Council will meet from 1 - 5 p.m. on the 16th and from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the 17th. Meetings of the Executive Council are open to all members of the Association.
- WASFAA members are reminded that May 9, 2005, is the deadline for receipt of comments concerning the draft 2006-07 FAFSA available at <http://ifap.ed.gov/fafsa/0607DraftFAFSA.html>. At first blush, it appears that minimal changes have been proposed to the document. The draft does not propose to add or to delete data elements, and the questions appear in the same format and the same order as in 2005-2006. Several changes to the wording on the 2006-2007 FAFSA are proposed, however. Please take the time to get your constructive comments in by the May 9 deadline date. Send your comments to the Department of Education at FAFSAComments@ed.gov.
- The membership is advised that the next meeting of the NASFAA Board of Directors is scheduled for May 22-24, 2005, at the Hilton Netherlands Plaza, Cincinnati, OH. WASFAA members currently serving on the Board include Mona Concha-Buckheart at mbuckheart@tmcc.edu, Representative-at-Large; Steve Herndon at sherndon@csub.edu, WASFAA President; Doug Severs at sevedoug@isu.edu, Representative-at-Large; and Jim White at whitejim@seattleu.edu, WASFAA Past-President. If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions pertaining to any of the NASFAA products or services, please pass them on to one of your WASFAA colleagues on the Board prior to the meeting.
- The WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chairs for 2005-06 are Bert Logan at loganb@lanecc.edu and Frances Campbell at fcampbel@edfund.org. They are in the process of selecting Training Committee members as well as soliciting ideas from the membership concerning appropriate topics for Fall training. Please email your training topic suggestions to them for consideration.
- From its humble beginnings in 1969, WASFAA has grown to a current membership of more than 1,500, with 21 regional-wide committees, assets of approximately \$850,000, and an annual operating budget of some \$450,000. WASFAA's mission is to promote student financial aid and educational opportunities for students by providing personal and professional development and training to its members. Additional information concerning WASFAA and the many services available to the membership is available at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of May, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 2)

- WASFAA members are advised that NASFAA has sent an urgent request to aid administrators to contact their congressional representatives as soon as possible, but no later than June 7, in an effort to prevent FY2006 appropriations cuts or the outright elimination of several Title IV federal student assistance programs, and to preserve a \$100 increase in the Pell Grant maximum award. The following link, <http://www.NASFAA.org/publications/2005/gmartinappropsletter052605.html>, to a letter from NASFAA President Dallas Martin provides additional details to help you communicate your concerns with your legislators.
- Friends and colleagues of Sister Dale Brown are advised that a Memorial Service has been planned in her honor for Saturday, June 25, at 11 a.m., at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 2515 Beyer Blvd., San Diego, CA 92154-1502. There will be a lunch reception following the Service. It will be held at the Club House of Bonita Hills Estates, 275 S. Worthington Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977, where Sister Dale resided. A Sister Dale Brown Scholarship program for students majoring in Marine Studies has been established at the University of San Diego (USD). To date some \$6,200 has been donated to the fund. The following link, <http://www.pacificoceanrider.org/PORpage14.htm>, belongs to Dr. Jane Usatin, who is a faculty member at USD. The site contains additional information concerning the Sister Dale Brown Scholarship program and how contributions can be made to the scholarship fund.
- WASFAA members are advised that NASFAA National Chair George Chin has provided an important open letter to the NASFAA membership pertaining to diversity in the financial aid profession and among students. The letter can be viewed at <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2005/nchindiversityletter052605.html>.
- WASFAA Federal Relations Chair and President-Elect, Tami Sato, advises us that the bond equivalent of the 90-day T-bill rate is 2.998%, which rounds to 3%. Last year this T-bill rate was 1.07%. This will bring about the following new rates for Stafford and PLUS loans effective July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006:
 - Federal Stafford Loans (during in school, grace or deferment) = 4.70%
 - Federal Stafford Loans (during repayment) = 5.30%
 - Federal PLUS Loans = 6.10%
- WASFAA members are reminded that there are many volunteer opportunities available to the membership. The 2005-06 Executive Council plans on enlisting the services of some 21 committees including Awards, Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, Bylaws, Conference, Electronic Services, Ethnic Diversity Action, Federal Relations, Fiscal Planning, Fund Development, Graduate/Professional, Historical Archives, Membership, Newsletter, Nominations & Elections, Policies & Procedures, Research, Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute (MLI), Site Selection, Strategic Planning, Training, and Volunteer Development. Please consider volunteering for service on one of these committees. The WASFAA Volunteer Form is available on the WASFAA website at

<http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/forms/memVolunteer.html>. Please take the time to complete the form by Friday, June 3, 2005, so the volunteer information can be collated and shared with the 2005-06 Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs at their first meeting in mid-June.

- The 2005-06 WASFAA Conference Committee is still seeking ideas for the conference theme for the 37th annual WASFAA Conference to be held at The Nugget in Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006. Suggestions can be submitted to Sandra Guidry and Leonard Walker, Conference Co-Chairs, at lrwalker@unr.edu. The WASFAA member who submits the conference theme suggestion that is ultimately selected will win a \$50.00 gift certificate to Amazon.com!
- Members of the 2005-06 WASFAA Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs will be meeting at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV, June 16-17, 2005. The morning of the 16th, members of the Strategic Planning Committee will meet from 8:00 - 9:45 a.m. to continue working on the WASFAA 5-year Strategic Plan. Members of the Fiscal Planning Committee will meet from 10 - 11:45 a.m. to review WASFAA FY 2005 Committee/Activity Budget Revision Request forms submitted by the various Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs to determine the impact of the requests on the WASFAA FY 2005 budget in order to make appropriate recommendations to Executive Council. The Executive Council will meet from 1 - 5 p.m. on the 16th and from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the 17th. Meetings of the Executive Council are open to all members of the Association.
- The membership should know that because WASFAA sometimes plays copyrighted music at the annual conference and other activities during the year, the organization is required to maintain a general licensing agreement with Broadcast Music, Inc. located in Atlanta, GA. This agreement provides copyright clearance for more than 300,000 songwriters, composers, and music publishers for approximately 4.5 million musical works. For the right to play copyrighted music, WASFAA pays a modest annual licensing fee.
- The membership is advised that WASFAA operates with a balanced fiscal year budget. For the purpose of budget planning, approved income and expenses must be equal. Because the Association maintains its accounting system on a "cash" rather than an "accrual" basis, the WASFAA fiscal year corresponds to the annual year and is from January 1 through December 31. The Fiscal Planning Committee develops recommendations for Executive Council approval for each income and expense item in the budget, taking into account information received from committees and other sources. WASFAA's 2005 fiscal year balanced budget is \$444,195.
- The WASFAA Newsletter Committee Co-Chairs for 2005-06 are Kathreen Silva at kathreen@uidaho.edu and Kathy Campbell at camk@chemeketa.edu. They are in the process of collecting articles and items of interest for the summer newsletter. Please email any submissions that you might have to Kathy Campbell by Friday, June 10.
- The WASFAA geographic region is defined as Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Palau, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and any other United States territory or possession in the Pacific.

In its 36 years of existence, WASFAA has had 39 Presidents who have come from 6 states within the WASFAA geographic region. During this period of time, 1 President has come from the state of Alaska, 6 from Arizona, 17 from California, none from Hawaii et al, 3 from Idaho, none from Nevada, 6 from Oregon, and 6 from Washington. Two Presidents served in 1970-71, 1987-88, and 1999-00.

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of June, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 3)

- Thanks are in order to those WASFAA members who took time to provide comments to ED concerning the draft 2006-07 FAFSA. The FAFSA Design Group, comprised primarily of ED staff, NASFAA staff, and representation from additional partners such as students, schools, and states met on May 13. The group reviewed comments and suggestions received from interested parties throughout the country. As a result, no major changes to the 2006-07 FAFSA are anticipated at this time.
- I am saddened to report to the membership the loss of another beloved WASFAA colleague. Peggy Nitsos, Director of Financial Aid at Southern Oregon University, passed away due to a heart attack on the morning of June 21. Peggy was blessed with a special spirit and a true servant's heart. She was recognized recently at the past Oregon annual conference as the "Unsung Hero" award recipient for her tireless service to students and the financial aid profession. Peggy uplifted those with whom she came in contact, and will be sorely missed by the many students and colleagues whose lives she touched.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that the vague mandate included in last year's appropriations omnibus bill that a "Constitution and Citizenship Day" be held each September 17 at all educational institutions receiving federal funding has now been given some guidelines from ED. In the May 24, 2005 Federal Register (70 FR 29727), which can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>, ED published a "Notice of Implementation of Constitution and Citizenship Day on September 17 of Each Year." The notice confirmed that the requirement applies to postsecondary educational institutions that receive federal funds from ED. The notice also indicates that when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the required Constitution Day program shall be held during the preceding or the following week. The requirement is effective for the current fiscal year and all subsequent years.

Various informational resources and websites pertaining to the Constitution are listed in the notice to assist institutions in developing their Constitution Day programs. Dialogue with ED staff suggests that institutions are encouraged to ensure that information regarding the Constitution Day program is made widely available to students. In addition, there appear to be a variety of options that institutions might consider to comply with the Constitution and Citizenship Day requirement including scheduling a series of campus events, encouraging students to attend a public debate on the U.S. Constitution, organizing a campus rally addressing the importance of the U.S. Constitution, or offering special lectures.

- Thanks are in order to the many WASFAA members who volunteered their time and energy to serve this year on one of the organization's 21 committees including Awards, Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, Bylaws, Conference, Electronic Services, Ethnic Diversity Action, Federal Relations, Fiscal Planning, Fund Development, Graduate/Professional, Historical Archives, Membership, Newsletter, Nominations & Elections, Policies & Procedures, Research, Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute (MLI), Site Selection, Strategic Planning, Training, and Volunteer Development. Members of the Volunteer Development Committee are currently in the process of coordinating the placement of volunteers with the respective committee chairs/co-chairs. Volunteers will soon be advised concerning their volunteer placement.

- The 2005-06 WASFAA Conference Committee will be meeting this month and is still seeking ideas for the conference theme for the 37th annual WASFAA Conference to be held at The Nugget in Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006. Suggestions can be submitted to Sandra Guidry and Leonard Walker, Conference Co-Chairs, at lrwalker@unr.edu. Several suggestions have already been received, but more are invited. The WASFAA member who submits the conference theme suggestion that is ultimately selected will win a \$50.00 gift certificate to Amazon.com!
- Members of the 2005-06 WASFAA Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs met at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV, June 16-17, 2005. The morning of the 16th, members of the Strategic Planning Committee met from 8:00 - 9:45 a.m. to continue working on the WASFAA 5-year Strategic Plan. Members of the Fiscal Planning Committee met from 10 - 11:45 a.m. to review WASFAA FY 2005 Committee/Activity Budget Revision Request forms and other fiscal related matters in order to make appropriate recommendations to Executive Council. The Executive Council met from 1 - 5 p.m. on the 16th and from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the 17th to hear various committee/activity and officer reports and to carry out the business of the Association. A great deal of progress was made in finalizing the WASFAA 5-year Strategic Plan and in planning training activities for the fall. Minutes of the meetings will be posted soon on the WASFAA website for membership review. Please be reminded that meetings of the Executive Council are open to all members of the Association. The next Executive Council meeting is scheduled for November 17-18, 2005, at the Villa Florence Hotel, in San Francisco, CA.
- WASFAA bylaws state that the Executive Council has authority over the affairs of the Association and shall perform the functions of the organization during the interim between official meetings at the annual conference. The authority entrusted in the Executive Council by the membership does not include the rescinding or modifying of any official action taken by the Association.

The Executive Council consists of the officers elected by the membership including the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past-President, Vice President, Secretary, and Chief Financial Officer, who is designated as the Treasurer. In addition, an individual from each financial aid administrator association of Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and the Pacific Island Association, each selected by the respective president of that particular association, and one (1) elected ethnic representative-at-large and one appointed segmental representative-at-large are members of the Council. The ethnic representative-at-large serves as Chair of the Association's Ethnic Diversity Action Committee (EDAC). The other representative-at-large position is selected by a majority vote of the Executive Council in order to ensure the greatest possible balance of segmental representation on the Council. This year, the representative-at-large is from the Proprietary segment. All members of the Executive Council must be active members of the Association. The Executive Council typically meets 4-5 times a year, depending upon the administrative needs of the Association.

- Some WASFAA members have asked for clarification concerning the WASFAA membership year vs. the fiscal year. The WASFAA membership year is from May 1 through April 30. Dues, currently of \$40 annually, are due and payable as of May 1, and are typically paid by the membership as part of the annual conference registration fee, or at various training events throughout the year.

Because the Association maintains its accounting system on a cash rather than an accrual basis, the WASFAA fiscal year corresponds to the annual year and is from January 1 through December 31. This is sometimes confusing for new committee chairs/co-chairs and committee members, who understandably think in terms of their membership year rather than the WASFAA fiscal year, which is used for activity accounting purposes.

- The WASFAA Newsletter Committee is in the process of collating articles, photographs, and items of interest submitted by designated newsletter writers and the membership for the summer newsletter. The first edition should be available sometime this month.
- It is generally understood that WASFAA must generate sufficient revenues to maintain the activities and fiscal solvency of the organization. These revenues are typically generated from WASFAA's income streams that include interest and dividend income; revenues from Conference, Sister Dale Brown

Summer Institute, Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute, and Training activities; Job Link ads; membership dues; and Fund Development efforts.

Due to recent stock market and interest rate conditions, WASFAA income from operating and maximizer account interest, Treasury Bill and Certificate of Deposit interest, and Vanguard dividends has been minimal, and is expected to generate only 1% of the 2005 fiscal year income.

The annual membership dues are constructed to support the activities of the Association and are reviewed annually. Annual membership dues are currently \$40 per year and generate a very small percentage of the overall WASFAA fiscal year income, i.e. approximately 9% for fiscal year 2005.

The annual Conference, Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, and Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute (MLI) are typically expected to generate incomes in excess of expenses, excluding membership dues and Fund Development activities, whenever possible. All are projected to sustain a net income in fiscal year 2005. These combined activities will generate approximately 44% of the 2005 fiscal year income.

Training of the membership, as coordinated by the Training Committee, is one of WASFAA's highest priorities. Consequently, individual training activities may be subsidized by the organization provided the Fiscal Planning Committee identifies sufficient resources to cover expenses related to such efforts. The WASFAA Executive Council has determined that training activities will not serve as an income stream during the 2005 fiscal year and has elected to subsidize training to the membership by some \$48,125. Consequently, training activities will generate less than 5% of the 2005 fiscal year income.

Fund Development Committee efforts are intended to support the bulk of the activities of the Association and, consequently, constitute the largest singular WASFAA revenue stream, i.e. approximately 32% of the 2005 fiscal year income. Thanks to the many WASFAA sponsors and vendors who help to make this happen.

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of July, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 4)

- Data provided recently by WASFAA Membership Committee Chair, Wendy Olson, indicate that WASFAA currently has 958 members. This number will increase as we progress through the year with the various WASFAA training opportunities that always add new members to the membership. The breakdown by state is as follows: Alaska (27), Arizona (150), California (355), Hawaii et al (16), Idaho (41), Nevada (41), Oregon (147), Washington (109), and "Out of the Region" members (72). In terms of affiliation, 855 are active members, 84 are associate, 16 are lifetime, and 3 failed to specify. Some 694 members are female, 249 are male, and 15 did not specify gender. With regard to ethnicity, 314 members are White/Caucasian, 132 are Hispanic/Chicano/Mexican American/Latino, 63 are Asian/Pacific Islander/Filipino, 42 are Black/African American, 18 are American Indian/Native American, 12 are "Other", and 377 chose not to specify their ethnicity. In terms of institutional type, 219 represent Public (2 Year) institutions, 219 Public (4 Year), 150 Lender, 85 Guaranty Agency, 81 Independent (4 Year), 57 Proprietary (Technical/Trade), 16 Graduate/Professional, 10 Servicer, 4 Secondary Market, 1 Proprietary (Business School), 24 "Other", and 92 chose not to specify.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that Federal Student Aid (FSA) provides an excellent overview of the major enhancements it is making to the application processing system for the upcoming 2006-07 cycle at <http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0727AppSystemChanges0607.html>. The intent of the early overview is to help schools plan in advance for the upcoming award year. Additional information and details about all of the changes FSA is making for 2006-07 will be shared later in the summer and fall in its regular series of messages and guides to aid administrators.
- For the current 2005 fiscal year (1/1/05 to 12/31/05), WASFAA has a balanced operating budget of \$455,986. Projected budgeted expenditures can be categorized as follows: Training (\$276,855) or 61%; Executive Council (\$79,550) or 17%; Administration (\$35,350) or 8%; Committees (\$29,031) or 6%; Scholarships (\$22,400) or 5%; Communications/Publications (\$10,000) or 2%; and Research (\$2,800) or 1%.
- WASFAA colleagues are encouraged to check out the College Access Marketing Web Site at <http://www.collegeaccessmarketing.org>. This is a new online resource provided by the Pathways to College Network and is designed to improve communication campaigns aimed at encouraging students and families to pursue college opportunities. The Pathways Network is managed by The Education Resources Institute (TERI), and comprises 30 partner organizations including lead partners NASFAA, the College Board, and the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). The site is designed for schools, organizations, and government agencies that provide students and families with support and guidance about going to college. The site explains how to use marketing techniques to reach students with effective messages, and emphasizes the importance of investing in appropriate audience research and

solid evaluation. It also features a multimedia gallery of examples from past and current campaigns, including TV, radio, print, and other materials.

- WASFAA bylaws state that the annual process for the nomination and election of officers and representatives-at-large shall take place 60 - 180 days (2 - 6 months) before the annual meeting, which will occur next year at the annual conference at The Nugget in Sparks/Reno, Nevada, April 2-4, 2006. The WASFAA nominations and elections process is coordinated by the Nominations & Elections Committee and is chaired this year by WASFAA Past President, Jim White. Jim plans on getting the WASFAA Nominations form on the WASFAA website by the end of the month, so please begin thinking about WASFAA members you would like to nominate for the positions of President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Representative at Large for Ethnic Diversity, and Treasurer-Elect.
- In the twenty years since 1990 and through 2009, WASFAA has held or plans to hold annual conferences in all of the states within the Western region. During this period of time, 2 conferences have been or are planned to be held in Alaska, 2 in Arizona, 8 in California, 1 in Hawaii et al, 1 in Idaho, 2 in Nevada, 2 in Oregon, and 2 in Washington.
- The WASFAA Awards Committee has identified five goals to work on during the 2005-06 year. These include: 1) setting timelines for creating and generating awards; 2) developing a set of templates for generating certificates; 3) reviewing award titles and descriptions for currency and appropriateness; 4) making a recommendation to Executive Council as to the appropriateness of current E.C. members being considered for awards; and 5) increasing the number of award nominations received from the membership. WASFAA award opportunities will be officially announced during the month of September. Please begin to think about those WASFAA members who you would like to nominate for award consideration. Additional information concerning WASFAA awards can be found on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/about/PnP.pdf>
- I am pleased to report that the western region will be represented well this year with regard to NASFAA activities. A number of individuals from the western states have been selected to serve as chair or committee member on various NASFAA committees. They include

Assoc. Gov. and Mem. Comm.

- Kate Peterson, *Member*
Oregon State University

Finance Comm.

- Susan Murphy, *Chair*
Univ. of San Francisco
- Steve Herndon, *Member*
CSU, Bakersfield

Nom. And Elect. Comm.

- Maureen McRae Levy, *Member*
Occidental College

National Conference Comm.

- Jim White, *Chair*
Seattle University
- Kay Soltis, *Member*
Pacific Lutheran University
- Peter Miller, *Member*
Alaska Pacific University

Research Committee

- Bert Logan, *Member*
Lane Community College

Reauthorization Task Force

- Patricia Hurley, *Member*
Glendale Comm. College
- Robert Collins, *Member*
University of Phoenix

Awards Committee

- Patricia Hurley, *Member*
Glendale Comm. College

Edit. Board of the Journal of SFA

- Kathleen Koch, *Member*
Seattle University
- David Levy, *Member*
Calif. Instit. of Technology

Grad./Prof. Issues Committee

- Colleen MacDonald, *Member*
Stanford University GSB

Instit. Program Management

- Lynn Fox, *Chair*
University of the Pacific
- Rick Weems, *Member*
Univ. of Alaska - Anchorage

Lead. Dev. & Prof. Advancement

- Wendy Olson, *Member*
Whitworth College

Access & Diversity Committee

- Teresa Yslas, *Member*
Pima County Comm. College

Edit. Board of Stud. Aid Transcript

- Peter Hurley, *Member*
Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Chemene Crawford, *Member*
Comm. Coll. of Southern Nevada

Training and Best Practices

- Heidi Granger, *Member*
College of the Desert

In addition, Jim White at Seattle University, and I will be serving as the two WASFAA Regional Representatives, and Doug Severs at Idaho State University, as a Representative-At-Large, on the NASFAA Board of Directors.

I hope the summer, albeit hot throughout the western region, is going well for you. Hopefully, each of you will get a break from the financial aid application and delivery process in order to enjoy a well-deserved summer vacation!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of August, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 5)

- Since my last update, new data provided by WASFAA Membership Committee Chair, Wendy Olson, indicate that WASFAA's membership number has climbed to 1,022. This number will continue to increase as we progress through the year with the various WASFAA training opportunities that always add new members to the membership. Hopefully it will surpass last year's membership high of 1,522. The WASFAA membership application is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that comments are due by October 11, 2005 on a reinstatement of the Federal Direct Consolidation Loan program application documents. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov> by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on [link number 2837](#). When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov, or faxed to 202-245-6621. The complete title of the information collection should be specified when making your request.
- For the current 2005 fiscal year (1/1/05 to 12/31/05), WASFAA has a balanced operating budget of \$455,986. Projected budgeted income can be categorized as follows: Balance Forward (from previous fiscal year) (\$42,135) or 9%; Dues (\$40,000) or 9%; Fund Development (\$151,791) or 33%; Interest & Dividends (\$5,000) or 1%; Job Link Ads (\$2,160) or <1%; and Registrations (including Conference, Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute (MLI), Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute, and Fall & Spring Training) (\$214,900) or 48%. During the last few fiscal years, the WASFAA Executive Council has made a conscious effort to rely less on Fund Development, which can vary depending on the state of the economy, and more on other positive income streams resulting from the activities of the Association.
- State association newsletter editors are reminded that NASFAA issues news releases throughout the year to announce important deadlines, research findings, awards, etc. Unlike many of today's news articles which are copyrighted, NASFAA news releases can be reprinted in part or in their entirety in your state newsletter, or on your state association website. News releases are sent by NASFAA via e-mail, with the text included in the body of the e-mail message. An Adobe Acrobat file is usually attached for those who can receive attachments, and Word files can be provided on request. If you are a State association newsletter editor and would like to receive NASFAA news releases, send your name, e-mail address, publication title, and affiliation (state/region/company), to Mindy Kaplan Eline, Director of Marketing, at elinemk@NASFAA.org. If your tenure as editor has an expiration date, please include that as well. You do not need to re-send your contact information if you have received a news release from NASFAA in the past month.

- The 2005-06 WASFAA Conference Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, September 27 at the site of the 37th annual WASFAA Conference to be held at The Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006. The conference theme will be determined at that time. Several excellent suggestions have been received from the membership. The WASFAA member who has submitted the conference theme suggestion that is ultimately selected will win a \$50.00 gift certificate to Amazon.com!
- Doug Severs, Chair of the WASFAA Research Committee, and the members of his committee are soliciting research sponsorship ideas from the WASFAA membership. WASFAA-sponsored research grant funds are available to help aid administrators, or scholars at non-profit organizations, cover the direct costs of undertaking research projects that focus on state, federal, or institutional financial aid policies. Research requests should be submitted to Doug at sevedoug@isu.edu for review and evaluation by members of the WASFAA Research Committee. In addition, he is still seeking additional volunteers to serve as members of the committee.
- Tami Sato, Chair of the WASFAA Federal Relations Committee, and the members of her committee recently assisted Executive Council in drafting two letters that provide WASFAA comments to Representative McKeon and others on Capitol Hill concerning the FY 2006 federal budget and the amendments added to H.R. 609. Copies of the letters can be viewed on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.
- Selmarie Stacy, Chair of the WASFAA Electronic Services Committee, and the members of her committee have identified five goals to work on during the 2005-06 year. These include: 1) responding in a timely way to the electronic services needs of the membership; 2) continue to work to enhance the electronic services provided and to educate WASFAA members about their availability; 3) continue to update and improve the WASFAA website; 4) coordinate the postings of the various WASFAA committees and activities that submit information to be included on the WASFAA website; and 5) better inform the membership about the use and functionality of the WASFAA Listserv.
- The membership is advised that the June/July 2005 issue of the WASFAA Newsletter is available for viewing on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>. Newsletter Editor Co-Chairs Kathreen Silva and Kathy Campbell, and the members of their newsletter team did a magnificent job in drafting the newsletter, but unfortunately ran into some production snags with the layout publisher. This edition of the newsletter contains several informative articles, which should be of interest to the membership, and is filled with entertaining pictures from the WASFAA 2005 conference. The deadline for submission of articles for the next issue of the WASFAA Newsletter is Monday, September 5, 2005.
- WASFAA bylaws specify that the Executive Committee shall manage the business and affairs of the Association between meetings and as delegated by the Executive Council. Certain actions are excluded from this provision as specified in Article X, Section 2, of the bylaws. Membership on the Executive Committee includes the WASFAA President, President-Elect, Immediate Past-President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Representative-at-Large for Ethnic Diversity.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights useful in some way, and that the beginning of the 2005-06 academic year goes well for you all!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csub.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of September, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 6)

- The membership is advised that the Government Accountability Office (GAO), which is Congress's investigative arm, recently released a report on the findings of a study that sought to: 1) provide insight on how federal student aid compared to that provided through the tax code; 2) the extent to which tax filers effectively used postsecondary tax preferences; and 3) what is known about the effectiveness of federal grant and loan programs and education-related tax preferences in promoting attendance, choice, and persistence. To the surprise of some, the study concluded that limited research exists on the effectiveness of federal student aid and tax preferences as policy tools to expand college access. The complete report can be accessed on the GAO website at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05684.pdf>.
- Those WASFAA region colleges and universities that have received Hurricane Katrina/Rita transfer students are reminded that NASFAA has set up an outstanding resource site at <http://www.NASFAA.org/Katrina.asp>. The purpose of the resource page is to gather in one place student aid-related information on the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The site includes student aid policy guidance, information on schools hit by the hurricanes, links to media articles, articles on how schools outside the areas of devastation are helping schools and students affected by Katrina and Rita, and NASFAA's materials on consortium agreements to help schools allow their students to attend classes elsewhere for credit towards their degree.
- The California financial aid community and many WASFAA colleagues were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Art Marmaduke, who served for 25 years as the Executive Director of the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) during the terms of four California governors. Art was instrumental in the initial formulation and implementation of California's financial aid programs for college students. Under his leadership, the number of Commission-sponsored programs expanded from one to twelve, the staff grew from seven to 180, the volume of aid increased from just over one million dollars to over \$750 million annually, and the number of California students assisted each year grew from fewer than three thousand to more than 300,000. Art was recognized nationally for his vision and involvement in the development of important public policy for higher education. He served as a member of numerous state and national organizations and upon retirement received a great deal of well-deserved recognition from his peers. His energy, vision, and commitment to students will be sorely missed. A scholarship program has been established in his memory at Occidental College, where he graduated and served as Director of Admissions. Inquiries regarding contributions to the scholarship program should be sent to Kim Stafford (kstafford@oxy.edu or 323-259-2567), Director of Development, 1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, CA 90041.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that the Department of Education recently announced that since 2006-07 will be a year of relatively little change to the financial aid application processing system, it will not be offering an Application and Delivery System Update videoconference this fall. An early preview of the major changes for 2006-07 was posted on July 27, 2005 to the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) website at

<http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0727AppSystemChanges0607.html>. In addition, the 2006-07 Renewal FAFSA Process Guide was recently posted at <http://ifap.ed.gov/fafsa/0607RenewalFAFSAProcGuide.html>. In the next few months, the Department will be posting numerous other publications including Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System, the ISIR Guide, the School Electronic Process Guide, the Student Web Application Products Process Guide, and the SAR Comment Codes and Text guide.

- The 2005-06 WASFAA Conference Committee met on Tuesday, September 27 at the site of the 37th annual WASFAA Conference to be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006. A great deal of conference planning was accomplished at the meeting including discussion of the registration process, social events, program format, interest session topic determination, budget, facilities, vendor/sponsor accommodations, conference theme, determining means of communicating conference information to the membership, a tour of the facility, etc. The Conference Committee is Co-Chaired by Sandra Guidry and Leonard Walker, both at the University of Nevada - Reno. Special thanks is in order for Dr. Nancee Langley, Director of Student Financial Aid, Employment & Scholarship Services, at the University of Nevada - Reno, for allowing two members of her staff to serve in leadership positions for this important WASFAA activity.
- Colleagues are advised that the Department of Education recently issued a two-page fact sheet (PDF) that outlines Administration proposals made to assist education institutions at all levels respond to the damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The fact sheet, along with other information provided by the Department, can be accessed at www.hurricanehelpforschools.gov.
- Tami Sato, Chair of the WASFAA Federal Relations Committee, and the members of her committee recently assisted Executive Council in drafting a letter that provides WASFAA comments to Dr. Sam Kipp III, Interim President of EdFund, concerning EdFund/California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) roles and responsibilities. A copy of the letter can be viewed on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org.
- Due to unexpected work and family commitments, Selmarie Stacy, Chair of the WASFAA Electronic Services Committee, has had to resign from her WASFAA position. Duties of the Electronic Services Chair position are described in WASFAA Policies & Procedures available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. Those WASFAA members interested in possibly serving as Electronic Services Committee Chair are asked to contact WASFAA Treasurer and former Electronic Services Chair, Peter Miller, at pmiller@alaskapacific.edu or 907-564-8342, or WASFAA President, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csu.edu or 661-654-3264, for additional information concerning chairperson responsibilities.
- WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chairs Bert Logan and Francie Campbell have announced that registration for WASFAA/NASFAA Fall Training, "Administrative Capability: Campus-Wide Compliance" is now live and available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. This training presents compliance in the context of a comprehensive campus-wide effort. It will focus on developing strategies to ensure and strengthen the cross-campus communication needed to demonstrate Title IV administrative capability. Training will be offered in eleven locations throughout the western region. Workshop locations are as follows: Oct. 7, University of Alaska, Anchorage, AK; Oct. 10, Boise State University, Boise, ID; Oct. 13, Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR; Oct. 20, Thunderbird - The Garvin School, Phoenix, AZ; Oct. 21, McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA; Oct. 21, Pima Community College, Tucson, AZ; Oct. 28, Honolulu Community College, Honolulu, HI; Nov. 8, Spokane Falls Community College, Spokane, WA; Nov. 11, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA; Nov. 15, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV; and Nov. 18, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA.
- WASFAA Past-President and Nominations & Elections Committee Chair, Jim White, has announced that the committee is calling for nominations for candidates to serve on the 2006-07 Executive Council for the following positions: President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, and Representative-at-Large for Ethnic Diversity. Officers of the Association and representatives-at-large must be employed as financial aid administrators and be located in one of the states, territories, or

U.S. possessions included in Section 2(a) of Article IV of the WASFAA By-Laws. Duties of each of the positions are provided in WASFAA Policies & Procedures available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. Members of the Executive Council have travel costs and other related expenses reimbursed by WASFAA. Nominations will be reviewed by the Nominations & Elections Committee beginning October 15, with the goal to provide wide representation of the association membership on the ballot. A proposed ballot will be presented to and approved by the members of the Executive Council. It is easy to make nominations. Simply go to the WASFAA website and select "Online Forms," then click on the "Executive Board Nomination Form." Please participate in the WASFAA nomination process in order to ensure that you have a voice and input in determining the future leadership of the Association.

- Don Black, Chair of the WASFAA Jerry R. Sims Management Leadership Institute, has announced that registration is now available for the Institute on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. The Institute will take place November 6-8, 2005 at the beautiful Benson Hotel in downtown Portland, OR. The symposium this year will focus on developing effective management skills. It will analyze the critical components needed in leadership to build effective workforce teams. Participants will learn how to enhance their leadership style by evaluating the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to their particular office team and organization. Faculty of the Institute has created the curriculum based on four books written by noted leadership author Patrick Leoncini. Prior to arrival at the Institute, all registrants will receive a set of the four books.
- The membership is advised that with regard to indemnification, WASFAA has a Commercial Crime Policy with Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America. The policy provides blanket employee dishonesty coverage for up to \$200,000, with a \$500 deductible. While WASFAA has no paid staff, the term "employee" also includes any non-compensated natural person, other than one who is a fund solicitor, while performing services for WASFAA that are usual to the duties of an "employee," i.e. Executive Council member, Committee Chair, Committee member, etc. excluding those individuals involved in fund development. WASFAA's rule of thumb is that adequate bonding/indemnification coverage should represent 20% of asset reserves and 10% of operating accounts, which WASFAA strives to maintain.
- Frank Silva, WASFAA Ethnic Diversity Representative and Chair of the Ethnic Diversity Action Committee (EDAC), and the members of his committee have identified six goals to work on during the 2005-06 year. These include: 1) continue to research and solicit input from the membership concerning the idea of changing the focus of the EDAC from "ethnic" diversity action committee to a more inclusive "diversity" action committee to incorporate the needs of other diverse groups such as the disabled, gay, lesbian, transgender, etc.; 2) host a reception as part of the annual conference to promote diversity and inclusiveness; 3) research the establishment of a position of a Native American representative to the WASFAA Executive Council; 4) create a listserv to promote communication between WASFAA members of diverse backgrounds and to share information about EDAC activities; 5) have the EDAC Chair serve as a standing member of the WASFAA Volunteer Development Committee; and 6) regularly submit articles to the WASFAA Newsletter that will be of interest and relevance to the membership concerning diversity issues.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative in some way, and that the beginning of the 2005-06 academic year is going well in your respective offices!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csub.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of October, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 7)

- The month of October is usually a very busy month for the WASFAA President in that he/she typically has four state conferences to attend in addition to other meetings related to their job, NASFAA, etc. My month of October started with a California State University (CSU) Financial Aid Directors' meeting in San Diego, CA, followed by the ALASFAA Conference in Girdwood, AK, the WFAA Conference in Spokane, WA, a NASFAA Finance Committee meeting in Washington, D.C., and the AASFAA Fall Conference in Carefree, AZ. In between trips, my office staff and I completed a full-scope audit conducted by KPMG LLP. Needless to say, my month of October was quite busy. Regrettably, due to scheduling conflicts and our ongoing audit, I was unable to attend the IASFAA Conference in Boise, ID. Tami Sato, WASFAA President-Elect, was kind enough to attend the IASFAA Conference in my stead. Should Tami have some of the same scheduling challenges that I encountered this year, I hope to reciprocate and join our IASFAA colleagues at their annual conference next year. I wish to thank the state Presidents and conference chairs for making me feel so welcome at the respective state conferences. In most cases I had the opportunity to speak to their Executive Council members, newcomers to the conference, and to all conference attendees at a general session. I have many fond memories of my conference experiences in these incredibly beautiful states.
- The membership is advised that the Department of Education has provided GEN-05-16, which responds to a number of important topics that have been raised recently at conferences and other venues throughout the country. This information can be found at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/GEN0516.html>. The topics addressed include:
 - 1) The requirement for a signed promissory note for loan funds to be counted as "aid that could have been disbursed," or to be disbursed as a late disbursement;
 - 2) The use of Web sites to provide required notifications and disclosures directly to students;
 - 3) Additional unsubsidized Stafford loan amounts for an otherwise eligible child of a parent who is not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
 - 4) Bankruptcy and eligibility for Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) and additional unsubsidized loan amounts;
 - 5) Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) questions and same-sex marriage;
 - 6) Asset valuation of a rental unit within a principal place of residence in need analysis;
 - 7) The definition of a veteran;
 - 8) The treatment of combat pay;
 - 9) The use of stored-value cards and other alternative methods of managing Title IV funds;
 - 10) Debit cards and third party servicers; and
 - 11) The Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP or Chapter 1607).
- WASFAA colleagues are also advised that NASFAA has updated the Association's Financial Aid Night and Counselor's Materials for 2006-07. The materials are available online at <http://www.NASFAA.org/publications/2005/n0607fanight090705.html>. NASFAA staff developed these materials for financial aid administrators, high school counselors, and other interested

persons to use when conducting financial aid night presentations and when counseling students and parents on the financial aid application and delivery process.

- The membership is reminded that WASFAA/NASFAA Fall Training, "Administrative Capability: Campus-Wide Compliance" has been taking place throughout the western region. For the remaining workshop sites, registration information is available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. This training presents compliance in the context of a comprehensive campus-wide effort. It focuses on developing strategies to ensure and strengthen the cross-campus communication needed to demonstrate Title IV administrative capability. Training is being offered in eleven locations throughout the WASFAA region. Remaining workshop locations include the following: Nov. 8, Spokane Falls Community College, Spokane, WA; Nov. 11, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA; Nov. 15, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV; and Nov. 18, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA.
- The membership is advised that the eight state Presidents in the western region will be meeting in conjunction with WASFAA Executive Council meetings to exchange ideas and information that might be mutually beneficial. They will also be discussing the possibility of the creation of a WASFAA-sponsored exchange program wherein state Presidents can attend Executive Council meetings and conferences in other states within the WASFAA region.
- Colleagues are advised that NASFAA and 11 other higher education associations, including the American Council on Education, recently signed a letter supporting S. 1697, a bill introduced to expand and bolster the Hope Scholarship tax credit. Sponsored by Senators Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) and Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), S. 1697 would expand eligibility for the Hope tax credit by allowing students to claim the credit for required fees, books, supplies and equipment. Currently, the Hope tax credit only can be used for tuition and related expenses.

The measure would also adjust the calculation methodology of the Hope credit so that students who receive need-based aid through Federal Pell Grants and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG) do not have their Hope tax credit eligibility reduced as a result. Currently students receiving Pell and SEOG funds often experience reduced Hope tax credits.

The letter to senators Smith and Bingaman is available online for your review at <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2005/ghopeletter100705.html>.

- Due to unexpected work and family commitments, Selmarie Stacy, Chair of the WASFAA Electronic Services Committee, has had to resign from her WASFAA position. Duties of the Electronic Services Chair position are described in WASFAA Policies & Procedures available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. Those WASFAA members interested in possibly serving as Electronic Services Committee Chair are asked to contact WASFAA Treasurer and former Electronic Services Chair, Peter Miller, at pmiller@alaskapacific.edu or 907-564-8342, or WASFAA President, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csu.edu or 661-654-3264, for additional information concerning chairperson responsibilities.
- Registration is still available for the WASFAA Jerry R. Sims Management & Leadership Institute on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org. The Institute will take place November 6-8, 2005 at the Benson Hotel in downtown Portland, OR. The symposium this year will focus on developing effective management skills. It will analyze the critical components needed in leadership to build effective workforce teams. Participants will learn how to enhance their leadership style by evaluating the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to their particular office team and organization. Faculty of the Institute has created the curriculum based on four books written by noted leadership author Patrick Leoncini. Prior to arrival at the Institute, all registrants will receive a set of the four books.
- The membership is advised that the next meeting of the NASFAA Board of Directors is scheduled for November 13-15, 2005, at the Renaissance Austin Hotel in Austin, TX. WASFAA members

currently serving on the Board include Regional Representative Steve Herndon at sherndon@csu.edu, WASFAA President; Regional Representative Jim White at whitejim@seattleu.edu, WASFAA Past-President; and Representative-at-Large Doug Severs at sevedoug@isu.edu. If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions pertaining to any of the NASFAA products or services, please pass them on to one of your WASFAA colleagues on the NASFAA Board prior to the meeting in November.

- Members of the 2005-06 WASFAA Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs will be meeting at the Villa Florence Hotel in San Francisco, CA, November 17-18, 2005. The morning of the 17th, members of the Strategic Planning Committee will meet from 8:00 - 9:45 a.m. to hopefully finalize the WASFAA 5-year Strategic Plan and WASFAA Investment Policy. Members of the Fiscal Planning Committee will meet from 10 - 11:45 a.m. to review WASFAA FY 2006 Committee/Activity Budget Request forms submitted by the various Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs in order to construct a WASFAA FY 2006 budget for review by Executive Council. The full Executive Council will meet from 1 - 5 p.m. on the 17th and from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the 18th. Meetings of the Executive Council are open to all members of the Association.
- As WASFAA President, I have identified six specific goals to accomplish during my year in office. These include the following:
 - 1) Formalize the Transition Meeting format, structure, and materials to ensure a smooth transition to new leadership.
 - 2) Develop and begin implementation of a 2005-2010 Strategic Plan.
 - 3) Finalize and implement an Investment and Asset Reserve Policy.
 - 4) Launch the Volunteer Development Committee and re-instate the Research Committee.
 - 5) Use monthly news updates ("WASFAA Highlights") to increase communication with the membership.
 - 6) Support Committee Chairs and Officers in the achievement of their annual goals.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative in some way, and that you are enjoying the fall season!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csb.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of November, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 8)

- During the month of November, I had the opportunity to attend the NAFAA Conference in Stateline, NV, the NASFAA Board of Directors meeting in Austin, TX, and the WASFAA Strategic Planning, Fiscal Planning, and Executive Council meetings in San Francisco, CA. The NAFAA Conference took place in a beautiful setting at Harvey's Lake Tahoe and provided to attendees a number of useful concurrent sessions, excellent keynote speakers, and a fun-filled evening of Party Blackjack. I wish to thank NAFAA President, Renee Baker, and Conference Co-Chairs, Paige Hurley and Lisa Conor, for making me feel so welcome at the conference. I thoroughly enjoyed all of the many conference activities, and had the opportunity to provide a WASFAA update to conference attendees at a general session.

At the NASFAA Board of Directors meeting, some 2 ½ days of reports and presentations were made. Highlights of the meeting included informative reports from the National Chair, National Chair-Elect, and President; updates from the various Executive Committees and Commission Directors; a conference call Federal update provided by Micki Roemer and Jeff Baker in Federal Student Aid; approval of the NASFAA 2006-07 budget proposal developed by the Finance Committee, and review of the 2005-06 external audit and management letter provided by McGladrey & Pullen, Certified Public Accountants; an E-Solutions project proposal to improve electronic services used and provided by NASFAA; and the various regional and Representative-at-Large reports. Detailed minutes of the meeting will be available on the NASFAA website sometime soon. As a side note, congratulations are in order for Doug Severs, Director of Financial Aid at Idaho State University, who was selected by National Chair-Elect, Janet Dodson, and approved by the NASFAA Board of Directors, to serve as a NASFAA Commissioner next year. Doug is a former WASFAA President, and is currently serving as Chair of the WASFAA Research Committee.

Several things were accomplished at the WASFAA Strategic Planning, Fiscal Planning, and Executive Council meetings in San Francisco. Highlights included review and adoption of a 5-year Strategic Plan; approval of the WASFAA 2006 budget proposal developed by the Fiscal Planning Committee; presentation and approval of the 2006-07 WASFAA ballot; approval of financial contributions to the Louisiana and Mississippi state financial aid associations to assist them in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma; and updates from the various committee chairs/co-chairs and state reports. Some of these items will be discussed in more detail below, and detailed minutes of the meeting will be available on the WASFAA website soon.

- Since my last update, new data provided by WASFAA Membership Committee Chair, Wendy Olson, indicate that WASFAA's membership has grown to 1,294. The membership is currently comprised of 48 members from the state of Alaska, 195 from Arizona, 461 from California, 61 from Hawaii and Guam, 61 from Idaho, 49 from Nevada, 165 from Oregon, 172 from Washington, and 82 from out of the WASFAA region. This number will hopefully continue to increase when WASFAA spring training is offered throughout the region. It is possible that this year's membership could surpass last year's high of 1,522. The WASFAA membership application is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.

- WASFAA colleagues are advised that the Department of Education has announced the availability of FSAPubs, a new website for publication orders at www.FSAPubs.org. This system replaces the Bulk Publication Ordering System. ED says that for the first time, most Direct Loan publications (including MPNs), the FAFSA, and the Student Guide can now be ordered using the same Web site.
- I am pleased to report that after several months of work, a 2005-10 WASFAA Strategic Plan was approved by the Executive Council at the recent meeting in San Francisco. The purpose of the plan is to guide the decision-making of the Executive Council and to inform the membership of the priorities and activities of the Association. The goal of the Plan is to ensure that WASFAA is serving and continues to serve its members most effectively and efficiently.

WASFAA's fundamental purpose and reason for existence is articulated in the Association's mission statement:

To provide professional and personal development for its members in order to promote student financial aid and educational opportunities for students.

The Executive Council believes that the manner in which the Association accomplishes its mission is as important as the mission itself, and therefore has articulated a set of core values which are intended to guide and inspire the behavior and interactions of all WASFAA members. The core values of the Association are:

- + Professional Growth & Development
- + Collaboration
- + Inclusiveness
- + Advocacy

The following eight (8) goals summarize the organizational priorities for the Association for the next five years:

1. Be a leader in providing training and professional development opportunities that are responsive to member needs;
2. Consolidate and communicate the public policy positions of financial aid administrators in the Western region and provide members with the support and education they need to further their own advocacy efforts;
3. Collaborate and coordinate with other organizations and associations in order to serve our members more efficiently and effectively;
4. Maintain and enhance the diversity of our membership and the Executive Council;
5. Increase the participation of members in Association activities;
6. Maintain the long-term financial stability of the Association;
7. Continually improve methods and processes for communicating with the membership; and
8. Assess and monitor the performance of the Association and implement strategic adjustments.

Goals will be developed annually by WASFAA Committees and Officers in support of the 5-year Strategic Plan, and the Strategic Planning Committee will be responsible for ensuring that the Plan is reviewed and monitored regularly by the Executive Council and communicated to the membership of the Association.

- The membership is advised that Federal Student Aid (FSA) has posted a PowerPoint presentation that contains a preview of many of the FAFSA on the Web screens for 2006-2007. In addition, FSA posted the redesigned and improved 2006-2007 FAFSA on the Web Worksheet in pdf format. It is available in both English and Spanish, and there is a black-and-white English version for those without color printers. Schools are encouraged to print and copy these worksheets for their students. This information is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

- WASFAA colleagues are advised that the Nominations & Elections Committee put forth, and Executive Council approved, an excellent ballot of candidates to serve on the 2006-07 Executive Council for the positions of President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, and Representative-at-Large for Ethnic Diversity. Ballots should go out to the membership later this month, and election winners announced in January, 2006.
- The membership is advised that the Department of Education has posted the 2006-07 Summary of Changes to the Application Processing System guide. The summary provides information about the changes and enhancements made to the 2006-07 application processing system. It is available on the Department's Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) website located at <http://fsadownload.ed.gov>.
- I am pleased to report that at the recent meeting in San Francisco, members of the WASFAA Executive Council voted to contribute \$7,500 to both the Louisiana and Mississippi state financial aid associations to assist them in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. These funds are intended to support Student Financial Aid professionals, who have been displaced as a result of the disastrous hurricanes that occurred in the Gulf Coast region of our country.
- Congratulations are in order for Jerry R. Sims Management & Leadership Institute (MLI) Chair Don Black and the MLI faculty comprised of Jacquie Carroll, Toni DuBois, Syed Rizvi, Jennifer Satalino, and Wayne Sparks for providing an outstanding training experience this year. The Institute took place on November 6-8 at the beautiful Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon. The symposium focused on developing effective management skills. Faculty of the Institute created the curriculum based on four books written by noted leadership author Patrick Leoncini. Some 32 attendees participated in the Institute, 30 on site and 2 commuters, and provided excellent evaluations of their training experience.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that future conference sites, which have been approved by Executive Council, include the following:

2006	John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks NV
2007	The Hyatt, Anaheim, CA
2008	The Westin, Seattle WA
2009	The Hilton, Anchorage, AK
2010	The Coeur d'Alene, Coeur d'Alene, ID
- The membership is advised that NASFAA is still inviting nominations for the 2006-07 year for the positions of National Chair-Elect (who becomes National Chair for 2007-08), four national Representatives-at-Large to the Board of Directors, and three members of the Nominations and Elections Committee, representing RNASFAA, SASFAA, and WASFAA. An article located at <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2005/n2006nominations100605.html> explains the nomination and election process and informs potential candidates of the roles and responsibilities that come with each office. The deadline for receipt of nominations is December 16, 2005.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative, and that you are enjoying the fall and holiday season!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csb.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of December, 2005 - (Vol. 1, No. 9)

- WASFAA colleagues are advised that the Department of Education (ED) has announced the availability of the 2006-07 ISIR Guide. The guide is available in PDF format on the Department's Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) Web site, located at <http://fsadownload.ed.gov>, and on the Department's Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site, located at <http://ifap.ed.gov>. The ISIR Guide is an invaluable reference designed to help financial aid administrators interpret the information contained in electronic Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs) returned to schools by the Central Processing System (CPS).
- WASFAA Electronic Services Chair, Peter Miller, has reported that the new WASFAA Job Bank is up and running. The fee for posting a job announcement is now \$45.50, and for convenience, can be paid with a credit card online. In addition, non-WASFAA members can now post a job announcement by filling out a modified bio-profile for billing purposes.
- The membership is advised that the Dependent and Independent 2006-07 Verification Worksheets are now available in PDF format at <http://ifap.ed.gov/vgworksheets/0607VerifWksheets.html>. ED reminds us that the use of the federal verification worksheets is **not** required. An institution may use a worksheet of its own design, or no worksheet at all. An institution may also require other documentation in addition to, or instead of, a completed verification worksheet.
- WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chair, Bert Logan, has reported that members of the Training Committee are hard at work developing training needs for spring 2006. He has asked that we take a few moments to notify him of the training we would like WASFAA to provide during the spring. The Training Committee is targeting spring training to take place March through June. Below are some possible topics identified by the committee members. Please select from the topics below, or suggest other training subject(s) you feel would be helpful to your success in the delivery of student aid, professional development, or leadership:

- Professional Judgment
- Student Eligibility
- EFC Calculations and Data Elements
- ISIR Review
- WASFAA/NASFAA Tools and Their Use
- Professional Standards
- Veterans Issues
- FA101: The Basics

In addition, members of the Training Committee would like to know if you prefer regional training at selected sites in your State, similar to fall training, or a self-paced tool or information that WASFAA might be able to deliver to you via hard-copy in the mail, CD, or tape.

Please respond to Bert's WASFAA spring training information request at his email address of loganb@lanecc.edu.

- The membership is advised that ED has released a PDF version of the final 2006-07 drug worksheet at <http://ifap.ed.gov/fafsa/0607DrugWksht.html>. ED notes that since the paper Renewal Application has been discontinued, there is only one version of the 2006-07 drug worksheet to be mailed with the SAR. ED also states that the format of the "Worksheet for Question 31" has not changed from last year.
- WASFAA colleagues are advised that information concerning the WASFAA Research Grant Program is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/about/grants/intro.html>. WASFAA has funded this program to help facilitate research activities in areas of interest to the membership. Grants are awarded to assist recipients in covering project costs including temporary personnel, printing, postage, data entry, computer time, and preparation of papers and reports. Grants are not intended to provide a salary or stipend for the recipient. WASFAA members are eligible to apply, as are non-members, provided they are sponsored by a WASFAA member. Grants are not awarded for program start-up expenses. Projects that involve experimental activities and new initiatives should emphasize evaluation of program effectiveness. At this time, WASFAA has chosen not to set minimum or maximum research grant awards. All reasonable requests will be considered.
- The membership is advised that ED has released the 2006-07 Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Formula Guide in PDF format at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/efcinformation/0607EFCFormulaGuide.html>. The formula is used to determine the EFC and ultimately determine the need for aid from the Pell Grant, subsidized Stafford Loan (both Direct Loan and FFELP), FSEOG, Perkins Loan, and FWS programs.
- The 2006 WASFAA Conference Committee has provided a preliminary conference agenda for the benefit of the membership on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/conferences/2006/agenda.html>. The 37th annual WASFAA Conference will be held April 2-4, 2006, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV.
- The WASFAA Nominations & Elections Committee has put forth, and Executive Council approved, an excellent ballot of candidates to serve on the 2006-07 Executive Council for the positions of President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, and Representative-at-Large for Ethnic Diversity. In addition, two proposed bylaw changes have been developed. Ballots and the proposed bylaw changes were recently sent out electronically via email to the membership. Please take time now to cast your vote. Your participation is needed and appreciated. Voting will end at 5 p.m. Pacific Time on Friday, January 13. The election winners and bylaw change outcome will be announced in late January, 2006.
- WASFAA 2006 Sister Dale Brown Summer Institute (SDBSI) Committee Co-Chair, Andy Promsiri, has announced that WASFAA will again sponsor the Summer Institute Basic Track. The curriculum will be geared toward financial aid administrators with less than four years of experience, or those individuals who want a thorough review of all the financial aid basics. The faculty will be made up of 13 practicing financial aid administrators from campuses or organizations throughout the west. The 2006 SDBSI will be held at the campus of the University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA) from June 25 - 30, 2006. For additional information, log on to the WASFAA website at www.WASFAA.org and click on 'Summer Institute'.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative, and that each of you have a fun and safe New Year celebration!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of January, 2006 - (Vol. 1, No. 10)

- WASFAA colleagues are encouraged to consider applying for the 2006-07 WASFAA scholarships. Kay Soltis, Chair of the WASFAA Awards and Scholarship Committee has announced that the new 2006 Scholarship Application is now available on the WASFAA website at www.wasfaa.org in the menu on the left side of the screen under the heading "Online Forms". The application submission timeline is 30 days prior to the scholarship event. Scholarship applications are currently being accepted for the EDAC Annual WASFAA Conference Scholarship (April 2-4, 2006), the WASFAA Annual Conference Scholarship (April 2-4, 2006), and the NASFAA Conference Scholarship (July 5-8, 2006).
- WASFAA Proprietary Segmental Representative-at-Large, Frank Green, has reported that interest session time has been allotted at the upcoming 2006 WASFAA conference at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV, April 2-4, 2006 for topics of specific interest to the proprietary segment. Topics under consideration include:
 - 1) Calculating awards for non-standard term - irregular length programs.
 - 2) Understanding and working with the draft cohort default report.
 - 3) Understanding fiscal ratios in an institutional audit.Frank would appreciate hearing from his WASFAA proprietary colleagues as to which of the three topics has the greatest interest, or suggestions for other topics. He can be reached at email airtac@aloha.net.
- Colleagues are advised that the Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory has become a Web-based system accessible at <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/>. Changes and updates to the directory may now be made whenever necessary instead of just once per year. Also, any changes to the directory will be made in real time. This will allow students who may be authorized to have all or part of their loans forgiven for teaching at designated low income schools to have access to immediate and accurate data.
- WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chairs, Bert Logan and Francie Campbell, have indicated that for those WASFAA members who were unable to attend Fall training on the topic of Administrative Capability: Campus Compliance, a limited supply of training materials is left over and available for purchase. NASFAA is offering them for \$70, and WASFAA has discounted them even further at \$60. You may contact Francie at email fcampbel@edfund.org or Bert at loganb@lanecc.edu to obtain a set of training materials.

In addition, WASFAA will be providing Spring training, regionally, mid-April thru June. The training will encompass two subjects, Veterans issues and Professional Judgment. WASFAA Trainers will present these topics with representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Additional information concerning specific dates and training sites will be available soon.

- Earlier this week, I had the opportunity to attend the OASFAA Conference at the beautiful Salishan Resort in Gleneden Beach, OR. The conference provided attendees with a number of useful and interesting concurrent interest sessions, excellent keynote speakers, and enlightening and thought-provoking evening and morning sessions of stories and cultural awareness training provided by Rev. Dr. Michael James Oleksa. I wish to thank OASFAA President Mary Jo Jackson, Conference Co-Chairs Suzie Petersen and Leslie Limper, and Registration Coordinator, Peter Goss, for making me feel so welcome at the conference. I thoroughly enjoyed the many conference activities, and had the opportunity to provide a WASFAA update to conference attendees at a general session on Monday.
- Since my last update, new data provided by WASFAA Membership Committee Chair, Wendy Olson, indicate that WASFAA's membership has grown to 1,349. The membership is currently comprised of 49 members from the state of Alaska; 199 from Arizona; 472 from California; 66 from Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa; 61 from Idaho; 54 from Nevada; 171 from Oregon; 191 from Washington; and 86 from out of the WASFAA region. The WASFAA membership application is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.
- The membership is advised that P-06-01, <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/P0601.html>, conveys the Regular and Alternate Payment and Disbursement schedules for determining Federal Pell Grant awards for the 2006-07 award year (July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007). Each schedule consists of four separate tables: full-time, three-quarter-time, half-time, and less-than-half-time. The letter indicates when an institution must use the alternate schedules. The maximum Federal Pell Grant award for the 2006-2007 award year remains at \$4,050, with the minimum award still at \$400.
- The 2006 WASFAA Conference Committee has provided a preliminary conference agenda for the benefit of the membership on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/conferences/2006/agenda.html>. The 37th annual WASFAA Conference will be held April 2-4, 2006, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV. The conference theme is "Preparing for a Changing Future" and is centered on student financial literacy. The Program Committee has worked hard to develop general and interest sessions that are both stimulating and engaging, and which address relevant issues that we face today in student aid administration. Please be reminded that the Early-Bird registration period ends February 17th at 5pm PST. At 5:01 pm PST the registration fee changes from \$265 to \$315. Don't miss out on the discount. Remember also that you can pay for your registration online with your credit card. WASFAA now accepts VISA, MasterCard and American Express as payment. So please plan to join us at the annual conference in Reno in early April.
- Colleagues are advised that the Department has announced that the final version of the 2005 IRS 1040EZ form changed the 1040EZ instructions and worksheet for determining number of exemptions. Because of this IRS change, the current 2006-07 FAFSA instructions for question 37 and question 75 are incorrect. The correct instructions for questions 37 and 75 are as follows:

"On the 1040EZ, if a person checked either the "you" or "spouse" box on line 5, use EZ worksheet line E to determine the number of exemptions (\$3,200 equals one exemption). If a person didn't check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she is single, or 02 if he or she is married."

The Department is in the process of correcting the instructions for questions 37 and 75 in *FAFSA on the Web* and FAA Access and in online FAFSA PDF files. However, they will be unable to correct the paper FAFSA and Worksheet until future reprints.

Please note that the student and parent exemptions are not used in calculating the EFC, and the information reported in questions 37 and 75 will have no impact on a student's eligibility for federal student aid.

- WASFAA Nominations & Elections Committee Chair, Jim White, has announced the results of the recent WASFAA elections. Thanks are in order to the over 400 WASFAA members who took time from their busy schedules to participate in the elections. The elected officials who will serve on the WASFAA 2006-07 Executive Council are as follows:

President-Elect: Tracy Reisinger, University of Portland, OR

Vice-President: Pat Peppin, Mesa Community College, AZ

Treasurer: Peter Miller, Alaska Pacific University, AK

Secretary: Laura Hughes, Lewis-Clark State College, ID

Representative-
at-Large, Ethnic
Diversity: Luhui Whitebear, Confederated Tribes of
Grand Ronde, OR

In addition, the two Bylaw changes on the ballot passed by the required majority vote.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative, and that you have a great Super Bowl Sunday!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



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WASFAA Highlights for the Month of February, 2006 - (Vol. 1, No. 11)

- At the request of Executive Council, in my capacity as WASFAA President, on December 12, 2005, I sent the following letter to LASFAA President Alvina Thomas and MASFAA President Soraya Welden:

I am pleased to advise you that at our recent meeting in San Francisco, members of the WASFAA Executive Council voted to contribute \$7,500 to both the Louisiana and Mississippi state financial aid associations to assist them in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. These funds are intended to support Student Financial Aid professionals, who have been displaced as a result of the disastrous hurricanes that occurred in the Gulf Coast region of our country. We see this as an opportunity for our regional association to demonstrate our support and compassion for those in the financial aid profession so adversely affected by these disasters. We are aware that the long term impact of these hurricanes and floods will take many years to fully assess and overcome. We feel it is important that as financial aid professionals we do all that we can to assist in the recovery of higher education in the Gulf region. We believe that assisting displaced financial aid professionals with their needs in order that they may rejoin the workforce in the affected areas is one way in which we can make an impact. We are confident that you will be able to find equitable ways in which to put these funds to good use.

Sincerely,

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President

Enclosure

I received the following responses from LASFAA President Thomas and MASFAA President Welden: On behalf of the Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, we thank the Western Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for the generous donation of \$7,500. We appreciate and are humbled by the outpouring of kindness that has been shown to us during this difficult time.

Again thank you,

Alvina Thomas
2005-06 LASFAA President

On behalf of MASFAA, I want to express our sincere appreciation to WASFAA for your \$7,500 donation. Our most affected schools have cut travel funds and your contribution will assist aid administrators with expenses related to attending training events and conferences. Again, we are so grateful to you for your generous support.

Sincerely,
Soraya Welden, President

- WASFAA members have been invited to participate in a Council on Law in Higher Education (CLHE) webinar titled “FERPA for Financial Aid Professionals” that will take place on March 9, 2006 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. EST. WASFAA members will receive a major discount on the program. Additional information is available on the webinar page at <http://clhe.org/programs/ferpafeb06/index.shtml>. The webinar will feature Daren Bakst, President and General Counsel for the Council on Law in Higher Education, and Mark Kantrowitz, Founder of FinAid.org, who will mainly participate in the question and answer sessions. This webinar was developed in response to a significant demand from financial aid professionals. It will address the day-to-day challenges of FERPA. The cost to WASFAA members is \$139. Registration can be done via phone at (561) 622-5765, online at <https://www.clhe.org/programs/ferpafeb06/onlineform.shtml>, or by fax/mail at <http://clhe.org/programs/ferpafeb06/faxform.shtml>.
- Colleagues are advised that registration is still open for the WASFAA Pre-Conference Workshop on Research Tools. The workshop is being held Saturday, April 1, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV. The web site link for registration is <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/conferences/2006/preconference.html>. This four-hour workshop will provide a basic introduction to research terminology, resources, tools, and performance evaluation techniques. Workshop presenters Bonnie Joerschke, from Purdue University, and Barry Simmons, from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, will be joined by Dr. Mary Ann Coughlin, Professor of Research and Statistics at Springfield College in Massachusetts. Sponsored by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), Dr. Coughlin will demonstrate the Center’s web-based data tools that allow financial aid administrators access to IPEDS financial aid data.
- WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chairs, Bert Logan and Francie Campbell, have indicated that for those WASFAA members who were unable to attend Fall training on the topic of Administrative Capability: Campus Compliance, a limited supply of training materials is left over and available for purchase. NASFAA is offering them for \$70, and WASFAA has discounted them even further at \$60. You may contact Francie at email fcampbel@edfund.org or Bert at loganb@lanecc.edu to obtain a set of training materials.

In addition, WASFAA will be providing Spring training, regionally, mid-April thru June. The training will encompass two subjects, Veterans issues and Professional Judgment. WASFAA Trainers will present these topics with representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Additional information concerning specific dates and training sites will be available soon.

- The 2006 WASFAA Conference Committee has provided a preliminary conference agenda for the benefit of the membership on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/conferences/2006/agenda.html>. The 37th annual WASFAA Conference will be held April 2-4, 2006, at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV. The conference theme is “Preparing for a Changing Future” and is centered on student financial literacy. The Program Committee has worked hard to develop general and interest sessions that are both stimulating and engaging, and which address relevant issues that we face today in student aid administration. Registration information is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>. Keep in mind that you can now pay for your registration online with your credit card. WASFAA accepts VISA, MasterCard and American Express as payment. So please plan to join us at the annual conference in Reno in early April.
- Since my last update, new data provided by WASFAA Membership Committee Chair, Wendy Olson, indicate that WASFAA’s membership has grown to 1,433. The membership is currently comprised of 49 members from the state of Alaska; 217 from Arizona; 502 from California; 68 from Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa; 62 from Idaho; 62 from Nevada; 174 from Oregon; 202 from Washington; and 97 from out of the WASFAA region. The WASFAA membership application is available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>.

Chair Olson indicates that thanks are in order to Johnetta Scott for her assistance with preparing a comprehensive list of WASFAA membership benefits. This information will be shared with people as they inquire about WASFAA, and also with WASFAA members as confirmation that their membership payment has been received. Thanks also to Kathy Colasurdo and Joyce Anderson, who are following up on WASFAA members who do not have a current email address in the WASFAA database.

- The membership is advised that the U.S. Department of Education has restored the maximum number of days that student Web applications and corrections are placed in the Signature Hold file by the Central Processing System (CPS) to 14 days. When a student submits an application or correction through the Web and indicates they will mail a signature page or electronically sign the record at a later time, their record is placed in a Signature Hold file, pending receipt of the signature. If a signature page or electronic signature is not received within a specified number of days, the student's record is processed and a rejected Student Aid Report (SAR) is mailed to the student to sign. Last fall, the Department announced that the maximum number of days that student records would be placed in the Signature Hold file for 2006-07 would be reduced from 14 days to 7 days. However, upon reviewing 2006-07 processing trends since January 2006, they have noted a substantial increase in SAR printing from the same time last year, which they believe is linked to the decrease from 14 days to 7 days. As a result, they have decided to restore the 14 day maximum for the Signature Hold file. The process will now function as it did during the 2005-06 cycle.
- Congratulations are in order to WASFAA Fund Development Co-Chairs Theresa Bosworth and Judy Saling, and committee members Jason Brubaker, Kelvin Howell, and Brooke Mitts for already exceeding the Fund Development Committee income goal this year. Special thanks are in order for the many WASFAA sponsors and vendors whose generous financial contributions help support WASFAA's many activities throughout the year.
- U.S.D.E. has indicated that information concerning the number of FAFSAs received by the Central Processing System (CPS) from each school and from each state for the 2004-05 and 2005-06 award years can be found at <http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0222AppsbySchool.html> and <http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0222AppsbyState.html> respectively.
- WASFAA President-Elect Tami Sato has announced that the WASFAA Transition Meeting will take place this year on March 16-17, 2006 at the Couer d'Alene Resort in Idaho. This meeting will provide training to and facilitate the transition of 2006-07 Executive Council members and committee chairs/co-chairs.
- The final meetings of the WASFAA 2005-06 Strategic Planning Committee, Fiscal Planning Committee, and Executive Council will take place on Saturday, April 1, 2006 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV, prior to the beginning of the annual conference on Sunday. The purpose of the meetings will be to share year-end report information, and help facilitate the transition to our 2006-07 counterparts.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative, and that you have a great weekend!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President



WASFAA Highlights is a 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, Steve Herndon, at sherndon@csu.edu.

WASFAA Highlights for the Month of March, 2006 - (Vol. 1, No. 12)

- It is hard to believe, but this is my twelfth and final monthly WASFAA Highlights as 2005-06 WASFAA President. These electronic news updates have been in response to feedback that Executive Council received from the membership that information via the quarterly newsletter was not sufficient to keep you apprised of WASFAA activities and other important industry news. I hope you have found these monthly updates to be informative and useful to your needs.
- Just a last minute reminder that the 2006 WASFAA Conference Committee has provided a preliminary conference agenda for the benefit of the membership on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org/docs/conferences/2006/agenda.html>. The 37th annual WASFAA Conference will be held beginning this weekend April 2-4, 2006, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV. The conference theme is "Preparing for a Changing Future" and is centered on student financial literacy. The Program Committee has worked hard to identify excellent keynote speakers and to develop 40 interest sessions that are informative and engaging, and address relevant issues that we face today in student aid administration. Late registration information is still available on the WASFAA website at <http://www.wasfaa.org>. Keep in mind that you can now pay for your registration online with your credit card. WASFAA accepts VISA, MasterCard and American Express as payment. So please plan to join us at the annual conference in Reno this weekend.
- WASFAA President-Elect Tami Sato and the 2006-07 Executive Council and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs held their Transition Meeting on March 16-17, 2006 at the Couer d'Alene Resort in Idaho. The meeting was facilitated by Don Black of Nelnet, and provided excellent training and orientation in order to facilitate the transition of 2006-07 officers and committee chair volunteers.
- WASFAA Training Committee Co-Chairs, Bert Logan and Francie Campbell, have announced that WASFAA will be providing Spring training, regionally, mid-April thru May. As a result of feedback from the membership, the training will encompass two topics: **Working with Veterans Affairs to Help Students, and Professional Judgment**. WASFAA Trainers will present these topics with representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs. These one-day workshops are highly recommended for campus Veteran Specialists and Certifying Officials, in addition to Financial Aid professionals.

Regional training staff from the Department of Veterans Affairs (Muskogee and Albuquerque) will present information regarding Chapters 30, 35, 1606, 1607, and 31, and how these programs affect financial aid eligibility.

WASFAA Trainers will present Professional Judgment topics, including the fundamental aspects of PJ from basic rules of the road to intermediate aspects of using this authority. The training is targeted toward new Financial Aid professionals, and will also be a timely tune-up for experienced professionals. Actual case studies will help participants analyze the possibilities and restrictions.

Workshop Content

8:30-9:00 am	REGISTRATION
9:00-12 noon	VETERANS AFFAIRS VA participant activity, power point presentation presented by a Veteran's Affairs regional trainer, time for questions by audience. A 10 minute break will be provided during this session.
12 noon-1 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1 pm-3:45 pm	PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT Power point presentation by WASFAA trainer, case studies, Q&A, audience participation. An afternoon break will be provided.
3:45 pm-4 pm	WRAP UP AND GENERAL QUESTIONS

The cost for this training is \$30 for WASFAA members and \$70 for nonmembers (includes 2006-2007 membership dues).

Workshop Locations:

Date	State	Location
5/12/2006	AK	University of Alaska, Anchorage University Center, Rm 145 3801 Old Seward Hwy. Anchorage, AK Contact person: Teri Gravenmier 907-786-1358 http://edit.uaa.alaska.edu/maps/upload/2004-University-Map.pdf
5/16/2006	AZ Tucson Area	Pima Community College District Campus Central Office 4905 E. Broadway Tucson, AZ Contact person: Raman Chowhan 520-206-4950
5/17/2006	AZ Phoenix Area	Mesa Community College Library, Rm. 145 1833 W. Southern Ave. Mesa, AZ Contact person: Pat Peppin 480-461-7456
5/10/2006	CA North	CSU Maritime Academy, Vallejo, CA Peachman Hall, Technology Center 200 Maritime Academy Dr. Vallejo, CA

Contact person: [Ken Walsh](#)
707-654-1276

5/18/2006 CA South Long Beach Community College
Carson Street - Portable Classroom
Long Beach, CA
Parking will cost \$1.
Contact person: [Kathie Atwood](#)
562-938-4574
Campus Map: <http://www.lbcc.edu/>. Click "about LBCC" and then on the left select "campus maps". Then select "Liberal Arts Campus".

5/22/2006 HI Honolulu Community College
874 Dillingham Blvd.
Honolulu, HI
Contact person: [Jannine Oyama](#)
800-845-9231

5/19/2006 ID Boise State University
Student Union Building
Hatch B Ballroom
1700 University Dr.
Boise, ID
Contact person: [Rick Holm](#)
208-426-1540
Campus Map: <http://www.boisestate.edu/maps/>

4/18/2006 OR Chemeketa Community College
Bldg. 34, Room 100 - 4000 Lancaster Dr. NE
Salem, OR
Contact person: [Kathy Campbell](#)
Phone: 503-399-5018

4/25/2006 NV Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV
Red Mountain Rm. 256
7000 Dandini Blvd.
Reno, NV
Contact person: [Renee Baker](#)
<http://www.tmcc.edu/about/maps/pdf/RDMT2Floor.pdf>

5/1/2006 WA East Spokane Falls Community College, Spokane, WA
Building 17, Lounges A & B
3410 W. Fort George Wright Dr.
Spokane, WA 99224
Contact person: [Jean Trevegno](#)
509-533-3549

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- The final meetings of the WASFAA 2005-06 Strategic Planning Committee, Fiscal Planning Committee, and Executive Council will take place on Saturday, April 1, 2006 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV, prior to the beginning of the annual conference on Sunday. The purpose of the meetings will be to share year-end report information, and help facilitate the transition to our 2006-07 Executive Council and Committee Chair counterparts.

- NASFAA/WASFAA members are advised that voting is now open for NASFAA's National Chair-Elect and four Representatives-at-Large to the Board of Directors. In addition, three regional members of the Nominations and Elections Committee will be selected by eligible voting members from the SASFAA, RMASFAA, and WASFAA regions.

The voting opened on Monday, March 13, 2006 at 9am Eastern Standard Time, and **will conclude on Monday, April 17, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time**. The electronic process makes the voting much easier; it takes just a few minutes to cast your vote and will allow NASFAA to tabulate the results almost instantly.

Full information on all the candidates (resumes, candidates' photos, and statements of candidacy) is located on NASFAA's Web Site at:<http://www.nasfaavote.org>.

- The membership is reminded that tentative 2006-2007 funding levels for the campus-based programs were announced on January 19, 2006 in Dear Colleague Letter [CB-06-01](#). The Department of Education has announced that the **notification of 2006-2007 final awards**, final funding worksheets, and the 2006-2007 Statement of Account for each program will be posted to the eCampus-Based (eCB) Web site by April 1, 2006.
- Colleagues are advised that the first Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA) payment for the 2005-2006 Award Year is based on records that the COD System has processed from the start of the Federal Pell Grant 2005-2006 Award Year on July 1, 2005 up to the date that the first ACA payments are processed for the 2005-2006 Award Year. The Department began processing the ACA payments for all schools on March 18, 2006. Schools will begin to see these payments deposited directly into their bank accounts over the next few weeks.

I hope you find this month's WASFAA Highlights informative, and that you will be joining us this weekend at the annual conference at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks/Reno, NV. Thanks for allowing me to serve as the 2005-06 WASFAA President. It was truly a privilege, and has been an enriching and gratifying experience!

Steve Herndon
2005-06 WASFAA President