



Greetings from AASFAA President

Kevin Ammons, Enterprise State Community College

Greetings,

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the Spring 2014 AASFAA Conference in just a few days. The Conference will be held at The Battle House Hotel and Spa in Mobile April 23-25, 2014.

I am excited about the conference that your Program Committee has pulled together. Dr. Chip Quisenberry and the rest of the Program Committee have outdone themselves, and I believe that you will be pleased with the results of their work. We will have the opportunity to learn from our federal trainer, Mr. Dave Bartnicki, who will be presenting on all three days. A printer-friendly agenda is available at http://www.aasfaaonline.org/docs/conferences/2014/2014SpringConference_FullProgram.pdf.

Also on the website you can find the candidacy statements of our colleagues who are running for AASFAA office. Please familiarize yourself with their backgrounds and be prepared to elect the people you want to lead your association in the years ahead. We have a good slate to choose from, and my hat is off to Past -President Sharon Williams and the other past presidents who make up the Nominations and Elections Committee for their work in selecting this dual slate of candidates. I have extended an invitation to MASFAA President Greg Windham to attend our



In This Issue..

Greetings from AASFAA President	1
Greetings from the AASFAA President-Elect	1
Immediate Past-President's Report	2
Vice President's Report	3
News from AASFAA	3

spring conference. If you see someone you don't know; please extend to them that good old Alabama hospitality, and make them feel welcome. SASFAA in Jacksonville, FL was great, and I appreciate those from our great state who attended the conference. It was my pleasure to represent you there as your president, and many kind things were expressed to me because of services that you performed for SASFAA. On a final note I would like to thank Stephanie Miller for all her hard work this year. She has been a great colleague and assisted me in every way. Thanks Steph!!!

Greetings from the AASFAA President-Elect

Stephanie Miller, Jacksonville State University

Hello Friends,

Wow, what a year!! This year it has been my privilege to serve you as your President-Elect. As your President-Elect, I have been able to attend a SASFAA Board Meeting and the NASFAA Leadership Conference. At the Leadership Conference in March, I was given the opportunity to bring financial aid issues to our elected government representatives. I was able to speak with Congressman Mike Rogers and his Education Liaison, Forrest McConnell, as well as, Congressman Spencer Bacchus' Education Liaison, Summer Bravo. We discussed issues regarding subsidized loans, default information, funding tied to graduation rates and administrative burden. It was enlightening to hear the views of our government and to be able to respond to those views with "our information" as we are the "faces of

financial aid" for the student.

Each one of us has a task each and every day. That task is to help our students to receive the necessary funding to complete a post-secondary degree or certificate, become a productive member of society and contribute to the betterment of our world. We work tirelessly and endlessly to educate and counsel anyone who comes in our path. We often times feel that we go unnoticed or unappreciated by our administrations. Remember...we know what we do is important to the students that we serve!

The pictures from our Fall 2013 Workshop is now on the web! For those of you that have not taken advantage of our website, aasfaaonline.org, it is a wonderful tool to get to know our

continued on page 2

Greetings from the AASFAA President-Elect (continued from page 1)

association. It has many archives of previous meetings minutes, budgets, committee information and other historical information that may be of interest. In addition to archives, it has current facts, volunteer opportunities and updates on our upcoming events.

In closing, I want to say a special THANK YOU for allowing me to serve you and our organization. Thanks to you, I have had the opportunity to learn so much and meet many new people. It has been an absolute pleasure.

Sincerely,
STEPH
Stephanie Miller
2013-2014 AASFAA President-Elect

"I want to say a special THANK YOU for allowing me to serve you and our organization. Thanks to you, I have had the opportunity to learn so much and meet many new people."

Immediate Past President's Report

Sharon Williams, Lawson State Community College

Greetings! AASFAA 2013-2014 has been very busy. As Immediate Past President, I served on the SASFAA Conference committee and the nominations and elections committee at SASFAA. We had a great conference in Jacksonville, FL, where our theme was: "Hitting Our Stride by Celebrating Our Strengths". In the recent past, SASFAA voted to rotate among the states the annual charity that it would support. I am happy to report that in 2015, the SASFAA charity will be AASFAA's choice, so perhaps at our conference we can agree upon the charity.

As chair of the AASFAA nominations and elections committee I am pleased to announce that we have a full slate of candidates for AASFAA Executive offices. Please take time to read the credentials of the candidates and cast your votes on line. The candidates for the offices are:

- **President-Elect**
Kelly D'Eath - Gadsden Community College
Phillip Nelson - Auburn University - Montgomery
- **Vice President**
Betty Edwards - Trenholm State Technical College
Lane Smith - Samford University
- **Secretary**
Dana Kitchens - University of Alabama - Huntsville
Felicia "Lisa" Lilley - Trenholm State Technical College
- **Treasurer-Elect**
James Theuwees - Faulkner Community College
Debra Moody - Lurleen B. Wallace Community College

I am thankful for the opportunity I have been afforded to be able to serve AASFAA in the capacity of President and now as Immediate Past President. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Mobile.

Sharon Williams
Immediate Past President



Vice President's Report

Lissa Powell, USA Funds

I've enjoyed serving as Vice President of the association this year! Training is a key reason that state associations like ours exist, and in addition to the sessions that will be offered at the spring conference later this month, a couple of other opportunities were made available to members this year.

The Fall Program was held at Auburn University in Montgomery on October 25, 2013, and we had 106 paid attendees. Thanks to Phillip Nelson for helping coordinate our location and arranging lunch, and thanks to Kevin Ammons for coordinating with our federal trainer, Mike Roberts, throughout the federal shutdown. Mike Roberts presented a federal update including information on the new 150% Direct subsidized loan limit (MAP-21), and I presented a session on getting ready for 2014-2015 verification.

The New Aid Officer workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 23 as part of the spring conference at the Battle House Hotel, Mobile, AL. The half-day session is offered at no additional cost when an attendee registers for the conference, and topics to be covered include: Types and Sources of Aid, General Eligibility Requirements, Need Analysis Overview and Web-Based Resources. Lane Smith, Director of Student Financial Services at Samford University and Lissa Powell of USA Funds will present materials provided by USA Funds. As of April 7, we have 21 people registered for the NAOW—come join us!

I want to make sure that everyone marks their calendars so you don't miss the fall one-day training! The Fall Program for 2014 is planned for Friday, October 3, 2014 at AUM. More information will be forthcoming!

News from AASFAA

Melba Maudlin Retires

After working twenty-three years at Samford University, Melba Maudlin retired on June 26, 2013. She recalls that she initially worked as secretary to the director in the financial aid office when Clyde Walker was the director in 1990. She retired as the assistant director of student financial aid last year. Her immediate plans were to travel with her husband of 45 years, Bill Maudlin. Melba is the mother of three married children, who all graduated from Samford University. Her children are Tammy (Jason) Garrett of Birmingham, Amee (Lonnie) Williams of Tuscaloosa and Bill (Kristen) Maudlin of Milton, Florida. She is the proud grandmother of eight grandchildren who live in Florida, Tuscaloosa, and Birmingham.

When asked about her memories related to AASFAA, she recalled that her first meeting was in 2005 after she was promoted. Over the years, she has worked with Lissa Powell, Ann Campbell and most recently with Lane Smith. She thinks that she will miss most the students and the people she has worked with and grown close to over the years. She also plans to spend some quality time with her mother who is 89 years old.

Amanda Sharp joins NASFAA

Amanda Sharp retired as Associate Director of Student Financial Services at the University of North Alabama on April 2, 2013. After working at UNA for seven years, and working a total of 20 years as a school teacher and banker, she has found a new home as a NASFAA training specialist. In her new position, she will create Core training materials and record and conduct webinars. She indicated that she will be able to work from her home in Florence, Alabama, but is expected to travel to Washington DC and various areas in the SASFAA Region.

Mark Sharp, her husband of thirty years, still works at UNA. He is a Navy Reservist who retired after thirty years of service in the military. He has been deployed three times with the most recent deployment being to Iraq in 2007. They are the proud parents of three children, Josh (Jessica) of Florence; Jennifer (Jay) Irons of Florence; and Abigail who is a recent graduate of UNA. They have one grandson who was born in April, 2013 – Jones Dalton Irons.

Amanda's service in AASFAA includes president, president-elect, treasurer-elect, local arrangements chair, and local arrangements committee. She was named the recipient of the M. Cecil Padgett Award at the spring 2013 AASFAA meeting. She has also served on the executive board of SASFAA.