

SDASFAA NEWSLETTER

March 2020

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events:

April 21-23

~~SDASFAA Spring Conference
at the Downtown Hilton
Garden Inn, Sioux Falls~~

June 7-11

RMASFAA Summer Institute
– Colorado Spring

October 18-21

RMASFAA Annual
Conference – Omaha, NE

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Greetings SDASFAA! When I first starting working on this newsletter edition a few weeks ago, I was so excited to share news regarding our spring conference and 50th Anniversary celebration. But as we all know, life had other plans for us. Though we are in a time of upheaval and uncertainty, financial aid remains an important part of all our lives and the lives of the students that we serve. More than most professions, we are used to change and we are resilient. We will come out of COVID-19 with new methods, better processes, and a continuing pledge to help students achieve their higher education goals.

Despite the recent upheaval, your SDASFAA Executive Council has a few updates to share. Since the start of 2020, we have welcomed two new members to our association: SoFi and Iowa Student Loans. Welcome and thank-you for your support! We also held our first board meeting a few weeks back on March 11th. Instead of the typical phone conference, we tried out video conference with Zoom. It was nice to see faces as we shared reports and discussed the business of SDASFAA.

Though there remains much uncertainty regarding the events of the upcoming months, the Executive Council will continue to operate and make decisions with the health and safety of our members as our first priority. With that in mind, keep yourselves safe, sane, and healthy! – *Carissa Koerner, 2020 SDASFAA President*

“Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it’s less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you’ve lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that’s good.”

– Elizabeth Edwards



2020 SPRING CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

On March 18, the decision was made to cancel the 2020 SDASFAA Spring Conference scheduled for April 21st – 23rd in Sioux Falls. The conference committee has put many hours into planning this conference, and everyone was excited for a great conference and 50th anniversary celebration. Please read the announcement on our website for further information: <https://sdasfaa.org/conferenceinfo.cfm>. Plans are already in progress for SDASFAA’s 2021 Spring Conference, and we will



celebrate the 50th anniversary at that time. Mark your calendars for April 12 – 14, 2021 at the Hilton Garden Inn Downtown in Sioux Falls.

2020 NASFAA LEADERSHIP AND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

I attended the NASFAA Leadership and Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, February 2-5, 2020, as President–Elect and completed the Association Management pathway. The conference was thought provoking and very resourceful and gave me many opportunities to network with other colleagues taking on leadership roles in their state and or regional

associations. It was good to connect with other “newbies” to share our anxieties about taking on a new role and to hear what other state associations are doing. I came away with some great ideas about how to continue to make our association function smoothly, facilitate cooperation and participation, and take our vision and long-range plan of SDASFAA into the future. We have a great state association and I am so thankful to be a part of it. I genuinely appreciate the Association’s commitment to the education of our members, and I look forward to continuing to be a valuable member and volunteer of SDASFAA. – Amber Brockel, 2020 SDASFAA President-Elect

STAY IN TOUCH

SDASFAA wants to know about any changes at your office. Have you been promoted? New hires? Retiring or planning to retire? Please let us know by contacting the Membership Committee, Amber Brockel, Chair.

(amber.brockel@presentation.edu)

GET INVOLVED

Committee Volunteer Form: <https://sdasfaa.org/volunteer.cfm>

Leadership Pipeline: https://www.rmasfaa.org/member_forms.php

Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship Application: https://www.rmasfaa.org/member_forms.php