

# SDASFAA Newsletter

March 2019

Volume 1, Issue 1

## NASFAA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE UPDATE

**By: Carissa Koerner**

Despite Mother Nature's best effort to keep us grounded in Sioux Falls, myself and Carrie Jordanger were able to attend this year's NASFAA Leadership Conference in Washington DC on February 25th - 27th. As your president-elect and treasurer, Carrie and I were participating in the Association Management track at the conference. Session topics included association governance, running a meeting, improving volunteerism, and developing a leadership plan. On Wednesday, conference attendees "stormed the hill" to meet with the senators, representatives, and their staffers. Carrie and I were joined by Mary Alexander from Dakota Wesleyan University and had the privilege to meet with staffers of all three of South Dakota's congressmen: Dusty Johnson, Mike Rounds, and John Thune. Our conversations included discussions on simplification of the FAFSA, the verification process, and loan repayment. Of course, it wasn't all sessions and meetings! We also took the time to visit a few tourist spots in DC, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the Vietnam Wall.



## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Happy first day of spring, SDASFAA friends! After this seemingly-endless winter, I am ready to see some sunshine and green things growing.

Lets catch up on a few SDASFAA Executive Council happenings! The final board meeting of 2018 took place on November 14th in Chamberlain in conjunction with Decentralized Training. We approved a strategic plan through 2021 to guide our efforts over the next several years. CommonBond was approved as a new SDASFAA associate member. To kick off 2019, we held our first meeting of the year by conference call on February 20th. ELM Resources became a SDASFAA associate member again, and Cognition Financial/Suntrust was approved as a new member.

Although I had plans to travel to Denver for the RMASFAA Board of Directors meeting on March 14th and 15th, our latest round of winter weather kept me at home in Rapid City. However, myself and many other members of the board were still able to remotely participate in the meeting. I was honored to represent South Dakota. RMASFAA President, Myra Pfannenstiel, will be attending the Spring Conference in Deadwood to give us an update on what is happening in RMASFAA.

I am so excited for the SDASFAA Spring Conference in a few weeks! The Conference Committee has planned an outstanding program. I'm looking forward to great sessions from NASFAA, the Department of Education, the Office of Inspector General, and more. I hope to see many of your there!

# CALENDAR

Upcoming Events:

**April 15th - 17th**

SDASFAA Spring Conference and Annual Business Meeting at the Lodge at Deadwood

**June 2nd - 7th**

RMASFAA Summer Institute at Colorado College in Colorado Springs

**October 20th - 23rd**

RMASFAA Conference in Billings, MT

RMASFAA Programs:

**April 1st**

Deadline for Diversity & Inclusion Committee Summer Institute Scholarship Application

**June 30th**

Deadline to apply for Leadership Pipeline



In February, several current and past SDASFAA members got together in Sioux Falls for dinner, sharing memories, and catching up with each other!

**Pictured Left to Right:** Carolyn Halgerson, Grace Bick, Brenda Murtha, Rosie Jamison, Sharon Kienow, Jackie Payne, Deb Henriksen, Becky Pribyl, Laura Olson, David Martin, Micah Hansen, Emily Studenski.

## SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN!

The 2019 SDASFAA Spring Conference is just a few weeks away! I hope you will make plans to join us at The Lodge at Deadwood for this great event! Please visit the link below for more information, including the agenda and registration information.

<http://www.sdasfaa.org/springconf.html>

The conference registration deadline is March 29th.

The deadline for room reservations is March 22nd. You may call The Lodge at Deadwood at 877-393-5634 to reserve your room; please be sure to indicate you are part of the SDASFAA group.



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