

SDASFAA NEWSLETTER

August 2020

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events:

September 9-14

High School Counselor
Workshops

October 19-21

RMASFAA Annual
Conference

December 1-4

FSA Virtual Training
Conference

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Greetings SDASFAA! It's August and I can hardly believe we are here already. This year has felt like the longest and shortest year all at the same time. It does not seem possible that it was only 5 months ago that everything was thrown into chaos and our entire world changed – it feels so much longer. And yet, our summer is already drawing to a close and the school year is about to begin again.

With all the disruptions we have experienced this year, I have seen over and over again as people and offices have had to turn on a dime and adapt to new circumstances. This is something as financial aid administrators we are all too familiar with. In the financial aid world, even before COVID-19, aid offices have often dealt with making changes and adapting to new policies, new regulations, or even new aid programs.

This need to adapt, to change, and to deal with so many stressors is one of the main reasons I find it so important to be involved with SDASFAA. Having a support group of fellow aid administrators to chat with, exchange ideas, talk through problems, and provide encouragement has been more important than ever this year.

This pandemic and its many disruptions has meant that SDASFAA's operations look very different this year. However, though we have had to cancel or postpone conferences and move to online meetings, SDASFAA continues to provide a community for support and training. Our future may look different from the last 50 years, but I am confident that we have the ability to adapt and that whatever we choose to do, SDASFAA will continue to be a valuable resource for all of us. – *Carissa Koerner, 2020 SDASFAA President*



“Change is the only constant in life. Ones ability to adapt to those changes will determine your success in life.” – Benjamin Franklin

2020 DECENTRALIZED TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

During the summer Executive Council meeting, the decision was made to cancel the 2020 SDASFAA Decentralized training scheduled for November 9th & 10th in Chamberlain. As always, the health and safety of our members was our first priority and when added to the uncertainty of travel restrictions and budget limitations, cancellation was deemed our best

option. Additionally, considering the amount of online training that will be offered this fall from RMASFAA and the FSA training conference, there did not appear to be a need to provide our own online training.

Please continue to monitor the SDASFAA listserv for further announcements as well as possible Round Table discussions via Zoom that we hope to host this fall.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 HONOREES AND AWARD WINNERS

During our online Annual Business Meeting on April 22nd, Erin Richards, chair of the Recognition committee, honored the following SDASFAA members for their years of service:

10 Years:

Nathan Buseman, Southeast Technical Institute
Melissa Simpson, Black Hills State University¹

5 Years

Stephanie Jones, National American University

20 Years

Melinda Fedeler, Dakota State University
Denise Grayson, Dakota State University
Shelly Husby, University of South Dakota
Lindsay Miller, University of South Dakota
Kristy O’Kief, Western Dakota Technical Institute
Noreen Pulling, Great Lakes
Jeff Recker, CommonBond

Amanda Stirling, South Dakota State University

25 Years

Cathy Mueller, Mapping Your Future

30 Years

Karen Keller, Bank of North Dakota
Dee Lawrence, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Education Services
Tom Poloncic, Black Hills Beauty College

35 Years

Sharon Kienow, Northern State University

50 Years

Paula Carlson, South Dakota Education Access Foundation

The following award winners were also announced:

SDASFAA Douglas Steckler Professional Development Award

Carissa Koerner, University of Sioux Falls

SDASFAA Outstanding Service Award

Micah Hansen, Southeast Technical Institute

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