

SDASFAA Newsletter



South Dakota Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

2023 SDASFAA Board Election

By Kristy O’Kief, WDTC, SDASFAA President

Carissa Koerner, USF, SDASFAA Past President

Kristy O’Kief -We are currently looking for candidates from the Institutional members for the President-Elect position. This is a three-year commitment (President-Elect, President, and Past President) and speaking from experience since this is my second time in this position, I’m glad I said yes to running.

In my thoughts back in 2010, I was wondering: how am I going to do this along with doing my normal Financial Aid duties? Well, I found out that you can because there are great SDASFAA volunteers within our organization that are willing to help out. You are not alone.

Here are some great opportunities with this position:

- You can attend the NASFAA Leadership & Legislative Conference in Washington, DC from February 8-10, 203. SDASFAA covers your expenses
- Get to know the members of SDASFAA and not just within your own organization
- Attend the RMASFAA conference with expenses paid both in your President-elect and President terms
- Get to know RMASFAA members of other states
- Will look great on your resume`

Please consider running for this position, we need you!

Carissa Koerner- When I was approached and asked to run for President-Elect in 2018, my first thought was “I have no experience! I can’t do this!” I had never served on the SDASFAA board, had only attended a few conferences in my 5 years in the profession, and I only knew a handful of people in the association. I’m not even sure why they thought I was a good candidate. It didn’t make sense for me to run, but I did it anyway, and I want to encourage you to do the same. Even with COVID-19, staff shortages, and serving for an extra year - I don’t regret saying ‘yes’ when I was asked.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

By Kristy O’Kief

High School Counselor Workshop:

September 7-15, 2022

Sept. 7, Northern State
University, Aberdeen

Sept. 8, Lake Area Technical
College, Watertown

Sept. 12, SD School of Mines
& Technology, Rapid City

Sept. 13, Dept. of Education
MacKay Bldg, Pierre

Sept. 14, Mitchell Technical
College, Mitchell

Sept. 15, Southeast Technical
College, Sioux Falls

RMASFAA Conference

October 9-12, 2022 - Salt
Lake City, UT

SDASFAA Fall Training

November 15-16, 2022
Chamberlain, SD

FSA Training Conference

November 29 - December 1,
2022 - Virtual

SDASFAA Spring 2023

April 4 - 6, 2023
Rapid City, SD

In my time as President of SDASFAA, the board has worked to better distribute duties amongst the committees and board members, so the President isn't doing it all. We now have a communications committee to prepare the newsletter and a training committee to assist with conference planning and the High School Counselor Workshops. Yes, it is a time commitment, I won't lie. But it is doable, and with the help of your committees and board members, very manageable.

Please consider or re-consider this opportunity. Our association depends on you!



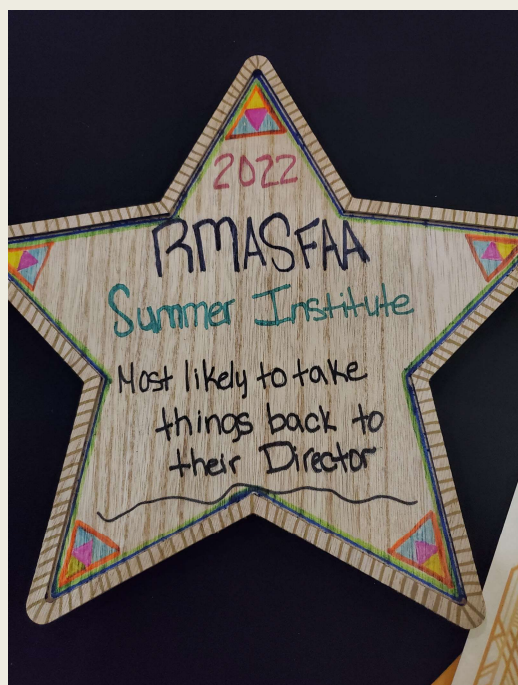
Consider volunteering for SDASFAA - the people are what makes our organization so great!

My Summer Institute Experience

By Sarah Selzler, Northern State University

Thank you SDASFAA for the opportunity to attend Summer Institute in Wichita, Kansas. I have been in financial aid for a year now and this was a great opportunity to expand my knowledge and understanding. Not only did I grow professionally, but I also grew personally. I have never been out of the surrounding states or been on a plane before. I feel this experience has led me to be more confident not only in my work but in myself. I met so many amazing people that have kept in touch with since summer institute. It was interesting to find out how we all do things differently.

I was awarded "Most likely to take things back to their director". I hang that award up in my office proudly. I also learned the best answer when it comes to financial aid is it depends. I hear that all the time in my own office but to hear it across the board brought a smile to my face. I love how challenging financial aid can be and how every day is different. When it was time to come home, I had a lot of questions, but I know I brought a lot of information back. Thank you again SDASFAA and my financial aid family. I am so blessed to be able to work with all of you!



SDASFAA Fall Training – Save the Date!

By Sydney Chapman, South Dakota State University

Save the date for the SDASFAA Fall Training at Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma, November 15th and 16th. Content will include the NASFAA Cost of Attendance training topic and the opportunity to earn the credential.

This is a great opportunity to engage with SDASFAA folks from around the state in a central location and to get some great information.

More details on the event and agenda will be on the website and sent out at a later date. We hope you can join us!



HOT Topics in Our World

By Melinda Fedeler, Dakota State University

Here are some things happening in the world of higher education financial aid. Please refer to the actual electronic announcements or web sites for detailed information.

FSA News

****All volumes of the 2022-23 FSA Handbook have been released in both PDF and digital versions.**

Now is a good time to bookmark or print the latest handbook.

****EA GEN-22-44:** NSLDS modernized look effective July 25th

FSA has created new training videos to provide NSLDS users with a high-level review of key features of the website. They will also release a new *NSLDS Enrollment Reporting Guide* soon.

ED News

****The temporary waiver of certain PSLF requirements expires October 31, 2022**

Borrowers can receive credit for periods of repayment on FFEL or Perkins loans and under any repayment plan, amount other things. Borrowers can get more information from their loan servicer or at <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

****Student loan payment and interest pause expires August 31, 2022.**

Get ready for preclaim notices!

NASFAA News

Student Aid Index Modeling Tool available -
https://www.nasfaa.org/SAI_modeling_tool

Instructions for using the tool, a sample of the tool, and the Excel workbook are available for download. Please read the instructions before using. This tool is intended to allow institutions to model how the recent changes to the EFC formula (converting to SAI) will impact student need and Pell Grant awards. The tool uses provisions from the FAFSA Simplification Act, with the exception of the new requirements to include small businesses and family farms as assets (as those items are not reported on the FAFSA currently to compare).

Financial Aid Professionals: How to Get Students Involved in the Financial Aid Process

By Deb Gossman, College Ave Student Loans

As a financial aid professional, you know that many students tend to tune out any talk about finances including the college financial aid process, assuming their parents will "take care of it." However, 86% of students agree that [paying for college is stressful](#) and 84% of students with loans expect to have student loan debt when they graduate.

The financial aid process can be confusing, but it's important for students to be involved and understand the costs.

Please click the link to see the full article on how to get students involved: [Financial Aid Professions: How to Get Students Involved](#)

South Dakota Board of Regents debut new logo

By Cathy Mueller, Mapping Your Future

The South Dakota Board of Regents new logo design is representative of the petals of the state flower, the pasque.

Each of the six larger petals represents a public university within the regents' system—Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota Mines, South Dakota State University, and the University of South Dakota.

The two smaller petals are a nod to the two schools within the system that serve special K-12 populations: South Dakota School for the Blind & Visually Impaired and South Dakota School for the Deaf.



Higher education marketing campaign launched in South Dakota

By Cathy Mueller, Mapping Your Future

The value of higher education and its contribution to the state economy is the message being delivered through a new higher education marketing campaign in the state.

In a cooperative effort with the six public universities, the South Dakota Board of Regents launched the marketing campaign, "Learning Drives us Forward," to highlight the value and importance of higher education.

"The purpose of this campaign is to show that industry leaders are grown right here in South Dakota, specifically at our public universities," said Regent Jim Thares. "It tells the real story about South Dakota's public universities—one of economic impact and workforce empowerment that pays off today and tomorrow."

"We are highlighting the good work done at our universities and the importance of higher education to the state," said Brian L. Maher, the regents' executive director and CEO. "At a time when universities throughout the Midwest are competing for students, it is more important than ever to remind people of the great opportunities our universities offer."

The "Learning Drives Us Forward" campaign, developed by Lawrence and Schiller Marketing and Advertising of Sioux Falls, began earlier this year with a budget of \$160,000. Each of the universities will share in the cost of the campaign with the Board's central office.

For more information, visit the Learning Drives us Forward website at LearningDrivesUs.com