

Happy Friday, SDASFAA!

- In response to our April email to the SD Congressional Delegation regarding the IRS DRT outage, I received a call from Senator Thune's office and an email from Senator Rounds' office, both earlier this month. They were follow-up contacts, "message received and understood", but hey, advocacy in action!
- Over the last month, the Executive Board has voted and approved both the fall Decentralized Training contract with the AmericInn of Chamberlain and the 2018 Spring Conference contract with the Huron Event Center.
- In the last year, we have seen a rush of South Dakotans earning NASFAA Credentials. Currently, 27 of us have earned 97 credentials. For some perspective, that ties us with South Carolina for 26th in the nation when counting credentials per state (yes, I counted...twice). Way to go, SDASFAA!
- And now a word from the Executive Board... Marlene Seeklander, SDASFAA Secretary-extraordinaire, was kind enough to share some perspective with us. Thank you for your service and for being amazing, Marlene!

Marlene Open Mic

I've been asked by Becky Pribyl to share with you my experience in serving as SDASFAA Secretary for the past 1-1/2 years. Prior to this appointment, I had only served on the SDASFAA Executive Board one other time and that was approximately six years ago when I served as a "Member at Large."

I've always been a big believer in being active in our professional organizations as we gain so much from these organizations. That activity can be something as simple as serving on a committee. Fortunately, I've always had the support of my employer to be active in our professional organizations. I have to give credit to Jay Larsen, former SDSU Director of Financial Aid, for encouraging (and expecting) me to be active in SDASFAA.

So what is it like to be Secretary of the SDASFAA Executive Board? Hmm...! It's been an interesting and challenging experience. While employed at EAC, I served as Secretary of the NCHelp Program Regulations Committee, so I had some experience in taking minutes during a meeting. I will say that I don't feel *quite* the pressure when taking notes for SDASFAA as I did for the Regs Committee!

If you are interested in running for this office since my term is soon ending, I would encourage you to do so! When I took over the reins, the SDASFAA Board had recently streamlined the process of taking minutes. In a nutshell, the agenda is used as the “framework” for the minutes and the committee reports are submitted to the Secretary for inclusion into the minutes document. Thus, the additional notes taken during the meeting are fairly minimal.

I’ve learned over the past 1-1/2 years that it is best to tackle the draft minutes sooner vs. later. Perhaps some of that is the fact I’m over 50 and my memory recall isn’t quite as instantaneous as it once was, but it does help me if I work on the minutes within a week or two of the meeting. (It also saves me from going to Carrie and asking, “WHAT did we talk about under this topic?? My notes don’t make any sense!!”) I try to devote a couple of mornings or afternoons as “SDASFAA Duties” as it helps me wrap up the minutes in short order.

“Marlene’s Top 5 Reasons Why You Should Run for the SDASFAA Executive Board”

1. It’s a great leadership opportunity!
2. It’s an opportunity to work with some of your colleagues from across the state and to get to know them better!
3. It’s a rewarding opportunity to give back to SDASFAA!
4. It’s a great way to learn more about our state organization!
5. It’s a wonderful addition to your resume!

I encourage you to consider this or any of the SDASFAA Executive Board positions that will be open for the upcoming year. If you have any questions specific to the Secretary position, feel free to contact me; I’d love to chat!

Marlene

Marlene Seeklander

Secretary, SDASFAA Executive Board

Next Up

- RMASFAA Summer Institute: http://www.rmasfaa.org/docs/toc_summerinstitute.html



RMASFAA
SUMMER INSTITUTE - JUNE 11-16, 2017 - GOLDEN, CO

Registration closes Wednesday, May 31st!

- SDASFAA Board Meeting: July 2017
- RMASFAA Annual Conference:



- SDASFAA Fall Decentralized Training: November 14-15, 2017
- SDASFAA Spring Conference: April 30-May 2, 2018



Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to help. Have a wonderful holiday weekend!

Becky

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