

Funding Tomorrow's Dreams Special Summer Edition 2011 Keri Neidig, Newsletter Editor

## Make Your Vote Count August 15 - August 26, 2011

### Greg Gearhart, Acting Immediate Past President

It's time once again for us to select representatives for next year's PASFAA Council.

Voting is an important right of all PASFAA members. It enables you to select the colleagues who will represent you on PASFAA Council.

PASFAA's 2011 election will take place beginning August 15 and will conclude at the close of business on August 26. Final election results will be communicated to the membership once all candidates have been notified of the outcome, but no later than September 15.

All eligible voting members who have paid membership dues for 2010-2011 will receive an email notification with instructions to complete the online voting process. This email will contain a URL address to access the voting portal along with a user name and password. Members may then review election information or proceed directly to the ballot information page by selecting "Proceed to Voting". Please read the instructions carefully. You may vote only once - please review your ballot prior to submission. **All votes are final.** 

In the event only one candidate is running for a given office, your vote is still very important. Your vote shows support for that candidate.

Please take a few minutes out of your busy day to show your support for PASFAA and for your PASFAA colleagues who are running for office.

Again, thanks to all those who are running for office!

### Matthew C. Stokan

### Office Being Sought: PASFAA President

Director of Financial Aid Waynesburg University 2001-current

#### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

Catherine Gibbs, Piscataway, NJ, 2001 Director of Financial Aid

Everest College, Springfield, Missouri, 2000-2001 President

Duff's Business Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, 1998-2000 Director of Financial Aid

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1990-1998 Assistant Director of Financial Aid

#### **EDUCATION**

MA, Mt. St. Mary's University, 1982 Master of Divinity, Mt. St. Mary's University, 1982 BA, Duquesne University, 1978

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Member, NASFAA, PASFAA, CCCU Organization



2009 - 2011	Private Sector Representative
2010, 2011	Don Raley Institute Faculty
2009, 2010	"Stump the Stars"
2010	PASFAA Conference Presenter
2009	Spring Training Committee
2009	PASFAA Conference Presenter
2008	Spring Training Presenter
2008	PASFAA Conference Committee
2008	PASFAA Conference Presenter

#### Editor's note:

Let's not forget - Song Writer, PASFAA Promissory Notes

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Matthew C. Stokan, PASFAA President Candidate... (continued from page 1)

#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

After much introspection, consultation and deliberation, I decided to run for the position of PASFAA President. I believe that, with the recent changes in both the financial aid world and with AES/PHEAA, we have reached a critical juncture in the history of our organization. If we are to continue the success that PASFAA has enjoyed since its very inception, I believe it is imperative that we implore and induce our membership to take a more active involvement in the organization. To do so will require not only strong leadership and an unselfish example but, more importantly, a pro-active and thinking "outside the box" mentality. I hope and pray that I am able to provide this to our organization. As President of PASFAA, I would be willing to accept this challenge with the commitment and dedication to do my very best. PASFAA, its membership, the students and families that it represents deserve nothing less!

## Christine D. Saadi

### Office Being Sought: Private Sector Representative

Director, Student Financial Planning Alvernia University 2007 – current

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Lehigh Valley College, Allentown, PA 1998-2007, Director of Regulatory Compliance 1996-1998, Financial Aid Director 1993-1996, Senior Financial Aid Administrator

Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA 1992-1993, Financial Aid Counselor

#### **EDUCATION**

Alvernia College, Reading, PA MALS, August 2006

Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA BS Education, May 1992

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Memberships: PASFAA, NASFAA, Alpha Epsilon Lambda

Training and Conference Attendance:

PASFAA: 2007, 2008, 2009 NASFAA: 2008, 2009, 2010

PowerFAIDS Conference: 2008, 2009, 2010 Federal Student Aid Conference: 2010

#### Organization

- Presenter at PASFAA, EASFAA, PowerFAIDS User Conferences
- Leadership and Management Training,
   Alvernia University, November 2008 to March 2009
- ACICS Evaluator

Responsible for evaluating an institution's or institutions' compliance within the Student Activities Section of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools regulations as an independent consultant. The section includes Admission, Financial Aid, Academic, and Satisfactory Academic Progress standards and activities of the institutions.



- Member of Career Education Corporation (CEC) Compliance Council
  - One of five Directors of Compliance selected by the corporate office to serve on a corporate committee and mentor to 10-15 other Directors of Compliance within CEC, as well as assisted with compliance or other duties as needed at other CEC institutions
- Award of Excellence, Alvernia University, December 2006

#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Private Sector Representative. I have been in the financial aid field for almost 20 years now. tMy journey began as a work study student in the financial aid office at Kutztown University. I have had the pleasure of working at state, proprietary, and private institutions over the last 18 plus years. While the philosophies and student populations have been different, the need for financial assistance to obtain an education has been consistent. It is our duty as financial aid professionals to provide the very best service we can to help our students achieve their dreams, just as financial aid professionals have done for us when we were started our educational journey. Understanding the value of education and helping families and students achieve that goal is what being the Private Sector Representative encompasses. With the support of PASFAA and each other we can continue to help each other make our students' dreams come true.

## Stacy L. Schenk

### Office Being Sought: Private Sector Representative

Director of Financial Aid Mount Aloysius College 1996 to present

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:

1994-1996 - Acting Director of Financial Aid, Mount Aloysius College 1991-1994 - Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Mount Aloysius College 1989-1991 - Student Worker, Mount Aloysius College

#### **EDUCATION**

MA, Public Affairs/Human Resource Management, Indiana University of PA, 1999 BS, Public Administration, Mount Aloysius College 1996 AS, Legal Studies, Mount Aloysius Junior College 1991

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

NASFAA, member since 1994 PASFAA, member since 1995

**Professional Committees** 

2009, 2010 - PASFAA Conference Committee

2007, 2008 - PASFFA Moderator

2007 - PASFAA Presenter

2006, 2007 - PHEAA Matching Funds Advisory Committee

#### Campus Committees

2010 - Mission Integration Council

2004-Present - Committee on Academic Support

2007-Present - Mercy Presidential Scholarship Committee

2003 - Middle States Self-Study Steering Committee



#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

I have worked in the financial aid profession for 22 years working my way up the professional ladder from work-study student to Financial Aid Director. I have seen many changes and worked through challenges along the way. PASFAA has always provided me the insight and support that I needed to get through those changes and challenges.

As Private Sector Representative, I hope to give back to the organization that has given me so much over the years. I have presented at Conference, served on Conference Committee, and now am ready to take the next step of running for an elected office.

## Melissa A Wisniewski

### Office Being Sought: Two-Year Sector Representative

Coordinator Financial Aid Harrisburg Area Community College 12/2004 - present

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

York Technical Institute, York, PA 6/2004-12/2004 Student Loan Coordinator

#### **EDUCATION**

BS, Business Management, Millersville University MBA, Millersville University

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member - PASFAA since 2005, NASFAA



Melissa A Wisniewski, Two-Year Sector Representative Candidate... (continued from page 3)

#### **PASFAA**

2009-2011 - Two Year Sector Representative

2008 - Member, Newsletter Committee

2008 - Participant, Leadership Development Training

2005 - Participant, Fundamentals Workshop

#### **Harrisburg Area Community College**

 2007, 2008 - Member, Math, Science, and Allied Health Summer Academy Committee
 2006, 2007 - Member, Outstanding Student Worker Award Committee

#### **Position Statement**

"I am seeking re-election for Two Year Sector representative. Over these past two years I have truly enjoyed serving on council and having the opportunity to learn so much about PASFAA. PASFAA is a great organization that does so much to support student success ~ I want to remain involved. By representing the Two Year Sector, I have gotten to know many of you across the state and am eager to get to know more of you over the next two years."

## Debra A. Woodcock

### Office Being Sought: Business, Trade & Technical Sector Representative

Director of Financial Aid Lancaster County Career & Technology Center 2003 – Present

#### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

Lancaster County Career & Technology Center Adult Education Manager, 1995-2003 Instructor, Information Technology, 1990-1995

Computer Technology Consultants, York, PA Computer Programmer 1985-1990



Consolidated School of Business, ASB, Computerized Office Management

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member - PASFAA, PACTA

#### **PASFAA**

2003-Present Presenter, Clock Hours

2008-Present Business, Trade & Technical Sector Representative

PACTA (PA Assn. for Career & Technology Administrators)

2001-Present Executive Counsel

1994-Present Chair, Adult Coordinators Conference Committee Presenter

#### **Position Statement**

"I am seeking office as PASFAA's Business, Trade and Technical Sector Representative. I have worked in vocational education for the past 20 years with the last ten years as Director of Financial Aid and have been a member of PASFAA for the past nine years. I have decided to remain actively involved in the organization because during my time of membership, PASFAA has proven to be a great asset to me in my current position.

Business, Trade & Technical institutions face many unique challenges each and every day. While serving as the BT&T Representative, I will work to enhance communications among the BT&T members so we can, together, explore issues that are most important to us with the intent to learn if all or most of our members are facing the same challenges within their institutions. Open dialogue, the sharing of the information, the exchange of ideas and simple networking among the BT&T members will greatly benefit all who participate, and I believe that it is this type of communications that will strengthen the BT&T community not only as a whole but individually as well. I am honored to have been nominated for this office and look forward to the having the opportunity to serve."



## **Amanda Scheler**

### Office Being Sought: Institutional Support Sector Representative

AVP/Campus Relations Manager PNC Bank Education Lending 2006-Present

#### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

Thompson Institute (Now Kaplan Career Institute) Harrisburg, PA 2005-2006 Financial Counselor

York Technical Institute (Now YTI Career Institute) York, PA 2003-2005 Financial Planner

#### **EDUCATION**

Master of Science in Organizational Development & Leadership, concentration in Higher Ed, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, 2009

Bachelor of Science, Spanish Education Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, 2002

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Active Member - PASFAA since 2006, NASFAA

#### **PASFAA**

2010/11 Spring Training Committee
 2009/10 Leadership Committee Chair
 2009 Conference Committee
 2007/08 Leadership Committee, Co-Chair

2008/09 Newsletter Committee



#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

Students' dreams to pursue their higher education goals are directly impacted by their ability to pay for their education. Schools and school supporters must partner to help students accomplish their goals. The value of the ISS sector representative position lies in its potential to strengthen the relationship between schools and institutions that offer support and strive to serve students in their educational dreams by finding ways to improve educational funding. As its representative, I would have the skills and knowledge to strongly advocate for the ISS sector and contribute towards the greater goals of PASFAA.

## **Patty Zink**

## Office Being Sought: Nursing Sector Representative

Financial Aid & Admissions Officer
The Washington Hospital School of Nursing
2009 – Present; 1977 – 2002

#### **EDUCATION**

B.L.A., Wheeling Jesuit University, 1999

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member - NASFAA, PASFAA

#### **PASFAA**

2010 Leadership Development Training2001 Conference Committee

1993-1995 Nursing Sector Representative

**POSITION STATEMENT** 

I am seeking office as PASFAA's Nursing Sector Representative. I have been in financial aid for over 20 years in the nursing sector. I know the many challenges that we



face in our offices on a daily basis. I will work to enhance communications among the nursing sector members so that together we can address challenges/issues within our institutions. Networking and exchanging ideas is vital to strengthening our sector, not only institutionally but individually. As your nursing sector representative, I will act on your behalf to represent your issues and concerns and offer guidance and direction necessary to assist you in meeting the challenges that face our schools. I look forward to working with you and thank you for the privilege of serving as the nursing sector representative.

## **Denise Davey-Smith**

### Office Being Sought: PASSHE Sector Representative

Financial Aid Coordinator Mansfield University 10/2004 - Present

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Mansfield University Human Resources, Mansfield, PA 06/2004 – 10/2004 Clerk Typist II

#### **EDUCATION**

MS, Education, Mansfield University 12/2009 BS, Psychology with an emphasis in Human Resource Management, Mansfield University 8/2004

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member PASFAA

2007-Present - Mansfield Association of Educational Office Professionals (MAEOP), President 2005-2006 - MAEOP, Vice President 2004 - MAEOP Member-at-Large 2005-Present-Pennsylvania Association of Educational Office Professionals (PAEOP), Member

2009-Present - National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP), Member

#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

I was asked by my supervisor if I would be interested in serving as a Sector Representative as it would help me to keep up-to-date with current policies and procedures and enable me to network with fellow financial aid professionals. I welcome the opportunity to learn from and share ideas with constituents and voice opinions on relevant topics and issues.

### **Sue Bloom**

### Office Being Sought: State Related Sector Representative

Director of Financial Aid University of Pittsburgh-Titusville March 2007 - present

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

University of Pittsburgh – Titusville Physical Therapist Assistant Program Secretary August 1999 - March 2007

#### **EDUCATION**

Master of Business Administration, Clarion University, 2009 BS, Business Administration, University of Pittsburgh, 2006 Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, University of Pittsburgh, 2005 Associate of Science, Business Management, University of Pittsburgh, 2004

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

NASFAA Member 2010 - present PASFAA Member 2007 - present Pennsylvania Association of Notaries 2003 - present

#### **PASFAA**

2009-Present - Clarion University
Alumni Association, Member
2007, 2010 Moderator - PASFAA Conference
2010-2012 - Member - PASFAA Spring Training Committee
2010 - Participant, Leadership Training
2007 - Participant, Don Raley Institute

University of Pittsburgh - Titusville 2010 - Chair, Staff Development 2007-2009 - Member, Staff Development Committee 2006- Present - Charter Member, Alumni Association

2003-2004 - Interim Member, Enrollment Management Committee

1999-Present - Member, Staff Association Council 1999-2007 - Member, Graduation Committee

#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

When I began my career in financial aid I wasn't aware of the imprint the financial aid community would have on me. From the very beginning I was welcomed and supported by everyone. It wasn't long until I realized just how fortunate I was to have so many amazing individuals in our profession. The knowledge I gained by attending PASFAA's training opportunities is invaluable. Last year I had the opportunity to attend Leadership Trainin, and I am looking forward to utilizing the skills I learned to actively be an advocate for the PASFAA community. By representing my sector on PASFAA council I would like to instill my admiration for the PASFAA membership to incoming members, and help attain set goals for PASFAA's continuing success.

