

# SASFAA

## SEPTEMBER 2003 UPDATES



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## SASFAA 2004 Conference

*February 15-18, 2004*

*Sheraton Hotel*

*Birmingham, Alabama*

### Message from SASFAA's President

Ron Day

What a busy time of the year—both in the aid office and with various SASFAA projects. The preparation for fall registration continues to be a massive endeavor. It is so easy to get bogged down in the grueling and challenging activities related to this time of the year. It can cause us to lose sight of our purpose. The endeavors and goals of our profession are difficult at times with the enforcement of many and varied rules and regulations, but the rewards are huge and last a lifetime. While we all have difficult times, we should remember why we do what we do daily—it is to assist students achieve their cherished educational pursuit. We are all part of a great profession!

Your 2003-2004 SASFAA Board has proven itself to be filled with energetic, knowledgeable and enthusiastic individuals. The volunteers from all aspects of the SASFAA region are undertaking many tasks and initiatives. Below is a partial list of activities being taken by the Board:

- Redesigning the SASFAA Web site.
- Revisiting the purpose and intention of our training activities.
- Streamlining the membership process.
- Developing a systematic contract for each SASFAA activity.
- Revamping the SASFAA newsletter.

You will hear more about these exciting activities in the very near future. Your comments are always encouraged and appreciated. You can retrieve addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses for each member of the Board via the SASFAA Web site. Visit the site often and keep a watch for the unveiling of the “new” SASFAA Web page.

<http://www.sasfaa.org>

## The SASFAA “Spotlight” for September Shines on AASFAA

Deborah Byrd, President of AASFAA and Dr. Bill Wall, Contributor

*Things are changing in Alabama—for the better! That has been the ongoing theme in the state association over the last few years.*

Deborah Byrd, AASFAA President, cites the following enhancements:

- The AASFAA Web site has been upgraded and several new links added for members and visitors. Check the new AASFAA Web site out at <http://www.aasfaaonline.org>.
- The AASFAA logo has been changed to improve the professional image of the association.
- A new and enlarged AASFAA banner was unveiled at last year’s SASFAA Conference. The design of the new banner is based on a graphic competition sponsored by the association. The winner of the competition was presented a \$1,000 scholarship.
- The AASFAA scholarship program now provides five \$1,000 scholarships annually to students attending accredited colleges and universities in Alabama. The drawing for the scholarships, awarded to in-state institutions, is held each year at the spring conference.
- The association now conducts an annual officer and committee chair training program for association leaders. The training for the current year was conducted by past AASFAA Presidents Dee Talley and Bill Wall.
- The members of AASFAA, in partnership with the Alabama School Counselor Association, and under the leadership of the Special Projects Committee, works to assist high school counselors in getting financial aid information to prospective college students in a timely manner. The committee is chaired by Tommy Dismukes.
- The Special Projects Committee of AASFAA is working with KHEAA and the Xap Corporation for enhancements to AlabamaMentor. The project is a comprehensive Web-based system that will provide students and their families with the information and tools necessary to help them make informed decisions regarding higher education opportunities in the state of Alabama. More information can be obtained by visiting the Web site at <http://www.alabamamentor.org>.

AASFAA is pleased and excited to have three of its members serving on the 2003-2004 SASFAA board:

- Ron Day, SASFAA President
- Dee Talley, SASFAA Secretary
- Deborah Byrd, AASFAA President

The following AASFAA members serve on SASFAA committees in 2003-2004:

- Dorenda Adams, Member, Conference Committee
- Clark Aldridge, Chair, Legislative Relations Committee
- Lora Kiser, Member, Membership Committee
- Mike Reynolds, Chair, Local Arrangements for 2004 SASFAA Conference, Birmingham
- Pebblin Warren, Member, Diversity Committee
- Dot Wilkinson, Member, Legislative Relations Committee

***AASFAA IS THE PROUD HOST OF THE 2004 SASFAA CONFERENCE***

## SASFAA Membership Time

Forrest M. Stuart, Membership, Chair

It's time to renew your SASFAA membership for 2003-2004 or to join for the first time. A membership form has been mailed, but is also available on the SASFAA Web site at <http://www.sasfaa.org>.

In 2002-2003, SASFAA had over 1,200 members, and the organization benefited greatly. SASFAA is a stronger association because of its active membership. Hopefully the trend will continue in 2003-2004.

*Your membership in SASFAA is very important!*

A SASFAA membership carries with it a number of benefits. The following benefits have been shared by members:

- Sharing of information concerning financial aid facts.
- Access to a Listserv with important updates, Web site information, training, conferences and networking opportunities.
- New Aid Officer Workshops—the best training a new professional can get.
- Ability to broaden professional networks beyond a member's own state.
- Learning how peers deal with issues that are similar.

This year a SASFAA membership will bring conference registration information, the Listserv and voting to a new level when the new SASFAA Web site is placed into operation later in the year.

The 2004 SASFAA Conference in Birmingham will prove to be one of the most information and memorable in years

For those of you who are new to the financial aid profession, a warm welcome is extended to you. You are especially encouraged to join. Let SASFAA assist you in your professional growth as it has many, many others.

Membership is only \$25.

Members reap benefits far more than that represented by this nominal cost. Encourage everyone in your office to join. Remember that SASFAA membership is individual, not institutional.

Look for the membership form in the mail or go to the SASFAA Web site and download the form.



The SASFAA membership application can be downloaded from the SASFAA Web site found at:

<http://www.sasfaa.org>

## SASFAA Legislative Update

Clark Aldridge, Legislative Relations, Chair

There has been a number of activities in the legislative arena since the 2003 SASFAA Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. A summary of information presented at the August 2-3 SASFAA board meeting is provided for review. The entire report is included in the board meeting minutes which are posted on the SASFAA Web site at <http://www.sasfaa.org>.

### House-Labor-Education Appropriations Bill for FY 2004

The House of Representatives passed the bill on July 10, 2003. Highlights of the bill include:

- \$1 billion increase in expenditures for IDEA bringing the total funding to \$9.9 billion;
- \$666 million increase for Title I bringing the total funding to \$12.35 billion;
- \$400 million increase over the President's budget request for the 21st Century After School Program bringing the program total funding level to \$1 billion; and
- Small increases for Head Start, TRIO and GEAR UP programs.
- The bill is approximately \$450 million short of the \$1.3 billion promised for the Pell Grant shortfall.

Virtually all higher education program are level funded including SEOG at \$765 million, FWS at \$1.011 billion, Perkins Loans at \$167.5 million and LEAP at \$67 million. The maximum Pell Grant will be \$4,050.

The Senate is expected to take up their version of the budget during the first or second week of September.

### Reauthorization

The House plans to approach reauthorization by passing four separate bills then possibly folding them into one reauthorization bill. Two bills dealing with teacher issues have passed. The Ready to Teach Act aligns teacher training programs under HEA with high standards for accountability and results in the NO Child Left Behind Act. The second, Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act, more than triples the amount of loan forgiveness available for teachers in subject areas facing extreme shortages. Currently a teacher who commits to five years in high-need schools are eligible to have up to \$5,000 of their student loans forgiven. This would increase to \$17,500 for eligible highly qualified math, science and special education teachers. Teachers of all subjects in Title I schools would remain eligible for the \$5,000 benefit.

***Key words being heard are the three A's, "Accountability, Affordability and Accessibility."***

Concerns are: (1) College graduates entering the workforce and being forced to take remedial courses. (2) Teacher colleges graduating teachers not prepared to teach. (3) US employers having difficulty finding college graduates with the skills needed to compete. (4) US higher education in a crisis as a result of uncontrolled cost increases that threaten to put college out of reach for low and middle-income students and families.

# SASF<sup>AA</sup> SEPTEMBER 2003 UPDATES

## 2004 SASFAA Conference Information

Zita Barree, Chair, Conference Committee

Mark your calendars now! The 2004 SASFAA Conference will be held in Birmingham, Alabama at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel from February 15-18, 2004.

The SASFAA Conference Committee, through its Chair Zita Barree, has placed a call for sessions and presenters. SASFAA members are encouraged to take the time to review the form and respond back to the Zita Barree no later than September 15.

The Call for Sessions form can be found on the last page Updates. The membership is encouraged to take the time to review the form and to recommend session topics and presenters. The committee is particularly interested in having presentations by SASFAA members.

## NASFAA Awards Presented to SASFAA Members

2003 NASFAA Conference Presentations

Mindy Kaplan Eline, NASFAA

At its annual conference in July the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) presented it highest honors. Two of those awards were presented to SASFAA members.

**Kenneth Wooten** was honored with a *Lifetime Achievement Award*. Wooten gained national prominence among college aid professionals in 1969, when he served as the president and one of six founders of NASFAA. For 31 years, Wooten served the University of Mississippi diligently as a counselor, director of placement and financial aid, and finally as registrar and dean of admissions until his February 1991 retirement. He also served as a consultant for the US Department of Education, the US Justice Department, and several Mississippi junior colleges. His vision helped create some of the Association's most enduring products and services, including the *NASFAA Newsletter*.

**Carol Mowbray** was one of six individuals who received NASFAA's *State and Regional Leadership Award* for outstanding contributions at the state and regional levels. Mowbray is the director of financial aid and support services at Northern Virginia Community College and is a past president of SASFAA.

**SASF<sup>AA</sup> congratulates our colleagues for their contributions, achievements and the recognition given by NASFAA.**

## A Word from the SASFAA Newsletter Editor

Guy Gibbs

*A monthly SASFAA Update will be placed on the Web site to keep members apprised of "current" activities within the region. You will still receive a quarterly newsletter. If you have information that you'd like to share with the membership please call Guy Gibbs at 703-323-3085, by fax at 703-323-2189 or by e-mail at ggibbs@nvcc.edu. Your assistance is requested!*

## Upcoming Conference and Training Programs

October 12-15	VASFAA Virginia Fall Conference	Richmond Marriott Richmond, Virginia
October 15-17	AASFAA Alabama Fall Conference	Auburn University Confer- ence Center Auburn, Alabama
October 16-17	GASFAA Georgia Fall Conference	Renaissance Pine Isle Resort Lake Lanier Islands, Georgia
October 19-20	TASFAA Tennessee Fall Conference	Cool Springs Marriott Franklin, Tennessee
October 20-21	SCASFAA South Carolina Fall Confer- ence	Embassy Suites Columbia, South Carolina
October 27-29	FASFAA Florida Fall Conference	Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club Naples, Florida
October 29-31	KASFAA Kentucky Fall Conference	Hilton Greater Cincinnati Airport Florence, Kentucky
November 2-5	FSA Electronic Access Con- ference	Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, California
November 7-9	SASFAA Board Meeting	Tradewinds Hotel St. Petersburg Beach, Florida
November 10-12	NCASFAA North Carolina Fall Confer- ence	Embassy Suites Greensboro, North Carolina
December 2-5	FSA Electronic Access Con- ference	Sheraton New Orleans New Orleans, Louisiana

### SASFAA Newsletter Publication Schedule

**Quarterly Newsletters: October, December, April and June. Articles and advertise-  
ment are to be delivered to the Newsletter Editor no later than the 15th of the month  
preceding publication of the newsletter.**

*The SASFAA Newsletter is published quarterly for its members. Articles submitted by any person, company, or organization to the editor of the newsletter is subject to final acceptance by the editorial board prior to the publication of the newsletter. The editorial board reserves the right to reject, edit for content, or edit for length any article or information submitted for the newsletter. Articles must be intended for the benefit of SASFAA members and not for company marketing or promotional purposes."*

**SASF**AA 2004 Annual Conference  
Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama  
February 15-18, 2004

**Call for Sessions**

Greetings SASFSAA Colleagues! As part of the SASFAA 2004 annual conference, there will be approximately 40-50 interest sessions covering many topics of interest for our membership. At this time, we are conducting a call for sessions and/or presenters. We need your input to make this conference a success!

Please complete the information below if you would like to see a particular topic presented at the conference or if you would like to serve as a presenter. We especially want sessions with topics in the areas of diversity and technology and also ones geared to our new aid officers as well as our more experienced SASFAA members. Preference will be given to sessions that address these particular areas.

**Topics I would like to see presented:**

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Session I am submitting for consideration:

**Topic/Title:**

**Session Description:**

**Presenter(s): Include name, address, telephone number and e-mail:**

Send completed form to: Zita Barree, 2004 Conference Committee Chair  
By fax to (804) 828-6186 or e-mail to [zbarree@vcu.edu](mailto:zbarree@vcu.edu)

**Deadline is Monday, September 15, 2003**