

Dear Friends:

Greensboro, North Carolina played an important role in Civil Rights History. On February 1st, 1960, four young African-American male college students from North Carolina A & T State University took a stand against intolerance and inequality at a local Woolworth's lunch counter. They made an impact by forever changing the course of history.

In the spirit of the Greensboro Four, the theme for 2015-2016 is simply to "Make an Impact." It is my hope that through our strong voices and actions that we can continue to make an impact through advocacy, education, and inclusion.

SASFAA will continue to speak up and advocate for our members, our students and families, and our institutions at the state, regional, and national level. With pending reauthorization and other legislative issues on the horizon, this is the perfect time to make an impact and continue having our voices heard by our Congressional representatives.

We are also known as a national leader in training through the Leadership Symposium, the New Aid Officers' Workshop, the Mid-Level Workshop, the Management Institute, and other important training initiatives. We are dedicated to educating financial aid administrators with all levels of experience and we are pleased to offer another Management Institute this fall. This is an outstanding training opportunity for our senior level administrators.

Inclusion is about ALL of us. Inclusion is about treasuring diversity and building a sense of community. We will be focused on making sure all of our members have the resources and training they need to be successful. All SASFAA committees and task forces will be working closely with the board in making sure these topics and resources are front and center for all of our members.

I commit to you that I will make sure that SASFAA continues to move forward based on the recommendations put forth by the approved Long-Range Plan and Governance and Planning Committee report recommendations in addition to personal goals of the President and the Executive Board. I have charged the Executive Board, including myself, to be open to new ideas and new ways of conducting business so that we may adapt to the ever-changing needs of our membership and the financial aid profession.

I am humbled by the trust that has been placed in me to lead this Association during 2015-2016.

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." -
Mother Teresa

I look forward to working with each of you to lead SASFAA this year! I welcome your feedback throughout the year.

Join me and let's make an impact!

Amy Berrier

2015-2016 SASFAA President