

OASFAA Newsletter



August 2019

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A publication of the Oregon Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, a not-for-profit membership organization.

President's Letter

Brian Hultgren

2019-2020 OASFAA President

Associate Director of Financial Aid

Oregon State University

Hello OASFAA,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and hopefully getting in a little relaxation, whether it is traveling, camping, hiking, reading, etc. I hope everyone is getting a chance to take a little personal time for themselves before fall start-up rolls around.

Things with OASFAA are moving right along and our Executive Council is hard at work on several projects like legislative resource materials, membership survey, virtual chat agents, website enhancements, training events and so much more. With all of these great projects OASFAA is always in need of volunteers of all skill levels and interest. If interested please fill out our [Volunteer Preferences form](#).

This year we have had two OASFAA training events with great turnouts. In March, FA 101/202 was held at Clackamas Community College and had over 70 participants. In FA 101 we had a nice mixture of new financial aid administrators along with representatives from admissions, business affairs, high school counselors, and non-profits to get some basics around financial aid. In FA 201 we offered a NASFAA Credential on Consumer Information and effective ways to communicate to students. In July, Summer Drive-in was held at Chemeketa Community College and over 40 participants attended. This time we offered a NASFAA Credential on Satisfactory Academic Progress along with an OSAC update, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training, and so much more. I cannot thank our volunteers and presenters enough for all their hard work making these two training opportunities possible.

I have really enjoyed meeting and hearing from so many of you. Those of you I haven't met, I hope I get a chance to at a future OASFAA event or please feel free to [contact me](#) directly if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

SAVE THE DATE:

FA101/201:

October 25th, 2019

Lane Community College, Eugene, OR

OASFAA Annual Conference:

February 5th-7th, 2020

Salishan Resort, Gleneden Beach, Oregon



Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of OASFAA, its members, or the institutions represented by the authors. OASFAA welcomes all views and invites submissions of articles, essays, photographs, or information of general interest to all members. Submissions should be brief and may be edited. It may not be possible to publish all articles submitted. Email items for publication to the Editors.

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Independent 4 Year Segmental Update

By [Karen Fobert](#), VP Independent 4 year Colleges

And here we go again...this is the time of year that feels like we are working in three different academic years; closing out the previous year, settling in our incoming class of 2019 and our continuing students, and planning for the upcoming influx of aid applications starting in October! During this busy time, hopefully you are able to take a bit of a breather and enjoy some of our beautiful Oregon sunshine.

As independent schools are increasingly challenged by net tuition revenue concerns, it was refreshing to see that one of the 3 goals of our new NASFAA National Chair, Paula Luff, is to encourage financial aid professionals to claim their seat at the enrollment management table, possibly at the head of the table. As financial aid professionals, we are in a unique position to offer our expertise and opinions alongside our Admissions colleagues to build strong data driven enrollment management strategies which will help articulate the value and strength of your institution. There are many different trainings available through OASFAA, WASFAA and NASFAA such sessions at our OASFAA Annual Conference, the NASFAA Leadership & Legislative Conference & Expo and WASFAA's Jerry Sims Management & Leadership Institute to help our profession contribute their voices to the enrollment management discussions.

As your segment representative, I am always open to have conversation about any financial aid issues you would want OASFAA to explore. The segmental VPs are trying hard to engage dialog with our members and we need and value your input. Please keep your eyes out for the upcoming OASFAA survey and participate in helping us shape the future of OASFAA.

Legislative Update

Influencing Legislators

Coming soon from the Legislative team:

OASFAA Day on the Hill– an opportunity for OASFAA members to meet their legislators and build the relationship. A new opportunity to introduce OASFAA to Salem!

Interested in volunteering?

Update your [volunteer preferences form](#), or contact Volunteer Coordinator [Jess Kelly](#)!

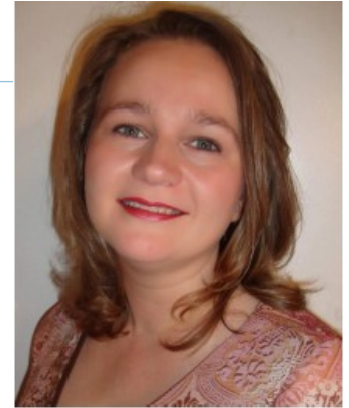


Proprietary Segmental Update

By Mary Yonker, VP Proprietary Colleges

Hello Proprietary Sector Partners!

I think that it is time for a Sector Come-Back! The Proprietary Sector's meeting rooms have gotten a little smaller each year and I'm ready to see our group bursting from the seams! Through OASFAA I have had the chance to meet Financial Aid Professionals from all over the state and from all types of schools, but what I'm really hoping for is a chance to meet and collaborate with more of our sector. We may be small, but we are mighty! We face unique challenges – who can say, “Overlapping loan period calculations!”, “House Bill 2976”, “Gainful Employment!” or, wait, “No more Gainful Employment?” In a whirlwind of regulatory change, we need each other more than ever! So, let's get together every opportunity we have!



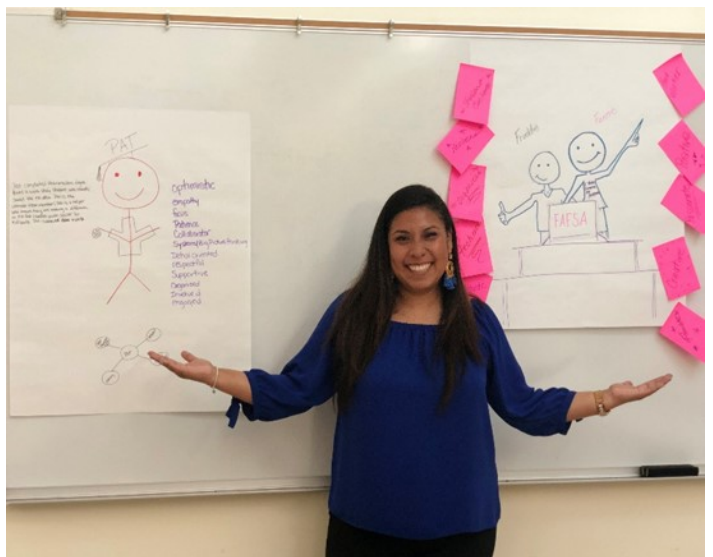
We may have challenges, but we also have the privilege to be a part of unique outcomes in our sector; life-changing outcomes for single moms, students who are the first in their family to ever go to college, those who are just not interested in a lengthy education process, and many others who are looking “outside the box” for their future. I am thankful to be a part of changing lives and would love to learn more about how my proprietary sector colleagues are doing the same. So, let's get to know each other!

OASFAA events offer so many opportunities for proprietary sector FA professionals to collaborate! The Summer Drive-In, for example, is a great opportunity to send FA staff member(s) to a short (one-day) but extremely beneficial training that this year even included a NASFAA Professional Credentials opportunity. Then there is FA 101 and 201. The Annual Conference in February is, by far, the most fun training experience I get each year! Who doesn't love being near the beach while learning new regulations!?! We do have unique training needs in our sector. It would be great to hear what training sessions you would like to see at the Annual Conference, so please reach out and let me know!

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Update

By Araceli Cruz

OASFAA's executive council leadership members received equity, diversity, and inclusion training at our July meeting. Cinthia Manuel, an EDI consultant, facilitated a workshop on inclusive leadership. The interactive workshop brought us awareness of our skills, life experiences, and influence that allow us to be better leaders at our institutions. We got to reflect on our own leadership styles and backgrounds through interactive activities. In addition, Cinthia provided us with great tools to bring back to our offices to help create more spaces that are inclusive.



[Image: EDI consultant, Cinthia Manuel, standing in front of the “Ultimate Team Member” posters created by the Executive Council leadership.]

Another successful FA 101/201 is in the books!

OASFAA's FA 101/201 was held on Friday, March 8 at the beautiful Clackamas Community College Harmony Campus. The seats were filled with nearly 80 attendees. The FA 101 crowd learned the basics of student eligibility, need analysis (everyone loves a good hand calc!), and Satisfactory Academic Progress while getting a chance to network with others. Jennifer Satalino provided an engaging presentation for both the 101 and 201 crowd on Financial Aid Opportunities for Undocumented Students that developed into some great sharing of ideas of things people have implemented on their campuses and businesses to help all students access higher education. Beyond staff from financial aid offices, the event also drew folks from state agencies, high school counseling offices and other college offices such as TRiO departments and student accounts representatives.

The 201 crowd survived a day of discussion Consumer Information using NASFAA University materials that allowed attendees the opportunity to earn a NASFAA credential after the training. The

topic feels a bit like drinking from a firehouse, but the nearly 30 people in attendance seem to have survived relatively unscathed! Compliance with consumer information feels a bit like a search for a unicorn, but as it is a common finding in both program reviews and audits, it is a topic we all should probably spend more time considering. If you attended this training and are reading this and realizing you haven't done anything yet to assess where you are, the time has come to do it!

A huge thanks to the planning committee and instructors for the FA 101/201 event:

Karen Ash, Clackamas Community College

Eli Herr, Lane Community College

Jennifer Satalino, The College Place

Breana Sylwester, Central Oregon Community College

Molly McCulloch, Clackamas Community College

Mary McGlothlan, Corban College

Ryan West, Chemeketa Community College

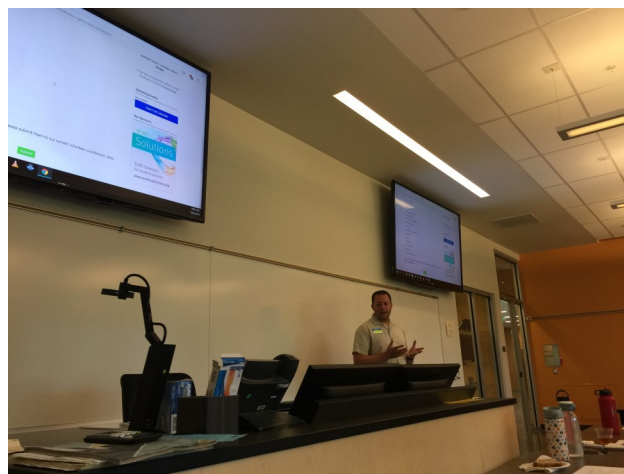
As the world of financial aid is always changing, please save the date for the next FA 101/201 event which returns to its more typical fall schedule. More information will be posted on the OASFAA website and shared with the list-serve soon:

FA 101/201

Friday, October 25, 2019

Lane Community College

Eugene, Oregon



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NASFAA Advocacy Pipeline– Heather Hall Lewis

Portland, Oregon to Washington, D.C. and back again in 36 hours. Whew! I'm tired! But the opportunity to advocate for student financial aid on Capitol Hill was worth the trip. In my less than 24 hours on the ground in D.C., I met with staff members from four Congressional offices – Senator Jack Reed (RI); Senator Jeff Merkley (OR); Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI); and Representative Susan Bonamici (OR). Each staffer was welcoming and attentive to the concerns we presented during our meeting.

The two main issues I chose to advocate for were funding for student aid programs and flexibility in award notifications. We also discussed loan origination fees, the high cost of borrowing, and the burden and complexities in the student loan repayment programs. NASFAA provided important guidance and talking points for our meetings. I appreciate the work that NASFAA does on behalf of our students and value the opportunity to be part of their advocacy efforts.

One highlight for me was Congresswoman Bonamici's collection of pennants from Oregon colleges and universities on the wall in her office. This display was a clear demonstration of the value she places on higher education. She and Senator Merkley also had pieces of the Portland International Airport carpet in their offices (#PDXcarpet), which says nothing about student financial aid but was a pretty great representation of what it means to be an Oregonian. Overall, it was a fast but fantastic trip – one that I hope to repeat in the future with a little more time on the ground to catch my breath.



Save the Dates!

Here are some upcoming conferences that you might be interesting in attending.

FA 101/201

Friday, October 25, 2019
Lane Community College
Eugene, Oregon



**Mark Your Calendar Now for the
2020 OASFAA
Annual Conference!**
February 5-7th, 2020
Salishan Spa & Golf Resort

An advertisement for Inceptia, a division of NSLP. The background features a close-up of hands holding a tablet, with a soft, warm glow. The text is overlaid on this image.

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NASFAA Certified Financial Aid Administrator (CFAA)

NASFAA offers the CFAA Program as a valuable benchmark to the financial aid community, providing a foundations for:

- Increased opportunity for career growth
- Validation of competencies essential to effective financial aid administration
- National recognition via industry assessment

Congratulations to Oregon CFAA Administrators:

- Anastacia Dillon (Lewis & Clark College)
- Helen Faith (Lane Community College)
- Heather Hall Lewis (University of Portland)
- Mike Johnson (Columbia Gorge Community College)
- Elaine Robinson (Linn-Benton Community College)



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Member Updates

Promotions & Achievements

Rachael Smith is now a Financial Aid Coordinator at PCC. She was previously an Advisor.

Delores Pruett was awarded the AP of Distinction Award for outstanding contributions to access quality affordable education at PCC.

Sasha Hernandez is now the Loan Coordinator at Concordia University.

Regan Kaplan was promoted to Associate Director at Oregon State University.

Julie Vanblokland was promoted to Assistant Director at Oregon State University.

Jake Logan was promoted to Assistant Director at Oregon State University.

Miranda Robertson was promoted from Financial Aid Coordinator to Financial Aid Counselor at University of Portland in July.

Breana Sylwester is the new Director of Financial Aid at Central Oregon Community College. Breana has been in the Financial Aid office at COCC for 11 years as a FA Advisor and most recently as the Assistant Director.

New Hires

Lena Leksunkin has joined PCC as a Financial Aid Coordinator at PCC. She was previously at Concordia University.

Marvin Sadler has joined PCC as a Financial Aid Tech 2.

Andrew Saygers has joined PCC as a Financial Aid Systems Tech. He was previously at Pioneer Pacific College.

Deborah Perrault has joined Clackamas Community College as the Financial Aid Coordinator. She was previously at PCC.

Denika Campbell has joined Concordia University as a Financial Aid Counselor.

Patrick Nugent has joined Concordia University as a Financial Aid Counselor.

Michelle Torres has joined Concordia University as a Financial Aid Counselor.

UO has welcomed three new Financial Aid Advisors to their team since the last update. **Kim Wood Nolan, Spencer Smith, and Liv Parks**. UO also has a new Assistant Director for Student Transitions, **Michelle Klemens**. Kim, Spencer, Liv, and Michelle – welcome to OASFAA as well!

Laura Mondragon was hired as a Financial Aid Advisor at Oregon State University.

Matt Munger was hired as a Financial Aid Advisor at Oregon State University.

Debbie O'Dea was hired as a Financial Aid Advisor at Oregon State University.

Bryce Buckley joined the University of Portland FA staff as a Financial Aid Counselor and Veterans Certifying Official in March from Pacific Northwest College of Art.

Goodbyes

Patti Brady-Glassman retired at the end of 2018 after 30+ years of service to Oregon State University

Cynthia Stickle retired after 10 years of service from Oregon State University

Molly Walsh left University of Portland in January to take a job as FA Supervisor at DigiPen Institute of Technology in Redmond WA.

Collyn Arnold left the Financial Aid Office at Oregon State University after six years of service to be hired as Operations Manager for OSU's Disability Access Services

Daniel Herman (Financial Aid Counselor and Veterans Certifying Official) left University of Portland in July to stay home with his kids.

Kevin Multop Director of Financial Aid at Central Oregon Community College, is leaving at the end of August to pursue his dream of brewing beer for a living.

Celebrations

Kirk Lind and his wife welcomed their first child in May.

Cassie Smith and her husband will be welcoming their first child in August.

Casey Craigie (Northwest Christian University) and wife welcomed their 3rd child, Judah Patrick in February and Casey will begin the graduate program (distance program) at Northern Seminary in September .

Volunteer With OASFAA!



All Committees Now Seeking Volunteers!

We want YOU to volunteer for an OASFAA committee! Whether you're a veteran of the field or brand new, your input and opinions are valued and your help is needed. OASFAA is all volunteer-run, and if you're passionate about the field we work in together, there's something for you. Fill out the [volunteer preferences form](#), or contact Volunteer Coordinator [Jess Kelly](#) with any questions!

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Contest

Share with the EDI committee your understanding of Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion through this storyboard. Submit your piece by taking a picture or scanning this document back to acruz@linfield.edu and be entered into a raffle to receive a 20 dollar gift card of your choice.

EQUITY

INCLUSION

EQUALITY

UPCOMING EVENTS:

POC (Person of Color) Bridge-Building Mixer

August 14 @ 4:30-6:30p.m

Hosted by Oregon Community Foundation

SAY HEY

August 8th @ 5:30-8:00p.m.

Hosted by Partners in Diversity & PGE

Questions about Upcoming Events? Want to be more involved with the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion team?

Contact [Araceli Cruz](#) or update [volunteer preferences form](#)!