

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Jane Reynolds reported that as of December 8, 2003 the membership roles listed 203 current OASFAA members and 224 inactive members.

The Board discussed membership dues and when membership would expire for members who paid at different times. In the past if an existing member paid their dues at the Annual Conference, their membership would be good through the following year (i.e., pay dues at the 2003 Annual Conference, membership is valid through May, 2004). If a non-member paid their dues at the Annual Conference, their membership was good only through the current budget year (i.e., pay dues at the 2003 Annual Conference, membership is valid through May, 2003).

The Board decided that renewing dues needed to be separated from registration for OASFAA events. Theresa Bosworth suggested that the registration forms have two options: 1) I am a member, and 2) I am not a member (no dues will be collected). It was also decided that non-members need to be given the option of going to the website and joining OASFAA before the register for an event. Julia Reisinger will update the registration form for the Annual Conference and that language will be used on all future OASFAA event registrations.

No reminders are currently being sent to members whose memberships are about to expire. Jane will begin sending out targeted messages to members who have expired memberships, or have memberships that are soon to expire.

Ford Family Foundation: Barb Griesel gave the Board an update of news at the Ford Family Foundation. The Foundation has moved into their own office. The new address is 1700 Valley River Drive in Eugene.

They have begun to disburse funds via ACH. So far, this has gone fairly smooth.

They are disbursing about \$7 million in scholarship funds.

The financial aid packaging forms are still on the Oregon Student Assistance Commission's web site. The Foundation is hoping to have the forms moved to their own site (www.tfff.org) by June.

Barb wanted some feedback from the Board about the information release forms they are currently using. Currently students must sign four different information release forms. These are 1) when the student submits the OSAC application, 2) on the award acceptance form, 3) on the renewal form, and 4) on the award notification. Barb and the Foundation needed to know if the generic release they are using is okay or if it needed to be school specific. The school is listed on the form in other places, but not in the wording of the information release. The Board felt that the information releases used now are enough. Barb also wanted to make sure that sending the information releases out when they request grades was good timing for schools. The Board thought this was fine.

The Ford Family Foundation is also working on several outreach efforts. Community colleges are contacting Barb and asking for presentations. The Foundation is also working with the ASPIRE program in the high schools. Barb is training former Ford Family scholarship winners to do these presentations.

Barb was wondering if a Ford Foundation forum was on the agenda for the Annual Conference. Michele O'Leary said that she would have Laurie Franklin contact Barb. Jim Eddy expressed gratitude for the work and scholarships that the Ford Family Foundation provides to Oregon residents.

High School Counselor Training: Elizabeth Bickford reported that she just finished the high school counselor training. She has been working with the Oregon University System's (OUS) High School Counselor's Day. This is a regional training session. Over the last few years, there have been a large number of retirements among high school counselors, so there are a lot of new counselors who need more extensive

financial aid training than what has been offered.

Elizabeth suggested that OASFAA and OSAC work together to prepare and fund an in-depth high school counselor training. She envisions two tracks, one for new counselors and one for counselors who just need a refresher course. Elizabeth guessed that the cost would be around \$1000 for two sites in the state and the lodging for the speakers. Laurie Neil wondered if the counselors would be able to afford to attend this training. Elizabeth said that if the session could be paired with the OUS training more counselors would be able to attend. Jeff Svejcar suggested that perhaps there was a way to work with the ASPIRE program.

The Getting Started in Financial Aid video has not been updated for 2 years. It was suggested that a PowerPoint presentation could be put together and burned onto DVDs that could then be distributed to high school counselors. The cost of this program would be \$4000-\$5000. Perhaps OASFAA and OSAC could work with other vendors to pay for this project.

Elizabeth would like to set up either an ad hoc or permanent committee to investigate and proceed with plans for high school counselor trainings.

OSAC Update: Jeff Svejcar reported that they have had to cut \$300,000 from their budget. They are not filling 3 positions. OSAC has set up a Voluntary Flexible Agreement with the Department of Education.

Jeff reported that the Measure 30 vote in February, 2004 could affect the Oregon Opportunity Grant. If the ballot measure passes, a legislative bill will be introduced that list funds that will need to be reduced. Currently the Opportunity Grant is not listed in that bill, but the legislature could call a special session and reduce the funding then. For the 2004-2005 academic year, the Opportunity Grant will cover 11% of the cost of attendance at individual schools. The awarding criteria will be 55% of the median family income. If the legislature cuts funding to the Grant, OSAC will save those funds by making the FAFSA filing cut-off date earlier. OSAC will not commit to any awards until the final funding has been determined.

The OSAC Scholarship booklet is being mailed to schools. The website will be ready by December 15, 2003. If students apply for scholarships online, they can apply for an unlimited number. If students use the paper application, they will be able to apply for 10 scholarships on one form.

OSAC received 17 applications for the Grant Director position. They will be interviewing as soon as possible.

The Oregon legislature passed Senate Bill 437 during their last session. This bill charged OSAC with the task of studying the possibility of having a flat Oregon Opportunity Grant. Jeff Svejcar previously spoke with Jim Eddy about an OASFAA consensus statement. Tracy Lehman said that the OUS financial aid directors met on December 8, 2003. They created a position statement on this subject at that meeting. They did not discuss choice and access, but instead discussed what would provide the most money for the most students. They were pessimistic that an OASFAA consensus could be reached. Kate Bligh mentioned that in Washington, when the state organization could not come up with a consensus statement, the legislature got to do what they wanted. Theresa Bosworth wondered if the student groups had said anything. Jeff will meet with the Oregon Students Association on December 11, 2003. The feedback that Jim Eddy received from his email was mixed. Jim is a member of the OSAC-OOG Advisory Committee. The committee had a broad consensus that a flat grant is not the best option. Tracy Reisinger said that it was too early to give up on a consensus. Instead she suggested that the Vice-Presidents talk to their segments at the Annual Conference. They could provide some history of the Grant and information on the plan currently being considered. The segments could create their own consensus statement which the vice-presidents could then bring to the

Executive Board for further discussion.

Development: Randy Jones and Kathy McCutchen reported that contributions have increased by about \$3000 over the 2002-2003 budget year. During that year there were 15 Precious Metals vendors, during the 2003-2004 year there are 16. Pat Downey and ATAC have worked to create a sponsor page. This page includes training and sponsorship information. It is still missing information on buying just a table at the Annual Conference. Kathy and Randy are working one-on-one with vendors who want just a table.

In the past, the cost to rent a table was \$450. The board decided that \$450 was a good price for this year, but that an increase might be due for next year. It was decided that the deadline for table cancellations should be earlier than conference cancellations. The last day that vendors can cancel their table is January 9, 2004. The tables at the Annual Conference will be arranged the same as last year.

NELA has offered to provide four \$500 scholarships to the OASFAA Annual Conference. Tracy Reisinger noted that accepting the money now bypasses the vendor development process. It would also give NELA extra recognition. Some discussion ensued about accepting the funds anonymously or asking for funds from our other vendors. Katy Kelley moved to accept the funds from NELA if they were willing to give the funds to OASFAA without asking for additional recognition. If NELA is not willing to accept these terms, we would decline the funds this year. Katy also moved that if NELA writes a check to OASFAA the funds should be moved to the Executive Board line item. The motion was seconded by Tracy Reisinger and passed unanimously.

Annual Conference: Michele O'Leary reported that the committee met in October. The meeting was very efficient and a lot of work was accomplished. The theme for the conference will be quilting, using colors and textures to create something beautiful. Currently, the agenda has some holes. There are a couple of key notes which need to be confirmed. The preliminary agenda will be published in the web in about a week. There will be four tracks based on expertise level. The meals will be multicultural dishes. The sit-down meal will be lunch on Sunday, the rest of the meals will be buffet meals. Guests will be required to wear a name tag with dots for any meals that they have purchased.

The entertainment on Monday evening will be a no-host bar, karaoke, and interactive games. OASFAA is holding several rooms for the conference committee and the Executive Board.

The Board decided that it would be ideal if Jane Reynolds, Membership Chair, could be at the registration table in case anyone had questions about their membership.

OPB: The financial aid show on OPB will be broadcast on December 11, 2003 from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The phones will be available from 9:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Training for volunteers will begin at 8:00 p.m. Tracy Reisinger currently has 25 volunteers to answer the phones. She likes to have at least that many volunteers. The on-screen presenter have been confirmed.

FA101: Crisanne Werner reported that the next FA101 would be held at Linfield College on January 22, 2004. Kathy McCutchen will contact vendors for goody bag items. Pat Downey will put the registration form on the web when it has been updated with the correct verbiage for the member and non-member registrations.

Support Staff Workshop: Jim Eddy reported for Heidi Elder and Judy Gjesdal. About 35 people attended the workshop. When the evaluation forms were tabulated, the overall rating for the workshop was 4.52 on a 5 point scale. All attendees seemed to

enjoy themselves.

Technology: Pat Downey reported that he had been busy updating the website. He has updated the awards page, letters from the President, expense forms, workshop pages and the sponsor's page. The Executive Board history page will be posted soon. The cost for this page is \$175. The cost to have the special election for President Elect will be \$400 if we decide to do it online.

Legislative: Susan Degen reported that the House has voted to approve the fiscal year 2004 budget. The Pell Grant is expected to remain at \$4050 for the 2004-2005 academic year. Funding for other programs is also expected to remain the same. The Senate has yet to approve a spending bill.

Reauthorization might be postponed into 2005. The House has introduced four bills, but expecting to introduce a total of seven bills. This will be an election issue.

Several more Dear Colleague letters have been released by the Department of Education. These have to do with natural disasters and student loan borrowers.

The IRS match will potentially be included in reauthorization. The Congress will have to pass additional laws before the match can happen. A bill introduced in November, 2003 began this process.

Loan limits are expected to be increased during reauthorization even though the bill will need to be sent to the General Accounting Office before it can be introduced.

Susan noted that the financial aid handbook has sub-regulation guidance in it. Susan will put a note in her weekly email about this topic.

Vendor Liaison: Kate Bligh reported that she is preparing an email to the vendors regarding the Annual conference and goodies for events.

Kate did some research on bags with OASFAA logos. Paper bags will cost \$500 for 1000 bags or \$300 for 500 bags. The Executive Board will need to add this line item to the budget for 2004-2005 if we decide to purchase bags.

OLD BUSINESS

OASFAA Scholarships: Kathy Goff has resigned as OASFAA President-Elect. Jim Eddy will be responsible for awarding the scholarships to the Annual Conference. He has posted the application to the web site and sent an email to the listserv. The deadline for submitting applications is December 25, 2003. Jim will work with the Vice-Presidents to do the final awarding.

NEW BUSINESS

Next Executive Board meeting: Earlier in the year, the Board decided to meet after the Annual Conference. This will not work for several of the Board members. It was decided that the Board would meet on Sunday afternoon. Michele will reserve a room for the meeting.

Passing the gavel at the Annual Conference: It was decided that it did not make sense to pass the gavel to the President-Elect at the Annual Conference.

Treasurer's Reports on the Web: The Treasurer's Reports are not currently on the web. It was decided that they do not need to be on the web.

Candidates for 2004-2005 Elected Offices: The Board felt comfortable with the nominees for the 2004-2005 ballot. It was decided that the Board would not solicit additional names for the ballot.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Tracy Reisinger moved to proceed to the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mickey and passed unanimously.

Tracy Reisinger moved to adjourn from the Executive Session. Laurie Neil seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Tracy Reisinger moved to adjourn the meeting. Tracy Lehman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OREGON ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS
Executive Board Meeting, Executive Session
December 9, 2003
Willamette University

NOMINATIONS & AWARDS

One OASFAA member sent a nomination to Tracy Reisinger. Tracy submitted additional nominations.

The nominees for the Unsung Hero Award are. Kathy Campbell and Andrea Maison.

No nominees were given for the Friends of OASFAA Award. The board discussed possibly moving Andrea's nomination to the Friends award, but decided against it.

The nominee for the Distinguished Service Award was Dan Preston.

The nominee for the Lifetime Member Award was Jim Beyer.

Tracy Reisinger moved to accept Kathy Campbell, Dan Preston and Jim Beyer as nominees for their respective awards. Tracy Lehman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Tracy Reisinger will work on getting the plaques together. Jim Eddy will work with Jeff Svejcar to make sure that Jim Beyer is at the conference.

PRESIDENT-ELECT POSITION

Jim Eddy has had conversation with Crisanne Werner, David Allen, and Mickey Jacobson about potentially running for President-Elect. Mickey and Crisanne have declined. Jim has not heard from David yet. Other names mentioned were, Theresa Bosworth, Corbett Gottfried, Sue Gano, Paul Krull, Burt Logan, Mary Jo Jackson, Rod Boettcher, Leslie Limper, Glendi Gaddis, and Elizabeth Bickford.

Theresa Bosworth said that she would need the support of her school before she would be able to run. She will notify Jim of her decision as soon as possible. It was decided that Leslie Limper and Glendi Gaddis were strong candidates along with David Allen. If, after talking to these people, there are not two names on the ballot, Jim will talk to Mary Jo Jackson and Rod Boettcher about running for the 2003-2004 year and asking Corbett Gottfried to be an alternate on the 2004-2005 ballot.

APPROVAL OF CANDIDATES

Crisanne Werner moved to accept the candidates for President-Elect and Secretary for the 2004-2005 year. Julia Reisinger offered an amendment to revisit the ballot if two names are not found for the 2003-2004 President-Elect position. Mickey Jacobson seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

