



## **2025 Annual Conference Committee Report**

**November 7, 2024**

**Theme - WE Glow: Empowering Financial Aid Professionals to Keep Lighting the Way**

- Picture it: 1991 RAVE
- Glow in the Dark everything
- Logo TBD

**Menu** - Cost-saving choices being made - no extra bacon this year

- Plan to reduce # of people to 80 (we always have more than enough food)
- Taking EC dinner on Tuesday offsite
- Only serving coffee and tea at breaks
- Canceling President's Reception since "dinner is on own"
- Last year: \$47,597
- Predicting: ~ \$30,000

**Session Proposals** - currently have 10, we're going to need help filling out the program, sending out a reminder email this week.

**Charity Announced:** The Shadow Project, details added to the website as well as fundraising opportunities (Thank you, Frankie!).

-The Shadow Project: The mission of [The Shadow Project](#) is to make school more accessible and engaging for K-8 students with learning challenges like dyslexia, ADHD, autism and trauma.

With their connection to education for the neuro divergent community and their active promotion and practice of the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion, OAFSAA chose The Shadow Project for our charity partner at this year's annual conference.

**Keynote:** Danielle Mancuso

Danielle is a community architect dedicated to fostering equity, connection, and meaningful change. Since 2016, they have facilitated community storytelling events that inspire vulnerability and understanding. Over a 20-year career in higher education, Danielle has held various roles, including Coordinator of the Commuter and Veterans Resource Center, faculty and advisor for Reentry Programs, Associate Director of Student Life, and Director of Student Activities, among others. With master's degrees in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Management, Danielle provides counseling at their practice, Whole Story, and serves as La Clinica's Gender-Affirming Care Coordinator in Southern Oregon. Originally from the Bronx, they now reside in Talent with their partner, Erika, and their dog, Sawyer. Danielle enjoys storytelling, art, traveling, roadside attractions, podcasts, card games, healthy banter, and spending time with family.

**Karaoke:** Contract signed, confirmed (Thanks, Carlos)

**Conference App:** Carlos working with Whova, no decision made.

The Co-chairs will be meeting with Karen, Shauna, Carlos and Debbie next week to review some questions/specifics.

**Registration:** This will open in early December. Received information from Salishan for booking rooms, all reservations will need to be made by phone.

Next meeting will take place in December.

**Questions for EC:**

- Scholarship application
- Clarity on WASFAA Funding
  - Can this only be used for WASFAA Training Costs?

Kindly,

Rebecca, Victoria, and Shauna

2025 Annual Conference Co-Chairs

