



### TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report



# President's Message by Carolyn J. Jones

Dear TASFAA Members,

It has been an amazing year as your president. It has been quite a learning experience for me and I want to take a moment to thank Rick Renshaw and Kay Mooney for all of their help this year. I truly would not have been able to make it through the year without their help and guidance!

We have seen major changes in financial aid this year. As always, the professionals that make up TASFAA have once again risen to the occasion and implemented the 2 Pell awards in one year and all schools converting to Direct Loans. We also had the Top 10% Scholarship program and more budget cuts from the State. You continue to do more with less and it is amazing to see your dedication to the students of Texas! I am very proud to be a part of the profession and of TASFAA.

As we continue to navigate through the changes in our regulations I know that TASFAA will continue to be a strong force for information and training for all members. The board has worked hard this year, and the past few, to keep our association strong financially. We are continuing to work to balance our budget and to construct new training events around the state. The Membership Committee has been seeking new members to keep TASFAA strong and representing all schools in Texas. The Early Awareness Committee trained 703 High School Counselors. TASFAA representatives also testified in Austin in February and April. Lisa Blazer, Joe Pettibon, Rick Renshaw, Tom Melecki and Rob Sheridan were invaluable in educating our legislatures on financial aid issues. The New Aid Officers Workshop trained 72 new financial aid professionals. TASFAA is currently seeking volunteers to carry out our mission in 2010-2011 with Joe Pettibon as our President.

I would like to thank all of you for your support as my husband and I have been battling his cancer. He is doing well and I believe that is a direct result of all of the love and prayers we have received from around the state. May you each be blessed as you have blessed us!

Sincerely, Carolyn J. Jones TASFAA President 2009-2010

### Officers 2009-2010

#### President

Carolyn J. Jones Collin County Community College

#### Vice President

Kay Mooney Amarillo College

#### **President Elect**

Joseph Pettibon Texas A&M University

#### Past President

Richard Renshaw
Dallas County
Community College
District

#### **Treasurer**

Tia Clary Lubbock Christian University

#### Secretary

Amy Hardesty
Lubbock Christian
University

#### **Board Members**

Mike Carranza, South
Texas College
Laurie Coulter, Austin
College
Enrique Garcia, Del Mar
College
Amanda Jurovic, Rice
University

Karen Krause, University of Texas at Arlington Dana Mingo, Eastfield College

Shannon Crossland, Texas Tech University Richard Silva, Alamo Community College District

Ed Turney, Board Member at Large, University of North Texas



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# TASFAA Mission Statement

**Mission:** TASFAA is a professional organization that provides a leadership role in training, education and collaboration, developing future financial aid leaders and promoting access to higher education for all students. We advocate for improvements in aid programs through partnerships with industry leaders and legislative involvement. As an organization, we strive to uphold the excellence and high ethical standards of the financial aid community.

**Vision:** Recognized as the leading authority on financial aid in Texas.

### Core Values:

- Ethics: Foster an atmosphere of integrity, honesty, openness, accountability, and trust both corporately and individually
- Inclusiveness: Foster a sense of belonging through acceptance of diverse thoughts and philosophies.
- Collaboration: Work together toward common goals by openly sharing knowledge and resources while engaging in partnerships with broader communities.
- Excellence: Reach our vision by exceeding expectations, using innovative and creative solutions.
- Leadership: Build on the foundation of previous leaders, enhance the skills
  of our current members, and guide the emerging leadership of our organization.

# **TASFAA Volunteer Form**

TASFAA is a volunteer organization. Your participation is needed. Membership on a committee benefits your colleagues, students and parents, as well as providing an opportunity for personal and professional development.

If you have further questions regarding the activities of a specific committee, please feel free to contact the current Committee Chair or a member of the Executive Board

Please Note: YOU MUST BE A CURRENT MEMBER OF TASFAA TO SERVE ON A COMMITTEE. If you are not a current member please complete a membership application. If you don't know if your TASFAA membership is current you can check your membership status when completing this form.

The form can be found at www.tasfaa.org under "Member Services".





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# **TASFAA Committee Reports**

### **Awards Committee**

Carolyn Mallory, Chair - University of Houston at Victoria (malloryc@uhv.edu)

Caite Blount - TDECU

Irma L Chapa - Lone Star College System

Karen Collins - Midwestern State University

Rickey L Eddie - University of North Texas

Rayanne L Hukill - Weatherford College Jackie Stevens - Parker College of Chiropractic

Cathleen F Wright - Texas Lutheran University

Prior to sending out the 2009-10 service pins, the committee needed to replenish the supply of pins. The Awards Committee distributed the following Years of Service pins:

6 pins for 35 Years of Service 13 pins for 30 Years of Service 21 pins for 25 Years of Service 40 pins for 20 Years of Service 45 pins for 15 Years of Service 56 pins for 10 Years of Service

Congratulations to all and thank you for your dedication to TASFAA and the financial aid profession.

The TASFAA Time Capsule website for the past Trailblazer, Hall of Fame, and Financial Aid Star Advisor Award recipients was updated. In addition, the Awards Committee Timeline section of the web page was updated.

Nominations for the Financial Aid Star Advisor and Hall of Fame awards were solicited. After reviewing the nominations, the committee's recommendations were sent to the TASFAA Board for their consideration. The recipients of the awards will be announced at the TASFAA Conference October 2010.

# Communications Network Committee

Alan D. Ahmad, Chair - Texas A&M Health Science Center (ahmad@tamhsc.edu)

Activity during the 2009-2010 year focused on the Committee's primary objective of assisting the TASFAA community with information on and about the Association's website and operating as liaison between the Association and the website administrator, ATAC Corporation. Committee services included the monitoring of administrative services, development of training and workshop registration and information and the posting of forms and presentations.

The 09-10 year also saw the introduction of a new module/mini-site within the TASFAA website. This ATAC module can be attributed to this year's Fall Conference Committee and is designed as a useful tool for the planning, scheduling and presentation of conference and workshop information. The module's initial application is this year's 2010 Fall Conference mini-site.

The Association website has seen over one hundred thousand (100,000) visits between August 2009 and August 2010 with *Employment Opportunities, Training* and *Member Services* as the most frequented pages. Additional 2009-2010 website activity includes a main page redesign, revised Committee pages and calendar of events as well as routine updates and maintenance. In the future, the Communications Network Committee hopes to increase its exploration of beneficial web based opportunities and resources.

#### **Fall Conference 2010 Committee**

Anne E. Walker, Chair - Rice University (anne.walker@rice.edu)

Jan-Louson G Abasolo - University of St. Thomas

Phillip Applebaum - Brazos HESC Wally Boudet - Discover Student Loans Valerie N Bustillos - Tarrant County College

Vincent D Carales - TG



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Connie P Castillo - Houston Baptist University Irma L Chapa - Lone Star College System Casey Creel - Wells Fargo Education Financial Services Keith A. Dickson - TG Caroline S Hernandez - TG Jeneen Holmes - Rice University Vicki S Jacobs - Wharton County Junior College **Donna King - Grayson County College** Marisela O Maldonado - Rice University Lynda McKendree - University of St. **Thomas** Marcos J Mendez - Texas A&M University

Scott A Moore - Houston Community College System

Beth B Reid - University of Texas - Arlington

Diana I Stout - Tarrant County College
Debra G Wilkison - Collin County
Community College

Cathleen F Wright - Texas Lutheran University

Jason R Young - University of Texas - Arlington

This year's conference theme is "Charting a new Course". The conference committee has been working hard to plan an interactive and informative professional development conference. The conference will be held at the Galveston Convention Center on October 6-8, 2010 and there will be numerous workshop activities and attractions to take advantage of in your free time. We are all aware of the new regulations which will have already impacted the financial aid industry; therefore the conference committee has lined up a wide selection of workshop sessions to cover. Topics on the agenda consist of presentations from professional development to issues that are specific to school processing. Important to note this year is that the majority of sessions being presented are sessions that schools have developed for the TASFAA Community. Presenters and guests for this year's conference will be colleagues from area

colleges and universities, Federal Student Aid Office, and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The opening luncheon will begin with remarks from our current President Carolyn Jones, followed by quest speaker Tamra Lewis whose motivational keynote address will be about navigating our way through changing times. Galveston Texas has rebuilt and looks better than ever since Hurricane Ike made its presence known two years ago. We have planned an exciting evening event, TASFAA's very own Cruise Ship which will be held in the Galveston Convention Center. Be ready to gamble, dance to live music and a DJ, sing Karaoke, and join us for a night of fun as we conclude a week of work, collaboration, and networking during the conference.





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### **Constitution/Bylaws Committee**

Shannon L. Crossland, Chair - Texas Tech University (shannon.crossland@ttu.edu)

Kathy A Bassham - Weatherford College Irma L Chapa - Lone Star College System

Shannon L Crossland - Texas Tech University

Delisa Falks - Texas A&M University Linda A Gonzalez-Hensgen - El Paso Community College

Timothy J Matusheski - Not Affiliated with an Institution

Carol L McDonald - Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, Inc. Marcus O Wilson - Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

#### **Committee Goals:**

The Constitution and Bylaws
Committee review the Constitution and
Bylaws as well as the TASFAA Policies
and Procedures Manual of the Association
for appropriateness and consistency as
they govern the activities and needs of
the Association.

#### Committee Objectives:

- Ensure the Constitution, Bylaws, and TASFAA Policies and Procedures are updated.
- Ensure accuracy and consistency among the Constitution, Bylaws, and TASFAA Policies and Procedures Manual.
- Attend all Board meetings and review the minutes after each meeting to incorporate all required changes per Board and Association membership actions.
- Prepare for Board or Association action any changes necessary to govern the activities and needs of the Association.

### Committee Accomplishments:

Formatted and edited TASFAA
 Constitution and Bylaws and TASFAA
 Policies and Procedures Manual
 for consistency and ensured any

4 changes had been incorporated and no conflicting information existed.

Both of these documents are posted on the TASFAA website.

 Posted Constitution and Bylaw Amendments to TASFAA ListServe on September 7, 2010 for membership comments. Vote will take place at the TASFAA Business Meeting October 7, 2010.

### **Early Awareness Committee**

Linda A. Gonzalez-Hensgen,
Co-Chair - El Paso Community
College (Igonz265@epcc.edu)
Raul H. Lerma, Co-Chair - University
of Texas at El Paso (rlerma@utep.edu)
Marci Beasley - Texas Tech University
Linda A Gonzalez-Hensgen - El Paso
Community College
Don W Hilton - Ranger College
Richard Sapp - TG
Lynda Sheets - Not Specified
Jessica Solcich - Not Specified
Mary T Teel - Texas A&M University
Cathleen F Wright - Texas Lutheran
University







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### NT4CM Training Program Statistics

	Region	Date of Training	Attendees
Jael Garcia	1	12/07/09	86
Bonnie Trevino	2	12/10/09	32
Sharon Mullins	4	12/16/09	22
Patricia Sermas	4	01/07/10	68
Diane Hargett	5	12/11/09	38
Delinda Hall	7	11/17/09	29
Linda Slawson	8	01/21/10	32
Melissa Elliott	9	12/14/09	49
Laurie Coulter	10	01/12/10	29
Trudy Conner	11	12/09/09	42
Jackie Adler	12	01/21/10	55
Shannon Sonnenberg	15	01/08/10	25
Kay Mooney	16	11/20/09	83
Amy Hardesty	17	12/09/09	38
Elsa Lopez	19	12/17/09	55
Joyce Fox	20	02/16/10	20
		Total	703

First of all, I would like to thank Carolyn for the opportunity to assume the chair of the Early Awareness Committee. It was definitely a new challenge for me coming in a bit late.

It was indeed an interesting experience transitioning to a new training program. The NT4CM training program is different from what we have been used to, from training materials, to the paperwork that is required such as a Training Session Information Form required of every training site. Obviously the biggest advantage to the program is that the program and its materials are free. Considering the association's financial condition this is certainly a great benefit.

I certainly want to sincerely thank all the trainers that assisted at the training sessions and especially those that assisted in coordinating the training in their region. I appreciate the patience they had with me throughout the training. I was very grateful for their understanding that TASFAA was not going to be able to reimburse costs such as food. They all took it upon themselves to address this at their sites.

Evaluations but, for the most part it appears those who attended were pleased with the training giving mainly 4's and 5's on the evaluations that range from 1 being

Unacceptable to 5 being Outstanding/ Much more than acceptable. As far as feedback from the region coordinators that have responded, it appears they prefer the TASFAA Handbooks. I will follow up with an article for the TASFAA Times.

#### Challenges:

- Main way to communicate with NT4CM is by email. Although they did respond rather quickly and were very helpful, it is hard to get someone in person;
- Delivery of materials. Materials were sent to one location (Region 15 Angelo State). I can't thank Shannon enough for arranging to have the materials forwarded to the appropriate sites. Thank you Carolyn for stepping in to help with the cost.
- Additional paperwork i.e. Training Session Information form:
- This is almost a year long process;
- Regions that were not able to provide a training site;
- The weather was a factor with one site having to reschedule;
- No reimbursement for food.



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#### **Finance Committee**

Joe Pettibon, Chair - Texas A&M
University (jpp2@tamu.edu)
Lisa G Blazer, PhD - University of
Texas - San Antonio
Tia Clary - Lubbock Christian University
Carolyn J Jones - Collin County
Community College
Richard C Renshaw - Dallas County
Community College District

The Finance Committee has primarily been reviewing the TASFAA annual budget to prepare a balanced budget for 2010-11. Over the past three years, the Association has relied on reserve balances to offset annual operating costs due to declining conference attendance following changes in the industry. Several changes will be adopted when the next budget is approved in October 2010, including the already approved increase in institutional membership dues. At the July 2010 board meeting, the institutional membership dues were set to \$200 annually.

Further, the Association changed its investment management company from ING to Rodgers Capital this summer, following the recommendation at the February 2010 board meeting to remain with Gary Rodgers as our investment manager. The Association has a long history and strong relationship with Gary that we believed was important to retain.

Finally, the committee made a recommendation to the board to develop and adopt an advertising policy (or clearly articulate the existing one) as several organizations have approached the Association to advertise on our website or at the annual conference. The board is expected to review options at its October 2010 meeting.

### **Legislative Issues Committee**

Tom Melecki, Chair - University of Texas at Austin

(tom.melecki@austin.utexas.edu)

# Membership Committee

Lynn Barnes, Chair - Texas A&M University (Ibarnes@tamu.edu)

Terry Bazan - Austin Community College George H Durstine - Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center Jeannie Gage - Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi Dolly A Lasater - Texas A&M University - Commerce Marcos J Mendez - Texas A&M University

Membership Committee experienced a very successful year. Despite the vast amount of change that each of our institutions has had to face this year, we are closing the year very strong in terms of the number of institutions who either renewed their membership or joined for the very first time. The committee is pleased to report that membership now exceeds last year's member institutions (last year there were 213 member institutions).

#### 2009-2010 Membership breakdown:

Schools 182 (83%)
Not Specified 12 (6%)
Lender 11 (5%)
Servicer 5 (2%)
Guarantee Agency 5 (2%)
Secondary Mkt 2 (.9%)
Govt Agency 1 (.5%)

#### Membership History:

2009-2010	218
2008-2009	213
2007-2008	238
2006-2007	256
2005-2006	275
2004-2005	262

In the beginning of the Fall semester, the membership website was updated with current information and the committee met several times during the semester. Several emails were sent out on the listserv to encourage institutions to renew their membership. In the spring semester, efforts were focused on emailing and calling institutions which have been out of TASFAA for a period of time. Many institutions had



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new staff and were either not aware of their membership status or were not aware of the benefits of membership. We encouraged them to renew and to get involved.

This past year the board voted to increase membership dues by \$25 per institution which has helped with total revenue generated for our organization. Additionally, we have seen several institutions come back into membership after several years of not renewing, and also we are seeing some new members come into the organization. Of the institutions who chose not to renew their membership this past year, 16 were nonschool organizations and 7 were schools. This is not surprising due to all of the change within our industry. However, we are very pleased that 10 new institutions joined TASFAA for the very first time!

# Mentoring, Leadership & Diversity Issues Committee

Belen Valdez, Chair - Texas A&M University (belenvaldez@tamu.edu) Joy Dailey - Texas Southern University

- I took over as Chair in May after the resignation of the previous chair.
   Actually I volunteered to assist with the pairing and later found out I was the new chairperson. I gladly accepted.
- Carolyn Jones sent me a list of 25 protégé requests and 13 mentors.
- An email was sent to all protégés and mentors to make sure that they were still interested in the program. It seems that the list was a bit outdated and found that some protégés were no longer in financial aid and some felt that they did not need the mentoring. Some of the mentors were no longer interested as well.
- After a call for more mentors from our TASFAA members and more protégé requests from NAOW in May, we ended up with 17 protégés and 15 mentors. 15 protégés have been paired with a mentor. We have 2 pending protégés and 1 more possible mentor.
- We were not able to pair everyone by software but tried to find other similar characteristics.

 I have not received any feedback yet since the pairing up of mentor to protégé is very recent. I hope to have more updates at a later time.

# Newsletter/Public Relations Committee

Melet Leafgreen, Vice-Chair - Texas Christian University Alan D. Ahmad - Texas A&M Health Science Center Jess Black - Angelo State University Don Buehrer - Nelnet Christopher D. Murr, Ph.D. - Texas State University Harold Whitis - Texas A&M Health Science Center Caroline Hernandez - TG

The TASFAA Newsletter/ Public Relations Committee has enjoyed a great year. We have produced four TASFAA Times Newsletters this year and have received positive feedback from the membership on both the content and the PDF format. The next TASFAA Times will be published at the beginning of 2011.

Our other main project, the TASFAA Annual Report, came together quite smoothly. We will be using the same printing company as last year, and as I write this we are making decisions regarding how many hard copies to print. In addition to handing these out at the annual conference, we will also mail copies to every college president in Texas, all state legislators, a few key US Senators, and President Obama. This year our goals for the Annual Report were: (1) to complete it as early as possible so that it could be distributed to the membership throughout the fall conference, and (2) to decrease, if possible, the overall cost to TASFAA. We are happy to say that we expect to meet both of those goals!

Committee reports from the Chairs, and all other stories and comments from TASFAA Members and friends of TASFAA are so appreciated. Keep 'em coming! Any pictures you can provide are much appreciated as well. Melet Leafgreen has agreed to chair this committee for another year, and looks forward to that opportunity. We thank you, the Membership, for your continued support!

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# Nominations & Elections Committee

Caren A. Stewart, Chair - ATI
Enterprises, Inc.
(cstewart@atienterprises.edu)
Don Buehrer - Nelnet
Tina M Chargois - Not Specified
Belen Valdez - Texas A&M University

The nominations and elections committee has worked very hard this year to obtain candidates for the eight (8) open positions on the board.

Nominations opened in May 2010 and we received several nominations; we did not receive many nominations for the position of President Elect so the board approved that the nominations be re-opened, to members without experience as elected board members.

Elections are scheduled to begin on August 9th, 2010 and we expect to close on August 20th 2010. The results will be delivered to the membership during the Fall conference in October.

Thanks to the other committee members; Don Buehrer and Belen Valdez for their hard work during the year. It has been a pleasure serving the TASFAA membership and I look forward to other volunteer opportunities in the future.



### **President's Advisory Council**

Richard C. Renshaw, Chair - Dallas County Community College District (rrenshaw@dcccd.edu)

Deborah Arnold - University of North Texas

Kathy A Bassham - Weatherford College Lisa G Blazer, PhD - University of Texas - San Antonio

Carolyn Cunningham - University of North Texas

Santa Garza - University of Texas - Austin Linda A Gonzalez-Hensgen - El Paso Community College

Robert Haines - Midland College (retired)
Earl Hudgins - Panhandle Plains
Student Loan Center

David Krause - St. Mary's University Karen A Krause - University of Texas - Arlington

Jimmy Parker - Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center

Claire (Micki) Roemer - U.S.

Department of Education (retired)

Judy Schneider - Financial Aid Services, Inc. Robert B Sheridan - University of

Houston - Downtown Marcus O Wilson - Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

The President's Advisory Council for Planning and Evaluation (PAC) is responsible for evaluating the TASFAA Strategic Initiative and Goals for the Association with regard to meeting the objectives of the Association. Upon the request of the TASFAA President, the Council's focus for the 2009-10 year was on Initiative #3 - TASFAA Fiscal Stability. The council was asked, specifically, to investigate the feasibility of proposals to restructure membership dues that would increase the voting membership of the association and generate annual revenues that would sustain the essential operational costs of the association in the new paradigm of financial aid after the elimination of the Federal Family Educational Loan Program (FFELP). The council was also asked to consider. "What should be the main deliverables of the association?"



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The PAC reported its discussions back to the board at the spring meeting but did not present specific recommended actions. Regarding the structure of membership dues the PAC observed that both SWASFAA and NASFAA use a tiered dues structure based on school enrollment. However, the council could not determine if tiered structure would generate more revenue or more membership participation.

The PAC was unanimous in considering training to be the most important and essential deliverable product of the association. The New Aid Officers Workshop and the regional High School Counselor Training Workshop were identified as premier activities provided by TASFAA. The PAC also identified legislative advocacy for improving financial aid access and opportunity for Texas students as another important activity for the association. Peer networking and creating opportunity for professional development of financial aid staff were also areas that TASFAA should continue to offer as services and benefits of the association.

### **Scholarship Committee**

Christina L. Quintanilla, Chair - Texas Lutheran University (cquintanilla@tlu.edu)

Griselda Castilla - University of Texas - Pan American Laurie S Coulter - Austin College Kathy M Day - Not Affiliated with an Institution

Rayanne L Hukill - Weatherford College Dana N Mingo - Eastfield College Elsa M Ramos - University of Texas - Austin

In late March, the scholarship committee invited everyone to apply for the Mack C. Adams Professional Development Scholarship. The scholarship was made available for the New Aid Officers Workshop (NAOW) in May. This scholarship was designed to assist financial aid professionals with the cost of attending TASFAA-sponsored training opportunities. Along with financial assistance, recipients also receive an opportunity to grow as a financial aid professional and make important connections with others in their field. Applications for the

NAOW scholarship were made available in late March. The deadline to submit the application was April 9th and recipients were notified by April 23rd. There were 26 applicants for the Mack Adams scholarship, and 8 scholarship recipients. Due to budget constraints, the TASFAA board elected not to award the Mack Adams scholarship for the fall conference. Future scholarships are expected to be awarded using proceeds from upcoming fundraisers. The TASFAA Board will continue to discuss the future of the Mack Adams scholarship and its place and purpose within our organization.

#### **Site Selection Committee**

JimAnn Batenhorst, Chair - South Plains College (jbatenho@southplanscollege.edu) Phillip Applebaum - Brazos HESC

The primary goal of the Site Selection Committee is to anticipate the needs of the TASFAA membership under the guidance of the TASFAA Board of Directors. Understanding these needs will allow the Committee to research and develop the tools to solicit, review and recommend potential future training sites for the annual Fall Conference, New Aid Officers Workshop and other opportunities as deemed necessary by the TASFAA Board of Directors.

The objectives of the committee involve but are not limited to:

- recommending suitable fall conference sites.
- obtain reasonable rates and accommodations for all attendees,
- easy access from all parts of the state, and
- assisting other committees in accomplishing their goals.





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### **Regional Training Committee**

Lisa Blazer, Chair - Univ. Of Texas at San Antonio (Lisa.Blazer@utsa.edu)
April M Gonzales - University of Texas - San Antonio
Jose M Guerrero - North Texas Higher Education Authority/HESC
Dana N Mingo - Eastfield College
Consuela P Mitchell - Tarrant County College
James D Reed - West Texas A&M
University

Training Topics: Introduction to Communication Styles; Needs Analysis and Professional Judgment; State Programs (by THECB staff); Am I Independent or Dependent; Veteran Issues/Eligibility

#### Locations:

April 21st - Lubbock Lubbock Christian
University - 25 attended
April 29th - Corpus Christi Delmar College 16 attended
April 30th - Dallas Area Tarrant Co
Community College - 28 attended
May 5th - San Antonio University of the
Incarnate Word - 33 attended
May 11th - Houston Houston Community
College - 42 attended
May 13th - El Paso El Paso Community
College - 27 attended
TOTAL 171 attended

Training Cost = \$30

**Notes:** Tentative revenue and costs are provided through the treasurer's report. We are still waiting on a few institutions to pay their fees. We need to establish a better refund policy because we have some individuals that register and never attend and do not want to pay for the event. We also have some institutions that have taken quite a bit of time to pay their fees (I know of 2 institutions for a total of 10 people that still need to be paid). We will likely have a small shortfall between revenue and costs to perform the training. I had originally scheduled the trainers so that there would be minimal travel based on the location

10 of the training and the trainer's location. Unfortunately, we had at

least 1 person completely drop out due to the health reasons and another had to back out of a training session. Because of that, either me or April Gonzales traveled to additional locations, causing an increase in travel expenses. We also helped to cover the travel costs for THECB as well.

Obviously, we would like for the Regional Training to be self-sufficient. However, I would respectfully request that we evaluate whether membership dues paid should cover a portion of the training each year especially in light of the fact training is a core component of our mission.

#### **EVALUATION SUMMARY**

Overall, participants enjoyed the sessions. It really depended on presenters and how they were matched with the topics. At some locations, we had the perfect mix of trainers and that allowed for each of us to play off of our strengths. Next year, we should really consider evaluating the personalities to match with the topics so that we can optimize our efforts.

#### **Comments From Participants Include:**

# What was your expectation of this conference? Did the overall training meet your expectations?

Only 3 individuals expressed that the conference somewhat or did not meet their expectations fully. The remaining comments were positive and expectations were met.

# What was your overall impression of the series (location, topics, depth)?

Most comments were positive stating that we covered enough material and the topics were well received. There were only a couple of people that wanted more detail on topics or felt we were rushed.

# Which topics were the most beneficial to you (or which did you enjoy the most)? Why?

All of the topics had fans. People liked the variety. They really liked the needs analysis topic the most along with professional judgment. Many people liked the state program update as well.



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# Which topics were the least beneficial to you (or which did you enjoy least)? Why?

Some participants had been in financial aid for several years and thought the dependency topic was basic. Some private institutions didn't feel they needed the state program update because it focused more on programs for state schools. The veterans information was not as pertinent to some individuals. Of course, some folks liked the communication topic and some didn't.

# What suggestions would you offer to improve the training?

Use more case studies; provide more best practices; increase quizzes and exercises; more references to SFA handbook; internet accessibility during training; residency; state update first or last; better food; double-check handouts; less stations to post comments; have more surrounding schools attend; spend more time on topics and bring scenarios from the office to discuss; time was short; could it be done at an earlier time like January or February; more of BC issues/changes

### Ideas for future training topics:

Work-study information/FERPA - how each college deals with this situation; more on direct lending conversions; customer service 101; human side and financial aid counseling; More student/employee communication techniques; go over FAFSA form; year round pell grant; student retention; panel discussion on PJ issues; dealing with conflict; more detailed review of state and grant programs; appeals; elaborate on verification; how schools verify; what does DOE do with FAFSA, how is it processed; ACG; don't go too fast; direct lending and discharge loans c-flag; do it earlier.

# Session Evaluations (poor, average, good, excellent)

#### See What You Say Session

Overall Impression of the Session: 60% rated excellent; 37% rated good; 3% rated average

Comments include:

The communication style was or did not

go as in depth as I would have liked-more about how people (students) communicate; Add Activities; Numbers on slides to correspond with number on slide handouts; Communication assistance is always appreciated; My complain is that the handouts were No rhyme or reason; Would have liked to engage in some group activities that we didn't have time to get to; It was such fun, and nice to know my color; April did excellent job!

### Needs Analysis & Professional Judgment

Overall Impression of the Session: 68% rated excellent; 28% rated good; 4% rated average

#### Comments include:

Sessions were very interesting; too bad the training was cut short; great job April; more real case scenarios; great job; a little rushed and glad we finished after lunch; a few more minutes would be appreciated; good refresher for old and new alike; great job; information was well presented-you know your stuff; presenter was a great subject matter expert; it felt like no real structure; would think that each section should be done individually not skipped around.

#### State Programs Session

Overall Impression of Session 57% rated excellent; 40% rated good; 3% rated average

Comments include:

Good summary review-enjoyed the charts provided

# Am I an Independent or Dependent Student Session

Overall Impression of the Session: 59% rated excellent; 38% rated good; 5% rated average

Comments include:

It should have been broader topic/ discussion with more and specific examples and exercises; excellent; very redundant should not be done apart from EFC; refreshed my memory on this topic-it has been a while that I work with this topic; good information



### TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

#### **Veteran Benefits Session**

Overall Impression of the Session 45% rated excellent; 48% rated good; 7% rated average

Comments Include:

A little bit brief, maybe go over the different chapters; I don't feel the gallery wall as very effective; more details about the chapters-general information; glad they sent me to this workshop, I learned a lot; great job; food was great; she had a clear voice with great tone; a great asset to your office; not familiar with this topic; presenter presented all topics very well; documentation and handouts were difficult to flip through

**Training Committee** 

Devon Wiggins, Chair - Tyler Junior College (dwig@tjc.edu)

Lisa G Blazer, PhD - University of Texas - San Antonio

Valerie N Bustillos - Tarrant County College

Vincent D Carales - TG

Yolanda M Cleveland - University of Texas - Arlington

April M Gonzales - University of

Texas - San Antonio

Consuela P Mitchell - Tarrant County College

Elena Olivier - San Jacinto College Christina Palacios - Tarrant County College

Erin M Porter - Texas A&M University Shana Thompson - Northwood University

Wesley M Vanderburg - Education Futures Group, LLC

Denise Welch - Panola College Devon Wiggins - Tyler Junior College

The Training Committee has worked diligently to plan and coordinate the two major training events held each year. Subcommittees were formed to increase productivity and narrow the focus of committee related responsibilities and duties. The committee members have all done an amazing job and have worked

12 as a team in every aspect. Their dedication and commitment to this

"additional" duty has been phenomenal.

The first training event of the year was the ABC Workshop held in conjunction with the Fall Conference. The 2009 ABC Workshop had 78 attendees. This was the largest ABC workshop in the past 5 years and was a 55% increase from the prior year. Total revenue was \$5,330.00.

The second event of the year was the New Aid Officer's Workshop held in the Spring. The 2010 NAOW had 79 registered "campers". Total revenue was \$33,050.00. This event is an intense three day financial aid "boot camp" for financial aid staffers that have been in the industry for less than one year. Attendees learn the basics and make invaluable friendships to help form a network of peers to lean on through the years. Camper evaluations were received and reviewed. The overall result is that the event was successful but some minor adjustments will be made based on camper's concerns.

We would like to thank ALL of the presenters that made these training events possible. We truly appreciate the time that they took to prepare and present their sessions. We ARE RECRUITING now for our future training events for anyone that is interested!

We are making preparations for the 2010 ABC Workshop in October and know that it will be a unique and valuable learning experience for those who attend.

We would also like to thank the TASFAA Board for their support and financial backing of the Training Committee and each professional development event.



# TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

# 2009-2010 TASFAA Service Awards

2009 Service Award Winners

Star Financial Aid Advisor - Joyce Fox, UT-San Antonio

Hall of Fame - Kathy Bassham, Weatherford College

Trailblazer - Rick Lasly, Angelo State University

### Years of Service Award Winners

#### 40 Years of Service

Ronny Barnes Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center Margarine G Beaman Conlee College of Cosmetology Prairie View A&M University Vera Moore

James F Shaw Southside Bank

#### 35 Years of Service

Jane I Caldwell Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Beverly Cottingham Retired

Cathryn Wright Opportunity Plan, Inc. Collections Unlimited Terry Wunsch Donald G Zackary **Dallas Baptist University** 

#### 30 Years of Service

Yvonne Apodaca El Paso Community College E. Raedean Bolton Texas Woman's University Frank Evans

ATI Enterprises, Inc.

Michael A Novak US Department of Education

David Schwartz Texas A&M University

Lyn Wheeler Kinyon Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

#### 25 Years of Service

Jacqueline L Bozeman ATI Enterprises, Inc. Lamar M Duarte Palo Alto College

Kay Egbert Texas A&M Health Science Center

Not Specified Memory L Keeler Jeanette Kucera **Baylor University** Karen T Mangum Not Specified

Hazel Risley Univesity of Houston - Downtown

George C Torres TG

Barbara Waters Southern Methodist University



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### 20 Years of Service

JimAnn BatenhorstSouth Plains CollegePeter J BeilharzSt. Edward's UniversityReggie BrazzleLone Star College SystemBrenda D BrittGrayson County College

Dean Carpenter KeyBank-Key Education Resources - Austin

Sandra G Collins Dallas Nursing Institute

William S Delgado Alamo CCD

Delisa Falks Texas A&M University

Marquita R Hackett University of Texas - Tyler

Kathy J Hall Not Specified

Sandra Jones McLennan Community College
Marla G Long Concorde Career Institute

Cynthia R Mayberry TG

Barbara A McDonald University of North Texas

Sharon M Mullins Lee College

Arlene Murray Tarleton State University

Debbie Oliver Abilene Christian University

Ralph Perri Texas A&M University - Kingsville

Maria Reves El Paso Community College

Letitia M Reyna Not Specified

Patrick G Reyna Baptist Health System School of Health Professions

Lisa L Seals Not Specified

Pamela D Shuttlesworth Mountain View College
Trevor Summers US Department of Education

Vickie S Tanner TG

Kathy Williams ELM Resources
Grace A Zapata St. Phillip's College

#### 15 Years of Service

Paula R Baxter University of Texas - Dallas
Jan Benton Amarillo National Bank

Jan Carey-McDonald University of Texas - San Antonio

Michelle Coburn Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center

Lawrence R Contéro St. Edward's University



### TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

Christopher W Elam Campus Door

Art G Escobar San Jacinto College

Sergio Gonzalez Sallie Mae Texas

Ayeesha J Green TG

Marsha Halfmann Not Specified

Jennifer Herman University of North Texas

Elva B Leija Alamo CCD

Ric Lewis Central Texas Commercial College

Kimberly Mosley Eastfield College
Vickie Murillo Not Specified

Mia C Myers Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Elena Olivier San Jacinto College

Clarissa Peereboom Regions

Victor M Puente Not Specified
Adriana Quintero White Not Specified

Sharon D Rodriguez Not Affiliated with an Institution

Rosanna Rodriguez- South Texas Vocational-Technical Institute

Ferguson

Juan Antonio Ruiz San Antonio Federal Credit Union
Celinda Sarabia Texas A&M International University

Treanell Scott Walters Lone Star College System

Yvonne Trevino Del Mar College

Deborah Whitis THECB

Paul Wright Edfinancial Services

#### 10 Years of Service

Rebecca Akin Not Specified

Becky Akin-Sitka University of Texas - Austin
Janie Alcala Texas A&M University

Sylvia F Amann Not Specified

Yomaira Arrendondo Brookhaven College

Jeanne Ballard Vernon College

Scott R Berg Education America - Little Rock

Vera A Boda Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District

Billy Bossier University of Texas - Austin

Judith W Branch Regions

Tammy L Burch Franklin Bank, S.S.B.

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Samuel Caldera Student Loan Xpress

Grace Calixto Hallmark Institute of Aeronautics/Technology

Miguel Carranza South Texas College

Griselda Castilla University of Texas - Pan American

Karen J Chambless Not Specified
Leigh Ann Clark Not Specified

Yolanda M Cleveland University of Texas - Arlington

Jeannette Costello Eastfield College

Adrian Cuellar International Business College

Rachel E Dixon Lamar University
Heather A Domeier Rice University
Janet B Dragoo Not Specified

Stan Eddy Southern Methodist University
Maria Faber El Paso Community College
Mike G Fuller First Marblehead Corporation
James Gaeta Southwestern University

James B Gammon Not Specified

Lucio Garcia-Zuazua Sul Ross State University-Rio Grande College

Marian Giesecke West Texas A&M University
Arthur R Goudeau Texas Chiropractic College
Denise Hall University of Houston
Charita Hampton University of Houston

Dorothy L Hampton University of Texas - Arlington

Darrell L Horn Abilene Christian University

Jared Hunt First Service Credit Union

Dottie A Kyle Not Specified

Melet Leafgreen Texas Christian University

Daffne A Liberato Not Specified

Elizabeth Lopez Texas A&M International University

Miroslava Martinez Not Specified

Mark E McCarty Southwestern Professional Institute

Sharetta McKenzie DeVry University - Irving
Tammy D Minton Tyler Junior College
Bob Paton Bank of America
Augustin Perez Capital One



# **TASFAA Service Awards**

# TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

Dolly Pierson Texas Christian University

Cornelius T Pruitt ITT Technical Institute - Austin

Barry D Pupella Not Specified Margaret L Quintanilla Alamo CCD

Rachel M Ramirez International Academy of Design and Technology

Yolanda T Ramos Midland College Glenna Reeves Not Specified

DeCha S Reid Cedar Valley College
Lisa Rolfe State Beauty Academy
Chris Scott Collegiate Funding Services

Irene Smith COSTEP

Ted Sparks Wachovia Education Finance
May Steigman University of Texas - Austin

Denise S Sullivan Citibank

Robert Z Trevino University of Texas - Pan American
Robin L Walker Vetterott Educational Centers, Inc.

Terrye Waller Texas Tech University

Bruce M Ware Everest Institution - Hobby Campus

John W Wells El Centro Community College

Molly M Williams Tyler Junior College

Noko T Wilson Austin Community College

Laura S Young BancorpSouth





### TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

# Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Audited Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursments November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2009

### **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Executive Committee Of Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

We have audited the accompanying state of cash receipts and cash disbursements of Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for the year ended October 31, 2009. This financial statement is the responsibility of Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of cash receipts and cash disbursements is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement of cash receipts and cash disbursements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the organization, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the statement of cash disbursements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this financial statement has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion the accompanying statement of cash receipts and cash disbursements referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts and cash disbursements of Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for the year ended October 31, 2009, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Gary, Bowers & Miller May 5, 2010



# TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

### Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Adminstrators Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 2009

Balance as of November 1, 2008		
Plains Capital Bank Checking	\$	79,808
Plains Capital Bank Savings		11,484
Wells Fargo Bank Certificates of Deposit		15,000
Chase Bank Certificates of Deposit		48,955
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents as of November 1, 2008	\$	155,247
Cash Receipts		
Membership Dues	\$	34,575
Fall Conferences Fees		130,364
Workshops, Spring Conference, Regional Rallies and other Income		45,873
Distribution from ING Investment Account		130,000
Investment Income		688
Total Cash Receipts	\$	341,500
Total Gash Recorpts	Ψ	041,000
Cash Disbursements		
Current Year Fall Conference Expenses	\$	151,886
Prior Year Fall Conference Expenses		166,868
Workshop, Training and Regional Rally Expense		29,808
Board of Directors Expenses		12,288
Fall Conference Committee		2,559
Communications Network		4,345
Regional Training Opportunities Committee		13,146
Other Committee & Training Expenses		2,918
Secretary's, Treasurer's and Assistant's Stipends		6,600
Past President, President and President-Elect Travel		8,708
President's Discretionary Fund		998
Scholarships		5,747
Other Expenses	_	<u>17,694</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	\$	423,565
Cash Disbursements in Excess of Cash Receipts		(82,065)
Balance as of October 31, 2009		
Plains Capital Bank Checking	\$	38,840
Plains Capital Bank Savings		897
Wells Fargo Bank Certificates of Deposit		15,000
Chase Bank Certificates of Deposits	\$	<u> 18,445</u>
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents as of October 31, 2009		73,182

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



### TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

# Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Notes to Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 2009

### **Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### Purposes

The Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) is organized for educational and research purposes of its membership and shall not be operated for profit. In furthering these general purposes, TASFAA shall be dedicated to:

- 1. Encouraging qualified students to pursue a higher education and assisting them to obtain the financial aid they need to achieve this goal
- 2. The success of the students who pursue their higher education in Texas.
- 3. Promoting the effectiveness of the student financial aid programs in the post secondary institution of the state.
- 4. Uniting and facilitating communication among all persons, agencies, organizations and institutions involved or interested in any phase of student financial aid administration in the state
- 5. Sponsoring those activities and services, which will serve its members and society and provide them a means of exchanging and distributing professional information and ideas.
- 6. Promoting the professional development and competency of its members and others who support financial aid administration in the state.
- 7. Maintaining and improving professional standards in the field of student financial aid administration.
- 8. Stimulating creative and experimental activities in the financial aid field.

### Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The Accounts of TASFAA are maintained on a cash basis. Accordingly, certain revenues and the related asset accounts are recognized when received rather than when earned and certain expenses are recognized when paid rather than when **20** the obligation is incurred.



# TASFAA - 2010 Annual Report

#### Tax Status

TASFAA is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes and convenience of reporting, cash and cash equivalents are considered to be all cash and certificates of deposit.

### **Investment Policy**

Treasurer will keep cash on hand in an amount sufficient to meet expenses and to prevent overdrafts or service charges. Investments, stocks, bonds, and certificates of deposit amounts and distributions will be monitored by the Board.

#### Note 2 - ING Investment Account

TASFAA maintains an investment account at ING. This account is not reported on the statement of cash receipts and disbursements, as it does not meet the definition for cash and cash equivalents in this cash basis financial statement. A summary of activity if this account at fair market value is as follows:

Beginning Balance November 1, 2008	\$ 352,739
Interest and Dividends Earned	10,908
Fees Paid	(3,452)
Distributions	(130,000)
Unrealized Net Gains (Losses)	 22,761
Ending Balance October 31, 2009	\$ 252,956

#### Note 3 - Off-Balance Sheet Credit Risk

TASFAA maintains bank accounts as well as certificates of deposit at three banks. Accounts at an institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. Cash at all three institutions were under federally insured limits at October 31, 2009.

TASFAA maintains a brokerage account. This brokerage account is insured by the Securities Investor Protector Corporation. The SIPC provides protection for all securities registered in TASFAA's name in amounts up to \$500,000 per customer for failure of a brokerage house. At October 31, 2009, the balance at the brokerage house did not exceed this insured amount.



Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators



The TASFAA Annual Report was created by

the Newsletter | Public **Relations Committee**