2015 TASFAAA Annual Report

On Track for Success!

TASFAA 2015

Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
Dear TASFAA and Friends of TASFAA,

I want to extend my thanks and gratitude for electing me as your TASFAA President for 2015. I learned so much as President Elect under Melet Leafgreen, and have appreciated Shannon Crossland’s, your new President, guidance and wisdom. Keeping TASFAA effectively running, from board meetings, to training and committee work, is a huge undertaking. The success of TASFAA falls squarely on the shoulders of Texas’ financial aid community.

As you read through the annual report, please note all the positive work being done by our committees. As much as I’d love to take responsibility and credit for all that great work, it really is how each person on each committee contributed. I cannot express enough how grateful and proud I am at all you’ve accomplished.

Finally, I want to ask one more thing of our community. Please continue to volunteer; one of the best things I’ve learned while serving this year is that TASFAA is only as strong as its membership. Thanks to each and every one of you who did any work for TASFAA. Whether you were on the Board, chaired a committee, or worked on a committee, you are what makes TASFAA Texas strong.

Again, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work so closely with TASFAA for another year.

Best Regards,
Anne Walker
Rice University

President
Anne E. Walker, Rice University

Vice President
Denise Welch, Panola College

President Elect
Shannon L Crossland, Texas Tech University

Past President
Melet Leafgreen, Texas Christian University

Treasurer
Fabian Vasquez, Texas Tech University HSC

Secretary/Historian
Devon Wiggins, Tyler Junior College

Board Members
Alan D. Ahmad, Alamo Community College
Delisa Falks, Texas A&M University
Cecelia K Jones, Wiley College
Christopher D. Murr, Texas State University
Donnie Purvis, Weatherford College
Karen J Trail, Texas Woman’s University
Ed Turney, University of North Texas
TASFAA Mission

TASFAA Mission Statement
TASFAA is a professional organization with a diverse membership that works toward the ultimate goal of helping students gain necessary resources to promote access and choice in their pursuit of higher education opportunities.

Mission
The Association fosters commitment to these activities through initiatives collectively known as TASFAA’s Preferred Future. These initiatives are: Training and Education; Technology; Outreach and Early Awareness; Partnerships; and Legislative.

Description
The Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) promotes the effectiveness of student financial aid programs in the post-secondary institutions of the state, facilitates communication among its members, sponsors activities in the financial aid field to promote the professional development and competency of its members.

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. Don’t know if your TASFAA membership is current, find out - check your membership status here.

Volunteer Now!
http://www.tasfaa.org/docs/forms/memVolunteer.html
TASFAA Committee Reports

Archive Task Force

Melet Leafgreen - Texas Christian University, Chair
Denise Welch - Panola College
Devon Wiggins - Tyler Junior College
Cecelia Jones - Wiley College
Carolyn Jones - Collin County Community College

As TASFAA prepares for its 50th anniversary celebration in 2017, the Board became aware that the TASFAA Archives needed some updating and reorganizing. In the summer, we began talking about selecting a location to display some of the archive material permanently, where it could truly be appreciated by our membership and other higher education stakeholders in the state. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board seemed to be the perfect location, and Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Student Financial Aid Dr. Charles Puls graciously agreed to allow TASFAA to house our archives there as well as set up some display room in their facility.

TASFAA had an initial meeting with Dr. Puls at the TG headquarters in Round Rock (where TASFAA’s archives have previously been housed) in July. In October, the day before the TASFAA conference began in Austin, a group of dedicated Board members spent all day going through every photo, every scrap of paper, and every artifact in the 48 year history of TASFAA. It was a fun and fascinating journey!

Coming up in 2016, the Task Force will request that members begin sending us any materials they have that should be included in our archives. We will also obtain references and financial estimates for digitizing the documents and photos in the archives.

We’ve made a great start on this important project, and look forward to having some wonderful materials to bring to the conference in October 2017 as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary together!

Awards & Scholarships

Sefra M. Lopez - Texas A&M University, Chair
Dede Gonzales - Texas State University
Bridget Moore - Hardin-Simmons University
Chris Woodyard - University of Texas-Arlington
Demetrice Dent - University of Houston
Casey Wells - Tyler Junior College
Angelika Williams - Texas State University
Jael Garcia - University of Texas-Pan American

The Awards & Scholarship Committee awarded 10 scholarships in the amount of $200 to assist with the cost of the New Aid Officers Workshop in May 2015.

In August, our committee solicited nominations for the Financial Aid Star, Trailblazer, and Hall of Fame awards. We received 2 nominations for the FAID Star award and selected John Sculley from Texas State University. Angela Parkoff of Texas A&M University was selected by the TASFAA Board to receive the Trailblazer award. The committee received 4 nominations for the TASFAA Hall of Fame and recommended Becky Wilson of Texas Tech University for the Unsung Hero of TASFAA and Earl Hudgins of Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center for the Service to TASFAA award.

All of the TASFAA service pins were mailed out at the beginning of November to individuals who did not attend the fall conference.

I will be working with Dede Gonzales, the new committee chair, to create an online application for the Mack C. Adams Scholarship for next year’s submissions.

Years of Service Award Winners

50 Years of Service
Ronny Barnes  Panhandle-Plains Management & Service Corp.

40 Years of Service
Linda Gonzalez-Hensgen El Paso Community College
David Krause St. Mary’s University

35 Years of Service
Yvonne Apodaca El Paso Community College
Jeffrey Ayers Panhandle-Plains Management & Service Corp.
E. Raedean Bolton Texas Woman’s University
Mickey Lewis San Jacinto College
Janie Miramontes Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
David Schwartz Texas A&M University
Lyn Wheeler Kinyon Baylor University
TASFAA Committee Reports

Years of Service Award Winners (cont’d)

30 Years of Service
MarQuita Hackett  University of Texas - Tyler
Don Hilton  Ranger College
Cathy Horn  Concordia University Texas
Jeanette Kucera  Baylor University
George Torres  TG
Barbara Waters  Southern Methodist University
Becky Wilson  Texas Tech University
Marcus Wilson  Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

20 Years of Service
Heather Beckles-Bright  University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Christine Bowman  Southwestern University
Karen Burnett  Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Amy Carcanagues  University of the Incarnate Word
Lori Castillo  Texas A&M University
Michael Chavez  Midland College
Eddie Davis  Southwestern Assemblies of God University
Christine Gauger  University of Texas - Austin
Dede Gonzales  Texas State University
Sergio Gonzalez  Sallie Mae
Charita Hampton  University of Houston
Jennifer Herman  Wells Fargo Education Financial Services
Tricia Johnson  University of North Texas
Joel Juliet  University of North Texas
Mia Myers  Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Melinda Oliver  Baylor University

25 Years of Service
Melissa Bassett  First Marblehead Corporation
Lisa Blazer, PhD  University of Texas - San Antonio
Bonita Coleman  Lone Star College System
Laurie Coulter  Austin College
Stan Eddy  Southern Methodist University
Michelle Enriquez  Citizens Bank
Robin Famiglietti  Sallie Mae
Keri Farrier  Texas Woman’s University
Stacy Flood  Austin Community College
Paige Hendricks  Edfinancial Services
Carol Hicks  University of Texas - El Paso
Becky Johnson  Odessa College
Sandra Jones  McLennan Community College
Debra La Grone  Texas A&M University - Texarkana
Debbie Mar  Texas Christian University
Diana Martinez  University of Texas - San Antonio
Cynthia Mayberry  TG
Patrick Reyna  Baptist Health System School of Health Professions
Frank Sanchez  Texas A&M University - Kingsville
Pamela Shuttlesworth  DCCCD
Donna Story  Stephen F. Austin State University
Cassandra Thomas  Texas Southern University
Kathy Williams  ELM Resources

15 Years of Service
Judy Adle  Texas State University
Yomaira Arredondo  Dallas County Community College District
Jeanne Ballard  Vernon College
Sherie Banovic  University of Houston
Kimberly Bommersie  University of Texas - Dallas
Billy Bossier  Southern Methodist University
Susan Brown  San Jacinto College
Griselda Castilla  University of Texas - Pan American
Yolanda Cleveland  University of Texas - Arlington
Rosemary Cooper  University of Texas - Tyler
Andres Cordero  TG
Jeanette Costello  Dallas County Community College District
Judith Cunningham  TG
Linda Dawson  Texas A&M University - Commerce
Rachel Dixon  Lamar University
Mary Dukes  Texas Woman’s University
Donna Everson-Hampton  University of Texas - Dallas
Maria Faber  El Paso Community College
Jacob Fraire  TG
James Gaeta  Southwestern University
Elsa Gaitan  Trinity University
Molly Garrett  Tyler Junior College
Deborah George  University of Houston - Victoria
Dorothy Hampton  University of Texas - Arlington
Sylvia Hampton  Ranger College
Jennifer Jones  Texas Southern University
Melet Leafgreen  Texas Christian University
David Longoria  University of Texas - San Antonio
Elizabeth Lopez  Texas A&M International University
Cindy Luetzow  Southern Methodist University
Susan Marze  Lamar University
Clarene McDonald  Wayland Baptist University
Rosanna Mendiola  University of Texas - San Antonio
H. Rachele’ Nixon Garrett  Stephen F. Austin State University
Dolly Pierson  Texas Christian University
Marlene Ramos  Texas A&M International University
DeCha Reid  Midland College
Marlene Ruffino  The CB
Charita Hampton  Lone Star College System
Gail Schatte  Texas Medical Association
Lisa Schroeder  Lamar Institute of Technology
Cynthia Scott-Treat  Texas Woman’s University
Leslie Singleton  Chamberlain College of Nursing
May Steigman  University of Texas - Austin
Years of Service Award Winners (cont'd)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sonia Adán-Medina</td>
<td>Southwest Texas Junior College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lydia Babbitt</td>
<td>Southern Methodist University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Paul Burke</td>
<td>Financial Aid TV</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William Chandler</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dell Cox</td>
<td>Amarillo College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pearl Creviston</td>
<td>Central Texas College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Beverly Fields</td>
<td>Frank Phillips College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sharon Finney</td>
<td>San Jacinto College</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nathan Flory</td>
<td>University of Texas - San Antonio</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veronica Gabbard</td>
<td>Houston Baptist University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melissa Gandy</td>
<td>Sam Houston State University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brenda Garcia</td>
<td>University of Texas - Pan American</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jael Garcia</td>
<td>University of Texas - Pan American</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juan Garcia</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M International University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Edia Hernandez</td>
<td>Midland College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vicki House</td>
<td>Hardin-Simmons University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diana Kinto</td>
<td>Lamar State College-Orange</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gabriela Leon</td>
<td>University of St. Thomas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alina Longoria</td>
<td>Lone Star College System</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Iris Madrigal</td>
<td>University of Texas - Pan American</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melanie Martinez</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M International University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gabriel Mendiola</td>
<td>University of Texas - San Antonio</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Janet Merten</td>
<td>Amarillo College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stefany Mitchell</td>
<td>University of Houston - Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Montgomery</td>
<td>Higher Education Servicing Corp/NTHEA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joyce Myers</td>
<td>Howard Payne University</td>
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<td>Debbie Newhouse</td>
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<td>Paul Remmert</td>
<td>University of Texas - San Antonio</td>
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<td>Mary Rios</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rachel Romero</td>
<td>Galveston College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William Saenz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angela Speech</td>
<td>Texas College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sheila Stedham</td>
<td>Lone Star College System</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Steed</td>
<td>Austin College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sharon Steele</td>
<td>Lee College</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crystal Thomas</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University - Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Torres</td>
<td>Texas Southmost College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kim Tran</td>
<td>University of Houston - Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thresa Tyus</td>
<td>TG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yvonne Vera</td>
<td>San Jacinto College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breanda Williams</td>
<td>Dallas Christian College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kay Wright</td>
<td>Brazosport College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christy Young</td>
<td>Blinn College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Constitution and Bylaws

Shannon Crossland - Texas Tech University, Chair
Connie Brown – Texas Tech University
Dede Gonzales – Texas State University
Scott Lapinski – UNT Dallas
Michael Patterson – Texas A&M University, Commerce

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee created a special section on the TASFAA website, located on the TASFAA Legislative Issues Committee page, to upload the TASFAA Position Papers for reference. The TASFAA Policies and Procedures manual was updated as necessitated for the needs of the Association.

Fall Conference

Scott Moore - University of Houston, Chair
Taryn Anderson - University of Dallas, Co-Chair
Chrisana Black - University of North Texas, Co-Chair
Alan Pixley - Co-Chair
Yolanda M Cleveland - University of Texas - Arlington
Demetrice Dent - University of Houston
Lety P Gallegos - University of Houston
Jael E. Garcia - University of Texas - Pan American
Molly M Garrett - Tyler Junior College
Sergio Gonzalez - Sallie Mae
Charita Hampton - University of Houston
Donna King - Grayson County College
Raul H Lerma - El Paso Community College
Marisela O Maldonado - Rice University
Amanda L Smith - Clarendon College
Kay M Wright - Brazosport College

This year, the Texas financial aid community gathered in Austin for its annual conference. 367 were in attendance this year, nearly a 40% increase in attendance over 2014. In lieu of the attendance issues and unique challenges of the 2014 conference in El Paso, the committee decided not to increase registration fees and concentrate on creating an engaging conference that would capitalize on creating more information and greater networking opportunities. The committee changed the way information was offered to participants. Opting for “track themed” sessions that would target school types (two-year, four-year, etc.) and experience (beginner, intermediate, advanced). In addition, for the first time in many years, the committee opted not to offer every session in the traditional hour and fifteen minute time slot. Time slots varied from 45 minutes, 60 minutes to the 75 minute sessions.

The theme of the conference was “On Track for Success”, playing off the various session “tracks” which were offered. Sessions by Jim Briggs, the Tax Detective, TASFAA 2015 president Anne Walker (who did three!),
TASFAA Committee Reports

Fall Conference (cont’d)

Megan McClean (NASFAA) and Rick Renshaw (DOE) were all popular. President Anne Walker opened up the conference with a warm welcome and Shannon Folliwell closed it with great anticipation for the 2016 Conference. Through the generosity of the TASFAA Community, we were able to raise $652 for the Austin Jazz Workshop. The Jazz Workshop also provided excellent ambient entertainment for the President’s reception. In addition, 27 runners woke up before dawn to complete the Mac Adams Fun Run and raise $570.

The committee felt the conference was a great success. Both in terms of attendance and of satisfaction rated by polling. Of those in attendance, 99% reported “Good” or “Excellent” satisfaction with the conference. We would like to thank all of the presenters who did such a great job in sharing information and the board of TASFAA who was supportive throughout the process. In addition, I would personally like to thank Anne Walker, for being a great leader and always supportive. Also, the committee for their tireless work both prior to the event and during the event, they really made this happen by pulling together and meeting some tough challenges head on. With the organizational, hard-working, visionary talents of both Taryn Anderson and Chrisana Black as Chairs for the next conference, TASFAA will only build on the success of the 2016 conference.

We look forward with great anticipation to 2016 and will see everyone in Frisco.

Legislative Issues

Christopher D. Murr - Texas State University, Chair
Linda Ballard - Texas Southern University
Shannon Crossland-Followill - Texas Tech University
James Hubener - Dallas County Community College
Michael Patterson - Texas A&M University - Commerce
George Torres - Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation

Committee Activity:
• Drafted a letter of support for the B-On-Time Loan Program, which was submitted to the Office of Senator Zaffirini.
• Submitted a letter to the Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee outlining the TASFAA Recommendations for Increasing Financial Literacy and Responsible Student Loan Borrowing.
• Revised the TASFAA Position Paper on State Higher Education Financial Aid Programs and submitted it to key legislative staff.
• Revised the TASFAA Position Paper on Federal Higher Education Financial Aid Programs.
• Continued to send legislative alerts to members via the TASFAA listserv.

Pending Activity:
• Conduct an annual re-prioritization of committee goals.
• Begin development of a survey to assess the membership’s concerns regarding future legislative issues.
TASFAA Committee Reports

Membership

Donnie Purvis - Weatherford College, Chair
Amy Ahlas - Alamo CCD, Co-Chair
Melet Leafgreen - University of Texas - Arlington
Anne E. Walker - Rice University

This past year we made a lot of changes in the membership drive.

1. We cleaned up the membership by asking the two year institutions to update their staff in the database.
2. We focused on getting members to renew their membership. We were only 3 members short of our budget.
3. We had a much better turnout for voting this past year we believe due to the memberships being done sooner.

Our next project: We will focus on the four year schools this coming year to getting their staff roster updated and as current as possible.

Side note: Kaplan College has merged into one institution now. They were previously paying 5 separate memberships. The same for TSTC. It’s all under one OPEID number now. So, this is affecting our budgets for membership. We had already anticipated this for 15-16. I do believe had we not been in contact with the membership, we would have been caught off guard on this resulting in a short fall on the budget side.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership by Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public (2 year)</td>
<td>623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public (4 year)</td>
<td>772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent (2 year)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent (4 year)</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proprietary</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Related/Nursing</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate/Professional</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Agency</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guaranty Agency</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lender</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>Secondary Market</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Servicer</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not specified</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active membership</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership did not renew</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominations & Elections

Melet Leafgreen - Texas Christian University, Chair
Bridgette Ingram - Texas A&M University
Stephanie Lopez - Texas State University

We began requesting nominations in March of 2015. This year, we asked nominators to identify why they nominated each individual for office - how long they had known their nominees, how have the nominees served TASFAA, and what strengths and experiences nominees brought to the table. We had excellent participation and received 15 nominations. In turn, we required each candidate to provide a Statement of Candidacy and a resume. In April our committee submitted nominee information to the Board for review. For the first time in several years, we had a whopping 8 candidates for the 4 open Board positions.

On July 1st we sent a “preview” email and encouraged all members to check out the list of candidates and their profiles. A reminder went out on July 24th that the election would open July 31st. Actual voting invitations went out to 137 voting members on July 31st. As of August 12th, 54 of those schools had voted. I asked each of our TASFAA Board members to call 6-7 schools each that week. By August 17th, the number of schools who had voted had climbed to 80 – that’s 58% participation!

Elections closed on August 17th, and the following results were sent to President Anne Walker:

President-Elect
Alan Ahmad, Alamo Community College District

Board Members
Eric Cooper, Texas A&M University at Kingsville
Carolyn Jones, Collin County Community College
Raul Lerma, El Paso Community College
Donnie Purvis, Weatherford College

We are proud of this committee’s work this year, and are so grateful for everyone’s participation.
TASFAA Regional Training

TASFAA Regional Training in partnership with Texas Guarantee Agency and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) conducted the FY 15 regional training. We welcomed new presenters from THECB and adjusted out training locations and methods this year. We continue to work as a team to find ways to better serve our financial aid community by providing the best training experience at no expense.

This year was definitely a year to remember for the Regional Training Committee. Early on in planning, I became pregnant with twins and was informed I would need to keep travel to a minimum. Luckily, I was able to rely on three of my colleagues, Melissa Bohnsack, Angela Parkoff, and Erin Porter, to assist with conducting these presentations on my behalf. In addition, weather played a major role in the ability for some of our presenters to make it to certain locations.

This year’s topics included a NASFAA CORE module: Need Analysis, enrollment reporting, contacting delinquent borrowers, federal and state updates. In addition, we conducted group discussions regarding R2T4 calculations, verification, and 150% subsidized loan limit.

Training was held at 7 sites that included: Houston (2), Dallas/Ft. Worth (2), El Paso. Lubbock, and Austin. The decision was made to move the previous San Antonio site to Austin this year. By providing the training in Austin, we were able to broadcast the training live as well as record it for future watching. This allowed our committee to provide training to those that could not make the trip to one of our locations. Weather prohibited our TASFAA presenters from making it to El Paso. The recordings that were made in Austin proved handy as we were able to show these in El Paso for the presenters that could not make it to that location.

Number of attendees per site as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Name</th>
<th>Event City</th>
<th>Event Total # Attended</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastfield College - Dallas CCC</td>
<td>Mesquite</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarrant County College Trinity River Campus</td>
<td>Fort Worth</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone Star College - North Harris</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston Community College Southeast Learning Hub</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board also live stream/recording</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Paso Community College</td>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubbock Christian University</td>
<td>Lubbock</td>
<td>85</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Breakfast and lunch were provided to training attendees. Food costs were split with TG. TASFAA’s food costs totaled $4833.15. To save costs going forward, we will alter the agenda to start training later in the morning which will allow us to eliminate the need for breakfast.

Overall, the training locations were a success. Moving the training to Austin and being able to record it was a huge win for us. We will continue to do this going forward as we feel this opens up training for numerous TASFAA members. The cost for three TASFAA training committee members was approximately $2750, which included hotel, flights, and meals.

I would like to express my thanks to Melissa, Angela, and Erin for stepping in when needed. They assistance and input was invaluable throughout this process. I’d also like to thank Texas Guarantee and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for their willingness to present and contribute to these trainings as well. They are a pleasure to work with and I look forward to working with them again in FY 16.
TASFAAA Committee Reports

Training

Tierra Graves - Texas A&M University, Chair
Consuela Mitchell - Tarrant County College District
Melissa Mallett Bohnsack - Texas A&M University
Angela Parkoff - Texas A&M University
Roy Tuberville - El Paso Community College
Russell Jeffrey - Concordia University
William Mack - The University of Texas at Dallas
Yolanda Cleveland - The University of Texas at Arlington
Robert Gaertner - Blinn College
Lauren Miller - Texas Woman’s University
Phillip Wambsganss - NTHEA/HESC
Kevin Montgomery - NTHEA/HESC
Karen Trail - Texas Woman’s University
Brandy Gilliam - Texas Woman’s University

On October 7th-8th the Training Committee traveled to El Paso, Texas to train new financial aid professionals for the 2014 ABC Conference. The workshop took place at the El Paso Camino Real Hotel and Convention Center. The Training Committee presented on the basics of Financial Aid, including the application process, student eligibility, loans, Pell and campus based programs, verification, satisfactory academic progress and professional judgement.

Shortly after the ABC Conference, the Training Committee gained a new Chair. With the transition of new leadership, we experienced a few challenges. The Training Committee had to find a new location for the New Aid Officers Workshop. After calling and researching new venues, we were able to secure the Hilton in Arlington. In order to reduce costs, we signed a contract for two years. Despite the challenge of securing a new location in a short time span, the New Aid Officers Workshop was a complete success.

The Training Committee welcomed 74 guests from all of the State of Texas to the New Aid Officers Workshop. Our goal was to have a well-balanced workshop with a mix of presentations and hands on activities. Throughout the workshop, we wanted participants to get to know one another and build a network amongst each other. To do this, we included several opportunities for the larger group to break down into smaller groups. We also had a business card swap activity and a reflection activity. Throughout the workshop the Training Committee presented on the application process, need analysis and professional judgement with case studies, TASFA, packaging and satisfactory academic progress. We welcomed the Department of Education back to present on Pell grant, campus based programs and R2T4. The Higher Education Coordinating Board presented on state programs and updates and TG joined us to speak about “The Ins and Outs of loan repayment.” They also hosted the infamous “Show What You Know” game.

During the workshop, we invited the TASFAA Board to have dinner with us. The Fun/Activity Committee, which is a subcommittee of TASFAA, created financial aid specific games to play with the attendees and Board members. All in all, after the workshop we left as a family. Friendships, networks and relationships were built while learning the tools to be a successful financial aid administrator. The Training Committee will have a new Chair for 2015 ABC Conference and 2016 NAOW. It was a joy, honor and learning experience to serve as the Chair of the TASFAAA Training Committee.
On Track for Success!

TASFAA Annual Report 2015

The TASFAA Annual Report was created by the Communications & Social Media Committee