



**Contributors this
issue:**

- Gayle Yamry
- Carol Swenson
- Larry Bloom, photo
credit
- Jana Koehler
- Katie Hendrickson

Inside this issue:

President's Column	I
Leadership Symposium Retreat	2
MAFAA Spring Training in Review	4
Years of Service Recognition	6
Membership Updates	9
Retirement Note of Farewell	10
Calendar of Events	10
Living with Passion	11

From the President

Gayle Yamry, 2017-18 MAFAA President

This year, 2017/2018, marks the 50th year that MAFAA will be an organization. On May 3, 1968, MAFAA formally was established and the first official MAFAA president, Bruce Gray of Gustavus Adolphus College, was elected. There has been a long list of volunteer leaders in MAFAA over the last 50 years. To continue with the traditions and mission of the organization I encourage you all to get involved. I am excited and honored to be able to serve MAFAA for a second term and look forward to working with you all.

MAFAA volunteer signup is on line and committees are forming now. Take time to sign up now. <http://www.mafaa.org/members/volunteer.php> MAFAA needs everyone to join in the celebration and make 2017/2018 a memorable year. Celebrating the Past and Preparing for the Future!

This year will be jammed pack with training opportunities, so if you did not attend the May 2017 Spring Training, your membership will need to be renewed. The new member and member renewal form is now available. Take time and renew now so you do not miss out on training. The NASFAA credentials training took place on July 18, and the Fall Training Day will likely be on October 24th. There are many more events all year long. http://www.mafaa.org/members/member_login.php?accesscheck=%2Fmembers%2Fforms.php%3F

The MAFAA Executive Council and committee chairs are working hard to bring you quality training and networking opportunities again this year. We are also diligently working on a new improved web site that will be more informational for members and for our higher education partners, students and parents. In addition, the 50th Anniversary task force and Conference Planning committee will be planning extra special events to make MAFAA's 50th year memorable. Join the fun, share your memories all year long by writing a newsletter article about what being a member of MAFAA has done for you, send photos, and reminisce on the listserv. Know a past president who is retired? Send us their contact information so we get them an invitation to the past presidents reunion. We want to hear from all of you.

Enjoy the rest of your summer — Fall is just around the corner and so is the next FAFSA season!

Leadership Symposium Candidates Meet for Retreat

By Katie Hendrickson, Leadership Committee member

The MAFAA Leadership Symposium was held on June 11-13, 2017 on the gorgeous campus of St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. This year there are 13 participants going through the Leadership Program. In addition, there are five previous Leadership graduates participating in the Masters Program. They also serve as mentors for the Leadership candidates this year.

The Leadership and Masters participants gathered on Sunday evening, June 11, with an informal get-together enjoying pizza and getting to know one another. The next morning, Jennifer Allen from Mayo Clinic facilitated the Real Colors assessment. Real Colors is a personality typing system that enhances communication and the understanding of others. It is important to understand why we do the things we do and why others do what they do. This allowed the group to discover their dominant color and how to use their strengths to become a better leader and work effectively with others. In the afternoon, the group participated in a few team building activities and had a visit from the current MAFAA President, Gayle Yamry. The evening ended with dinner at the Archer House with food from The Tavern, followed by spirited games of bowling.

On Tuesday morning, Jeff Stafford with Orange Slice Training, led an interactive public speaking workshop, allowing its participants to discover the process of planning, designing, and delivering presentations that have impact. Thinking about Financial Aid Nights and orientation sessions we do, this was a great session to increase confidence levels in presenting all while searching for ways to get the point across with a bit more pop to keep people engaged.

The rest of the morning, individuals brainstormed ideas for their personal project and worked with their Masters' mentor on their upcoming group presentation on a specific leadership skill.

Upcoming events are the Direct Loan Credentialing Workshop being held on July 18th at Bethel University with three of the Masters participants presenting, as well as the community service day to be held in October. We look forward to working with these individuals throughout the year to enhance their leadership skills and getting involved with MAFAA!

See the next page for all the participating members of Leadership, Masters, and the Committee.



2017-18 Leadership & Masters

Leadership Symposium Retreat, *continued*

LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM CANDIDATES

Jill Anderson	University of Minnesota—Duluth
Michelle Dawson	Rasmussen College
Jessica Denne	Minneapolis Community & Technical College
Monica Ehalt	Anoka Ramsey Community College
Meng Heu	Anoka Ramsey Community College
Bridget Johnson	Anoka Ramsey Community College
Emily Johnson	University of Northwestern-St Paul
Brynn Juranek	Rasmussen College
Brandon Kongsjord	McNally Smith College of Music
Annie Lee	St. Olaf College
Amanda McCaughan	Concordia University-St Paul
Isaac Percival	Minneapolis Community & Technical College
Oana Zayic	Minneapolis Community & Technical College

MASTERS PARTICIPANTS

Debbie Cordova	Bethel University
Jessica Crotty	Rasmussen College
Kari Ellering	University of Minnesota
Sheila Krause	Minneapolis Community & Technical College
Brad Riebel	Sallie Mae

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Anne Dahlen, Co-chair	St. Olaf College
Katie Hendrickson	Gustavus Adolphus College
Sean Johns, Co-chair	Anoka Technical College
Carol Swenson	Great Lakes
Brittany Tweed	Anoka Ramsey Community College



Leadership Symposium participants engaged in fun team building activities. A favorite was having to build a pyramid of red solo cups while touching the cups only using the rubber band and string that each person was given. While working in pairs, another activity was where one person described an object to the other who then had to draw, sight unseen, what was being described.





MAFAA

TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD
a stronger tomorrow!

2016 - 2017

MAFAA Spring Training Conference in Review

The annual Spring Training Conference took place at Madden's Resort on May 3-5, 2017 with about 220 MAFAA members in attendance. Thanks to all the presenters, planning committee, and everyone who had a role in making yet another successful training event. Here is a look at some of the highlights.

Outstanding New Professional Thomas Lorendo Saint Paul College



President's Award
Bridgette Johnson
Anoka-Ramsey Community College



Distinguished Service Award
Doug Minter
Gustavus Adolphus College
Presented by Gayle Yamry and Valerie Knopp



MASFAA Leadership Award
Kris Parker
Carleton College
Presented by Nick Prewett, MASFAA President
University of Missouri



Special Achievement Award
Carolyn Zehren
Minnesota State University, Moorhead



**Executive Council Award
Outreach & Early Awareness Committee**

Front row: Valerie Knopp, Gayle Yamry, Jana Vanderah
Back: Elizabeth Fenske, Susan Ant, Debbie Cordova, Carolyn Chesebrough, Oana Zayic, Sheila Krause. Not pictured: Borr Vang, Jill Anderson, Riley Dahlheimer, Thomas Lorendo, Serena Williams, Steve Powell



Retirements in 2017

Rick Blatchley, University of Northwestern,
St Paul

Dianne Danov, University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities

Carolyn Zehren, Minnesota State
University, Moorhead

Not pictured:

Sandra Loerts, Minnesota State University,
Mankato

Luann Badour, Century College

Erma Walker, University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities,

Tom Ramaeker, Inceptia

Jayne Wobig, St. Mary's University of MN



Years Of Service Recognition



35 Years

(pictured left)
Larry Bloom
Carol Swenson
also
Lois Larson
Brenda Lester

30 Years

(pictured right)
Mike Barnaby
Brad Riebel
Carolyn Zehren
also
Kurt Ableidinger
Dee Collins
Jayne Dinse
Scott Riley
Julie Selander



25 Years

(pictured left)
Cathy Schuster
David Dahlen
Gayle Yamry
David Vikander
Emily Dowdle
also
Paula Benson
Paula Henneberg
Jenae Schmidt
Dave Sutherland
Holly Ulland

Years Of Service Recognition



20 Years

(pictured left)

Lisa Apitz

Rebecca Hedrick

Kirk Carlson

also

Carolyn Boganey,

Carla Goetz, Aimee Hood,

Stephanie Kearley,

Sheila Keenan,

Scott Meyer,

Regina Moran,

Debora Murray,

Tony Palermo

15 Years

(pictured right)

Bridget Arkell

Megan FitzGibbon

Jessica Crotty

also

Kari Ellering

Jillian Klein

Michelle Richardson

Craig Sanderson

Valerie Youngquist



10 Years

Leslie Arntzen, Peggy Babcock,

Amber Borsch, Diane Breitling,

Kathy Casey, Dixie Christensen,

Tara Clinkscales,

Nouphay Colberg, Jayne Deis

Cynthia Diessner, Heather Evans,

Ben Flikeid, Lara Gerhardson,

Valana Hillard, Charla Hudlow,

Jodi Knott, Kristi L'Allier,

Kathy Olson, Dawn Reed,

Shawn Reynolds,

Elizabeth Rowley,

Mary Sokol, Alicia Stoe,

Tammy Vondrasek,

Christina Wilson



Years Of Service Recognition



5 Years

(pictured left)

Stacy Kohn
Jana Koehler
Patricia Balstad
Soledad Kern
Tara Winchester
also
Natasha Boe
Jaclyn Oscarson
Kayla Phalen
Molly Revoir
Tibeb Teklu
Holly Weberg
Mohammad Zafar



“What A Wonderful Job”



What A Wonderful Job!

I see FAFSA forms
Tax Transcripts too
Tons and tons of paperwork
I don't know what to do
And I think to myself (self), what else can I do?
(I know you do now)

I see students cry
Parents shout
My administrators yell
Oh hell, I don't know what about
And I think to myself (self), what else can I do...(don't you fret)

'Cause then I hear students as they are passing by
Talk of financial aid and how it's helped them get by
I see future doctors, lawyers, teachers, too
And I know I helped a little, in what they do

Students graduate
I've watched them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself (self) what a wonderful JOB!
Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful job...

David Bartnicki, Federal Training Officer at the MAFAA Conference, graced the audience at the close of his Federal Update with his original lyrics sung to the tune of “What A Wonderful World”, made famous by Louis Armstrong. Go ahead, sing along!



Spring 2017 MAFAA Membership Updates

Two Year Public Sector:

Der Yang – Minneapolis Community/Technical College
 Leslie Rudrud – Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Wadena

Private Non-Profit Sector

Dan Merley – Hamline University
 Melissa O'Neil – North Central University
 Steve Merino – Hamline University

University of Minnesota Sector:

Nicholas Skulan – University of Minnesota, Morris
 Paula Cotten – University of Minnesota, Duluth

Associate and Other Sector:

Rick Dwyer – Campus Logic
 Karen Myhre – Campus Logic
 Jacqueline Olson – Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union
 Juan Perez – Inceptia (NSLP)
 Katherine Carlson – iHELP Student Loan
 Linda Murray – Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
 Maria Sevareid – iHELP Student Loan
 Peter Knutson – Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
 Stephanie Musgrove – Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union

Welcome Back to MAFAA:

Anna Gusovsky – Minneapolis Community/Technical College
 Holly Johnson – University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
 James Scott – Rochester Community Technical College
 Mike Arieta – University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
 Mike Lubben – Inceptia (NSLP)
 Shari Christenson – Mesabi Range Community and Technical College, Virginia
 Hilary Ramsey – University of Minnesota, Duluth



More from MAFAA Conference at Madden's 2017



A Note of Farewell from Sandra Loerts, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Sandra recently retired in May 2017 and was a long-time member of MAFAA.

I worked in the Financial Aid field for almost 40 years, 38 years as a professional, with 28 of those years as the director. The other years were as a Graduate Assistant in the FA office. All was at Minnesota State University, Mankato. It was a career filled with changes from regulations to programs to technology. It was estimated that in my career, I was responsible for close to 1.2 billion dollars of funding to students!

I served on numerous committees from diversity to the commission on the status of women to MAFAA student loan counseling, reauthorization, Professional development, and recently PPY. I appreciated the network with colleagues and learning from them. I most enjoyed working directly with the students always.

The profession was challenging and exciting. I was the second director of Financial Aid at MSU, hired by the infamous Bob Matuska. I am forever grateful to him for bringing me in to the profession and mentoring me.

In retirement, I intend to spend as much time as possible outdoors gardening, doing projects, repurposing things I have collected, reading, getting involved with climate change endeavors, doing volunteer work assisting individuals with dementia, and whenever possible spending time with family and friends. So far, I have found retirement quite an adjustment. To go from a 50 hour work week to zero overnight is a big change. I miss the staff, the people, and the students. But I have the time to truly and deeply enjoy and appreciate each day and for that I am grateful.

MAFAA 2017-18 Calendar of Events

2017

July 18	Direct Loan NASFAA Credential Training	Bethel University
July 20-21	MAFAA Exec Council Planning Retreat	Madden's Resort
October 8-11	MASFAA Conference	Dayton OH
October 24	MAFAA Fall Training Day	tentative
Nov 28-Dec 1	FSA (Federal Student Aid) Conference	Orlando FL

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

MAFAA Matters is published online six times per year. Submission deadline for the next issue is 8/18/17. Please email contributions to MAFAA Matters Editor, Carol Swenson cswenson@glhec.org

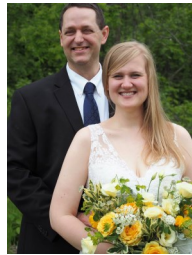
MAFAA's Statement of Purpose

The Minnesota Association of Financial Aid Administrators (MAFAA) is an association of professionals committed to the principle that no one should be denied access to higher education for financial reasons. MAFAA is dedicated to working with students, educators, policy makers, and others to ensure that adequate programs of financial assistance are available to every student attending a Minnesota institution of higher education.

www.mafaa.org

Living With Passion

Carol Swenson, MAFAA Matters Editor



MARRIAGE

Hannah Davis (University of Northwestern – St. Paul) and Mike Blahnik were married on May 27 at their church in Roseville, MN. They enjoyed a honeymoon in Park City, Utah.

BABIES

Carol Swenson (Great Lakes) welcomed Samuel Christopher, her new “grand” almost five months ago.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all MAFAA members celebrating birthdays in June, July and August.

June 1	Jennifer Novosad	July 21	Jillian Klein
June 5	Jayne Dinse		Jeanie Peck
June 9	Lisa Apitz	July 22	Rick Blatchley
	Andrea Martin	July 24	Kris Getting Roach
June 11	Alex Hintz		Kelly Beck
June 13	Jennifer Haavisto	July 25	Michelle Dawson
June 15	Lori Lemm	July 25	Dan Nelson
June 16	Dee Collins	July 28	Eric Langness
June 23	Stephanie Bard	July 30	Jeanette Maynard
June 25	Char Kreuzer		Nelson
June 25	Ginger Johnson	August 5	Sara Hartwig
June 26	Steve Fenster	August 6	Heather Davis
June 27	Roxanne Johnson	August 9	Heather Peterson
June 28	Brenda Herzig		Tom Hansen
June 30	Jeff Aalbers	August 10	Jacci Netter
July 8	Judy McMillan		Paul Huber
July 9	Becky Stevenson	August 11	Mike Kotchevar
July 10	Jennifer Bond	August 14	Dottie Wolter
July 12	Carolyn Boganey	August 15	Dave Woodward
July 13	Mike Uran	August 16	Michelle Richardson
	Judith Witherspoon		Paul Lindseth
July 16	Brenda Janikowski-		Emily Heitner
	Rhines	August 24	Jeff Olson
July 19	Jodi Pontinen	August 25	Rosemary Hicks
July 18	Jacquelynn Mol Sletten		Rachel Juno
July 20	Kurt Ableidinger	August 29	Gerald Schulte

Live With Passion