



# MAFAA Matters

A Newsletter for the Minnesota Association of Financial Aid Administrators

Summer 2018

## Contributors this issue:

- Anne Dahlen
- Cathy Schuster
- Anne Kaluza and David Vikander
- Carol Swenson
- Katie Hendrickson

## Inside this issue:

President's Column	1
MASFAA's Coming to Minneapolis. Register Now	2
MAFAA Conference 2018 Recap	3
MAFAA Award Recognition	4
Years of Service Recognition	7
Past Presidents Reunion	10
Calendar of Events	10
Leadership & Masters Wrap up	11
New MAFAA Logo	12
Live With Passion	13

## President's Message

Anne Dahlen, 2018-19 MAFAA President

This is my first MAFAA Matters column as president and I'm excited to start my year in office. One of the hallmarks of our association is the camaraderie and selfless service of our members. I'm inspired by the outpouring of support I have received in recent weeks and I appreciate the willingness of those of you who have volunteered to assist the association and me in the upcoming year.

At our annual conference in May, we received the essential training we need to perform our jobs on our respective campuses and we were the beneficiaries of another great trainer from the Region V office of the U.S. Department of Education. Zach Goodwin offered several sessions all of which were wonderful! We had inspiring and informative interest and general sessions that motivated and informed us. Yet, most importantly we gathered for fellowship and to make and renew professional and supportive "financial aid friendships".

MAFAA is now 50 years old and the spring conference saw the return of many retired members and some who have moved onto other areas of higher education. Paul Aasen, retired Director of Financial Aid at Gustavus Adolphus College and Minnesota's only NASFAA national chair, shared heartfelt words about our association and its past leaders. As I listened to Paul speak at our banquet on Thursday night of our Spring Conference, I was humbled to think that I would be receiving the presidential gavel the next morning. Paul reaffirmed that our commitment to students remains the overarching goal and therefore the strength of our association.

Our new 2018-19 Executive Council met at Madden's July 12-13 to plan for the upcoming year. More on that in the next issue. As summer remains in full swing, know that the MAFAA committee chairs and appointed positions have begun their work. Part of that work involves securing members for each of their respective committees. If you have not yet done so, please go to the MAFAA website and volunteer for a committee. I especially encourage brand new financial aid professionals and those of you who have been "checked out" for a while to volunteer. If you want to start slow, volunteer to moderate a session at an upcoming training event. If you want to jump in with both feet you should consider running for president. We need the help of all of you!

Before I end my first column, I need to thank Gayle Yamry of Metro State for serving as MAFAA president for the past two years. Gayle, your leadership is appreciated and you have been a great mentor. Thank you for all you do.

Enjoy your summer, and don't forget to have some fun!

## Registration is Open for MASFAA in Minneapolis Are you Ready?

### MASFAA Fall Conference in Minnesota is coming soon!! October 14-17, 2018

In less than three months you will be able to attend a MASFAA Conference in Minneapolis Minnesota that will offer what few others can!!  
The MASFAA Membership fee will be **WAIVED** for Minnesota folks attending the conference. (see below for steps). Start talking about attendance in your office.  
Some things to think about:

#### Pre-Conference Workshops:

Implicit Bias  
Leadership and Team Building  
How to Advocate

#### Interest Sessions:

Federal Updates  
NASFAA Updates – Justin Draeger – NASFAA CEO  
KiKi L'Italien – CEO, Amplified Growth – A digital marketing firm  
Imposter Syndrome – When are people going to find out about me?  
Why weird is better? – A networking session like no other  
Retaining students of color at primarily white institutions  
Elevate Financial Aid – 3 Ways to get more respect in office  
Competency Based Programs  
What happens after a program review?  
Could there be a better way?  
Data in Financial Aid  
AND LOTS MORE

#### Conference Charity: **Believet** – Training Service Dogs for Vets

#### Accommodations:

Marriott City Center in Downtown Minneapolis  
Standard Room is \$149 a night  
Conveniently located in the heart of Minneapolis skyway system

#### Conference Rates:

Early Bird Full Conference Rate – June 1 to Sept 1 - \$325  
Regular Full Conference Rate – Sept 1 – Sept 26 - \$365  
**MASFAA Membership Fee is waived for MN for the conference**  
**Registration will open June 1**

#### Conference Entertainment

Deuces Wild – Dueling Piano Event – <http://wildpianos.com/>  
More to come

#### Fun in Minneapolis

Minnesota Vikings Home Game against Arizona Cardinals – Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup> at Noon – Blocks away from hotel  
Mall of America  
Skyway System to many shops and eateries  
Light rail System to St. Paul and other close cities  
Amazing Candy Store across the street from hotel



Connecting SAP to Retention  
Communication – It's a Way of Life  
Trends in Higher Education  
Bringing Financial Education to Everyone

### HOW MAFAA Members Register for MASFAA

- 1) <https://masfaaweb.wildapricot.org/conference>
- 2) Click on REGISTER NOW
- 3) Enter Email and Code, click NEXT
- 4) Select Early Bird Full Conference - \$325.00 and click NEXT
- 5) On the next page, enter your information. **Under 2018 Membership, select MN Members \$0.00 as membership dues will be waived.**
- 6) Once information entered, click NEXT
- 7) The next page will ask you to review and confirm. Verify information and select Invoice Me or Pay Online

## It's a Wrap — MAFAA Spring Conference and 50th Anniversary Celebration

By Cathy Schuster



MAFAA's annual Spring conference "Celebrating the Past and Preparing for the Future" was held May 2-4, 2018 at Madden's Resort in Brainerd, Minnesota. This was an extra special year as MAFAA celebrated its 50th Anniversary and the conference included special networking events.

Department of Education trainer Zackary Goodwin joined us in person to present the Federal Update, Verification, and Q & A sessions. Keynote speaker Andre Koen, AM Horizons, invigorated us at the general session, as well as led a breakout session on "Wealth vs Poverty: Why are People Poor?" Thank you to ALL of the presenters who helped us complete a full, well-rounded agenda. The knowledge of MAFAA members was definitely kicked up a notch or two because of the stellar training that was offered.

MAFAA members generously supported two charities this year. Our main charity, Buddy Backpacks - United Way of NE Minnesota, is an organization that provides a backpack full of nutritious, non-perishable food for children who are at risk of going hungry. They are able to buy food at significant discounts, so MAFAA's check for \$2805 will go a long way. Our second charity was part of the golf tournament, brought back for the 50th Anniversary celebration. Charleigh's Halos is an organization that provides care packages to families with premature newborn babies in the St. Cloud NICU. In addition to the many donations of fleece plush blankets, lotion, and other essential items, MAFAA raised \$376 to purchase other necessities helpful for these families in the NICU.

Many retirees joined us for the special events, including a breakout session specifically for our retired guests, a best-ball golf tournament, and a past president's reunion. While the weather was perfect, we had to cancel the pontoon rides due to ice on the lake at the beginning of our conference week. The banquet and awards ceremony included a time capsule closing, which gets us started on our next 50 years.







## MAFAA 2018 Spring Conference





## MAFAA Awards Presented at 2018 Conference



**Distinguished Service Award**  
presented to  
**Pam Engebretson**  
Century College  
by  
Doug Minter with  
Gayle Yamry,  
MAFAA President



### Executive Council Award presented to 50th Anniversary Task Force

Front row: Bridget Johnson, Gayle Yamry, Jayne Dinse, MEG Calabrese,  
Jana Vanderah, David Vikander Back row: Jacquelynn Mol Sletten,  
Lindsay Adams, Carol Swenson, Dick Battig  
Not pictured: Kari Ellering



50th Anniversary TF  
Co-Chairs  
Lindsay and Jacquelynn



**President's Award**  
presented to  
**Lois Larson**  
Metropolitan State  
University  
by  
Gayle Yamry,  
MAFAA President

**Special Recognition Award**  
presented to  
**Diane Borchardt**  
Great Lakes



**Outstanding  
New Professional  
Award**  
presented to  
**Maribeth Foerster**  
Mayo Clinic College  
of Medicine  
by  
Thomas Lorendo

**Special Achievement  
Award**  
presented to  
**Web Development  
Team**

**Jesús Hernández Mejía**  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
**Ben Flikeid**  
Rasmussen College  
**Andy Levesque**  
MN State Colleges &  
Universities



**Retiring Members**

Left: **Gerald Schulte**, Northland Community & Technical College - Thief River Falls  
Right: **Christi Dickey**, Minnesota State Community & Technical College-Fergus Falls Campus  
Not pictured: Marleen Coon, St Olaf College and  
Susan Kronmiller, Minnesota School of Cosmetology



## MAFAA Years of Service Recognition

### 40 YEARS

(Pictured right)  
 Sheila Price  
 Susan Brady  
 Gayle Yamry-  
 MAFAA President  
 Marie Hagen  
 Dottie Wolter  
 (not pictured)  
 Deb Pusari  
 Rodney Oto



### 35 YEARS

Pictured right is  
 Gayle with  
 Scott Roelke  
 (not pictured)  
 Anita Baugh  
 Janice Cordell



### 30 YEARS

(pictured left )  
 Sara Edwards  
 Brenda Herzig  
 Pam Engebretson  
 Sherry Dunaisky  
 Mike Uran  
 (Gayle Yamry-  
 MAFAA President)  
 Tim Jacobson  
 Christi Dickey  
 (not pictured)  
 Cheryl Johnson  
 Andrea Knutsen  
 Susan Kronmiller  
 Dianne Pike  
 Heidi Sisson

## MAFAA Years of Service Recognition



### 25 YEARS

Stuart Perry, Beth Diekman, Gayle-MAFAA President, Jill Beauregard, Mike Kotchevar, and Linda Wasmoen Not pictured: Cheryl Dooley, Lesa Lawrence



### 20 YEARS

Renea Kispert  
Gayle-MAFAA President  
Wendy Olds  
Holly Johnson  
(not pictured)  
Pat Anderson  
Dawn Mikesell  
Sara Nephew  
Jeanie Peck  
Patricia Pierce

### 15 YEARS

Nate Rosckes  
Gayle-MAFAA President  
Jess Christensen  
Kris Parker  
(not pictured)  
Valerie Bovee  
Carly Eichhorst  
Julie Finn  
Katie Jensen  
Jenny Truebenbach





## MAFAA Years of Service Recognition



### 10 YEARS

(front) Simon Bauer, Steve Powell (standing) Bridget Johnson, Crystal Wong, Gayle-MAFAA President, Jesús Hernández Mejía, Louise Neeser, Cladell Nelson, Jerry Schulte  
 Not pictured: Heather Backstrom, Michelle Dawson, Robert Graham, Connie Karstens, Wade Kesteloot, Angela Lofgren, Stephanie Musgrove, Anita Ostercamp, Kathy Prom, Melissa Rath, Steve Richards, Kelly Running, Melissa Rystad, Alisha Samaroo, Mee Vang, John Wiberg



### 5 YEARS

Anne Kaluza, Gayle-MAFAA President, Thomas Lorendo, Stephanie Skraba  
 Not pictured: Nichole Andersen, Jessie Anderson, Derek Bauer, Shari Christenson, Riley Dahlheimer, Ali Facklam, Alyssa Gillette, Crystal Hanson, Shana Harrison, Casey Jarvela, Melissa Jaskowski, Jane Larsen, Eli Matzner, Catherine Maun, Isaac Percival, Hilary Ramsey, Stella Ryan, Rachel Tanquist, Borr Vang, Serena Williams, Judy Yang, Pam Zimmerman



## MAFAA Past Presidents Reunite for the 50th Anniversary Conference



### MAFAA Past Presidents

Front: Jayne Dinse, Gayle Yamry, Bob Matuska, Barb Charboneau, MEG Calabrese, Blake Crosby, John Pogue, Patty Holycross, Herald Johnson, Lois Larson, Jim Schmidt, Scott Roelke  
 Back: David Vikander, Paul Aasen, Dick Battig, Jon Griepentrog, Chris Halling, David Dahlen, Dan Nelson, Doug Minter, Pam Engebretson, Frank Loncorich

## MAFAA 2018-19 Calendar of Events

August 10	MAFAA Executive Council meeting	Rasmussen College, Eagan
October 14-17	MASFAA (Midwest)	Minneapolis Marriott
October 19	MAFAA Executive Council meeting	Rasmussen College, Eagan
October 24-25	National College Fair	Minneapolis Convention Center
November 27-30	Federal Student Aid (FSA) Conference	Atlanta, GA
December 14	MAFAA Executive Council Holiday meeting	Site to be determined
February 15	MAFAA Executive Council meeting	Rasmussen College, Eagan
March 15	MAFAA Executive Council meeting	Rasmussen College, Eagan
May 8-10	MAFAA Spring Conference	Madden's Resort, Brainerd MN



## 2018 Leadership and Masters Graduates

By Katie Hendrickson, Co-Chair

Another group of MAFAA members completed the Leadership Symposium! During 2018-2019, we had 12 members complete the symposium. The final item of presenting their Personal Development Project was completed at Maddens prior to the Spring Conference starting. The presentations were fantastic! We heard on a variety of topics, both personally and professionally.

In addition, the first graduating class of five members completed the Masters Program. During the past two years, they earned a NASFAA credential and presented to the MAFAA membership along with mentoring the Leadership participants.

For those co-chairs looking to add members to your committees, please reach out to these awesome people. They are eager to get involved with MAFAA and will be great additions to your committees.



Front: \*Brad Riebel-Sallie Mae, Brandon Kongsjord-MCTC, \*Bridget Johnson-Anoka Ramsey CC, \*Sheila Krause-MCTC, Annie Lee,-St Olaf, Amanda McCaughan-Concordia University-St Paul, \*Jessica Crotty-Rasmussen College, Isaac Percival-MCTC, Emily Johnson-Bethel University

Back: Jessica Denne-MCTC, Monica Ehalt-Anoka Ramsey CC, Meng James Heu-Anoka Ramsey CC.

Below: \*Kari Ellering-UMN, Brynn Juranek-Rasmussen, Michelle Dawson-Rasmussen, Jill Anderson-UMN

(\*denotes Masters Program)



## New MAFAA Logo is Unveiled at Spring Conference

The new logo for MAFAA was revealed to the membership at the 2018 Spring Conference at Madden's Resort. During the 2017-18 school year, the 50th Anniversary Task Force sought entries from students at Minnesota colleges. The winning design was created by Alyssa Kraft from Oakdale, MN. Alyssa will be a Senior at University of Minnesota, Morris, majoring in Studio Arts and Theatre Arts.

Alyssa is pictured here with the Financial Aid Staff at University of Minnesota, Morris. Thank you Alyssa, for your creativity.



---

### Remember to Volunteer

MAFAA needs you!

Please go to [mafaa.org](http://mafaa.org) and see how you can help! Committees still need your help.

---

## SAVE THE DATE for the National College Fair

### WHAT

Volunteer at the National College Fair. This is a great opportunity for MAFAA members to provide outreach to Minnesota families by staffing our information booth or giving our "Intro to Financial Aid" presentation.

Our on-line sign-up form, along with more information about the fair, will be posted to the MAFAA website later this summer.

### WHEN

**Wednesday, October 24 2018**

9 a.m. to noon or 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Thursday, October 25, 2018**

9 a.m. to noon

### WHERE

**Minneapolis Convention Center**

1301 2nd Ave S

Minneapolis, MN 55403



## MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

MAFAA Matters is published online six times per year. Submission deadline for the next issue is **9/21/18**. Please email contributions to MAFAA Matters Editor, Carol Swenson [cswenson@glhec.org](mailto: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](http://www.mafaa.org)

## Living With Passion

### PEOPLE and PLACES

In April, **John Spaeth** (formerly Globe University) joined the financial aid team at Metro State University.

**Dick Battig** (St. Catherine University) has joined the staff at Model College of Hair Design in St. Cloud, effective July 2.

**Alyssa Gillette** (Crown College) has moved from Lead Financial Aid Counselor to Assistant Director of Financial Aid at the college.

### NEW BABIES

**Kari (Zakariasen) Ellering** (U of M-Twin Cities) and her husband, Shawn, welcomed Quinn Ruth on May 4th. She was 8 lbs 14 oz, 22 inches long. Quinn is pictured here.



**Michelle Dawson** (Rasmussen) and her husband, Sam, welcomed a baby boy, Crosby, on May 2nd. Michelle has decided to leave the financial aid world and be a stay-at-home mom.

**Brynn Juranek** (Rasmussen) and husband, Ben, had a baby girl, Margot Jane Juranek Feinberg, born March 29 at 6:39 am, 9 lbs, 9 oz and 21.5 inches long.

Congratulations to all the new first-time parents!

### BIRTHDAYS and MORE!

We hope you are enjoying the new MAFAA website! Along with this change came our new database that includes some personalized settings. We like to acknowledge our member's birthdays in our MAFAA Newsletter and you can update this information online by sharing or not sharing your information. Another option that you as a MAFAA Member can update is whether or not you would like your membership to show in our online directory. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to MAFAA's Membership Coordinator, Jana Koehler, at [membership@mafaa.org](mailto:membership@mafaa.org). The birthday list in the newsletter will resume next issue.

### Note to Self

- There is no MAFAA Training Day this Fall so that I can attend the MASFAA conference October 14-17.
- I should register for the MASFAA conference now. It's in Minneapolis this October!
- Next year, the MAFAA Spring Conference is one week later than usual. It's May 8-10, 2019.
- Sign up right away for a MAFAA Committee or another way to volunteer.
- Live with Passion every day.

