President’s Message
Brittany Tweed, 2019-20 MAFAA President

MAFAA members, I’m very excited to be writing my first article as President of MAFAA! I want to provide you my goals for myself and MAFAA over the next year:

Goals for 2019-2020:

1) Continue to bring new, fresh sessions to our future conference and training sessions,
2) Create additional opportunities for members to connect, interact, and network,
3) Ensure our conferences, trainings, and events are respectful, safe, and inclusive spaces,
4) Improve our organization (it’s already great - improving where I can to make it better than it already is), and
5) As one of many voices on Executive Council, make choices that will increase MAFAA’s sustainability and at the same time protect our organization going forward.

I aim to make progress on each of these over the next year! Please call or email me with any questions if my goals are unclear.

NASFAA Takeaways

At the end of June I had the opportunity to attend the NASFAA conference in Orlando, FL. It was 90 degrees or higher every day and humid (my ideal weather) yet we were in freezing cold conference rooms most of the week. At least once per day, I found other MAFAA members outside warming up between sessions. Some of the best conversations I had (and where I learned a great deal) was during these opportunities to network with others. Sixteen people showed up to the MN dinner on Wednesday night (four of whom I met for the first time) and it was so fun to get to know people better.

I definitely didn’t spend all my time networking… most of the sessions I went to were very informative and some -- the really good ones -- were also thought provoking. The best sessions I attended were 1) the keynote, Steve Pemberton’s life story (his novel is A Chance In Life) and
2) Bias in Professional Judgement. What both of these sessions have in common is that biases were the main topic. Steve’s keynote highlighted how others’ biases, abuse, and discrimination substantially impacted his path in life. He credits three inspiring people, education, his love for reading, and later, his own experience working in higher education, for giving him hope for something better.

The session on “Bias in Professional Judgement” got me thinking about how our biases impact our review of appeals and treatment of students and colleagues, sometimes without us even realizing it. For me, this session helped to increase my understanding of my own biases and how these could impact students’ lives. I consider it a truly transformational session! Back in Minnesota, where summer has finally arrived, I’m trying to tie in what all I’ve learned.

I’m looking forward to a great year. Please connect with me when you have any comments or suggestions!
MAFAA Awards Presented at 2019 Conference

Distinguished Service Award
presented to
Sandra Goman
College of St Scholastica
Presented by
Pam Engebretson
with Anne Dahlen,
MAFAA President

Executive Council Award
presented to
Legislative Task Force
Jeff Olson, Mike Uran, Mike Barnaby, President Anne Dahlen, Jacquelynn Mol Sletten, Brad Riebel
Not pictured: Deb Pusari, Bridgette Johnson, Cappy Breuer
Presented by Gary Forst

President’s Award
presented to
Carly Eichhorst
St. Olaf College
by
Anne Dahlen, MAFAA President

Special Achievement Award
presented to
Bridgette Johnson
Anoka-Ramsey Community College

MAY 8-10, 2019
MADDEN’S RESORT,
BRainerd MN
Ginny Dodds
Lifetime Achievement Award
presented to
David Dahlen
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Presented by Doug Minter

Outstanding New Professional Award
presented to
Bao Yang-Moua
Saint Paul College
(Award being accepted for Bao by Thomas Lorendo of Saint Paul College)
Presented by Maribeth Foerster

MASFAA Leadership Award
presented to
Gayle Yamry
Metro State University
Presented by Michelle Trame, 2018-19 MASFAA President

Special Recognition Award
presented to
Jacquelynn Mol Sletten
MN Office of Higher Education
Presented by Thomas Lorendo
Retirees

Barbara Charboneau
Dunwoody College of Technology
(pictured at right with President Anne Dahlen)

LuGail Hamel
Brenda Larter

Sandra Dirkes
Not pictured:

Barbara Charboneau
Dunwoody College of Technology
(pictured at right with President Anne)

Gwen Bailey
Bemidji State University

Rita Taylor
St. Cloud State University

Dixie Christensen
Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction Studies

MAFAA Years of Service Recognition

40 YEARS of SERVICE

Cappy Breuer
Kris Getting Roach
Rita Taylor

35 YEARS of SERVICE

Pictured at left with President Anne:

LuGail Hamel
Brenda Larter

Not pictured:

Sandra Dirkes

30 YEARS of SERVICE

Pictured above:
Jody O'Connor, Joni Wiederhoeft, Linda Tegtmeier, Jon Erickson,
Jana Vanderah, Brenda Trafton, and President Anne Dahlen

Not pictured:
Sue Burnard, Angie Christensen, Becky Christy, LeAnn Fischer, Pat Fischer, Chad Nosbusch, Kendra Schulte
MAFAA Matters—Summer 2019

MAFAA Years of Service Recognition

25 YEARS of SERVICE

Jeff Olson
Crystal Olson
Not pictured:
Nardos Senbeta
John Spaeth

20 YEARS of SERVICE

Susan Ant, Sandra Goman, Trish Johnson, Christopher Edland. President Anne
Not pictured: Julie Bredeson, Greg Carlo, Debbie Cordova, Tammy Eickholt Schroyer,
Linda Gibeau, Robert Helgeson, Elizabeth Holm, Natalie Lynch, Marie Martin,
Tasha Marwitz, Bonnie Scheffler, Jeff Younge

15 YEARS of SERVICE

Judy McMillan
Meredith Hauer
President Anne
Heather Boes
Not pictured:
Rachel Juno, Angie Mareck,
Senor Phan, Erin Poster,
Angela Proehl, Colleen
Thornton, Kristie Winter
MAFAA Years of Service Recognition

10 YEARS of SERVICE
Amanda Spencer
Krista Olson
Monica Ehalt
Kimberly Kolar
President Anne Dahlen

Not pictured:
Bridget Bohn, Gina Jones,
Brynn Juranek, JoElyn Krohn,
Debra Labat, Amanda McCaughan, Joshua Schmitt,
Brittany Tweed

5 YEARS of SERVICE
Maribeth Foerster, Steven Wicks, Alissa Sayles, Andrea Berger,
Katie (Sveen) Broadwater, President Anne Dahlen

Not pictured: Mark Bauer, Jessica Benson, Cynthia Hayward, Alana John,
Sarah Lee, Neil Leibundguth, Steve Merino, Jonathan O’Hara, CA Vang,
Samantha Weiler, Javan Williams, Michelle Wosika
Pat Fischer was acknowledged at Madden’s for her 30 Year Service Award. Pat passed away in December of 2018, leaving the Financial Aid Office at ARCC feeling pretty empty. The staff felt it important to accept her award on her behalf (and on behalf of her sister who was unable to attend spring conference this year). Pat worked for Anoka Technical College for eight years, five of which were during the alignment with Anoka-Ramsey Community College. She had worked for the State of Minnesota since 1985 and was in financial aid for thirty years. She is missed by many. Some of the staff from ARCC accepting the award in Pat’s honor are: (back row) Pat Anderson, Gary Forst, Samantha Weiss, Anna Smith, Nichole Andersen, Anne Dahlen, (front row) Monica Ehalt, James Heu, Andrea Ebert, Brittany Tweed.

Basket Raffle raises $2830 for Believet™

The recipient of MAFAA’s funds raised for charity was Believet™ Canine Service Partners, located in Northfield, MN. Believet provides highly skilled service dogs, free of charge, to disabled veterans. Thanks to all who donated baskets for the auction, and for those who purchased tickets for chances to win an awesome raffle item. MAFAA members, you really delivered and raised an amazing amount of funds to support this worthy organization.
Scenes From Spring Conference 2019

Special guest WASFAA President, Kevin McShane from Herzing University, with Sara Hartwig-Moorhead State and Simon Bauer-St Cloud State

Michelle Trame, MASFAA President, was a special guest visiting our conference and presented the MASFAA Leadership Award to Gayle Yamry.

The Mayo gals — Maribeth Foerster, Rachel Benrud, Anne Dahlen, and Shannon Sullivan

Chillin’ with Anne, Brittany Tweed, and Jana Koehler

It’s hard to top a Madden’s sunset
Scenes From Spring Conference 2019

The motivational keynote speaker was Kat Perkins, a singer/songwriter, performer, nationally recognized public speaker, and finalist of NBC's The Voice. Her hometown is Scranton, North Dakota. She shared her inspirational journey and performed a couple of songs for our MAFAA group.

The weather is fickle in May at Madden's. There is a reason why the Wednesday night glow-in-the-dark golf networking event didn't take place outside! But there is always warmth and beauty to be found in this place when you're looking, no matter the temperature. Until next year.
SAVE THE DATES for TWO FALL EVENTS

National College Fair in MPLS — October 2 & 3

- A great opportunity for MAFAA members to volunteer and provide outreach to Minnesota families by staffing the financial aid information booth or giving the “Intro to Financial Aid” presentation.
- At the Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave S

MAFAA Fall Training Day — October 24

- MAFAA’s high demand, timely, one-day training opportunity, brought to you by the Conference Planning Committee
- At the Eagan Community Center, 1501 Central Parkway

Follow the MAFAA Listserv for much more information and online sign-up to come

There’s Still Time...Remember to Volunteer
MAFAA needs you!
Visit mafa.org and see how you can help!

MAFAA 2019 Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Executive Council meeting</td>
<td>Anoka-Ramsey Comm College*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Executive Council meeting</td>
<td>remote via Skype</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 2&amp;3</td>
<td>National College Fair</td>
<td>Minneapolis Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 6-9</td>
<td>MASFAA Regional Conference</td>
<td>Chicago IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Executive Council meeting</td>
<td>Anoka-Ramsey Comm College*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>MAFAA Fall Training Day</td>
<td>Eagan Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Executive Council meeting</td>
<td>remote via Skype</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 3-6</td>
<td>FSA Conference</td>
<td>Reno NV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 20</td>
<td>Executive Council meeting</td>
<td>tbd</td>
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*All in person Exec meetings begin at 10 am in the Mississippi Room at Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Coon Rapids.
Final 2018-19 Executive Council Meeting on May 7

Jesús Hernández Mejía
Andy Levesque
Gary Forst
David Vikander
Gayle Yamry
Lois Larson
Ben Flkeid

Lindsey Kagol Adams
Bridgette Johnson
Katie Hendrickson
Jacquelynn Mol Sletten
Brittany Tweed,
Sheila Krause
Michelle Trame
Dick Battig

Cathy Schuster, Susan Brady, Carol Swenson, Pam Engebretson, Lynette Wahl,
Jana Koehler, Amanda Cantú, Anne Dahlen, Larry Bloom
Minnesota Goes to NASFAA in Orlando
June 24-27, 2019

A few MAFAA folks gathered for an evening while in Orlando for the NASFAA conference at the Swan Dolphin Resort.

Brittany Tweed, Pam Engeberson, Rod Oto, Diane Borchardt, Kris Parker, Carol Swenson, Amanda Cantú

Andy Levesque and his wife, Darren Wacker, Paula Benson, Sheila Keenan, Sarah Linehan, Dave Vilander, Adam Johnson, Ben Rikeid
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.

PEOPLE and PLACES

Angela Lofgren has left the Financial Aid office at Metropolitan State University. She has taken a new position with the MN Department of Health.

Michelle Hemmesch left Financial Aid at College of Saint Benedict & Saint John’s University and accepted a new opportunity as Director of Student Accounts at St. John’s.

Kim Barrett is new to the College of St. Benedict financial aid office. She started on May 20 as the Office Coordinator.

Debra Beal is the new private loan coordinator at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Maikou Vang left Augsburg University and joined the financial aid team at the U of M.

Uriah Ward is the new Loan Specialist at Augsburg University.

Andrea Kvasnicka is a new Financial Aid Counselor at University of Northwestern-St. Paul.

Stella Ryan moved from Hamline University to the University of St. Thomas.

NEW BABIES

A baby boy, Henry Robert, was born on June 26 to Ben Sturomski and his wife (Winona State University). Henry was a healthy 8lbs 1oz and 20in long.

Aaron Zellmer (Dunwoody) and his wife welcomed their third child on July 22.

CONDOLENCES

Joan Apitz, mother of Lisa Apitz (South Central College) passed away on March 4.

RETIREMENTS

Louise Geyer retired January 31, 2019. She served over 25 years with Saint Ben’s and Saint John’s. Word has it her plans include taking care of grandkids, enjoying time with friends, eating chocolate, and bossing her husband around.

Sue Burnard (Central Lakes College) is retiring on August 20 after 30 years (and five months), all of it in the same financial aid office. She started as a work study student at the Brainerd Area Vo-Tech and has lived through all of the name changes and mergers to what is now Central Lakes College. She hopes to move closer to her kids and grandkids, still in MN. Sue writes, “I am very grateful for this financial aid family. It has been a great 30+ years.

Kim Anderson retired at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities,