

## MAFAA Spring Conference Agenda

**Wednesday, May 6, 2009**

- 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Registration** **Golf Villa A and B**
- 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Vendor Displays Open** **Golf Villa A and B**
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** **Inn Dining Room**
- 1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **President's Welcome**, Kathy Ruby, MAFAA President **Town Hall Ballroom**
- 1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation** **Town Hall Ballroom**
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Interest Sessions**
- **2009-2010 FAFSA Overview** **Golf Villa C**  
**Jamie Malone, Training Officer, U.S. Department of Education**  
Designed for the beginner this session will provide line by line guidance of the 2009-10 FAFSA with an emphasis on determining Independent Status and issues surrounding possible documentation requirements.
  
  - **Communication with college presidents** **Golf Villa D**  
**Anita Baugh**  
**Stuart Perry**  
**Kathy Ruby**  
**Mike Uran**
  
  - **Determining Eligibility with NSLDS** **Anderson G, Town Hall**  
**Ann Scott, Training Coordinator, Great Lakes Educational Loan Services**  
Sometimes when students apply for loans, they bring along “baggage” in the form of bankruptcy, prior defaults, disability discharges and aggregate loan balances that exceed the legal limits – all of which have an effect on their eligibility. In this session we will discuss how these conditions appear in NSLDS and what can be done to resolve them and help students regain eligibility. We will also demonstrate how to get a truer picture of aggregate loan amounts for borrowers who have consolidated their loans, and show how NSLDS applies a formula for breaking out subsidized and unsubsidized amounts in consolidations.
  
  - **Post-9/11 GI Bill** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**  
**Barbara Stetler, Education Liaison Representative, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
An overview of the new educational assistance program for those who served on active duty after 9/10/2001 for an aggregate period of at least 90 days. The new program is effective August 1, 2009.
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Break** **Golf Villa Foyer**
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. **General Session** **Town Hall Ballroom**
- **If You Build It, Will They Come?: Financial Aid Literacy and Diverse Communities**  
**Jennifer Godinez, Director, Minnesota College Access Network**  
This presentation will highlight the “Promising Practices” of working on reaching out to students of color and low income youth with financial aid information. It will highlight the cultural community assets that financial aid counselors can identify in order to assure more outreach of information related to financing higher education amongst communities of color. The practices are gathered from the Minnesota College Access Network (MCAN) experiences training youth, families, and practitioners on financial aid and college access themes. The session’s title—“If You Build It, Will They Come?” also alludes to current practices in the field that should be reflected upon and perhaps challenged in order to reach out to more unique family circumstances with much-needed financial aid

information. Groups such as undocumented youth, homeless youth, and others will be discussed in this presentation.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Interest Sessions**

- **Financial Aid Process for Foster Youth and Homeless Youth** **Anderson G, Town Hall**  
**Cheryl Maplethorpe, Director, Division of Student Financial Aid, Office of Higher Education**  
**Judy Swanson, Associate Director, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**  
We will discuss the new questions on the 2009-2010 FAFSA that allow foster and homeless youth to be considered independent students and the verification documentation available to them. Other issues about foster and homeless youth will be addressed, including the Education Tuition Voucher (ETV) and recommended college support services.
- **MN GI Bill and MN Achieve Scholarship** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**  
**Megan FitzGibbon, Manager of State Scholarship Programs, Minnesota Office of Higher Education**  
This session will provide a review of the Minnesota GI Bill and the Minnesota Achieve Scholarship and provide an update on the processes and procedures. It will also cover the online applications and school functions.
- **One on One with Jamie Malone** **Golf Villa C**  
**Jamie Malone, Training Officer, U.S. Department of Education**  
**Format – Q & A** - Are there questions about Reauthorization that you are still searching for answers to? Here's your opportunity to receive answers to those questions as well as other questions you may have - ACG/SMART? Lender Lists? Get the answers directly from the Department of Education. If you like, you can just sit back and listen to the discussion.
- **Using Facebook and Other Social Media to Interact with Students** **Golf Villa D**  
**Ben Reed, Financial Aid Officer, Anoka Technical College**  
**Shannon Schaaf, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, College of St. Catherine**  
This session will look at the use of social media on college campuses. Through the lens of Facebook, we will see how other colleges are using these new tools to connect with students in new and powerful ways. We will focus on the basics – setting up your presence on Facebook, best practices, and successful strategies.

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Dinner** **Inn Dining Room**

8:00 p.m. **Charity Fundraising Activities** **Northstar Room, Madden's Inn**  
**Viking Room, Madden's Inn**

**Thursday, May 7, 2009**

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** **Inn Dining Room**

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Final Conference Registration** **Golf Villa A and B**

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **General Session** **Town Hall Ballroom**

- **Brett Lief, President, NCHelp**  
Washington update.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Featured Speaker** **Town Hall Ballroom**

- **Dr. Philip Day, President/CEO, NASFAA**

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Break** **Golf Villa Foyer**

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Vendor Displays Open** **Golf Villa A and B**

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Interest Sessions**

- **“Correct Me If I’m Wrong” – The Basics of Federal Verification** **Golf Villa C**  
**Sandy Sundstrom, Senior Associate Director of Financial Aid, St. Olaf College**  
This session will guide participants through the basics of the federal verification process. Verification requirements, policies, data elements, documentation and resolution will be covered as participants work through a verification case study.
- **Fundamentals of Financial Literacy** **Golf Villa D**  
**Tracy Drechsler, Total Higher Education**  
**Marilyn Kosir, Student Loan Manager, Minnesota Office of Higher Education**  
Literacy: the ability to read and write. Financial literacy: the ability to make appropriate personal financial decisions. How do your students score on the financial literacy report card? How can we help them become more financially literate? The MAFAA Loan Issues Committee has created financial literacy presentation materials that you may use to help your students improve their financial literacy. Information on personal budgeting, credit scores and reports, and responsible borrowing will be the primary focus of this session.
- **NCI Question/Answer Session** **Anderson G, Town Hall**  
**Dr. Philip Day**
- **Survey of the Most Important Audit Findings** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**  
**Tim Medd, State Auditor, Minnesota Office of Higher Education**  
Top 10 MN audit findings.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** **Inn Dining Room**

1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Vendor Displays Open** **Golf Villa A and B**

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Interest Sessions**

- **Income Based/Public Service Repayment** **Golf Villa D**  
**David Dahlen, Director of Student Financial Aid/Registrar, Mayo Clinic – College of Medicine**  
Legislative changes have created some of the most complex loan portfolios in the history of financial aid. In addition, changes have been made that will affect how your borrowers repay these loans. The Income-Based Repayment and Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs will be invaluable tools which will help low income/high debt borrowers. However, there are some unintended consequences in the legislation which will leave you scratching your head. Come to this session to see what they are....
- **One on One with Jamie Malone** **Golf Villa C**  
**Jamie Malone, Training Officer, U.S. Department of Education**  
**Format – Q & A** - Are there questions about Reauthorization that you are still searching for answers to? Here’s your opportunity to receive answers to those questions as well as other questions you may have - ACG/SMART? Lender Lists? Get the answers directly from the Department of Education. If you like, you can just sit back and listen to the discussion.
- **Professional Judgment** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**  
**Rick Shipman, Director, Office of Financial Aid, Michigan State University**  
**2008-2009 MASFAA President**  
Professional Judgment is one of the most powerful authorities granted to student financial aid professionals by Congress. Eligibility for financial aid can be established or increased through the exercise of this authority. But, unlike many of the rules in student financial aid, Professional Judgment does not come with a clear set of dos and don’ts. In fact, it is the vague guidance provided by the federal government that lets the aid officer handle so many unique situations. This session will lay out the rules and then use an interactive approach to see how attendees would handle a variety of real life situations.
- **Review of Academic Transcripts** **Anderson G, Town Hall**  
**Ginny Dodds, Manager, State Aid Programs, Minnesota Office of Higher Education**

This training session will show financial aid administrators how to review academic transcripts to determine the amount of previous postsecondary education the student has attended for purposes of State Grant and Postsecondary Child Care Grant eligibility. The session will provide an overview of applicable policies and procedures, as well as the review of several student transcripts. Attendees are encouraged to bring overhead transparencies of complex transcripts that are difficult to assess.

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Interest Sessions**

- **Catch Me If You Can, Identity Theft Overview** **Golf Villa C**  
**Mike Mutziger, Vice President Marketing and Sales, North Central Region, Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Inc.**  
Deter, Detect and Defend yourself. Identity Theft is increasing – how you can educate others and protect yourself – a few simple pointers.
  
- **Excel for Smart, Nice People** **Golf Villa D**  
**Robert Bode, Director of Financial Aid, Metropolitan State University**  
An introduction to Microsoft Excel 2007 covering the basics of data entry, functions and formatting.
  
- **Review of FA Profession** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**
  
- **Expand Kids, Colleges, and Careers to Your Community** **Anderson G, Town Hall**  
**Hannah Chan, Outreach Consultant, Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation**  
**Trish Johnson, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, College of St. Scholastica**  
**Vicki Larson, Manager, One Stop Student Services, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**  
**Tracy Stokes-Hernandez, Financial Aid Outreach Coordinator, South Central College**  
Come learn how you can bring MAFAA's own early awareness program to your community. Kids, Colleges, and Careers is a nicely packaged program that helps motivate and inform students about post-secondary options and opportunities. Recently this event was expanded by two Minnesota colleges who delivered this program to communities they serve. We will show you how to replicate and implement this program in your community and help students realize that College IS Possible!

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Sector Meetings**

- Associates – Golf Villa C
  - Private non-profit – Golf Villa D
  - U of M – Anderson G, Town Hall
  - State Universities – Ramsey, Town Hall
  - Two year public – Ramsey, Town Hall
  - Private for profit – Anderson F, Town Hall
- \*Non financial supporting Associate Members (Trio, etc.) should attend their respective school type meeting.*

6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. **Social Hour** (Cash Bar Available) **Town Hall Foyer**

6:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Banquet and Awards** **Town Hall Ballroom**  
**MASFAA Update**  
Rick Shipman, Director, Office of Financial Aid, Michigan State University  
2008-2009 MASFAA President

*Please join us as MAFAA celebrates its Ruby 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Dress for the banquet is business casual – with a festive twist. The twist is that you are encouraged to wear red. Let's have fun and make this anniversary come alive by being visible with red as we celebrate our Ruby Year together at Madden's.*

Immediately Following **Bonfire** **Voyageur, lakeside**

**Friday, May 8, 2009**

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Breakfast** **Inn Dining Room**

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Interest Sessions**

- **Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program** **Pillsbury, Town Hall**  
**Megan FitzGibbon, Manager of State Scholarship Programs, Minnesota Office of Higher Education**

**Lara Gerhardson, MISP Outreach Liaison**

This session will cover the MN Indian Scholarship Program and its outlook for the next year. Lara Gerhardson will discuss her role as the Outreach Liaison for the program. The online application system, including the student application and school functions, will also be covered.

- **Summer Pell Grant Calculations** **Golf Villa C**  
**Jamie Malone, Training Officer, U.S. Department of Education**

With the advent of the new year-round Federal Pell Grant, this session will focus on eligibility requirements and the calculation of the Pell award during Summer Sessions.

- **TEACH Grant Round Table** **Golf Villa D**  
**M.E.G. Calabrese, Loan Unit Manager, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**  
**Valerie Knopp, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, St. Cloud State University**  
**Sandy Sundstrom, Senior Associate Director of Financial Aid, St. Olaf College**  
**Jane Williams, Director of Financial Aid, Concordia College**

A grant, a loan, or a groan...what is it *really*? If your school participates in the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant and you want to learn what others are doing, this is a session for you. If your school is considering participating in the TEACH Grant and you're not sure where to begin, this is a session for you. Or maybe it's neither...you want to first learn more before implementing the TEACH Grant on your campus. This session will be an opportunity for you to share and learn about administration of the grant, pit falls and challenges, and maybe even how to effectively work through campus politics or pressures from other departments to implement it. This will not be a session on the intricacies of regulations surrounding TEACH – for that you need to ask Jamie.

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Business Meeting** **Town Hall Ballroom**

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **State Update**, Cheryl Maplethorpe, Minnesota Office of Higher Education **Town Hall Ballroom**

**Federal Update**, Jamie Malone, U.S. Department of Education **Town Hall Ballroom**

**Closing**, Lois Larson, 2009-2010 MAFAA President **Town Hall Ballroom**

**\* The Conference Evaluation Form will be online after the conclusion of spring conference.**