



Iowa Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

# THE INFORMER

*The Quarterly IASFAA Newsletter*

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## New Leadership

### Executive Council 2022-2023

**President:** Brandi L. Miller

**President Elect:** Matt Falduto

**Vice President:** Julie Haack

**Secretary:** Sarah Heller

**Treasurer:** Sara Sroka

**Treasurer Elect:** Tristan Lynn

**Delegate 1:** Erick Danielson

**Delegate 2:** Teresa Theide

### Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs

**Awards** - Mark Freed, Randi Weber

**Community Outreach** - Matt Falduto, Kylee Klommhaus

**Exhibitor Relations** - Kylee Klommhaus, Abbie Steinberg

**Electronic Services** - Chris Ditter, Mary Jacobsen

**Communications** - Sheila Goodwin, Heather Gaumer

**Professional Development** - Gisella Baker, Sarah Freestone

**Program** - Randy Mashek, Kelsey Ryder

**Site Coordination** - Kristi Fuller, Gary Adams

# MASFAA State Exchange

By Brandi L. Miller

I had the privilege of attending the ILASFAA 2022 Annual Conference as Iowa's representative for the MASFAA State Exchange program. I participated virtually on April 4, 2022, and in-person in Champaign, IL, on April 6-7, 2022. The theme of their conference was WE ARE ILASFAA: empowering COMMUNITY, embracing DIVERSITY, and advocating EQUITY. They did not disappoint.



I experienced community, diversity, and advocacy through the sessions I attended. The Keynote Speaker, Curtis Hill, from Chicago, IL, an educator, and entrepreneur, set it off. It was amazing how he disarmed us before bringing us together. His message was about belonging. He presented his twist on DEI (Difference, Equity, Inclusion). At the end of his presentation, the whole room was in a circle, arms resting on our neighbors' shoulders, singing, Lean on me, and rocking side to side. The solidarity and energy were infectious. I felt like I was with my people, financial aid people.

You can tell what a state cares about by the programs they offer and how they create access for their students. Illinois offers state aid to DACA students. I was so impressed by this. Their state agency has an alternative application for DACA students to complete. I think this is amazing. It shows they create access for a population in their state with limited financial aid resources. They also have a DREAM Act scholarship program for DACA students; what a way to be innovative and work around a complicated federal issue and focus on students.

I enjoyed conversing with ILASFAA Board Members and attending their New Members Session. It was a hoot playing Kahoot. ILASFAA members have a lot of support and opportunities for involvement within their association. I am glad I crossed the state border to spend time with those from ILASFAA. We are in this together, empowering our financial aid communities, embracing diversity, and advocating for equity within our profession and our students.

# Upcoming Events

The IASFAA Diversity Task Force and Professional Development Committee are offering a **Zoom presentation and Q&A session** on gender diversity and allyship on **June 23** lead by Harper Sarasin. We'll cover a wide range of topics including some helpful resources and vocabulary to know, cultures around the world that recognize and celebrate more than two genders, and things we can do as individuals to support the trans and non-binary people in our communities. All are welcome, and questions are encouraged!

The **IASFAA Leadership Symposium** is designed to cultivate future leaders of IASFAA and on our campuses. It's also an excellent way to build your network. The yearlong experience begins September 2022 and ends at the 2023 Fall Conference. Using NASFAA's You're the Director as a textbook, the participants will explore leadership topics, focusing specifically on higher education and financial aid. The symposium will consist of virtual monthly sessions and at least three in person sessions – the two day kickoff in September, a chance to visit the state capitol in early 2023 and the 2023 Fall Conference. This professional development opportunity is one you do not want to miss. Space is limited – keep an eye out for when sign up begins!

The **Iowa Jump\$tart** annual financial literacy conference is back to an in-person event this year! Join us on **June 23** for a day of networking, sharing, and learning about financial literacy tools - including topics such as Cryptocurrency and Bitcoin. Listen to expert speakers, visit exhibitors, and get access to new resources. Best of all, you'll have the opportunity to connect with fellow Iowans and share best practices! Register [here](#).

## Connect with us!

Please send content suggestions or member updates to  
sheila.goodwin@drake.edu



Like the IASFAA page on Facebook for more updates and photos!

# Announcements

**Janet Boddiker Rampulla** will be retiring from **Coe College** on June 1st. She has served for over 20 years in the Financial Aid office.

After more than eight years in Financial Aid, **Lynnae McNamee-Charles** will be leaving for a position in Academic Records at **DMACC**.

Kenan and **Brandi Miller** will celebrate 20 years of marriage on June 8, 2022.



**Kelsey Ryder** and her husband welcomed Julia Mae Ryder on March 29th--a couple weeks early. She is six weeks old now and doing great