

WASFAA Spring 2023 Conference

Session Descriptions

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

New Member Gathering – Membership Committee

Is this your first WASFAA Conference? Are you a new member within the last year? Join us before the conference kick-off to gather with other new WASFAA members.

Public Speaking Like a Superstar! - Manda Riley



Public speaking is a fundamental skill for our career and life success. It is also the number one reported fear in the country. Many professionals suffer from pre-presentation nerves, have trouble organizing their thoughts, or become so tongue-tied that the words won't come out. Good news! Compelling and effective public speakers are not born, they are trained. From nervous novice to confident presenter, we will explore how to prepare, present, and build confidence to become a public speaking superstar!

NASFAA Credential: Federal Pell Grants and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants – Ben Wilkes, UW – Oshkosh and Vickie Young, Madison College

Must be attended in person for the full session time to qualify for the NASFAA Credential test. The Federal Pell Grants and IASG credential begins with a discussion of terminology and concepts important to understanding the awarding process for both grant programs. Building on this foundation, the next two lessons show how to select the correct formula to calculate awards and illustrate the calculation process. The course concludes with a discussion of additional considerations, including the treatment of summer terms, awarding transfer students, and recalculations.

Holistic Advising: Supporting Students with Empathy and Care - Manda Riley

To better serve your students, there are a number of skills that you can practice to build rapport, foster trust, and gain confidence in supporting your advisees. In this session led by a social worker turned financial aid advisor, we will discuss how you can frame your advising practice through an empathetic, holistic lens to support student success.

Reviewing 1040X Amended Returns – Maggie Zabinski, UW – Madison

Review of the 07 IRS data retrieval tool ISIR flag and acceptable documentation.

Living through a Program Review – Elyse Weller, Southern Illinois University

Wondering what a program review will feel like at your campus? Join Elyse in a discussion about her experience with the recent program review at Southern Illinois University.

Emergency Grants: Student Support Needs – Brooke Price, Herzing University

This session will provide an overview of the Crisis Support Grant Program at Herzing University. Join us to discuss the process by which Herzing University created its emergency grant program, the data collected to support the program, the best practices established, and the challenges identified.

WI Tuition Promise: Helping WI Students Pay for College – Mandy Slowinski, UW – Stevens Point

The Wisconsin Tuition Promise is a new initiative beginning fall 2023. The program is designed to assist Wisconsin underserved students in affording a UW System education. Join us to learn more about the program and the resources available for students, families and UW System employees.

Five dysfunctions of a team – Christina Rose

Join us for a discussion about team dynamics and how to work through the diverse teams that make up our campuses.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Aid Office – Katy Weisenburger

Budgeting for College Students – Laura Orth, Lakeland University

Between books, tuition, student loans, and stockpiles of ramen, college students can face a lot of stress when it comes to managing their finances. Budgeting can help them gain control of their money (even if they don't have much), help reduce dependency on debt, and set themselves up with the money management skills they'll need post-graduation. Unfortunately, many college students will resist budgeting because of their variable income and inconsistent expenses, however, that's all the more reason to start! In this session, you'll learn a budgeting method that embraces variable income, inconsistent expenses, and empowers people to answer stressful financial questions such as, "Can I afford this" or "Where's the money going to come from?"

Laura is a certified budgeting coach through the app, You Need a Budget (YNAB). The method shared is developed by YNAB but can be applied to any other budgeting system, whether that's an app, spreadsheet, or cash envelopes!

Repayment Restart: Preparing Your Social Communications – Renola Swoboda, Ascendium Education

About 19.4 million students attended colleges and universities in fall 2020 11.9 million students attended full time. 7.5 million students attended part time(ED).

With student loan repayment restarting in the next few months are your teams ready to handle the influx of questions you might be getting from those 7.5 million PT students?

While this number fluctuate, think about your campus and how many PT students you have. Are you prepared to support questions coming to your office from places other than in person. If you are not sure then this session is for you. We will explore topics such as:

- What can you do to make sure your digital experiences supports your team and students.
- Students would rather communicate via digital means that set up an in person appointment, what are some ways you can leverage that?
- How can you prepare when things don't work?
 - How do you manage student care when borrowers can't reach you or have their likely timely questions answered.

This session will explore ways to prepare your social media to work alongside your teams and not against it. Most of your students are there why not use it. Learn some basics of what to consider, bring your questions and better understand ways to streamline experiences.

SAI Hand Calculation – Robert Bode, UW River Falls

This session will include a review of FAFSA Simplification basics and concepts surrounding the Student Aid Index (SAI) replacing the EFC for 2024-2025.

Creating a Retention Grant: the UWL Experience, Terry Micks and Ben Chenault, UW – La Crosse
 UW-La Crosse created a retention grant to assist students with outstanding balances so they are able to register for classes. Learn about the process used each semester to administer this grant and how you might be able to create something similar on your campus.

HIIT Class: A workout to get your heart rate up – Kaleah Puskala, Sophomore at UW – LAX majoring in Exercise Sports Science, Pre-Professional

High energy workout with a variety of body weight exercises that will get your heart rate up while building muscle. HIIT classes are usually tiring but effective. I will do my best to provide modifications for all individuals to make it fun and effective for all fitness levels. When I instruct a HIIT or strength class it is usually station rotations with a "half-time" break where we do a different activity before getting back to the stations.

Boost Your Resilience in a Changing World – Lisa Valentine, ScholarNet

This presentation looks at how we handle change, explains resilience to change, and how to develop your resilience toolkit.

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Early Morning Yoga *Bring your own mat or towel* - Taylor Yapp, Sophomore at UW – LAX majoring in Nursing

Vinyasa flow yoga class. A flowful yoga class that rhythmically connects poses with breath helping relieve stress and find peace. My class is a good fit for beginners and advanced yogis because I give numerous options. Everyone is welcomed in the class and it's a time to take a pause from our busy lifestyles and connect with our bodies.

NASFAA Update and Round Table Discussion – Helen Faith, Heidi Carl, Elyse Weller, and Robert Bode

This session will kick off with a NASFAA update. We will follow this with a round table discussion on hot topics with our association presidents. Finally, the floor will open for Q&A from the membership.

FERPA 101: An Introduction – Kristy Sprung and Emily Bach, UW - Milwaukee Registrars

Are you new to higher education and you want more information about FERPA? Do you just need a refresher on how FERPA applies to you? Student privacy is everyone's job. This session will help you understand the basics of FERPA and give you the tools needed to help your campus remain compliant with this important law.

How to Give a Financial Aid Presentation – Heather Ehnert, UW - Milwaukee

This session will be primarily focused on giving a financial aid presentation to students and parents. The key takeaway is Balance!

- Balance between providing relevant and necessary information while not being overwhelming.
- Helpful tips to use AND explain jargon so that audience can follow.
- PowerPoint/presentation slides and/or handouts – when is best to use each/both.
- Graphics, charts, images – how much is too little or not enough, and how style contributes to effectiveness.
- Be yourself! Audience members can best relate when they don't only see you as a professional with all high-end knowledge, but also as a person that is real and understands the struggle of how complicated financial aid can be.
- The act of presenting: we often already are very comfortable with the information being presented, so focus on the affect, your presence as a professional in front of a group, transitions, practicing spots where "hiccups" tend to happen in presentation, looking and feeling your best in front of an audience, etc.

Prison Education Programs and Second Chance Pell – Kathy VanDeCar and Jamie Reinart, Madison College

Madison College has participated in the ESI for Second Chance Pell since Summer 2021. Now that Pell Grant has been opened back up to incarcerated students, perhaps you are considering how add this population of students to your campus. We will go over our program, best practices, lessons learned and room to expand.

Prost to your Personality! Improving Co-Worker Communication - Manda Riley

Have you ever wondered why you instantly connect with some folks at work? Or perhaps a co-worker gets on your nerves and you can't quite figure out why? This fun, interactive session will discuss varying personality types in the office environment. We will explore techniques to improve seemingly incompatible relationships, gain self-awareness, and promote better communication. Applicable for all levels of professionals who wish to improve their ability to connect, manage, and support others.

HEAB WISSIS Overview – Peter Zammuto, HEAB

Higher Educational Aids Board / Wisconsin Student Support Information System - Find out more about your favorite annual reporting requirement. Discover the importance of this report. Questions will be answered. See behind the scenes.

Business Solutions Session: Care and Feeding of Your Career - Deb Gossman, College Ave Student Loans

How often do you take stock of your current position and long-term career path? Who is responsible for your career? What should you do now? Is it time to make a move? Do you need to network? Join us for this informative session to learn how to take stock of your career and make a plan to take it to the next level.

Business Solutions Session: Refi Vs. Consolidation: The Quiet Revolution – Kevin McNamara, Earnest Student Loans

Student Loan Refinancing is quietly surpassing Consolidation as the preferred method of accelerating student loan repayment, yet many financial aid professionals use the terms Refinancing and Consolidation interchangeably. Learn the differences and advantages of each, because your graduates stand to gain (or lose) tens of thousands of dollars from their choice.

Business Solutions Session: Lender Lists 101 – Lisa Valentine, ScholarNet

This session will review the regulations on lender lists, the current emphasis on how schools should follow these regulations, and how to create a lender list that will meet the requirements.

Business Solutions Session: College Confidence. What America knows about paying for college – Jenny Chandler, Sallie Mae

Every year, college-bound families ask themselves "How will we pay for college?" and for many, this subject is filled with confusion and stress. Join us as we discuss Sallie Mae's new research study, College Confidence: What America Knows About Paying for College. We'll examine how much families really know about financial aid, the FAFSA®, scholarships, and student loans; and evaluate perceptions and common misconceptions about college financing. Finally, we'll highlight possible solutions to help families prepare for this vital part of getting a college education.

Business Solutions Session: Encouraging Students to Explore Outside Scholarship Opportunities – Kim Jenkins, PNC Bank

Outside scholarships are funds awarded by entities apart from the federal, state, and institutional aid programs. In this interactive session, we will identify strategies that you have implemented or can implement to assist students seeking outside scholarship opportunities

NASFAA Credential: Professional Judgment – Katy Weisenburger and Kim Pick

Must be attended in person for the full session time to qualify for the NASFAA Credential test.

Professional judgment (PJ) is sometimes viewed as one of the more challenging aspects of Title IV program administration. There are both explicit and implicit guidelines that must be followed in relation to other aspects of Title IV federal student aid administration. This course will teach you guiding principles and assist in their application on your campus.

Creating a Scholarship Resource Center – Emily Otto, UW – La Crosse

In this session, I will be discussing what our program is, how it got started, where we are, and what we plan to do in the future.

HEAB and WI Grant Best Practices

Join this session to learn more about the various programs offered by HEAB. We will also discuss common questions and best practices.

Advancing Your Career: Understanding Your Options

Emotional Intelligence: Identifying and managing your own emotions and the emotions of others - Triena Bodart, Moraine Park Technical College and Heidi Carl, Purdue University (IN)

Come learn more about Emotional Intelligence and how to regulate your own emotions and help to cheer up or calm down another person. You will gain skills to identify and manage your own emotions and the emotions of others. Learn how to harness emotions and apply them to tasks like thinking, behavior and problem solving. Be prepared to participate by taking your own Emotional Intelligence Assessment and share with others as we learn together.

Friday, April 14, 2023

How to Get Involved in WASFAA

Hear from association members on ways to get involved from conference planning to serving on a committee to running for an elected position.

Workplace Wellness: Strategies for Setting Yourself up for Success – Tiffany Lein, UW – LA Crosse

The session will focus on practical tips for creating a workplace environment that will support and enhance well-being. During this session, participants will exhale, engage with one another, and create a personalized plan for reimagining their workplace environment.

Tiffany Lein, RDN, MPH is an Assistant Professor at Viterbo University. Tiffany has over 10 years of experience working in nutrition and public health where she implemented policy, system, and environmental changes focused on obesity prevention in the Coulee Region. She is passionate about educating others on making small lasting changes to improve overall well-being.

Committee Meetings

Spend some time learning about various WASFAA committees and what they do. Unsure where to start or how to get involved? Join members of the executive committee to learn about all the WASFAA committee options available.

FAFSA Simplification Implementation School Checklist – Robert Bode, Jaimie Borisch, & My See Lee

We will review the latest information from the Department of Education on FAFSA Simplification and resources available to financial aid offices. We will then share what 3 different schools are doing already to ease the FAFSA Simplification implementation process. We welcome open discussion with all attendees during this session to share best practices with each other.