

MASFAP MONITOR

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July 2005

Letter from the President

Ch, ch, ch, changes...

Jon Gruett
MASFAP President

Hello again MASFAP! OK, I'm no David Bowie but his song *changes* seems somehow appropriate given the MASFAP activity so far this year. There have been a lot of changes and more are on the horizon.

- Changing of the guard – 50% of the members serving as Committee Chairs this year are doing so for the first time. This was not an unintentional happenstance but rather a purposeful decision. This was done to nurture future leaders and to combat the perceptions of a “good old boy” network within the organization.
- Changing retreat format – The January gathering of the Executive Board was a planning retreat as opposed to a formal meeting. Rather than blindly launching ourselves into association work, orientation, reflection/analysis, planning, and goal setting helped chart the 2005 course for committee chairs and elected officials.
- Changing the Business Meeting – Instead of a cursory review of the fiscal standing of our

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Committee Spotlight

Newcomer Welcome Committee

Chris Rethlake
Chair, Newcomer Welcome Committee

The opportunity to chair the Newcomer Welcome Committee was a surprising and advantageous opportunity. I previously served on this committee and enjoyed meeting new and interesting people within our financial aid community. Serving as a point of contact, this committee's primary objective is to acclimate newcomers as they begin their financial aid journey – providing useful information about conferences, networking, and volunteer opportunities. This year I have had the pleasure of working with 16 highly motivated and hard-working individuals. The Newcomer Welcome Committee accomplished our two primary goals for this year:

1. To establish formal policies and procedures for awarding the Bob Berger Newcomer Award
2. To reorganize the Newcomer Interest Session at conferences

We started off the year planning for the Spring Conference. I wanted to shake things up a bit this year. Changing the format of the Newcomer Interest Session and extending our time with the newcomers were two ways to do just that. With the assistance of the Program Committee, a Newcomer Breakfast was added to the agenda. This breakfast was a chance for newcomers to interact one-on-one with committee members and receive more information about our many committee opportunities. The breakfast was fun, informal, and a great way to stay involved with our newcomers throughout the conference. In addition, a ‘guided’ tour led by Keith Schawo was also a change to this year's Interest Session. Keith's tour included a walk through of the Lodge along with some interesting historical facts. Even our committee members learned something new!

In late April the committee met to formalize recommendations to the Executive Board for policies, procedures, and guidelines for awarding the Bob Berger Newcomer Award.

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organization, more detailed reports from various committees were presented. Improved communication of committee activities heightens the awareness of our membership relating to the inner workings of our organization and promotes increased volunteerism.

- Changing funding sources – An outside grant of \$2,600 was secured for the Early Awareness Committee and the College Goal Sunday committee will be seeking funding sources to replace the last installment of the Lumina grant.
- Changing Lifetime Membership Procedures – Changes were made which allow the board, on behalf of the association, to act more quickly in conferring lifetime memberships.
- Changing the Constitution – At the Fall Conference the membership will be presented with the opportunity to decide upon two changes to our constitution: to allow on-line voting, and to move College Goal Sunday to a standing committee status.

Of course there have been many other changes so far this year but I think you get the idea. I'd like to thank both the membership at large and the Executive Board for their involvement and hard work in prompting and managing change this year. When I think of all the other changes you are experiencing in your workplace and personal lives I am truly astounded that so much has been accomplished in such a short time. I am convinced that those in the Financial Aid profession have especially keen abilities to handle and accommodate change.

Have a great summer!

“Ch-ch-ch-ch-Changes
(Turn and face the stranger)
Ch-ch-Changes
Oh, look out you rock 'n rollers
Ch-ch-ch-ch-Changes
(Turn and face the stranger)
Ch-ch-Changes
Pretty soon you're gonna get a little older
Time may change me
But I can't trace time
I said that time may change me
But I can't trace time”

- David Bowie

Summer Institute a Success!

John Bailey
Chair, Professional Development Committee

The '05 MASFAP Summer Institute occurred June 7-10 at College of the Ozarks. This year's program proved to be an overwhelming success with 51 financial aid professionals in attendance. Members of the Professional Development Committee invested a great deal of time and effort in developing an informative, entertaining program that was very well received by those in attendance. A special thank you goes to College of the Ozarks, the Summer Institute faculty, and everyone that volunteered their time to make this program possible.

Plan to attend the NASFAA Decentralized Training hosted by the Professional Development Committee this fall. More information will be available later this summer.

Bob Berger Newcomer Award

Nominations for the Bob Berger Newcomer Award are being accepted until October 1, 2005.

To be considered for this award, each candidate must meet the following criteria:

- Be an Institutional MASFAP member who is a first time financial aid professional. This administrator must have been in the profession for less than three years (as of January 1).
- Have made outstanding contributions at the institutional, regional, state, and/or national levels
- Strive to keep students' interest his/her first priority
- Be dedicated to providing professional development to others and for themselves to better assist students
- Give back to the financial aid community
- Demonstrate leadership by participating in and supporting student aid related activities and programs

To nominate someone, go to masfap.org and look for the award under Online Forms, or [click here](#).

MDHE Issue Brief - Non-Traditional Students in Missouri Public Colleges and Universities

From 7.7.05 Edition of The Voice, Missouri Department of Higher Education, used with permission

One frequently asked question is how many non-traditional students are there in Missouri higher education? The answer to this question depends largely on how a student is defined. While there appears to be a lack of a consistent definition of non-traditional students in the current literature, a common notion is that these students are typically older, take fewer courses, or pursue a different academic goal. Based on this common notion and the data collected by the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE), the following summary provides a snapshot of working-age adult, part time, and non-degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled in Missouri public higher education.

Working-Age Adults

In measuring college participation rates, the U.S. Census Bureau and many national studies have traditionally referred to the population aged 18 to 24 enrolled in postsecondary institutions. Given that, an undergraduate aged 25 or above can be viewed as "non-traditional." In fall 2004, there were 48,780 students aged 25 or above enrolled as undergraduates in Missouri public colleges and universities. These working-age adults constituted about 26 percent of all undergraduate students - a decline from 32 percent reported in 1996.

Part Time Enrollment

Another way to identify non-traditional students is by course load. According to federal and state policies, undergraduates taking fewer than 12 credit hours in a full semester are considered part time students. Between 1996 and 2004, the total enrollment of part time undergraduates at Missouri public institutions declined in proportion from 42 percent to 37 percent of all undergraduates. Among the 70,275 undergraduates enrolled as part time students at Missouri public colleges and universities in fall 2004, about two-thirds attended two-year institutions.

Summary

For the purpose of gaining a more comprehensive picture, we may operationally define a non-traditional student as one who falls into any of the previous three categories. By this broad definition, non-traditional students constituted 48 percent of Missouri public institutions' total undergraduate enrollment in fall 2004. By the same definition, non-traditional students represented approximately two-thirds (67 percent) of the student population at two-year institutions and 31 percent of undergraduate enrollment on four-year campuses.

Loan delivery questions and answers

Submitted by: Jay Rhodes, TG National Account Representative

As we approach peak loan processing season in August, many schools are preparing to deliver financial aid funds to their students and parent borrowers. At this time of year, it may be useful to review the basics of loan delivery. The following Q&As are intended to help schools make sure their procedures are in line with applicable regulations.

Q: When the school credits loan funds to a student's school account, the school must notify the borrower. What information must the school provide in its notification?

A: The school's notification, which the school must send no earlier than 30 days before and no later than 30 days after the school credits the student's account, must include the following:

- The amount of the disbursement and date it was credited to the student's school account.
- A statement explaining that the borrower has the right to cancel all or a portion of the loan or loan disbursement and have the school return funds to the lender, if funds were disbursed by EFT or master check. The borrower has a 14-day period in which to make the cancellation request—see the *Common Manual* subsection 8.2.C for more details.
- The method and date by which the borrower must notify the school to cancel all or a portion of the loan or loan disbursement.

Q: Which cash management activities require a school to obtain written authorization from the student or parent borrower?

A: A school must obtain written authorization from the borrower to perform the following activities:

- Deliver Stafford or PLUS loan proceeds received by EFT or master check to the student or parent borrower.
- Use Stafford or PLUS loan proceeds to pay for current charges other than tuition, fees, and contracted room and board.
- Deliver Stafford or PLUS loan proceeds to the borrower's personal bank account.
- Hold a credit balance on behalf of a student or parent borrower.
- Use Stafford or PLUS loan proceeds to pay for minor prior-year charges.

Q: What is the earliest date that a school can deliver funds to students?

A: For a student enrolled in a standard term-based, credit-hour program,

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News from Around the State

OAKFAP- OAKFAP was held July 14th at The Library Center in Springfield. Eighteen OAKFAP members were in attendance. As usual a lively discussion of current issues took place in addition to a NASFAA Update and an update on the MASFAP Summer Institute. Constitution Day, FWS, Professional Judgment, ISIR issues, aggregate loan overawards and award letter notification requirements were the topics for the day. The next meeting will be August 11th, 1:30 PM at the Library Station North.

KC-RAP- Held at Park University on June 2. Valerie Walthall introduced USA Funds Summer 2005 Web cast series. They're offering a series of free web cast training sessions designed for new financial aid administrators as well as experienced financial aid professionals. We discussed the new interest rates and the upcoming Constitution Day. Mary Dorr from Kansas City Kansas Community College cautioned that their state financial aid review seems to be targeting work-study students who are also athletes. They're monitoring their hours, their supervisor, and their pay very closely. Our next meeting will be August 4th from 12-2. Location TBA.

SLAP- SLAP met on June 14th at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Thanks to Leo Hertling and Dave Rice for hosting the event. We celebrated Bob Miller's retirement from Missouri Baptist University. Our next meeting will be held at 2:00 on October 11th. Thanks to Karla Albert at MOHELA for hosting our next meeting.

FANG- May 19 - Carol Buchli, Debt Management Consultant with USA Funds, presented on "Solving the Retention Puzzle - action plans for retention success". It was an excellent presentation that created a great discussion on financial aid offices participation in retention. Loan Consolidation was discussed and clarification was given with regard to students in school applying for consolidation. Our next meeting is July 21 at University of MO-Columbia.

Tidbits

- **Lisa Tuggle** is the new Scholarship Coordinator/Receptionist at **Truman State University**. Lisa is a recent Truman grad. She replaced **Julie Burns** who moved to the Loan Coordinator position upon the resignation of **Deanna Hunsaker**.
- **Judy Cantoni** with **U.S. Bank** was recently recognized with the Mapping Your Future 2005 Excellence Award. The award was presented to Judy for her outstanding work as a volunteer for MYF.
- **Karen Hood** is a new Financial Aid officer at **Cox College**.
- **Valerie Hooker**, Financial Aid Counselor, started at **Stephens College** on March 25, 2005.
- **Chelsie Brandenburger**, Financial Aid Assistant, started at **Stephens College** on May 16, 2005.
- **Joe Camille**, **University of Missouri-Columbia**, became a grandfather for the third time. His daughter, Christine, had a little girl, Claire, on June 6, 2005. Congratulations, Joe!
- **Barb Nalty** accepted the Financial Aid Counselor position at **St Louis College of Health Careers**. She previously worked at Forest Institute of Professional Psychology in Springfield.
- **Debbie George** recently accepted the position of Financial Aid Director at **Texas County Technical Institute**. Prior to TCTI she was the Financial Aid Director at Baptist Bible College in Springfield.
- **Buddy Mayfield** is the new Financial Aid Director at **Missouri Valley College** in Marshall.
- **Jennifer Malotte** is the new Financial Aid Director at **Missouri College** in St. Louis.
- **Liz Lowry** is the new Default Manager/Student Loan Specialist with **Sanford-Brown College - St. Charles**.
- **Mary Tackett** is the new Financial Aid Director at **Sanford-Brown College - St. Charles**.
- **Vicki Mattocks** has accepted the Director position at **Southwest Missouri State University**.
- **Flo Byerly** is the new Financial Aid Assistant at **Assemblies of God Theological Seminary**.
- **Kim Warren** has recently been promoted to Director at **Avila University**.
- **Bob Kotulski** started as the Director of Financial Aid at **Baptist Bible College** in April. Bob moved to the Financial Aid Office from the Business Office at BBC.
- **Joanna Liggett** is a new financial aid coordinator at **Baptist Bible College**.

U.S. Bancorp Foundation Grants \$10,000 to Mapping-Your-Future.org

Submitted by: Judy Cantoni, US Bank

U.S. Bancorp Foundation has made a \$10,000 grant to Mapping-Your-Future.org (MYF) to assist in further development and promotion of MYF's web site, that provides free college, career and financial aid information and services. Located at www.mapping-your-future.org, students and their families can make higher education and career dreams a reality by utilizing online information and resources on the Mapping Your Future web site.

Features of the MYF web site include:

- **Early Career Awareness** - career planning information and the interactive feature CareerShip to help middle school students explore career options;
- **College Preparation and Selection** - information about academic preparation needed for college and what to expect from admission procedures and standardized tests, and tips on selecting a school;
- **Financial Wellness** – “Ten Steps to Financial Fitness,” an interactive financial trainer dedicated to helping high school and college students build financial muscle; includes calculators to help students and families with budgeting and financial aid planning;
- **College Financial Aid** - information about how to apply for student financial aid, and information on scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study programs, and a calendar of important dates in the financial aid process;
- **Online Student Loan Counseling** – interactive and college-customized Stafford and Perkins entrance and exit counseling and testing sessions;
- **Finding a Job** – JobGusher™, a job search site for students and recent graduates that provides occupation and job descriptions, tips on resume preparation, job hunting, and job interviewing; and
- **Supervised Special Chat Night** - events that enable visitors to ask counselors about college, career, and financial aid and receive answers immediately.

U.S. Bancorp Foundation provides cash contributions to nonprofit organizations in priority areas of affordable housing and economic opportunity, education and artistic and cultural enrichment.

the earliest a school can deliver funds is 10 calendar days before the first day of the payment period. For a student enrolled in a nonstandard term-based program or a clock-hour program, the earliest a school can deliver funds is the later of:

- 10 days before the first day of the payment period.
- The date the student completes the previous payment period for which the student received FFELP funds.

Q: What are the time frames that a school must follow for crediting a student's school account with a loan disbursement received from the lender via EFT?

A: The delivery time frames cover three separate periods as outlined below:

- Initial period – the school must deliver the loan disbursement within 3 business days of receipt.
- Conditional period – the school may deliver the disbursement within this 10-business-day period after the initial period if the school expects the student to meet all FFELP eligibility requirements within this time frame.
- Return period – the school must return an undeliverable disbursement to the lender within a 10-business-day period following the initial or conditional period, as applicable. If the school determines that the student meets FFELP eligibility requirements during this period, the school may deliver the disbursement to the borrower.

Q: What is the time frame for delivering a credit balance (i.e., any amount of funds that exceeds a student's institutional charges) to a student or parent borrower?

A: The school must deliver a credit balance to the student or parent borrower no later than 14 days after one of the following:

- The first day of the payment period if the credit balance occurs on or before the first day of the payment period.
- The date the credit balance occurs if the credit balance occurs after the first day of the payment period.
- The date the school receives notification from the student or parent borrower to cancel his or her authorization to have the school manage the credit balance.

Available resources

The information in this article was derived from the *Common Manual* chapter 8 (“Loan Delivery”). To access and download the latest version of the *Common Manual*, go to <http://www.nchelp.org/elibrary/CommonManual/ECM2005.pdf>.

Committee Spotlight, Continued from page 1

After much input and hard work, procedures were developed that we believed would benefit MASFAP and would have pleased Mr. Bob Berger. I am happy to report that these policies and procedures were approved at the June Board Meeting. The call for nominations began on July 1 and will continue through October 1 for this prestigious award. I encourage everyone to nominate, nominate, nominate! I would like to thank my committee and the Executive Board for their assistance in implementing these changes.

We look forward to finalizing our plans for the fall 2005 Conference, and we are eager to review candidates for the Bob Berger Newcomer Award. I am excited about the changes we've made and the fun we've had in doing so, and am delighted by the friends we've made along the way. It has been an exciting year already for the Newcomer Welcome Committee. I look forward to finishing the year as strongly as we started it.

Fall MASFAP Conference

Suit up, huddle up, batter up...Got your game face on?

Lori Hartman, Chair, Program Committee

Better be ready! MASFAP's Fall Conference is coming up, and we're sporting a sports theme! Mark your calendars for November 6-8 and join us at the Lodge. The Program Committee has been working hard all summer long to put together a winning agenda. At the top of our list of issues to cover is our favorite, reauthorization. For the newcomers to the MASFAP team we are planning sessions on SAP, PJ and trade tools. Sessions being planned for the rest of the team deal with everything from communicating with the millennials, to NCAA and Title IV, to marketing FA, to higher education legal issues. And many, many more. Plus the tailgate party and bonfire for Sunday night looks to be a grand slam!



Watch for further updates on the MASFAP listserv, including the notice in August on the availability of the registration form and the tentative agenda.

Let us help you write your game plan so you can go the distance! We're building it (a great conference), so you must come! See you in November!

Quick Facts and Figures

Submitted by Pam King, Nelnet

Data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) for the 2003-2004 academic year suggests that an increasing number of college students receive financial aid:

- **63%** of all undergraduates received some form of financial aid during the academic year, up from 55% in 1999-2000.
- Students received on average **\$7,400** each, up from \$6,200 in 1999-2000.
- **51%** of undergraduates received grants, **35%** took out loans, **8%** received work-study aid, and **7%** received other types of aid.
- On average, undergraduates taking out loans borrowed **\$5,800**.
- **46%** of undergraduates awarded financial aid received some portion from the federal government.
- **27%** of undergraduates received Pell Grants, with an average amount of **\$2,500**.

Save the Date!

**2005 MASFAP Fall Conference
November 6-8
Lodge of Four Seasons
Lake Ozark, MO**

The MASFAP Monitor is brought to you by:
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