



# MASFAP May 2020 Communication

## MASFAP Election Time!

It's MASFAP Election Time! The Nominations and Elections Committee is excited to announce an awesome late of candidates who have agreed to run for a MASFAP office! The committee thinks you will agree that making a selection will be difficult, and no matter the outcome the future of MASFAP will be in good hands.

The election will go live at the beginning of June and will be open for 15 days. MASFAP elections are held annually and voting is the responsibility of the primary member representing your institution or organization. The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages each member to read through candidate statements and discuss as an institution/organization prior to submitting the vote of your primary voting member. An official notification will go out from our system to the voting member of your institution once the ballot is live.

Thank you to all of the candidates for agreeing to run!

## MASFAP Board Candidates

### President-Elect

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### Vice President

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### Secretary

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### Delegate-At-Large—Institutional

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## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

**Every Wednesday**

**Brown Bag Lunch Zoom Meetings for Directors**



Financial Aid Directors (or a delegate from their office) are invited to attend a weekly brown bag lunch/Zoom session.

Please reach out to Charles Mayfield at [mayfield@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:mayfield@nwmissouri.edu) if you have any questions.



## MASFAP Socials:

**Every Thursday at 5 pm Via Zoom**

Recurring MASFAP Socials will continue each Thursday through the end of July. The MASFAP Socials start at 5 pm each Thursday—stay for a while or jump on for a few minutes just to say hello, it's very causal and a great way to connect! Details have been sent out via the listserv!



## President-Elect



### *Cassandra Hicks*

Institution: Southeast Missouri Hospital College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Current title/position: Financial Aid Director

Institution type: Private, non-profit, 4 year

Years in current position: 3 years

Years in profession: 13 years

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated as President-Elect for MASFAP. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving MASFAP in various roles over the last several years. As a member of the current board, I have seen the inner workings of MASFAP and am excited to have this opportunity to serve.

Our members are some of the most dedicated, caring individuals I know. I am grateful to be a part of an organization that is so passionate and committed to serving students. As we look toward the future, I look forward to helping our membership connect in new and different ways. Thank you for considering me for President-Elect.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

#### **MASFAP**

Treasurer Elect—1 year

Treasurer—1 year

Past Treasurer—2 years

Secretary—1 year

Professional Development Co-chair—1 year

Professional Development Chair—1 year

#### Honors, awards and publications:

#### **MASFAP**

Leadership Development Participant—1 year

Committee of the Year—Association Governance



## President-Elect



### *Alexandria Miller*

Institution: Stephens College

Current title/position: Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management

Institution type: 4 Year Private

Years in current position: 2 months

Years in profession: 6 years

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I would be honored to be your 2021 President-Elect.

Born and raised in the Saint Louis area, my family found ourselves landing in mid- Missouri in November of 2012. At that time, I transferred from UMSL to William Woods University to finish my bachelor's degree. I graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, with dreams of being a "big shot" accountant. As a student at WWU, I worked as a work-study student in the Financial Services office. Need I say more!? This is where my financial aid story started.

I remember attending my very first MASFAP conference, I went back to the office and told my supervisor "I have found my people". Everyone was so welcoming and friendly; people didn't care that I wasn't some "big shot" working at my institution or that I had only been in financial aid for four months as a full-time employee. I walked away from that first conference with confidence knowing I was in it for the long haul and I had MANY amazing leaders to look up to in our industry. More importantly, I knew I wanted to get involved with this association, ASAP.

Fast forward six years and I am excited to have the opportunity to run for president-elect. I have always dreamt of the day that I would feel "ready" but as many of those amazing leaders before me have said; "you are never truly ready". I am ready to dive headfirst and lead this membership and association to be a better us. In the many roles I have held in MASFAP, I have learned the ins and outs of how this association runs. I know what it takes to lead multiple committees to make sure the job gets done for our membership. I would not be where I am today without the help and support of this awesome association! MASFAP has helped me grow as an individual professionally but also personally. I hope one day, I will be able to be one of your inspirations to run and lead this association in the future.

Today I am submitting my candidacy to run for the President-Elect for the 2021 term. I am ready to serve next to the best of the best that have come and gone from MASFAP. Furthermore, I am committed to serve this association and lead us to be even better than we are today.

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## Candidacy Statement Continued

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

### MASFAP:

#### Roles Served:

- Early Awareness Committee (2015)
- Early Awareness Committee and Program Committee (2016)
- Early Awareness Committee (2016-2020)
- Program Committee (2017)
- Vice President (2018)
- Graduate of the Leadership Development Program
- Current Site Chair (held role since 2019)
- Newcomer Committee (2018-2020)

#### Activities:

- Attended the 2015 and 2016 conference
- Hill Day 2017
- High School Counselor workshops (2015—2019)
- Built and offered the first ever MASFAP Early Awareness Scholarship (2017)
- Lead the Program Committee to build a fantastic program for 2018

### MASFAA:

- Attended the 2016 conference
- Membership Committee (2018)

### NASFAA:

- Attended conference in 2018 and 2019

### OTHER (previous institutions, other states/regions, other associations, etc):

- Presented at the 2016 and 2017 MOACAC Conference
- MSCA- member 2017

### HONORS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS:

- Bob Berger Winner (2018)
- Stephens College Rising Star (2019)



## Vice President



### *Kayla Klein*

Institution: University of Missouri

Current title/position: Financial Aid Adviser

Institution type: 4-year public Institution

Years in current position: 4 years and 8 months

Years in profession: 4 years and 8 months

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated to run for the position of Vice President of MASFAP. It has been amazing to see how much MASFAP has given to me during my time within the organization. The countless connections, support, opportunities, and still growing list have been immeasurable. It started with my first conference and the opportunity to learn and grow in my field. I know that in the position of Vice President I would not only help to shape, but provide and organize a conference that would benefit my colleagues in the way it has provided growth for me in the past 4 years.

I understand the importance of providing others with the opportunity to expand their knowledge base about financial aid, the MASFAP the organization and opportunity to be involved at many levels. In my current role as the Early Awareness chair I have seen the true impact that this organization can have. The countless volunteer hours, helping high school counselors, serving as resources for others, and the list continues to grow. This all starts with a conference and an opening to a new prospective.

It has been an honor to serve on various committees within MASFAP, attending several workshops, teaching direct loans credential, and helping to shape the impact of the organization. Those that have been Vice President before me have strived to provide wonderful growth, an opportunity to build relationships, and conferences packed full of learning and expanding knowledge. I know that the commitment of Vice President is one that requires time, thoughtfulness, as well as organization and planning skills. It would be my honor to serve as the Vice President and continue the growth, expansion, and community this organization provides.

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## Candidacy Statement Continued

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Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

2018, 2019, 2020 Early Awareness Committee Chair

2016 and 2017 Early Awareness Committee Member

2018 Leadership Development Graduate

2017-2020 Program Committee member

2016 and 2019 Legislative Committee member

Honors, awards and publications:

2016 MASFAA Summer Institute Graduate

2018 Leadership Development Graduate

2019 Committee of the Year: Early Awareness



# Candidacy Statements

## Vice President



### *Maureen McKinnon*

Institution: Rockhurst University

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: 4 year Private

Years in current position: 8

Years in profession: 16

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I would very much like to serve as your MASFAP Vice President. I have become more involved in MASFAP over the last several years by serving on several different committees. I have truly enjoyed interacting with my committee members and have come to understand the importance of being active in MASFAP. Financial Aid can be extremely complicated and I have learned over the past several months just how much I need my financial aid colleagues. MASFAP provides us with an avenue to make connections, stay up to date on information, as well as continue to learn and grow in this profession. I want to help make a difference in all of your lives, by continuing to find ways for MASFAP to help all of you in every aspect of the rapidly changing financial aid industry. I love attending the conferences, meeting new people and interacting with those that I have known for years. It only seems right that I finally step up and do my part for an association that has provided me with so many opportunities, so much knowledge and ample friendships. I would love to give to others, what those before me have given me and I would relish the idea to give back to those that I have benefitted from.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: Newcomer's Committee, Award's Committee, Nominations and Election Committee  
Member of the Tuition Exchange Board of Trustees



## Treasurer-Elect



### *Jamie Davis*

Institution: Columbia College

Current title/position: Assistant Director

Institution type: 4 year Private

Years in current position: 3

Years in profession: 9

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I am excited and honored to seek the position of MASFAP Treasurer-Elect. I have been an active member of MASFAP since 2011 and love how passionate and dedicated everyone in this organization is to helping our students continue their education. Financial Aid is my passion and I love being able to serve and give back to an organization that has given me so much. The past nine years I have served MASFAP in numerous ways, from Vice President to Newcomer chair and Professional Development chair, as well as serving several committees. Before my move to a career in higher education, I worked in the banking industry for four years. I am honored to have been nominated for the Treasurer-Elect position and look forward to future professional growth within the organization. I want to thank you for taking the time to vote and I would be absolutely thrilled to serve as your Treasurer-Elect!

#### Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

##### MASFAP:

MASFAP 2011-Present

Professional Development Chair-2019

Vice President-2017

50th Anniversary committee 2017

Newcomer Chair 2016

Program Committee 2012-Present

Awards Committee 2015-2019

Leadership Development 2014-2015

##### NASFAA:

Earned NASFSAA credentials in Packaging, Verification and Student Eligibility

##### HONORS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS:

Bob Berger Newcomer Award recipient 2016



## Treasurer-Elect



### *Stephen Garman*

**Institution:** Missouri State University

**Current title/position:** Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid

**Institution type:** 4-Year Public

**Years in current position:** 3

**Years in profession:** 5

**Statement of Candidacy:** I am truly honored to be nominated for 2021 Treasurer-Elect.

Without MASFAP's support over the past 5 years I would not have found my new passion, and I could not ask for a better organization of which to be a proud member. My closest friends have come from the financial aid profession and I have discovered my leadership style by serving in various capacities.

I have happily served on the MASFAP board for the past 3 years. In 2018 I led the Research committee, and in 2019 it was my privilege to spearhead a unique search for a new website and membership platform. MemberClicks has been my pet project as the platform itself and our knowledge of it evolves. This year I continued my presence on the board as the Technology committee chair, a position which fit my increasingly technical tenure well. MASFAP has been a vehicle by which I have reinvented myself, and the position of Treasurer-Elect is a natural progression of my data-centered leadership track.

In this role I will strive for clarity and transparency while upholding the purpose of the organization. I seek to grow even more as a leader in the profession and as a dependable financial aid administrator with this opportunity. As always, I am committed to serving our members in whatever capacity I am needed so that we may continue our tradition of excellence.

### **Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:**

#### **MASFAP:**

2017-Present: OAKFAP Coordinator

2017: Leadership Development Program Graduate

2018: Research Committee chair

2019: Website Development (*ad hoc*) Committee chair, Technology Committee

2020: Technology Committee chair, Program Committee

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## Candidacy Statement Continued

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**NASFAA:**

Credentialed (5)

**Other Associations:**

Community Partnersip of the Ozarks - Financial literacy course facilitator. VITA volunteer

**Honors, awards and publications:**

MASFAP Bob Berger Newcomer Award Recipient (2019)

## Treasurer-Elect



### *Scott Young*

**Institution:** University of Missouri – Kansas City

**Current title/position:** Director

**Institution type:** 4 Year Public

**Years in current position:** 6 years

**Years in profession:** 14

#### **Statement of Candidacy:**

I am honored to be nominated for the position of MASFAP Treasurer-elect and excited to accept this nomination. MASFAP has been a major part of my growth and professional development over my financial aid career. I've been privileged to serve as a Delegate at Large, Membership Chair, and on the Technology Committee. Additionally, many of MASFAP's members have taken time to invest in me and to help me develop as a leader and financial aid professional. These experiences have challenged me to serve where there is a need and do the best that I can to give back to our profession and to my fellow financial aid colleagues. If given the opportunity I will work diligently to support the Budget and Finance committee and assist the current treasurer to make positive and fiscally responsible recommendations for our organization. My goals in severing would also be to focus on investing and developing and helping others grow within the organization. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to serving as Treasurer-elect and contributing back to MASFAP.

#### **Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:**

##### MASFAP:

Technology Committee Member - 2020

Membership Chair - 2019

Ad-Hoc Website Conversion Committee Member - 2019

Delegate-at Large -2018

Conference Presenter, "Director Roundtable: What Keeps You Up at Night?"- 2014

Conference Presenter, "150% Sub Limits" - 2014

Conference Presenter, "Measuring Online Courses/Programs" - 2013

##### MASFAA:

Local Arrangements Committee Member 2015-2016

Communications and Electronic Initiatives Committee Member 2016-2018

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**Honors, awards and publications:**

MASFAP Committee of the Year 2019

MASFAA Committee of the Year 2016

MASFAA Committee of the Year 2017

## Secretary



### *Stephanie Broyles*

Institution: Rolla Technical Institute/Center

Current title/position: Financial Aid Director

Institution type: Public, Clock-Hour

Years in current position: 2

Years in profession: 2

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I have been employed with my organization for twenty years. During this time, I have worn many hats. About three years ago, my director started talking to me about the possibility of moving to the position of Financial Aid Director. I did not have any direct experience in Financial Aid, but I had worked in overlapping functions as the Student Services Director and the Institutional Accreditation Liaison. Additionally, I had earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting, a master's degree in Business, and had been a Corporate Finance Manager in a previous life. In spite of this background, I knew that Financial Aid was complex and I had more than a lot to learn. Before I took the position as Financial Aid Director, I started attending MASFAP PD events at MOHELA in Columbia. I was overwhelmed by the warm reception I received at these events and by the close bonds of the MASFAP community. I was also impressed by the knowledge of the members and their willingness to overlook how green I was and still am. I had always believed in the value of professional organizations anyway and quickly decided that I wanted to be a bigger part of the MASFAP community. I ended up accepting the position as Financial Aid Director. I immediately applied to MASFAP's Leadership Development program (LDP), signed up for the fall conference, and joined committees. Everything I have been a part of with MASFAP has been very rewarding and has helped me grow professionally and personally. I am running for Secretary because I would like to support and give back to MASFAP the way MASFAP has supported and given to me.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

I started attending PD events with MASFAP in the 2017-18 year. I became even more active in the 2018-19 year when I moved into the role of Financial Aid Director. Last year, I was honored to be selected as a Leadership Development Program (LDP) participant and to serve on the Legislative, Professional Development, and Research committees. As an LDP participant, I had the amazing experience of traveling to DC and learning to advocate for Financial Aid. This year, I am the Chair of the Newcomer committee and I serve on the Communications and Program committees.

I have always been active with professional organizations relative to my position and have held offices with them in the past. I have always learned and grown from these experiences – gotten back even more than I have given.



## Secretary



### *Ashley Nickell, M.Ed.*

Institution: Logan University

Current title/position: Financial Aid Advisor/Perkins Loan Coordinator

Institution type: Graduate/Professional

Years in current position: 6 Years

Years in profession: 7 Years

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I was nominated to run for Secretary of MASFAP by my supervisor, Laurel Miller. I am honored to have been nominated for the position for the 2021 year. After several years of contributing to this organization through committee participation, I hope to get the opportunity to be involved in MASFAP in a new capacity.

Additionally, I feel I have ample experience in the financial aid industry, as well as the education and volunteer work to fulfill the duties of secretary. I am currently pursuing a Doctor of Education (Ed.D) in Higher Education Student Services and in May 2018, I received my Masters of Education (M.Ed.) in Adult and Higher Education.

I would consider myself a good team player, a good listener, quick learner, and very detail oriented. For all these reasons I would love to be considered for the elected officer position of Secretary with the MASFAP board.

#### **SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

##### **MASFAP:**

Member since 2013

(2016 – Present) Newcomer Committee

(2019) Leadership Development Program

(2019 – Present) Early Awareness Committee

(2019 – Present) Professional Development Committee

(2020) MASFAP Program Committee

(2020) MASFAP Legislative Committee

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**MASFAA:**

Member since 2013

**NASFAA:**

Member since 2013

Earned 11 NASFAA Credentials

CFAA Certification Test on 6/14/2020

Honors, awards and publications:

2019 Leadership Development Program Graduate

## Secretary



### *Manda Riley*

Institution: University of Missouri-Columbia

Current title/position: Financial Aid Adviser

Institution type: Four-year public

Years in current position: 2

Years in profession: 2

#### **Statement of Candidacy:**

I am grateful to be nominated to serve as MASFAP's Secretary. Thank you for your consideration!

True story: I fell head over heels in love with the profession of financial aid. It took a few credentials, conferences, and PD events for me to recognize the importance of MASFAP to my ongoing professional and personal growth. I am consistently inspired by the members of MASFAP and the multifaceted ways we support and advocate for our students and communities. It is a joy and honor to serve in our profession – wouldn't you agree?

Those who meet me quickly recognize my bright personality and love for public speaking, training, and event planning. It would be an honor to further invest these talents towards the collective success and growth of MASFAP. I consider myself a lifelong learner who practices active listening, honors varying perspectives, enjoys team collaboration, and will not shy away from a challenge. I am prepared (and extremely excited) to serve in this role. I truly appreciate your consideration of my candidacy. Happy voting, MASFAP!

#### **Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:**

I have enjoyed opportunities to achieve all 17 NASFAA credentials, serve as faculty at MASFAA's 2019 Summer Institute, develop content for MASFAA's Financial Literacy Taskforce, contribute to MASFAP through the professional development, program, and research committees, advocate at Hill Day, and cultivate my leadership skills as a member of the MASFAP Leadership Development Program cohort.

#### **Honors, awards and publications:**

2019 MASFAA Summer Institute Faculty

2019 MASFAA Committee of the Year Recipient

2020 MASFAA Webinar: "How to Navigate a Difficult Conversation"

2019-2020 MASFAP Leadership Development Program Member

MASFAP and MASFAA Trainings: "Engaging Students in Tough Situations" and "Exploring Leadership and Personality Types"

Award winning research: "Overcoming Barriers to Help-Seeking Behavior"

Bachelor of Social Work (2016)

Master of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (anticipated May 2021)

## Delegate-At-Large



*Jon Gruett*

Institution: East Central College

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: 2 year public

Years in current position: 1

Years in profession: 25+

### Statement of Candidacy:

Over the last three decades I have had the privilege of serving my fellow Financial Aid professionals in a variety of capacities from committee volunteer to President. At each and every step of the way I have been blessed to learn from those that I serve. I hope that in some measure I have helped them in return. I have experienced profound change in both my personal and professional life in recent years and was honored to hear that I have been nominated for the Delegate-At-Large position. I am excited to be nominated, eager to serve, and humbled to have worked alongside so many amazing colleagues throughout the years. If given the chance to continue that work as Delegate-At-Large I will do my best for you and our profession as I have always done.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: Executive Council, Budget & Finance Chair, Conference Presenter, Research Committee Chair, President. Service Awards, Missouri Award.

MASFAA: Executive Council, Conference Presenter, Finance Committee Chair, Missouri Delegate, Research Committee Chair, Treasurer, Vice President. Leadership Award.

NASFAA: Research Committee.

Association of Chiropractic Colleges: Program Committee Chair

Missouri Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers: Conference Presenter.



## Delegate-At-Large



### *Krissy Loenneke*

Institution: Southeast Missouri Health College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Current title/position: Financial Aid Specialist

Institution type: Private, non-profit, 4 year

Years in current position: 3 months

Years in profession: 8 years

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I am excited to seek the position of MASFAP Delegate-at-Large. I have been a member of MASFAP since 2011 and am excited for the chance to give back to MASFAP by being on the board. Before my recent move to Southeast Missouri Health College of Nursing and Health Sciences, I served MASFAP as a member of the Newcomer and Program committee. I have a passion for assisting students and look forward to becoming more involved with MASFAP.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

#### **MASFAP**

Newcomer Committee

Program Committee

Conference Moderator

#### **NASFAA**

Member



## Delegate-At-Large



### *Angel Mefford*

Name of Institution: State Fair Community College

Current Position: Director of Financial Aid and Veteran Services

Type of Institution: 2 Year Public

Years in Current Position: 1.5

Years in Profession: 6

#### Statement of Candidacy:

Hello! I am excited and honored to be considered for the position of Delegate at Large for the MASFAP Board. I have been a member of MASFAP for 6 years and in that time served on the Program Committee, Awards Committee and currently as the Chairperson for the Membership Committee. Through my time with MASFAP, I have met several friends and connected with other colleagues professionally. I feel that this organization’s commitment to excellence and serving students in higher education has been inspiring and is what motivated me to be involved. I value the experience and knowledge that I’ve gained through MASFAP and hope that by serving as a Delegate at Large I can continue to share this with others.

#### Summary of Professional Activities:

##### MASFAP:

- Program Committee
- Awards Committee
- Membership Committee Chairperson

##### NASFAA:

Member

##### Other:

Member of MCCA

#### Honors, Awards, Publications:

2018 Leadership Development Graduate



## Delegate-At-Large



### *Kala D. Smith*

Institution: Lincoln University

Current title/position: Director Financial Aid

Institution type: Public 4 year

Years in current position: 1 year

Years in profession: – 15 years

#### Statement of Candidacy:

I am interested in this position for many reasons. My main reason is that I am very passionate about Financial Aid. Representing this organization would be nothing more than what I do on a daily basis. I am an Educator, a Mentor, a Motivator, and a Congratulator! Our organization needs someone who can carry the torch, and be a team member and stand in the gap for making things better for all.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP Member since 2019

MASFAP Fall 2019 FA Award Offers Panel Member

MASFAP Fall 2019 Moderator

NASFAA Member since 2013

AASFAA Member since 2010

FACAB Member since 2018, 2019, 2020

Honors, awards and publications:

Century Club Annual Gift Giving- University Arkansas Pine Bluff 2017 thru 2019