



MASFAP May 2021 Communication

MASFAP Election Time!

It's time to elect new Executive Board members to the MASFAP Board! The Nominations and Elections Committee is excited to announce a strong slate of candidates who have agreed to run for a MASFAP office. No matter the outcome, the future of MASFAP will be in good hands!

The election will go live by the end of the week 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—we appreciate each of you!

MASFAP Board Candidates

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Vice President

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Treasurer-Elect

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Secretary

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FOR EACH OF THE CANDIDACY
STATEMENTS**



Special Elections Results

The results of the special election to fulfill the remaining term for the 2021 President-Elect position are in . . . Congratulations to Cassandra Hicks!

Cassandra has served MASFAP in various roles over the last several years including serving as Professional Development Chair & Co-chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and currently Membership Committee.

Cassandra is excited to have this opportunity to serve MASFAP!



zoom

MASFAP PD Events

**Check out masfap.org
for upcoming PD
events!**



President-Elect



Kayla Klein

Name: Kayla Klein

Institution: University of Missouri

Current title/position: Senior Advisor

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: 8 months

Years in profession: 5 1/2 years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated to run for MASFAP president. Being a part of this organization has truly allowed me to grow as a person both in the profession as well as personally. Over the past 5 years, I have seen the great impact this organization has been able to do for its members as well as the communities across Missouri.

When I look at all the past leaders of this organization, I can see the true impact that they have made during their time as president. Growing the organization with the times, adding additional opportunities and resources for members, and building relationships with other organizations across the state. It is these relationships and opportunities that as the president I would continue to develop and grow. These experiences such as leadership development, advocacy and being a part of the board has led me to encourage others to utilize MASFAP for all the resources, relationships, and growth opportunities that it provides. It would be my honor to lead MASFAP as we continue to work to grow these programs and opportunities for the MASFAP membership.

I have had the privilege of serving on various committees, attend workshops, teach credentials, and serve on the board. All these experiences have shaped and prepared me to be president of MASFAP, those that have come before me and allowed me to learn from them have provided me with me an understanding of the importance of this position. It truly takes a team to provide all the experiences that MASFAP does and as president I understand that building a team would help to grow and further the goals of MASFAP. It would be my honor to serve as MASFAP president and continue the work of those that have served before me.

President-Elect



Tony Lubbers

Name: Tony Lubbers

Institution: University of Central Missouri

Current title/position: Director, Student Financial Assistance

Institution type: Public, 4 -year

Years in current position: 3.5

Years in profession: 25

Statement of Candidacy: I have served students in the financial aid industry for 25 years at both private and public 4-year institutions. During that time, I have served as committee chair, officer, and member of several bodies.

State Level:

2019 & 2021	MASFAP Legislative Committee
2016-2017	KASFAA Government Relations Committee
2014-2016	KASFAA Association Governance Committee/Past President
2014	KASFAA Hall of Fame
2013-2014	KASFAA President
2012-2013	KASFAA President-Elect/Conference Planning Committee Chair
2011-2012	KASFAA Electronic Resource Committee
2008-2009	KASFAA Finance Committee

Regional Level:

2016-2017	RMAFSAA Conference Planning Committee
2014-2015	RMAFSAA Vice-President
2013-2014	Kansas State Delegate to the RMAFSAA Board of Directors

National Level:

June, 2020	Certified Financial Aid Administrator designation, NASFAA
June, 2017	Re-examining Paradigms of Campus-Based Aid Task Force
April, 2015	Annual Training Task Force (SULA)
May, 2014	Public Service Loan Forgiveness Task Force
April, 2014	Political Advocacy Pipeline visit to Capitol Hill
March, 2013	Leadership and Legislative Conference

In addition, I earned the Certified Financial Aid Administrator designation from NASFAA in 2020 and have served as a keynote speaker:

2016 Opening Keynote Speaker on Leadership at RMAFSAA Conference
2014 Closing Keynote Speaker on Leadership at the KASFAA Conference
2014 Closing Keynote Speaker on Leadership at the NeASFAA Conference

While most of my prior work was for the Kansas and Rocky Mountain Associations, I look forward to sharing my experience with MASFAP in the years to come. I am thankful for the relationships I have made over the years within the financial aid profession and the opportunity to both lead and serve with these individuals. Given my experience within the financial aid office and associations, I am confident that I can serve the membership effectively in guiding the Association through these uncertain times ahead. Therefore, I respectfully submit my candidacy for President-Elect.

President-Elect



Rob Moore

Name: Rob Moore

Institution: Missouri State University

Current title/position: Director, Financial Aid

Institution type: Public 4-Year

Years in current position: 2

Years in profession: 11

Statement of Candidacy:

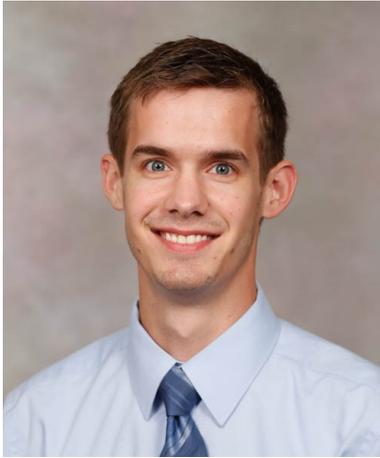
Recent national and state-level events have served to underscore the importance our statewide organization plays in all our professional lives. Whether by hosting training events to help us keep pace with regulatory changes, providing a network of knowledgeable experts to assist with issues, serving as an avenue to engage in legislative advocacy, or simply as an ongoing source of levity and friendship, MASFAP continues to provide all our members with connections and resources beyond our individual institutions. MASFAP also helps us work toward bigger goals than individual enrollment or processing numbers.

As I have navigated the challenges and pitfalls of assuming a leadership role within a financial aid office, I have found myself relying more frequently on the resources and connections provided to me as a MASFAP member. More than ever, the aforementioned experiences have solidified the appreciation I have for our organization and its mission. And though we will likely continue to face challenges within higher education, we will also continue to “get it done” because that’s what we do.

For these reasons, I am honored to have been nominated to serve our membership as President-Elect. Though I have not served MASFAP in many formal capacities beyond the Legislative Committee, I feel I have the skills and leadership experiences necessary to continue steering our organization during these difficult times. If elected, I look forward to continuing the advancement of MASFAP’s mission and to contribute to the legacy of our organization. Thank you for your consideration!



Vice President



Stephen Garman

Name: Stephen Garman

Institution: Missouri State University

Current title/position: Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid

Institution type: 4-Year Public

Years in current position: 4

Years in profession: 7

Statement of Candidacy:

It is an honor to be nominated for the next Vice President of MASFAP. This position is responsible for two unique and challenging functions - ones for which I am prepared.

Since my concurrent start in financial aid and in MASFAP I have had the fortune of serving in several board and committee roles. I am particularly grateful for the chance to have steered the organization toward a new website and membership management system in 2019. That project offered invaluable understanding of MASFAP's financial and political workings. In 2020 it was equally rewarding to assist with the virtual conference as chair of the Technology Committee, having the advocacy of a fantastic Vice President and the support of many individuals across the association. Both opportunities held significant personal meaning to me and are milestones in my short tenure as a financial aid professional.

My family is not from Missouri, and until I moved here Missouri was just one of those states you fly over to get to your destination. But I recognize the community that MASFAP is and am proud to call Missouri home now. MASFAP is one thing that has kept me here, because our organization has given me many opportunities and just as many friends. Our focus through the COVID-19 pandemic has never strayed from the students we help every day, and that is the sign of a strong, deeply rooted organization with a good heart. In the coming year I look forward to helping the organization return to normalcy, particularly a conference where we can greet everyone in person with renewed camaraderie.

MASFAP has given me many great things professionally and personally. The role of Vice President is not just a chance to plan a conference or to be on the Board, though I take those charges seriously. Above all, this role is an opportunity to make someone else's time in the profession as positive as mine has been. I look forward to the chance to serve you, MASFAP, and our students.

Vice President



Kaley Williams

Name: Kaley Williams

Institution: Kansas City University

Current title/position: Associate Director

Institution type: Private Graduate/Professional

Years in current position: 1 year and 11 months

Years in profession: 11 years and 2 months

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated to run for the position of Vice President of MASFAP. It has been a pleasure being part of MASFAP and I have loved getting to know all of the members. I started working in financial aid as a work study student while I was an undergrad and was called back to financial aid a few years after graduating. The financial aid community seems to have a way of drawing you back in and I have truly enjoyed being a valuable resource to students as they continue their education.

Serving as the Co-Chair for the Professional Development Committee for the past two years, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and have been provided with numerous resources, connections and opportunities for growth, both personally and professionally. It would be an honor to carry on the legacy of those that have been Vice President before me and continue to provide opportunities for growth, a chance to build relationships both inside and outside of MASFAP, and to help expand the knowledge of all of our members. I know how challenging it can be to provide opportunities to all areas of our membership and with the majority of my financial aid background in graduate education, I can bring a different perspective when it comes to providing training for all members. I would be honored to serve you as the next MASFAP Vice President.

Summary of professional activities including MASFAP, KASFAA & RMASFAA:

2020, 2021 MASFAP Professional Development Committee Co-Chair

2019 MASFAP Program Committee member

2014, 2015 KASFAA Finance Committee Co-Chair

2013 RMASFAA Program Committee member



Treasurer-Elect



Jamie Davis

Name: Jamie Davis

Institution: Columbia College

Current title/position: Associate Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: 4 year private

Years in current position: 7 months

Years in profession: 10 years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Treasurer-Elect and am excited to accept this nomination. Over the last ten years, MASFAP has played a major role in my professional development, and I am humbled to be able to serve and give back to an organization that has given me so much. I've been privileged to serve as Vice President, Newcomer chair, Professional Development chair, as well as serving on several committees. I value the experience and relationships I have gained through serving on the board and these committees. I plan to help MASFAP remain strong as an industry leader and continue to provide high standards in the administration of our organization. Thank you for this opportunity to serve MASFAP and I would be honored to serve as your Treasurer-Elect!

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

MASFAP:

MASFAP 2011-Present

Professional Development Chair 2019

Vice President 2017

50th Anniversary committee 2017

Newcomer Chair 2016

Newcomer Committee 2013-Present

Program Committee 2012-Present

Leadership Development 2014-2015

Awards Committee 2015-2019

NASFAA:

Earned NASFSAA credentials in Packaging, Verification and Student Eligibility

HONORS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS:

Bob Berger Newcomer Award recipient 2016

Treasurer-Elect



Ashley Nickell

Name: Ashley Nickell, M.Ed.

Institution: Logan University

Current title/position: Associate Director | Enrollment Reporting & Title IV Compliance

Institution type: Graduate/Professional

Years in current position: since November 2020

Years in profession: 8 Years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am grateful and truly honored to be nominated to serve as MASFAP's Treasurer-Elect for the 2022 year and excited to accept this nomination. If given the opportunity I will work to make conscientious decisions to ensure our organization may continue the tradition of excellence by providing positive and fiscally responsible recommendations to the Budget and Finance committee and the current Treasurer. Additionally, and as it relates to this nomination, I have four years prior banking experience, and have worked closely to my institution's accounting department.

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. I feel I have ample experience in the financial aid industry, as well as the education and volunteer work to fulfill the duties of Treasurer-Elect. 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 Treasurer-Elect with the 2022 MASFAP board.

Summary of Professional Activities:

I have been a member of all financial aid organizations (NASFAA, MASFAA, MASFAP) since 2013. In the 8 years since, I was able to achieve 11 NASFAA credentials and was given the opportunity to present one in March 2019.

Within MASFAP, I have served as an active member in the following committees: Newcomer Committee (2016-2020), Early Awareness Committee (2019-2020), Professional Development Committee (2019 – Current), Program Committee (2020 – Current), and Legislative Committee (2020 – Current). In 2019, I was selected as one of the members of the MASFAP Leadership Development Program and October 2019, I was able to advocate for the students of Missouri in Washington, D.C.

Honors, awards, and publications:

Master of Education (M.Ed.) – Adult & Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration & Leadership Certificate

Doctor of Education (Ed.D) – Higher Education Student Services (expected July 2021)

Treasurer-Elect



Manda Riley

Name: Manda Riley

Institution: University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine

Current title/position: Financial Aid Advisor & Adjunct Faculty

Institution type: Four-year public

Years in current position: 1

Years in profession: 3

Statement of Candidacy:

Hello MASFAP! Thank you for the nomination.

I started in financial aid a short three years ago, but what a journey it has been! Within my first year, I attended the MASFAP and MASFAA conferences, achieved all 17 NASFAA credentials, and caught the financial aid bug.

Here's the thing: I also caught the bug for all things MASFAP! I have loved serving as a committee member, developing my leadership skills through the Leadership Development Program, and presenting to fellow colleagues at our amazing annual conferences. I am always excited for opportunities to connect with you and serve this organization that has given so much to me.

Serving as Treasurer-Elect, I dedicate my enthusiasm, organizational skills, and transparency to our efforts. I would be honored to serve as a first-time MASFAP board member and collaborate with the Budget and Finance Committee to continue our traditions of advocacy, development, and excellence.

I truly appreciate your consideration of my candidacy. Happy voting, MASFAP!

Secretary



Marla Fernandez

Name: Marla Fernandez

Institution: Truman State University

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: 4-year Public

Years in current position: 2 ½ years

Years in profession: Higher Education – 15 years, Financial Aid – 2 ½ years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am humbled and honored to be nominated as Secretary for MASFAP. In 2006, I began my career in higher education in the Business Office/Student Accounts after working for several years in publishing, customer service and marketing in the advertising industry. What surprised and amazed me the most about the academic world was the comradery, willingness to help and answer questions, sharing of knowledge and overall sense of community that exists. And list serves – what a wonderful concept! It blew me away and I knew I had found a great place to work. In 2018, the opportunity to move to the Financial Aid Office presented itself and it has been a roller coaster ride ever since. On my fifth day on the job in Financial Aid, I was able to attend my first MASFAP annual conference, meet financial aid administrators from other schools, set in on a variety of sessions and converse with vendors. I had been a member of MASFAP since 2015, but only attended a few meetings prior to the annual conference. The timing was perfect for starting a new job, and I have been fortunate to attend many in-person (prior to COVID-19) and virtual MASFAP professional development sessions and meetings on a regular since that time.

With a new job in a new department, I did not get as involved in MASFAP as I would have liked to in 2019. The priority was getting more experience under my belt before searching out other commitments. Then, in 2020, the pandemic hit and the learning curve hit a new high for many of us with all the changes to classes, changes in the work environment, adapting student communications, new regulations and new federal funding. One of the most helpful things for me in the last year has been the weekly MASFAP zoom meetings that began last April and lasted through the start of the fall semester. These meetings allowed us to commiserate together, to understand and decipher HEERF I, to keep as up-to-date as possible with changing regulations and to know we were not alone in all this. Again, it blew me away and reinforced the fact that I had found a great place to work.

Now, it is time for me to try to give back in some way for all the help I have received so far from MASFAP and its members. I am grateful for this community and thankful for the chance to start giving back by working in the role of MASFAP Secretary. Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your consideration.

Secretary



Zach Greenlee

Name: Zach Greenlee

Institution: Missouri Baptist University

Current title/position: Director, Student Financial Services

Institution type: 4-year Private

Years in current position: 5

Years in profession: 10

Statement of Candidacy:

MASFAP has greatly benefitted me, both professionally and personally. As I round out my 3-year term as a Delegate-at-Large, I seek to continue to serve our association and our Executive Board as the Secretary in the 2022 year. In this position, I would work diligently to ensure our president and Executive Board are well-prepared for business meetings through the preparation of board reports. I would ensure the meeting minutes of the Executive Board are recorded properly for our membership's review. Our association has many talented leaders who carry big visions and ideas forward and I want to make sure they are supported and able to focus on the bigger picture while I maintain a focus on the details. I would be honored to serve in this capacity and I thank you for your consideration.

Delegate-At-Large



Emily Haynam

Name: Emily Haynam

Institution: University of Missouri-Columbia

Current title/position: Executive Director

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: Approaching 1 year in June

Years in profession: 8

Statement of Candidacy:

It has been a great honor and pleasure of my career to be a volunteer with state and regional financial aid associations. I have grown so much as a professional due to the selfless volunteerism and mentoring of my colleagues. Missouri is now my home because of these opportunities and connections, and I truly would not be able to do my job without them and the amazing people and collegiality that makes up our profession.

I have also enjoyed being able to give back to my colleagues and the financial aid profession by actively participating in various roles in the state of Ohio (Delegate, Secretary, VP of Training) and regionally with MASFAA (Faculty at Summer Institute, Chair of PD Committee, Delegate, Co-Chair of Conference Local Arrangements, Member of Program Committee, and current Secretary). I have had the fortunate opportunity to serve as the Chair of MASFAP's Research Committee for the last two years and get to know more about how MASFAP serves. It would be my pleasure to continue to give back to MASFAP and help carry out its mission and purpose by serving as a Delegate. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my candidacy.

Delegate-At-Large



Kristen Seabaugh

Name: Kristen Seabaugh

Institution: Southeast Missouri State University

Current title/position: Academic Coordinator TRIO – Student Support Services

Institution type: Public - 4-year University

Years in current position: 1 year

Years in profession: 3 years

Statement of Candidacy:

My name is Kristen Seabaugh, and I am excited to announce my candidacy for the position MASFAP Delegate. I am looking forward to working with the members of the association and the Executive Board.

For those who do not know me, I have worked at Southeast Missouri State University for three years and have been a MASFAP member during that time. I worked in the office of Student Financial Services (SFS) for two years as an Operations Technician. I am currently an Academic Coordinator for TRIO Student Support Services. I have a passion for teaching students' financial literacy, specifically financial aid. During my time with SFS I was able to attend two MASFAP conferences and completed five NASFAA Credentials. Since transitioning to TRIO, I attended the virtual MASFAP conference in the fall of 2020. With my position in the TRIO program, I have been able utilize my financial aid knowledge to work with First-Generation, Limited Income and Students with a Documented Disability to help them better understand financial aid. The main focus on my current role is to teach financial literacy and get students to graduation with little to no student loan debt. I have been able to do presentations for the Student Support Services and McNair students on Credit, Student Loans, and other various financial literacy topics.

I believe my background in financial aid and my work with First-Generation and Limited Income students makes me the best candidate for this position. I am also very enthusiastic and give my all to every job that I am given. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.