

Amy Cable

Candidate for SWASFAA President-Elect

Statement of Candidacy:

Thank you for the nomination for the SWASFAA Office of President Elect. I am a dedicated professional with exceptional communication and technology skills and with 15 years of progressively higher levels of responsibility and experience in student affairs, financial aid, and enrollment management. NASFAA, SWASFAA and LASFAA have been instrumental in my personal and professional growth.

While my resume may illustrate my education and experience, it does not communicate my dedication to my craft and to the members of the financial aid community. I take pride in my work and am very loyal and dedicated to students, faculty and staff. I have a deep and extensive understanding of financial aid and scholarships and its impact on recruitment, admissions and enrollment.

The mission of SWASFAA is to enhance the development of financial aid administrators. I believe in this statement wholeheartedly. Throughout my tenure in financial aid, I have contributed to the development of my colleagues and have learned from my peers through training and mentorship. During my time as President of LASFAA, my focus has been on leadership, advocacy and volunteerism. The role of SWASFAA President is deeply involved in these as well and I would love to continue this focus by sharing my knowledge and enthusiasm with SWASFAA members.

I would be honored to serve SWASFAA and to give back to the organization and its members. Thank you for your consideration.



AMY CABLE

Executive Director, Enrollment Management Support

PO Box 2363
Gonzales, LA 70707

870-926-4225

acaballr@yahoo.com

OBJECTIVE

Dedicated professional with exceptional communication and technology skills and with 15 years of progressively higher levels of responsibility and experience in student affairs, financial aid, and data management.

EDUCATION

University of Memphis
Ed.D. Higher Education
Administration (2019)
Master of Public Administration
(2009)
Bachelor of Arts in Criminal
Justice (2003)

EXPERIENCE

2016-present
Executive Director, Enrollment Management Support • Louisiana Community and Technical College System

2014-2016
Director of Financial Aid • Baton Rouge Community College

2012-2014
Director of Financial Aid • Arkansas State University Mid-South

2004-2012
Counselor, Coordinator, Assistant Director • University of Memphis

- Successfully implemented multiple financial aid initiatives that uses state dollars to increase enrollment for adult students
- Partnered with Baton Rouge Community College to host a “Fraud Prevention Workshop”
- Served on Enrollment Reporting taskforce to identify and solve issues related to enrollment reporting in order to reduce audit findings
- Managed the creation and implementation of an Enrollment Management Support team to assist colleges with back-end processing, streamlined communications, increase enrollment and conversion rates
- Managed the creation and implementation of a newly formed Financial Aid Support team to assist colleges with back-end processing, and streamlined communications
- Streamlined and developed a comprehensive communication plan
- Collaborated with academic and student services departments to create strategic plans and develop target goals that will increase student success and students

- served in response to the LCTCS Our Louisiana 2020 initiative
- Served on LCTCS Enterprise Services Committee for Financial Aid and provided multiple proposed solutions to enhance and improve the financial aid process
- Served on the Application and Admissions Process Review Committee to review and streamline the admissions application and process
- Successfully managed financial aid department before and during a multi campus merger, including a federal program review with the technical college system, which required approvals from SACS, Department of Education, and Veteran's Affairs. Created and supplied necessary documentation for approvals and had to address issues in funding and recertification of Title IV aid
- Appointed as a member of the Banner implementation team for Financial Aid at the University of Memphis where the team collaborated internally with other college units and externally with outside universities to develop Banner system functionality and to develop policies and procedures. Also responsible for coordinating testing of system functions, troubleshooting problems, and subsequently training end users meeting a go live deadline with project specifications.

KEY SKILLS —

COMMUNICATION

ACT Enrollment Management Summit

- Building a Comprehensive Student Communication Plan: From Pre-Application to Graduation (2019)

LCTCS Conference

- Enrollment Management Lessons Learned Through Consolidation (2017)
- Enrollment Management: Building on Our Momentum (2018)
- Communicating for a Greater Influence (2018)

MBUG

- Batch Loading ACT Scores (2018)

MSMASFAA Conference

- Preparing to be a Director: Cultivating Your Star Qualities (2016)

Project Management
Budget Planning
Conference Planning
Training
Presenting skills

NASFAA Conference Co-Presented with John Lally

- Offloading the Additional Weight of Student Loans: Default Management Strategies that Work (2016)

SEDUG Dynasty: Continuing Your Success

- The Architecture of Colleague FA Module Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility Used

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

You're the Director: A Guide to Leadership in Student Financial Aid
“Developing Your Star Qualities: Preparing Yourself to Become the Director” Co-Authored with April Tyson (2015)

LEADERSHIP

Member of National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

- Served on New Review Service Focus Group to provide feedback for a potential new service, Consumer Information.
- Served on New Conference Mentor Taskforce collaborating with NASFAA members to create special programs focused on networking for first time attendees
- Completed the Certified Financial Aid Administrator Program
- Currently serve on Publications Editorial Board

Member of Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

- Assist with training opportunities

Member of Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

- Served on training committee and coordinated Financial Aid Boot camp for new financial aid counselors and administrators. The Financial Aid Boot camp program won committee of the year award in 2015.
- Currently as President of the association for the 2019-2020 year
- Worked with multiple committees to host Spring and Fall conferences
- Facilitated and secured a new website provider
- Partnered with LOSFA’s Gear Up Program
- Supported ACT 116 that added components about income, money management, repayment, default and borrowing

- money to fund postsecondary education to the financial literacy course

Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance

- Currently serve on the LOSFA Advisory Board
- Currently serve on the Louisiana College Application and Access Month Committee

REFERENCES

[Available upon request.]

Christopher Murr

Candidate for SWASFAA President-Elect

Statement of Candidacy:

I strongly believe in SWASFAA's important mission to serve our members and to advocate for the needs of our students. By continuing to strengthen our Association through the involvement of dedicated and innovative members, as well as by building new partnerships, we will serve as an even greater exemplar of financial aid training, professional development, and advocacy. I believe that my background, experience, and desire to serve would enable me as president-elect to continue guiding our Association along this path.



Biographical Information

Dr. Christopher D. Murr
Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships
Texas State University

Vision

I strongly believe in SWASFAA's important mission to serve our members and to advocate for the needs of our students. By continuing to strengthen our Association through the involvement of dedicated and innovative members, as well as by building new partnerships, we will serve as an even greater exemplar of financial aid training, professional development, and advocacy. I believe that my background, experience, and desire to serve would enable me as president-elect to continue guiding our Association along this path.

I am currently the Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships at Texas State University and have worked in financial aid for over 20 years. As a member of SWASFAA, I have served on the Association's board of directors. For TASFAA, I had the privilege of serving on the board of directors and as president. During my tenure as TASFAA president in 2018, which is probably the most relevant experience to my being considered for president-elect of SWASFAA, I worked successfully with the board and others to accomplish a number of important goals, including:

1. Initiating, overseeing and implementing a member-developed, multi-year strategic plan.
2. Testifying on behalf of the Association on a number of key financial aid bills (e.g., SB 887 on student loan debt notices) before the Texas Legislature.
3. Offering, for the first time, NASFAA Credential Training opportunities to our members.
4. Enhancing recognition of the work and contributions of TASFAA members by creating the *Teaching and Mentoring Award* and the *Financial Aid Support Award*.
5. Adopting enhancements to the Association's investment policy to align it with the fiscal goals of the Association's new strategic plan.
6. Adopting an *Appropriate Behavior and Non-Discrimination* statement that is aligned with similar language adopted by our national association and that better sets expectations for appropriate behavior at TASFAA events.
7. Announcing (after putting into place the review and selection procedures) the new ATLE-TASFAA Education Scholarship for TASFAA members, the endowment for which was made possible by the generosity of the Association of Texas Leaders for Education (ATLE).

I have also served on NASFAA's national conference committee and mentor task force, as well as a subject-matter expert for various NASFAA webinars and annual conference sessions.

Currently, I serve on the Enrollment Services Efficiency Committee of the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors and have chaired the Financial Aid Advisory Committee of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. My research has been published in journals such as the *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, *Research in Geographic Education*, and the *Journal of Geography*.

Linda Koehn Good

Candidate for SWASFAA Oklahoma Delegate

Statement of Candidacy:

I would consider it a privilege to serve on the SWASFAA Board as the representative from Oklahoma. I would bring to the Board a strong belief in all the good we do for our students, and that providing ongoing training is critical to that mission. My most recent SWASFAA service was as a Boot Camp committee member for three years, and I enjoyed that experience thoroughly. Not only was it enjoyable, but I learned a lot from my colleagues and made new friends that I continue to be in contact with today. Just as importantly, if elected I will communicate with the Oklahoma financial aid community in order to learn what they most need and/or want from SWASFAA, so I can speak for them as accurately as possible.



LINDA KOEHN GOOD

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Stillwater OK 74075

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linda.good@okstate.edu

Education

Master of Science in Counseling and Student Personnel (MS)

Emphasis in Student Personnel Services
Oklahoma State University

2002

Stillwater, Oklahoma

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

University of Kansas

1978

Lawrence, Kansas

Financial Aid Experience

Associate Director, Client Services

Oklahoma State University Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

February 2017 to present

Responsible for the twelve full-time employees and one part-time graduate assistant in the Client Services unit which handles 95% of all telephone calls, emails, and in person contacts. Research federal aid regulations and statutes to ensure aid eligibility determination complies with established law and/or guidance. Write policies and procedures. Primary responsibility for determination of Cost of Attendance. Primary responsibility for managing and ensuring compliance with gainful employment programs and regulations. Coordination of office policies and procedures manual. Work collaboratively with other OSU units to provide financial aid information to targeted populations, including the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Office of the Bursar, Graduate College, University College Advising, and Directors of Student Academic Services.

Assistant Director, Client Services

Oklahoma State University Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

April 2006 to February 2017

Supervise nine financial aid counselors who provide direct services to OSU students, parents and others. Provide ongoing training to new and continuing staff in unit, office, and to other OSU units. Research federal aid regulations and statutes to ensure aid eligibility determination complies with established law and/or guidance. Write policies and procedures. Work with colleagues to ensure appropriate and efficient use of Banner student system. Work collaboratively with other OSU units to provide financial aid information to targeted populations, including the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Office of the Bursar, Graduate College, OrangeTech, and The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP). Liaison to OSU's University College Advising unit and Graduate College. Served as a member of OSU's Diversity Recruitment Initiative committee 2006-2007. Primary responsibility for implementation and management of new federal programs Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and National SMART Grant. Worked collaboratively with other OSU units to implement and manage TEACH Grant program. Developed Financial Aid Counselor Career Development Program. Served on the Graduate Student Support Issues Task Force, February to November 2012 and the Appointments Subcommittee, Graduate Student Support Issues Task Force, April to November 2012.

Financial Aid Counselor

Oklahoma State University Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

May 2003-April 2006

Provided counseling services to all OSU publics regarding financial aid and scholarship programs. Responsible for timely review and processing of federal student aid applications. Responsible for monitoring the accuracy of awards for students attending both OSU and Tulsa Community College under an institutional consortium agreement. Liaison to OSU's University Academic Services, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and Graduate College. Taught UNIV 1111, Freshman Orientation three semesters.

Coordinator, Work-Study Programs

Oklahoma State University Office of Student Financial Aid

August 1986-May 1995

Coordinated the Federal Work-Study program that placed roughly 800 OSU students each year in on-campus, community service and other eligible off-campus jobs. Supervised one full time employee and numerous graduate and undergraduate student employees. Presented outreach programs regarding student employment

programs. Developed and coordinated four different community service Wentz Service Award employment programs. Provided training and supervision to ten OSU students working with the College Club Program (designed to promote post-secondary education enrollment for at-risk high school students). Coordinated staff development programs for the Office of Student Financial Aid professional and clerical staff.

Professional Presentations

- Oklahoma Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA), 2014, Norman, Oklahoma. Decentralized Training, Need Analysis, co-trainer/presenter.
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), 2014, Washington D.C. Consortium Webinar, webinar panel participant.
- Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA), 2013, Little Rock, Arkansas. Boot Camp, presented sessions on Calculation of Federal Pell Grant and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG) Awards, Verification, and Professional Judgment.
- SWASFAA, 2012, San Antonio, Texas. Boot Camp, presented sessions on Federal Methodology and Professional Judgment.
- SWASFAA, 2012, San Antonio, Texas. Annual Conference, presented with Debra LaGrone of NASFAA, "Consortium and Contractual Agreements."
- SWASFAA, 2011, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Boot Camp, presented sessions on Verification and Professional Judgment.
- National Association of Student Employment Administrators (NASEA), 1994, St. Louis, Missouri. "Implementing New Federal Work-Study Community Service Regulations at Your Institution."
- Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators (SASEA), 1994, San Antonio, Texas. "Implementing New Federal Work-Study Community Service Regulations at Your Institution."
- Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, 1994, Fort Smith, Arkansas. "Community Service Programs."
- NASEA and SASEA, 1993, Hilton Head, South Carolina. "Community Service Programs."
- SASEA, 1991, Jacksonville, Florida. "Wentz Community Service Programs at Oklahoma State University."
- OASFAA, 1993, Tulsa Oklahoma. "Community Service Programs."
- OASFAA, 1987, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. "College Work-Study Nuts and Bolts."

Professional Activities

- Boot Camp Committee, Southwest Association of Financial Aid Administrators, April 2011 through November 2013.
- Vice President, Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators, 1989.
- Program Chair, National Association of Student Employment Administrators, 1989.
- Program Committee, Oklahoma Association of Student Financial Administrators, 1987 and 1988.

Honors and Awards

- Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators Best of Region Presentation at Annual Conference, 1994.
- Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators Exemplary Practice Award, 1993.

Melanie Rinehart

Candidate for SWASFAA Oklahoma Delegate

Statement of Candidacy:

I would like to be SWASFAA's next Oklahoma delegate for three main reasons. The first is that I truly believe in SWASFAA and the benefits it provides to their members. The second is that I would like to further the great works of those who have held this positions before me. And last, is because it is my firm belief that we all should give find ways to contribute to our industry and SWASFAA provides the perfect opportunity to do so.

SWASFAA is a staple in the financial aid community. Not only does it provide high quality training, both in person and via webinars, but the networking opportunities are endless. It is very easy to remain comfortable within our states, but the resources you gain through SWASFAA and other states are invaluable. I've already experienced tremendous support as chair of the Continuing Education and Training Committee from those who were originally complete strangers, but now those strangers have become some of my greatest friends. I look forward to helping continuing the great works of SWASFAA and to doing my best to contribute new ideas.

It is an honor to be considered to join to group of great FAA's who have already served as Oklahoma delegate before me. As delegate I would be sure to continue pushing SWASFAA communications to the Oklahoma membership. I would also like to plan some new events such as an "Oklahoma night/dinner" during the conference, help organize travel to the SWASFAA conference and have a SWASFAA info session at the OASFAA conference.

Winston Churchill once said "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." I find this to be true and it is also my experience that, even though I tend to receiving more blessings than I am ever able to give, it takes someone stepping up to the plate and giving their all. I appreciate the opportunity that this nomination might bring and look forward to serving the SWASFAA members if I am chosen to do so.



Melanie Rinehart, MBA CFAA CFEI

Director of Financial Assistance
Seminole State College of Oklahoma
m.rinehart@sscok.edu 405-382-9717

Objective

To be an asset to SWASFAA and my fellow Oklahoma financial aid administrators

Summary of Certifications and Organization Positions

- Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA)
 - Continuing Education and Training Committee Chair – 2018, 2019 (co-chair)
- Oklahoma Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA)
 - Conference Program Chair – 16-17 (co-chair), 17-18, 18-19
 - Secretary – 19-20
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)
 - Member of the Advocacy Network
- **Obtained NASFAA Certified Financial Aid Administrator (CFAA) certification**
- **Achieved nine nationally-recognized credentials from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)**
- **Obtained NFEC Certified Financial Educator Instructor (CFEI) certification**

Relevant Experience

Seminole State College (November 2015 – Present)

Director of Financial Assistance

- Attended and/or presented at multiple conferences including FSA, NASFAA, PowerFAIDs, Jenzabar, OASFAA, SWASFAA
- 2017 SSC/Seminole Chamber of Commerce Staff Employee of the Month
- 2018 OASFAA/SWASFAA Philo Brasher Award Recipient

St. Gregory's University – Shawnee, OK (January 2013 – November 2015)

Staff Accountant (Sept 2014 – November 2015)

Senior Financial Aid Counselor (August 2013 – September 2014)

Financial Aid Counselor (January 2013 – August 2013)

Education

St. Gregory's University – Shawnee, OK

Masters in Business Administration (2014 – 2015)

- Graduated with a 4.0 GPA and a member of Golden Key International Honour Society
- 3rd place finish the 2015 Oklahoma Governor's Cup business plan competition – Graduate Level
- Distinguished as the 2014-15 Outstanding MBA Student

University of Oklahoma – Norman, OK

B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication with emphasis in Public Relations (1998-2002)

- Minor in History and in Communication
- Member of Phi Sigma Pi, Honors Fraternity
- Member of Alpha Phi Omega, Community Service Fraternity
 - Held many leadership positions and offices within the organization

Redland Community College – El Reno, OK

Associates in Equine Science (2002-2004)

- Equine Science Student of the Year

Personal Involvement and Achievements

- Member of Rotary International and Seminole Rotary Club
- 2018-2019 Seminole Rotary President
- Selected to participate in Leadership Seminole program

Ben Montecillo

Candidate for SWASFAA Texas Delegate

Statement of Candidacy:

SWASFAA is a collaborative association dedicated to helping students and the financial aid administrators who assist students.

I look forward to continuing my involvement and expanding my responsibilities to serve this purpose.



Ben Montecillo

Texas Tech University

Ben joined the Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships in January 2010 as Assistant Director of NCAA Compliance. In 2013, Ben was promoted to Associate Director and his duties expanded to include overseeing the Student Financial Aid Call Center. In 2015, Ben was tasked with implementing eForms for paperless processing and also took over management of the Verification Team. Ben received his Bachelor's Degree from Texas Tech University his Master's Degree in December 2017.

SWASFAA Involvement:

I have presented at numerous conferences, assisted with trainings and have been part of the past two Fall Conference Committees serving as a member in 2018 and current chair for the 2019 SWASFAA Fall Conference committee.

Committee Position Involvement and Positions Held:

- TASFAA Social Media and Communications Chair (2016)
- SWASFAA Fall Conference Committee Member (2018)
- SWASFAA Fall Conference Committee Chair (2019)

Conference Presentations

- 2 National Conferences
 - 2011 NCAA Regional Rules
 - 2012 NCAA Regional Rules
- 5 Regional Conferences
 - 2015 SWASFAA Conference
 - 2016 Southwest Regional College Board Forum
 - 2017 Southwest Regional College Board Forum
 - 2017 SWASFAA Conference
 - 2018 SWASFAA Conference (Two presentations, One panel)
- 4 State Conferences
 - 2010 TASFAA Conference
 - 2013 Texas Guarantee (TG) Conference
 - 2015 TASFAA Conference
 - 2016 TASFAA Conference (Two presentations)

BEN MONTECILLO, mpa

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

Master of Public Administration, Non-Profit Management
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

Graduation Date: Dec. 2018
Graduation Date: Dec. 2008

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Texas Tech University Student Financial Aid & Scholarships office

Associate Director

Sep. 2013 - Present

Assistant Director

Jan. 2010 - Aug. 2013

- Assist in daily operations of administering over \$337 million in financial aid to the TTU student population (27,000+ students annually)
- Primarily responsible for two areas of financial aid: NCAA Compliance and Verification
 - Institutional designee for financial aid and scholarships of TTU student-athletes and to ensure compliance with Federal, State, NCAA, Big 12, and TTU rules & regulations
 - Manage Verification Team (3 full time staff members) processing for over 7,500 students annually to ensure compliance and eligibility with Federal regulations
- Member of office Senior Leadership Team which provides guidance and strategic support to the Executive Director and Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Managed SFA Call Center (9 full time staff members) responsible for daily call interactions and office email communications
- Coordinate with State Auditor's Office (SAO) and TTU Audit Services for annual audits
- Manually award loans, grants, scholarships and work study funds to eligible students
- Provide Executive Director with data research and analysis of financial aid metrics
- Develop awarding strategies to maximize funds in order to help meet institutional benchmarks and enrollment management objectives
- Counsel students and families on all areas of financial aid & scholarships via phone, email, in person appointments, and group presentations
- Design and prepare marketing & communication materials for promotions of financial aid & scholarships for financial aid notifications, websites, handouts, emails and presentations
- Lead annual Banner system set up for awarding and processing of financial aid to meet award packaging deadlines in order to stay competitive with peer institutions
- Implemented System Applications and Electronic Form & Document Submission Application to enhance efficiencies and the overall student user experience
- Assisted with office budget monitoring for external vendors & Request For Proposals (RFP)
- Draft policy and procedures for office staff to ensure compliance with Federal, State and TTU rules & regulations
- Selected to present at 2 national conferences, 5 regional conferences, and 4 state conferences

Texas Tech University

Instructor

Jan. 2017 - Present

- Educate students on learning methods and campus resources to help further student success
 - Programs for Academic Development and Retention (PADR) Instructor
 - Raider Ready Instructor

BEN MONTECILLO, mpa

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & AWARDS

Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA)

Fall Conference Planning Committee Chair 2019

Fall Conference Planning Committee Member 2018

- Assisted with planning and coordination of Fall SWASFAA Annual Conference
 - Developed session tracks and planned conference events for regional financial aid association
 - Provided logistical support to conference presenters, SWASFAA Board of Directors, and National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) President
 - Prepared marketing materials and conference handouts

Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA)

Social Media & Communications Committee Chair Mar. 2016 – Oct. 2017

- Selected to lead Social Media & Communications Committee for TASFAA
 - Implemented TASFAA Star Blog for enhanced communication engagement
 - Coordinated association social media accounts and communications plan
 - Developed policy and communication strategies for increased engagement

Texas Tech Staff Senate

Jul. 2013 – Jul. 2017

Past-President (2016/17)

President (March 2015–July 2016)

President-Elect (July 2014 – March 2015)

Staff Senator (2013/14)

- Presided over 45 TTU Staff Senators and represented over 4500 TTU staff members
 - Primary point of contact with TTU Administration on behalf of the TTU staff
 - Oversaw \$30,000+ annual operating budget
 - Developed inaugural Presidential Speaker Series for Staff Development
 - Planned annual Tech Advantage resource fair to raise scholarship funds for TTU Staff
 - Served on several campus committees to ensure staff input and to address needs of staff
 - University Strategic Planning, Campus Carry Taskforce, Title IX Committee, President's Cabinet, & Tech to Town

Texas Tech Distinguished Staff – President’s Award of Excellence Fall 2017

- *Recognized for demonstrating strong leadership skills, participation in campus committees, volunteering for campus activities and presenting on behalf of Texas Tech University*

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Saddle Tramps Alumni Association, President *Dec. 2012 – Present*

- Represent & Preside over 700 former Saddle Tramps; Current Sponsor for Active Organization
 - Liaison between active organization and campus departments, including Texas Tech Athletics and Texas Tech Alumni Association
 - Fundraise for scholarships and donations to assist with Active Organization projects

Texas Tech Alumni Association, Lubbock Chapter Jan. 2016 – Present

- Chapter Member for Lubbock TTAA Chapter (Re-Established 2016)
 - Freshman Scavenger Hunt Committee Chair and Scholarships Committee Co-Chair

James Smith

Candidate for SWASAA Texas Delegate

Statement of Candidacy:

Through my 20 years of experience in financial aid, I have learned the importance of an open communication policy as well as the value of collaborating with others to achieve a common goal. I believe with the position of Texas Delegate for SWASFAA this is even more significant as you will need to work not only with various committees but also convey information back to the state to be effective.

Although, I do not currently hold any roles within SWASFAA, based on previous positions held in other organizations I know that I can fulfill the duties of this leadership role. I have served on committees for NASFAA (GPIC and First Time Attendees), SASFAA (Conference Committee), SCASFAA (Vendor Relations Chair). Each of these roles has helped me better understand the needs of the organizations as well as the members.

I am honored to be nominated for the position and would like to be considered for the position as SWASFAA Texas Delegate.





James R.
Smith

System Director of Financial Aid

- Phone 281-290-5062
- Email
James.R.Smith@lonestar.edu
- The Woodlands, TX 77381
- www.lonestar.edu

A B O U T M E

I have held various positions in financial aid throughout my career at multiple types of institutions. I have worked at small colleges, large colleges, two- year, four-year, public and proprietary.

While at each institution of higher education I have served in many different capacities at the state, regional and national level for Financial Aid Association.

E D U C A T I O N

B.A Sociology
Coastal Carolina University
1991-1997

M.B.A Management
American InterContinental University
2004-2005

E X P E R I E N C E

System Director of Financial Aid

Lonestar College/ The Woodlands, TX/ 10/2015-Present

Temporary Executive Director of Financial Aid

Lone Star College/ The Woodlands, TX/ 10/2015- 4/2016

Campus Director of Financial Aid

Lone Star College/Kingwood, TX/ 04/2012-10/2015

Assistant Director of Financial Aid

Horry Georgetown Technical College/Conway, SC/ 01/2011-1/2012

Director of Financial Aid

John Marshall Law School/Atlanta, GA/ 04/2005-3/2010

Assistant Director of Financial Aid

College of Charleston/Charleston, SC/06/2000-4/2005

Financial Aid Assistant

Coastal Carolina University/Conway, SC/03/1996-12/1997

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

NASFAA (GPIC committee and First Time Attendees), TASFAA, SWASFAA, SASFAA (Conference Committee). SCASFAA (vendor relations chair), GASFAA, presentations at NASFAA (multiple), TASFAA, SASFAA, SCASFAA, and GASFAA.

Amanda Brady

Candidate for SWASFAA Secretary

Statement of Candidacy:

I've been employed by LCTCS as a Financial Aid Support Staff since August 2017. My position is to perform the back end financial aid processing for 7 community colleges thought out Louisiana who are part of our Financial Aid Support Team (FAST). Responsibilities include transmitting application and correction data to and from federal processors, electronic loan applications and fund data to and from lenders and guarantee agencies. I also enter data into Banner to update data tracking forms, update loans, and fund acceptance. I send out weekly communications to students via email regarding missing financial aid information, accepting financial aid awards, loan disclosure statements and negative disbursements reports for the colleges. I also perform R2T4 processes and return funds for our FAST schools.

I am an active member of LASFAA and over the past two years I have assisted with the preparation of the boot camps and conventions. Recently I have become the Publications Director for LASFAA and produce their quarterly newsletter. I also volunteer at the annual SKILLS Louisiana Competition and was a part of the planning committee for the annual PTK Awards luncheon.

For the reasons above I would like to request your support for the position of SWASFAA Secretary.



Amanda H. Brady

504-559-9025

amandahum76@hotmail.com

Education

Masters of Business Administration

Louisiana State University | Baton Rouge, La.

May 2021

Bachelors of Arts, Mass Communications, Minor English

Southeastern Louisiana University | Hammond, Louisiana

May 2000

Experience

FAST Support Team Member

Louisiana Technical and Community College System (LCTCS) | Baton Rouge, Louisiana

August 2017-Present

- Review, prepare and send out all communications related to document submission, verification and financial aid awards
- Perform state grant and scholarship reporting and reconciliation procedures
- Responsible for transmitting application and correction data to and from the federal processor and electronic loan application and funds data to and from lenders or guarantee agencies
- Performs data entry to update Banner system to reflect tracking status of forms, update loan or work-study authorization, job information, and funds acceptance of award letters
- Creates and maintains complex and technical databases and paper records which includes electronic transmission of information to outside agencies, data entry, interpretation of data and word processing
- Assist in preparation of audit materials and follow up and assist colleges with compliance issues

Financial Aid Counselor

Louisiana State University | Baton Rouge, Louisiana

August 2017-March 2015

- Displayed strong personal and professional integrity, good verbal and written communication skills, and a commitment to safety.
- Functioned in ability to multi-task to meet the demands of walk-in students or incoming calls.
- Utilized interpersonal skills necessary to work with a diverse population of current/prospective students, parents, co-workers, or outside agencies.
- Facilitated implementation of various Microsoft Office programs such as Word, Excel, or PowerPoint to set-up spreadsheets, send letters, or design presentations to assist in daily job functions.
- Utilized and maintained high volume calls, voice mails and emails for better communication with others
- Worked with all facets of financial aid to include, but not limited to: awarding and counseling, student packaging, compliance, verification, grants, and scholarships.
- Processed Title IV funding and insures all federal regulations for processing and awarding of funds are adhere to.

Financial Aid Counselor

Vanguard College of Cosmetology | Baton Rouge, Louisiana

January 2009-October 2015

- Assisted and coordinated the activities of the Financial Aid Officers under the direction/supervision of the Director of Financial Aid.
- Interviewed prospective students to determine needs assessment and financial aid eligibility.
- Determined financial aid eligibility for second and third year students. Assist students with financial aid questions.
- Reviewed cash flow reports to ensure appropriate posting of federal and private monies.
- Coordinated with the Admissions staff regarding the status of financial aid for students.
- Interpreted federal updates and regulations to ensure proper disbursement of student financial aid. Maintain contact and collaborate with the corporate financial aid department to exchange pertinent data.
- Maintained student files to ensure proper financial aid documentation

Corporate Support Account Executive
WYES TV channel 12 (PBS) | New Orleans, Louisiana

August 2007-March 2013

- Maintained an active database of over 300 corporate donors
Made daily cold calls to secure new business and upgrade current donors
- Worked closely with production department to create quality Corporate Sponsorship promos, write copy and assist in production of all Corporate Support promos
- Participated in on air auctions and telethons including Art Collection 12 art auction and the annual Showboat Auction
- Generated a minimum of \$100,000.00 in new and existing corporate support each year
- Demonstrated effective business communication skills
- Exercised sound decision-making abilities

Erin Wooldridge

Candidate for SWASFAA Secretary

It is truly an honor and a privilege to be considered for the office of Secretary of SWASFAA. I have been at the University of Arkansas for approximately five years. During my time at the university, I have continuously worked in Financial Aid, although my positions have changed. I currently work as the Federal Work Study Coordinator. The positions that I have held have helped strengthen the skills I would be bringing to this position. I consider myself a quick learner, organized, and very detail-oriented. I am very interested in becoming more involved with SWASFAA. I attended my first NASFAA conference in June 2019 and it drove my passion to become more engaged in the financial aid community, specifically at the state and regional level to grow my knowledge and build relationships. For these reasons, I would like to be considered for the elected officer position of Secretary with the SWASFAA board.



Erin R. Wooldridge

3529 Gracie Drive • Lowell, AR 72745 • (906) 458-2836 • ewooldri@uark.edu

Objective: To further my financial aid knowledge and career through developing new relationships within the regional association.

Education:

University of Arkansas

Bachelor of Business Administration

Fayetteville, AR
05/2019

Northern Michigan University

Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

Marquette, MI
12/2013

Employment Experience:

University of Arkansas

HEI Program Coordinator

01/2018 to Present

Coordinating the Federal Work Study Program
Providing general oversight of the Office Administration and Support Unit
Preparing Employee Dependent Discount forms for entry into UAConnect
Providing maintenance in UAConnect for the submitted Parent PLUS loans
Supervises Administrative Specialist II and Administrative Specialist III positions
Coordinating office leave calendar and office staffing
Coordinating high school visits, events, and workshops when presenters requested
Coordinating office leave and office travel in the BASIS and webBASIS programs
Coordinating office purchasing with TCard, PCard, and RazorBuy programs

Administrative Specialist III

09/2015 to 01/2018

Assists with coordinating the Federal Work Study Program
Assisting with general oversight of the Office Administration and Support Unit
Preparing Employee Dependent Discount forms for entry into UAConnect (formerly ISIS)
Supervises Administrative Specialist II positions
Coordinating office leave calendar and office staffing
Coordinating high school visits, events, and workshops when presenters requested
Coordinating office leave and office travel in the BASIS and webBASIS programs
Coordinating office purchasing with TCard, PCard, and RazorBuy programs

Administrative Specialist II

07/2014 to 09/2015

Receiving and scanning in student paperwork
Timely processing of student paperwork sent via fax
Supervising work-study students in imaging area
Adding employee leave to the Outlook leave calendar
Assisting in other areas of Financial Aid office as needed
Ordering interoffice supplies upon request

Razor Temp position in Financial Aid

04/2014 to 7/2014

Looking up student accounts in ISIS
Examining verification documents for accuracy
Calling students and parents to inquire about verification questions
Answering phone calls for the Financial Aid & Scholarship office

Braum's Ice Cream and Dairy Store

01/2014 to 04/2014

Management Training

Customer service
Cash register operations
Banking and money handling
Food preparation

Simply Superior Catering and Events*Banquet Server- Student Supervisor*

03/2007 to 12/2013

Provide customer service to event attendees

Assign tasks to student servers

Set-up and tear down of place settings for events

Use cash registers when needed

Honors, Awards, and Accomplishments:

- Linda K. Overstreet Scholarship Recipient
 - University of Arkansas Alumni Association Non-Traditional Student Leadership Award
 - University of Arkansas Staff Senate Scholarship
 - Executive Board Member of the Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators
 - Member of the National Student Employment Association
 - Member of National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 - Member of Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 - Member of Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
-

Highlights of Qualifications:

- Excellent organization, communication, and writing skills
 - Work cooperatively with a wide range of personalities
 - Knowledgeable in various computer programs (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)
 - Proficient in University of Arkansas computer programs (UAConnect, BASIS, webBASIS, RazorBuy)
 - Knowledgeable in University of Arkansas travel and procurement policies
-

References:

- Available upon request