

AASFAA Annual Conference

May 17-18, 2023

Vee Quiva Hotel and Casino



55 Years of Connection



Conference Agenda – Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Start	End		Room
8:00 am	11:00 am	Pre-Conference NASFAA Credential Training <i>(additional cost)</i>	
Professional Judgment Presenter: David Downing, NASFAA U Instructor <i>Professional judgment (PJ) is sometimes viewed as one of the more challenging aspects of Title IV program administration. There are both explicit and implicit guidelines that must be followed in relation to other aspects of Title IV federal student aid administration. This NASFAA Authorized Event will explore guiding principles and best practices that can be applied on your campus including the new rules and guidance related to professional judgment effective with the 2023-24 award year. Completion of this Authorized Event will provide attendees with a copy of NASFAA's Professional Judgment Self-Study guide and qualifies individuals to take the corresponding NASFAA Professional Credential test.</i>			1
9:00 am	Conference Check-In Opens Visit with Sponsors		Foyer
11:15 am	12:15 pm	Session Block 1	
FAFSA Simplification Update: The Good, the Bad, the Unknown Presenter: Julie Sainz, Arizona Board of Regents <i>This session will provide the latest updates regarding the upcoming FAFSA Simplification and examine how these changes will impact your financial aid office and new and continuing students.</i>			1
Getting Emotional about Money: The Psychological Impact of Debt and Tools to Help Your Students Cope Presenter: Julie Finn, College Ave Student Loans <i>Finance is a loaded topic! Often times we make decisions based on our emotions, rather than what might actually be best for us financially. There are many reasons for this. Learning your students' "Money Story" and their past experiences with money will help you to better understand how they view their finances and approach money management. In this session, we'll discuss how ideas around money are formed and how to have that discussion with your students. We'll explore why two people may view the same scenario differently and take different actions to approach it. The key is to find a way to talk about money with your students in a way that they understand and feel comfortable.</i>			2
Saving for the Future with AZ529, Arizona's Education Savings Plan Presenters: Kimberly Yee, AZ State Treasurer; Cory Latham and Anthony Durkan, Fidelity Investments <i>AZ529, Arizona's Education Savings Plan, is Arizona's 529 plan designed to help all students save for education at universities, community colleges and apprenticeship programs. The AZ529 Plan is administered by the Office of Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee. Learn today about how parents, grandparents and relatives can easily contribute to a child's account to save for future tuition, fees, books, room and board including loans and private school tuition. Plus, there are state tax deductions for Arizona residents who contribute to an AZ529 Plan. Come see how you can open up an AZ529 Plan today and save with as little as \$15 per month!</i>			3

12:30 pm	2:00 pm	Lunch and Keynote Address	
Greatness is Not Created in Isolation Keynote Speaker: Tracy DeSoto			1,2,3
2:00 pm	2:15 pm	Break / Visit with Sponsors	
2:15 pm	3:15 pm	Session Block 2	
Fresh Start Initiative – What you need to know! Presenters: David Downing, NASFAA; Maggie Holloway, ASU; Hillary O'Donnell, University of Phoenix <i>Last year the U.S. Department of Education announced that it would be giving students a "fresh start" by allowing borrowers with defaulted federal students loans the ability to regain their eligibility for Title IV aid. In this session you will learn the regulatory requirements to implement the fresh start initiative on your campus and hear from some Arizona institutions on how they are helping these students achieve their fresh start.</i>			1
Navigating the Private Loan Landscape Presenter: Robert Smith, ELM Resources <i>Coming together as a financial aid community to share best practices, we take a proactive approach in providing families with detailed information that will allow them to make an informed decision on a product that fits their specific needs. Come join us for an informative session as we take a look from the student and parent perspective when searching for private loans. Group-share some key guidelines from the department and tools that meet compliance directives to help your school develop a plan to move forward.</i>			2
Federal Work-Study and Beyond: Celebrating Student Employees in Higher Education Presenter: Rachael Ridout, Pima Community College <i>This presentation will talk about how to engage in future career development for Student Employees. It will look at how Students can use programs like Federal Work Study (FWS) to start building a resume in a world where many entry-level jobs are looking for experience right out of college. Additionally, the presentation will look at how Supervisors can create this environment for their students and celebrate them during and at the end of their employment. This presentation is great for both schools with and without FWS Programs.</i>			3
3:15 pm	3:30 pm	Break / Visit with Sponsors	
3:30 pm	4:30 pm	Session Block 3	
Planning for Your Future: Professional Development and Succession Planning Presenters: Lynn Weaver and Desiree Contreras, Western Governors University <i>This session will discuss succession planning, what it is, why it matters, and how to work on it. Professional development goes hand-in-hand with succession planning. As you expand your knowledge and skills, when you are promoted, you want to be prepared for other folks to assume your previous role. This is a long-term plan to maintain stability within your department and organization.</i>			2
Connections: Use Cases in Student Outreach to Encourage Higher Education Presenter: Chris Campbell, Inceptia <i>Whether students are just starting out or are a non-completer that wants to earn a certificate or degree to change the trajectory of their career, increasing their education will improve their livelihood and their communities' workforce. How do we connect these students to the right program or bring them back to complete? "Connections" gets to the heart of the matter. Is it money, lack of knowing their next steps, life, or something else? If you can determine what's holding them back, you can help them complete their education. We will look at colleges that have implemented student outreach programs to connect with targeted students to increase the persistence of new and returning students.</i>			3
4:30 pm	5:00 pm	Break	
5:00 pm	7:00 pm	President's Reception	

Conference Agenda – Thursday, May 18, 2023

Start	End		Room
8:30 am	9:30 am	Session Block 4	
How to Leverage Social Media to Increase Student Engagement Presenter: Rosemary Martinez-Kepford, Earnest <i>With calls, email, texts, letters, and tweets, you might wonder how students still miss your messages. Students are overstimulated and if you want your message to be heard, you have to think like a social media company. Here, you will find the tools you need to engage your students on their terms and make your message heard.</i>			1
Undocumented Students Deserve Access to Higher Education Presenter: Karina Dominguez, ScholarshipsAZ <i>In Arizona, 2,000 Undocumented high school students graduate annually yet, only about 5-10% of those students pursue higher education, and far less successfully graduate with a degree. This workshop will motivate participants to create safe environments where Undocumented students can feel empowered to navigate higher education. We will cover how state policy and lack of access to support and resources leads Undocumented students to believe that higher education is not a possible pathway. Even when Undocumented students are accepted into higher education institutions, they often receive inaccurate or incorrect information about how to complete a university procedure. Through active facilitation, participants will begin their commitment to actively support Undocumented youth in their schools by identifying ways that they can shift from having a passive allyship mindset, into becoming an active accomplice working with and for Undocumented students.</i>			2
Fight Against Fraud Presenter, Damian A. White, US Department of Education Office of Inspector General <i>How you can help prevent the misuse of education funds.</i>			3
9:30 am	10:30 am	Brunch, Annual Business Meeting, & Awards	
10:30 am	11:00 am	Break / Visit with Sponsors / Check Out of Hotel Rooms	
11:00 am	12:00 pm	Session Block 5	
Top NASFAA AskRegs Questions Presenter: David Downing, NASFAA <i>NASFAA's AskRegs service fields thousands of questions from aid administrators each year. This session takes a look at the top questions submitted over the last year, as well as those rated as most useful by the NASFAA membership. Find out what your colleagues are asking and if your practices align with NASFAA responses.</i>			1
What's Prop 208 and In-State Tuition for Dreamers Presenters: José Patiño and Pedro Gonzalez-Aboyte, Aliento <i>Arizona voters last year passed Prop 308-instate tuition for Dreamers. What does it mean? What's Prop 308? Who does it impact? Why should I learn about Prop 308? All those questions and more will be answered. Aliento is a local non-profit that serves & advocates Aliento serves undocumented, DACA, and mixed immigration status families to transform trauma into hope and action. We are youth-led and directly impacted people and allies invested in the well-being, emotional healing, and leadership development of those impacted by the inequities of lacking an immigration status.</i>			2
Get Ready for Repayment Presenter: Tamiko Spann, University of Phoenix; Greg Kerr, ECMC Solutions <i>According to the latest announcement, federal loan repayment is scheduled to begin no later than August 30, 2023. We hope to have a definitive answer about loan debt relief of up to \$20,000 by the time repayment begins. There will have been no active loan repayment for almost 3.5 years at that point—and that means we can all use some reminders! In this session we'll provide information and resources to help student and parent borrowers prepare for loan repayment, as well as what to expect with student repayment and success, your cohort default rate, and chat about some best practices you can do now to help your students today.</i>			3

12:00 pm	12:15 pm	Break / Last chance to visit with Sponsors!	
12:15 pm	1:15 pm	Session Block 6 – must be present to be eligible for raffle prize!!	
Planning for the Future of the Financial Aid Office Presenter: David Downing, NASFAA <i>We hear buzz words around succession planning, career development, retaining talent, etc. This session will look at how the future will impact work in general and look at practical considerations for the aid office given what we already know about higher education organizational structure, demands of Title IV administration and the new normal coming out of the pandemic.</i>			1
Empowerment Leadership Presenter: Art Young, University of Arizona <i>This session will explore practical approaches to leadership that are both simple and powerful. Core topics are taken from the book "Unleashed: The Unapologetic Guide to Empowering Everyone Around You" and include building and maintaining trust, strategically creating the conditions for excellence, and fostering inclusivity and authenticity on our teams. Join us as we explore how to get out of our own way as leaders and focus on the potential and growth of those around us.</i>			2
Empowering Native Students to Achieve College Success: Insights and Opportunities Presenters: Rebecca Ronstadt-Contreras, Salt River Schools; Jennifer Hinton, Gila River Indian Community <i>This panel of higher education program representatives will focus on the types of tools, resources and services that should be made available to help Native students and families succeed. Join us as we share tips and tricks to help you create and grow an inclusive environment that acknowledges and honors our students' identities and lived experiences.</i>			3
1:15 pm	Conference Adjourns – Safe travels and thank you for joining us! <i>Kelly O'Brien, AASFAA President and your 2023 Conference Committee</i>		

Many thanks to our 2023 Conference Sponsors!

