

January  
2007



# Newsletter

*A publication of the Oregon Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, a not-for-profit membership organization*

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## President's letter

I want to thank you again for giving me the opportunity to be your President this year. It has been a great learning experience. I have had the opportunity to work with some wonderful people not just in the state of Oregon, but also with our neighbors in the WASFAA region.



Whew, it has been a busy year! The OASFAA executive council, great committee chairs, and terrifically talented volunteers have accomplished much in 2006. We initiated a quarterly Newsletter that has been very well received, created a Site Selection Committee, enhanced the website, created an online scholarship application, created scholarship guidelines for 2007, came up with some great ideas for new training for 2007, and continued to provide the great year-round training that OASFAA members have come to expect.

As I write this the election is in full swing. Thanks to Leslie Limper and Jim Gilmour for volunteering to be stand-in candidates for President due to the loss of our President-Elect. Both individuals have been volunteers for OASFAA and for the larger financial aid community for years, and I know either one will help bring OASFAA to new heights. I look forward to being their Past-President, learning a few new things, as well as passing on some of what I have learned over the last two years as President-Elect and as President.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the annual conference at the beautiful Salishan Lodge. The annual conference is a great opportunity to network, get first hand information from the Department of Education, and catch some interesting sessions on a variety of topics. Thanks to our co-chairs Suzie Petersen and Cindy Pollard and to their committee for their hard work.

I wish you all the best in 2007: peace, health, happiness (and the slow-down of global warming),

Tracey

## Membership Chair

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## Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily of OASFAA, its members, or the institutions represented by the authors.

OASFAA welcomes all views and invites members to submit for publication articles, essays, photographs, or information of general interest to all members. Submissions should be brief and may be edited. It may not be possible to publish all articles submitted. Email items for publication to: shogren@up.edu.

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## Letter from the Editor

by Susan Shogren, University of Portland

As each new year begins, it's good to look back and reflect on the one that has just passed. Without a doubt, my year was enriched by volunteering through OASFAA. Serving as Board Secretary, which includes managing the OASFAA online calendar, increased my awareness of all the wonderful trainings, programs, and projects this organization sponsors throughout the year. Working with and learning from leaders in our field helped me grow personally and professionally. Volunteering at this year's Summer Drive-In led me to attend this event for the first time ever, where I learned new things and met members I hadn't encountered before. As part of the Support Staff Workshop this fall, I observed first-hand the camaraderie and enthusiasm of participants and volunteers alike. Volunteering for OPB Night was great fun, helping callers with financial aid questions and sharing the excitement with fellow OASFAA members of seeing what it takes to put on a live television broadcast right from the set. I can honestly say that I benefitted from these experiences more than I had ever imagined. This year, I hope you will resolve to find a way to share your energy and your special talents with your friends and colleagues in OASFAA.

The next issue of the OASFAA Newsletter should be available online during March. Look for reports on OASFAA's Annual Conference, information about OASFAA's newly-elected leadership, and more profiles of OASFAA members. Please consider writing an article or contributing news items for upcoming issues. The submission deadline for the next issue is February 28.

## OASFAA's History

by Ryan West, Archives Chair

As the current OASFAA Archives Chair, I'm looking to clean out your basement, garage or storeroom.

Well, maybe not exactly clean it, but if you have OASFAA-related materials – minutes, reports, memorabilia, photos, etc. – that you would like to have categorized and preserved within the OASFAA Archives, please email me. Let me know what you have and we'll try to work out a time and method to get the materials to me.

I know that in the past, materials have landed in different locations throughout the state. We're hoping to consolidate everything in one place. For now, OASFAA's archival materials are being housed at Western Oregon University.

I'm hoping for the OASFAA archives to be more complete and to have an orderly, thoughtful and well-preserved history of this great organization.

I hope to hear from you if you have a treasure to share with me.

## OASFAA Election Results

The new Executive Council takes office at the annual conference in January. Tracey Lehman will serve as Past-President and Donna Fulton will continue as Treasurer.

President  
President-Elect  
VP 4-year public  
VP 2-year public  
VP Independent  
VP Proprietary  
Treasurer-Elect  
Secretary

**Leslie Limper**  
**Crisanne Werner**  
**Carolyn Prescott**  
**Melinda Dunnick**  
**Terri Crawford**  
**Teresa Buchmann**  
**Ryan West**  
**Patti Brady-Glassman**

## New Members of OASFAA

The following current members joined OASFAA since mid-November:

**Linda Bewley**, NextStudent, Inc.  
**Debbie Deen**, Concorde Career Institute  
**Jessica Heintz**, Western Oregon University  
**Chrissy Purcell**, Art Institute of Portland  
**Jessica Wright**, University of Portland

*Welcome!*

*Be sure to read the Member Profile of new member, Carlos Villarroel (page 6). Watch for profiles of other new and current OASFAA members in the future.*

## OASFAA Annual Conference

by Conference Co-Chairs Cindy Pollard and Suzie Petersen

Does it ever feel like you are in the middle of the ocean, with breakers overtaking the stern? Are you ever uncertain about what you see on the horizon, and sometimes refuse to look up because the boat threatens to capsize at any moment? Do you ever feel like you are in a row boat with only one oar?

Take heart! The Annual Conference committee is tossing you a lifeline: assisting financial aid professionals to successfully **Navigate the Financial Aid Seas**. This year's program offers something for the seasoned sailor, as well as the new recruit.

The agenda is now posted online at [www.oasfaaonline.org](http://www.oasfaaonline.org). Take a look for yourself, register for the conference, and set sail with some of the best crews in Oregon. Kathy Campbell, Dan Preston, Kate Peterson and many other experienced hands will be on deck. Special guest I. King Jordan, President of Gallaudet University, will inspire you to remain on course. Chef Jon-Paul Hutchins will provide entertainment during our dinner cruise. Federal and State officials will lead us through some of the difficult challenges ahead, pointing us toward safe harbor.

The all-call is sounding. Pack your bags and head for the coast. The plank is lowered and your ship is about to anchor aweigh. Don't be left behind!

## 2007 Conference Interest Sessions

- ✿ Avoiding Pirates, Defeating Monsters: ID Theft
- ✿ Cheers to Volunteers: OASFAA Opportunities
- ✿ Port of Call: VA Benefits
- ✿ Changing Tides of Students: EDAC
- ✿ Charting Your Money Personality
- ✿ Taking the Helm: Leadership and Management
- ✿ Exploring Uncharted Waters: ACG & SMART
- ✿ Preventing Ship-to-Shore Calls: Web Resources
- ✿ Plotting a Repayment Course
- ✿ Next Port: Enrollment Management
- ✿ Stay Afloat in a Sea of Data: Access & Excel Tips
- ✿ Oceans of Info: OSAC Update
- ✿ Working with Parents: Financial Planning
- ✿ The Tide Has Turned: College for Foster Youth
- ✿ Honoring the Crew
- ✿ AAWG Extended Session: Q&A Format
- ✿ Your View from the Portal: NSLDS
- ✿ Paving the way to Smooth Sailing: Retention
- ✿ Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students
- ✿ Using Statistics as a Navigation Tool
- ✿ Ask a Fed: Marianna Deeken, DOE

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## Donations Most Welcome

by Leslie Limper, Conference Registration Chair

As a conference-related outreach project for Oregon's foster youth, OASFAA will gather donations for delivery to the Department of Human Services (DHS) in Newport, near Salishan Lodge.

Foster children sometimes have very little to take with them to their new homes. Items like baby blankets, stuffed animals, books, and even gift cards for teenagers to use, can help make all the difference to a child in the midst of this kind of transition.

Find out more about this project at the online conference registration site.

I hope to see you all in January!

## Legislative Update: State Issues

by Susan Degen, Oregon Student Assistance Commission

### Governor's Recommended Budget for 2007-09

Released on December 4, 2006, the Governor's Recommended Budget includes a number of major increases for Education (K-12), Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD), Oregon University System (OUS), and the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC):

- Joint projects proposed to support development of a Pre-K-20 data system (K-12, CCWD, OUS) and a Healthcare Workforce Initiative (CCWD, OUS, OHSU).
- Community College Support Fund increased to include funding for 12 capital construction projects and expansion of OFAX to all public 2- and 4-year institutions.
- OUS budget funding increased for campus operations and capital construction/deferred maintenance projects and to limit annual increases in annual tuition and fees.
- OSAC's funding increased to establish the ASPIRE program in statute and, for the first time, provide state funding for this outreach to secondary students; continue full funding of the Oregon Opportunity Grant under current eligibility parameters for 2007-08 (no deadlines for any sector plus part-time student funding); phase-in implementation of the new Shared Responsibility Model for Opportunity Grant awarding in the second year of the biennium (2008-09) and increased staffing for anticipated growth in the OSAC Scholarship Program.

### Office of Degree Authorization (ODA)

ODA provided research for the U.S. Secret Service during a recent investigation into diploma mills that led to eight federal indictments. Three have pled guilty so far. ODA also provided research in the case of a Benton County deputy sheriff who was using a fake degree and was eventually fired. ODA Administrator Alan Contreras reports, "We haven't been sued for months."

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## Legislative Update: Federal Issues

by Susan Degen, Oregon Student Assistance Commission

### Federal Fiscal Year 2007 Budget

The FFY 2007 started October 1, 2006, but only two federal agencies have final budgets (Defense and Homeland Security). Democratic leaders have proposed a yearlong "continuing resolution" for all remaining federal agency budgets, leaving spending levels for most programs, including student aid, at 2006 levels. It's also likely that there will again be no increase in the maximum Pell Grant.

### 110th Congress

Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.) is chairman-designate of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. High on the House Democrats' priority list are cutting interest rates in half on some college loans, raising the maximum Pell Grant award, and reauthorizing the Higher Education Act. Hot issues include high cost of education, accountability, cost of textbooks, FAFSA simplification, and student retention and completion rates.

### Oregon Congressional Delegation

Congressman Earl Blumenauer has been named to the Ways and Means Committee. Congresswoman Darlene Hooley will be a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

### Negotiated Rulemaking

A negotiating committee to address Title IV loan regulations held its first round of meetings December 12 to 14. Among

the many topics under discussion are the following:

- Entrance counseling for graduate/professional PLUS borrowers
- Loan discharge for victims of identity theft
- Preferred lender lists & lender inducements
- Income-contingent repayment based on percentage of family's discretionary income
- Loan discharges: total and permanent disability, death, economic hardship
- Assignment of defaulted loans
- Definition of "reasonable and affordable" collection costs

In January, a second negotiating committee will meet to address regulations for the Academic Competitive-ness Grant (ACG) and National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant) programs. The Department may add more committees later.

The U.S. Department of Education provides further information and updates online:

[www.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2007/nr.html](http://www.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2007/nr.html)

## OASFAA Member: Carlos Villarroel

A new member of OASFAA, Carlos is Financial Aid Officer for Student Financial Services with the Art Institute of Portland. He helps new students set up plans, completes verification, and certifies loans. We asked Carlos our "20 Questions" and here's how he responded.



*How long have you been in financial aid?*

Five months.

*How did you get started in financial aid?*

I had an interest in education, and with my financial and banking background, I thought it would be the best place to start.

*What has your involvement been with OASFAA so far?*

I haven't really had a chance to get involved with OASFAA. I have

heard nothing but great things about OASFAA and I am looking forward to learning more about the organization.

*What is the most rewarding part of your job?*

Seeing students realize their dreams. We all have so many dreams and it's not always easy to attain those dreams. In financial aid, we are part of the equation to making dreams happen.

*What case/student will you be most likely to remember for the rest of your life?*

I have really only been helping students for the past few months, but a case I remember just happened about a week ago. After helping a student and her father for over an hour and a half and seeing their emotions hit highs and lows as loans were being denied, she looked at me and told me that to be here at The Art Institute was her dream. Even though she could go to school somewhere else and have extra funding, she was going to make it happen no matter what. I then realized when somebody wants

something, they will realize their dream, no matter what.

*What is the most difficult aspect of your job?*

The most difficult aspect of my job is seeing students' emotions hit lows when they can't find funding or their families aren't willing or able to help. You want to help them as much as you can and see them be happy, but there comes a point when you can't do anything else. Seeing that dissatisfied look on their face can really hit you right in the gut.

*How do you cope with stress on the job?*

I try to make my day the best day possible. I like to joke around with my co-workers and give them a hard time. Playing jokes on them and laughing can really take your stress away.

*Who has been the biggest influence/mentor on your career?*

My mom has been the biggest influence, not only in my career but in my life.

*continued on page 8*

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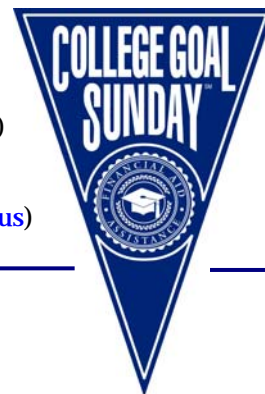
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# College Goal Oregon: Site Supervisors

by Jennifer Satalino, NELA Center for Student Success

Central Oregon Community College, Redmond .....	Kevin Multop ( <a href="mailto:kmultop@cocc.edu">kmultop@cocc.edu</a> )
Chemeketa Community College .....	Kate Hoerauf ( <a href="mailto:khoerauf@chemeketa.edu">khoerauf@chemeketa.edu</a> )
Columbia Gorge Community College, Hood River .....	Sharyn Anderson ( <a href="mailto:sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us">sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us</a> )
Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles .....	Sharyn Anderson ( <a href="mailto:sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us">sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us</a> )
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Klamath Community College .....	Donna Fulton ( <a href="mailto:fulton@kcc.cc.or.us">fulton@kcc.cc.or.us</a> )
Lane Community College .....	Michelle Holdway ( <a href="mailto:mholdway@uoregon.edu">mholdway@uoregon.edu</a> )
Portland Community College, Cascade .....	Roberto Suarez ( <a href="mailto:rsuarez@pcc.edu">rsuarez@pcc.edu</a> )
Portland Community College, Rock Creek .....	Cheryl Hefty ( <a href="mailto:cjenkins@pcc.edu">cjenkins@pcc.edu</a> )
Portland Community College, SE .....	Linda Gettman ( <a href="mailto:lgettman@pcc.edu">lgettman@pcc.edu</a> )
Portland Community College, Sylva .....	Katy Ho ( <a href="mailto:kho@pcc.edu">kho@pcc.edu</a> )
Rogue Community College, Redwood (Grants Pass) .....	Anna Manley ( <a href="mailto:amanley@rogucecc.edu">amanley@rogucecc.edu</a> )
Rogue Community College, Riverside (Medford).....	Jodi Fulton ( <a href="mailto:jfulton@rogucecc.edu">jfulton@rogucecc.edu</a> )
Southwestern Oregon Community College.....	Diana Plum ( <a href="mailto:dplum@socc.edu">dplum@socc.edu</a> )
Tillamook Bay Community College.....	Pat Gross ( <a href="mailto:gross@tillamookbay.cc.or.us">gross@tillamookbay.cc.or.us</a> )



## Volunteers Needed

by Michelle Holdway, University of Oregon

College Goal Oregon sites in Eugene and Salem are still looking for volunteers. It is our hope that every school in the mid-Willamette Valley area will send some of their expert financial aid staff to help out at one of these sites. Not only do we want a great volunteer-to-student ratio, but we also hope students will see the wide range of school options in our area while having a great first experience with financial aid professionals. In an effort to break down as many barriers as possible, we would like to provide help to the non-English speaking community, so Spanish-speaking volunteers are especially needed!

Check out more about the College Goal Oregon program statewide at [www.collegegoaloregon.org](http://www.collegegoaloregon.org) and please consider volunteering at a school near you. Let's get all those sites fully staffed with Financial Aid experts!

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*What is/was your favorite volunteer experience?*

I volunteered for a group that works with at-risk Latino youth. I loved working with these kids, because they want to succeed but often don't have people to help them do well in school or talk to them about college or just staying out of trouble. I love making a difference in the life of anyone, but helping these kids and seeing the way they take to the program vision and goal really makes it worth it.

*What do you do when you are not working?*

I like spending countless hours with my family and friends. Whenever it is sunny, I like taking my motorcycle out, and whenever college football is in season I like watching my hometown Beavers play.

*What do you like about living in Oregon?*

I like the ability to be at the beach or in the mountains within 2 hours

of my home. I like the beautiful atmosphere Oregonians create for the love of our environment and state. The people in Oregon seem to really want to make a difference in our communities.

*What is the most unusual place that you have traveled?*

I traveled to Venezuela years ago and my father took me to the most beautiful mountain range I've seen. You could see the tropical forest for miles and the sounds and animals you see are out of this world.

*What is your favorite restaurant?*  
Buster's Barbeque.

*What was the last book you read?*  
The Expectant Father.

*Who is your personal hero?*  
My mom.

*Pepsi or Coke drinker?*  
Pepsi.

*DL or FFELP?*  
FFELP.

*If you could change anything in our industry, what would it be?*  
Lower interest rates on student loan private/federal and better funding for private schools.

*Do you have any advice for your fellow aid administrators?*  
I should be asking them since I am new to the industry. But my advice to them would be to have fun as much as you can at work.

*If you were not in financial aid, what would you be doing now?*  
I would be doing something in the education field, maybe an advisor or maybe a youth counselor.

## *Members on the Move*

No news to report in this issue. If you or someone you know has received a promotion or taken a new position, we'd like to know about it. Simply email: [shogren@up.edu](mailto:shogren@up.edu)



# A Tradition Continues

by Judy Saling, OPB Financial Aid for College Chair

Where were you in December of 1995? That is the month twelve years ago when our first OPB program of “Financial Aid for College” was broadcast live. I was a volunteer in the phone bank answering calls one right after the other. What an exhilarating night—we KNEW we were onto something of value to the public.

The program has gone through several looks and continues to be fine-tuned annually. Numbers of phone calls were down slightly this year which we believe has a direct correlation to the efforts of those in the financial aid community who are getting the word out about types of aid and how to apply for it. Still, nearly 200 phone calls in less than 90 minutes prove that there is an audience out there who has not been reached or whose questions have not been answered in other settings. Thank you to those of you who accepted the invitation of Teresa Buchmann, Volunteer Coordinator for the event, when she called for telephone volunteers.

Dan Preston, Kathy Goff, and Michelle Holdway have been our on-air talent for the past five years and do a thorough and professional job of answering host, Steve Amen’s questions. Just so you know, no one writes the script for Dan, Kathy and Michelle. They are such professionals and know their subject so well that the on-air graphics serve as their prompter.

What a great night of camaraderie and service to community this provides for those who participate. While no date is set yet, it’s a safe bet to mark your calendars for the second Wednesday in December for the 2007 production of the OASFAA/OPB “Financial Aid for College” program.

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## OPB Night

by Teresa Buchmann, Everest College

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual “Financial Aid for College” on OPB was broadcast on **Wednesday, December 13, 2006**. 27 volunteers from across Oregon answered nearly 200 calls. Parents, grandparents, and future students called to ask how to get the most out of financial aid. Half of the calls were from the Portland area, with many others from Eugene, eastern Oregon and several small towns around the state. This was my first year volunteering and, as Volunteer Coordinator, I had a blast. I can’t wait for next year.



Tracy Reisinger trains phone bank volunteers.

Who Called:	
Parent	100
College Student	18
High School Student	14
Potential Non-Traditional	36
Grandparent or Relative	17
Other	11
Where They Called From:	
Portland and Portland Area	100
Eugene/Corvallis/Springfield	20
Salem Area	3
Central/Eastern Oregon	20
Oregon Coast	7
Other Oregon	5
Vancouver, WA	6
Other Washington	6



OASFAA volunteers on the set before the broadcast begins.

# WASFAA's Management Leadership Institute

by Peter Goss, University of Oregon

Working in financial aid, most of us expend a great deal of energy from February on through the start of classes. The OASFAA Annual Conference is well-timed to help you build up momentum going into that busy season, but what do experienced professionals do later on in the fall, when the paperwork crush is finally coming under control and adrenaline may start to plummet? What sort of professional development opportunities are there to help keep you focused and moving forward into that time of year when paperwork subsides and other projects beckon?

This year, I had the pleasure and luxury of attending the "Jerry R. Sims Management and Leadership Institute" (MLI). To butcher a cliché, coming at the end of October as it did, you could say it was like chicken soup and salad bar for my professional soul. And yes, one day we indeed had soup and salad bar for lunch.

There was a small contingent of Oregon folks at the MLI – students included Cindy Pollard from Warner Pacific, Lupe Reyna from Chemeketa, and OASFAA newcomer Helen Faith from Western States Chiropractic in Portland. The faculty included our very own Kate Peterson and our honorary own Leonard Walker. Other faculty were Don Black, Wendy Olson, Colin Randolph, Wayne Sparks, Brad Honious, and Sandy Guidry.

While it's too early to speculate on the agenda of next year's Institute, I can honestly say that, for me, the best part of the event was the opportunity to meet and network with other financial aid professionals in a setting that was large enough to have a diverse group of attendees. Yet, it was small enough and structured such that I could really spend quality time learning about my peers, as well as benefiting from their professional experience and perspectives.

It would take a long article to fully explain what I learned and took away. But in short I can say that at a time when I really needed a shot of energy to focus on completing projects over the winter down-time (instead of simply relaxing into the void left by the pre-fall frenzy), the MLI was a perfect and well-timed balm.

The MLI offers both personal and professional reward for the time you spend (though you'll be devastated to know there's not a single Federal Update!) and I would recommend you keep it on your radar for this fall. If money is an issue for attending events like this, don't forget that both OASFAA and WASFAA have scholarships for most of the year's events. So consider throwing your hat in the ring, for you never know what insights and opportunities will grow out of just a single event like this one.



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# Member Opinion: Kulongoski's "Education Enterprise" for Oregon

by Gayle Denham, George Fox University

The *Education Enterprise* is an aggressive and broad agenda addressing multiple issues of pre-K-20 education in the state of Oregon. Governor Kulongoski's desire is to move school funding in Oregon from 5% below the national average to 10% above the national average in the next four years. Oregon schools now rate a C- (74%) for funding under the bipartisan Quality Education Model. The aim is to improve that rating to an A, with 91% of recommended funding. Providing adequate funding is the first of the ten-point *Enterprise*.

Points VI, VII, and VIII relate to post-secondary education. Point VI calls for a restructure of the *Oregon Opportunity Grant* to provide greater access to higher education for college students of all ages. Point VII addresses quality of higher education and delivery through distance learning and dual enrollment programs. Point VIII argues the need to expand programs and facilities in Oregon's community college system and facilitate transfer of credit between institutions.

Forty years ago, a college student could find a seasonal job during the summer and save the money needed to pay for tuition and books at a public school for the next academic year. Today, according to the Governor's Office, that same student would need to work 50 hours per week year-round and take out federal student loans to pay tuition and books for the same number of credits in an academic year. An older adult student pursuing a college degree has the same issue, but the cost of school is not her only financial expense. More funding by the state would impact all Oregon college students, regardless of age.

Adult students may be returning to school after a significant lapse. Transferability of past credits from other institutions is important to adult learners. Older students have many responsibilities competing for their time. Repeating courses taken in the past, if unnecessary, delays the completion of the degree for these students and increases the overall costs. According to the Governor's Office, family-wage jobs in today's global economy require post-secondary training or a college degree. The degree is not an intellectual luxury but a necessity for the financial health of families.

The stated goal is for 40% of Oregon's adults to hold a bachelor's degree or higher by 2025, and an additional 40% to complete associate degrees or other professional certification. The desired result of this ambitious goal is to decrease the number of Oregonians in the extreme poverty segment of the state's population. The Governor has charged the state with restructuring the funding of the 7 state universities and 17 community colleges to put education in reach of all Oregonians.

Within Oregon's system of 24 public institutions, the first academic year of coursework has been standardized. This allows students to transfer credits between schools without loss of credit. The *Enterprise for Education* calls for that standardization to be extended to the second academic year. This effort will positively impact students who may be working toward degree completion over an extended period of time and at more than one institution.

The Governor has endorsed a plan to restructure the *Oregon Opportunity Grant* to leverage existing state funds with federal and business partnerships. The aim of this shared responsibility is to make higher education affordable for more Oregonians. Furthermore, an information campaign is suggested to publicize the availability of this money to students who also would be eligible for the federal Pell Grant. Not all funds are being accessed by the student population that could most benefit from the help. According to the Oregon Department of Education, many students who may be eligible for grant money are not applying.

Governor Kulongoski published the *Education Enterprise* the first part of September. *The Oregonian* printed an interview with the re-elected Governor within days of the close of the polls. He was energetic and determined as he reviewed the election and his proposed policies during the interview. "I think you have to invest in education and skills training. That's the only way we'll have economic stability in Oregon over the long run" (*The Oregonian*, 11/12/2006, p. F2).

Education was one of three major planks in Kulongoski's campaign. He intends to bring his education agenda before the state legislature with specific timelines and budget proposals, with 2/3 of the general fund to be designated for pre-K-20 education.

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## Experience MLI!

by Cindy Pollard, Warner Pacific

Everything I need to know about leadership in financial aid, I learned at the Jerry R. Sims Management and Leadership Institute in Boise, Idaho. Really!

The three universal truths for successful leadership were explained by Brad Honious: Food, Fun and Financial Aid. OK, so he also encouraged us to think about preparing for a leadership position and provided at least 13 things for my 'to-do' list, including coaching and networking.

Colin Randolph provided beautiful pictures of his home state interspersed amongst some of his favorite platitudes. Among my personal favorites: "People who feel good about themselves produce good results. People who produce good results feel good about themselves." I want to hear him speak again because I believe we barely scratched the surface of what he has to offer. He has an amazing volume of experiences and advice to offer!

There were several other awesome speakers encouraging us, and helping us find ways to put some passion back into our profession. I was among many participants feeling energized, challenged to grow and change, and walking away with new tools in my toolbox.

In my opinion, this is one of the best training events I have attended. The food, the setting, and the content made a quality experience I recommend.

Is your professional development budget tight? Apply for a scholarship. Isn't that what we tell our students on a regular basis? This is worth the effort of jotting down a few notes and receiving support to help you continue on your career path, wherever that might take you.

Thanks to WASFAA and OASFAA for providing this enriching experience!

*Cindy Pollard was this year's WASFAA Scholarship Recipient for Oregon to attend the Jerry R. Sims Management and Leadership Institute.*

## On the OASFAA Calendar

Jan 20	College Goal Oregon
Jan 28-30	OASFAA Annual Conference
Feb 15	OASFAA Newsletter submission deadline

## Newsletter Corrections

by Sue Shogren, OASFAA Newsletter Editor

A few of the links in the November issue did not function properly:

**OSAC Scholarship Booklets** (page 6)  
order online: [www.osac.state.or.us/publications\\_info.html](http://www.osac.state.or.us/publications_info.html)

**Foster Kids** (page 11)  
check out Casey Family Programs: [www.casey.org](http://www.casey.org)

**Member Opinion Essay** (page 14)  
links to legislators: [www.oasfaaonline.org/docs/toc\\_resources.html](http://www.oasfaaonline.org/docs/toc_resources.html)

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