

August - October
2008



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

Remember the bestseller, Who Moved My Cheese, from one-minute manager Spencer Johnson? You may recall it is a simple story to help each one of us deal with change so that we have less stress while hopefully achieving some success.

Many times in the financial aid profession we simply want to enjoy the same work process for more than one year, don't we? Wouldn't you love to just settle into a routine without always having to update computer setups? Who can actually remember that COD is the name of a fish? Which one of us did not experience at least a little nausea when the ACG, SMART and TEACH programs were launched?

Yes, our financial aid world is stressful. And, yes, change is the name of the game. So, what can we do? One suggestion is to be sure to stay involved within our state organization by attending as many training opportunities as possible. You can see old friends, make new ones and stay on top of all the regulations. Seek out other financial aid colleagues for support, idea-sharing and encouragement. We all come from a variety of backgrounds and various levels of experience. So, let's share freely!

As you may have heard, the OASFAA Executive Council is gathering information regarding the launch of a Mentoring program. It is vitally important to support our colleagues new to the profession. They need to be effectively trained in order to alleviate as much stress as possible in their new roles. We also need to point them to leadership opportunities within OASFAA. This is how we will continue to grow our membership, retain staff in our offices, and to guarantee the lifeblood of our profession.

So, the next time you see that 'cheese of change' coming your direction, pick up the phone and call a colleague. Together we can view it as a new financial aid adventure and then actually 'eat the cheese' without heartburn or stress.

Warm regards,

Crisanne Werner

Membership Chair

Heather Mattioli
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Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed 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: susan.shogren@nela.net

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Letter from the Editor

by Sue Shogren, NELA

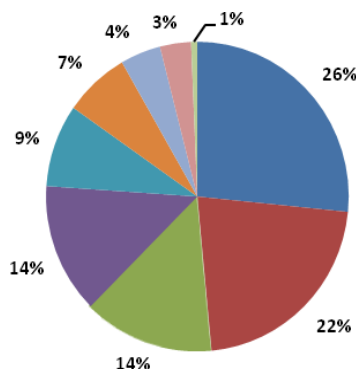
Some of OASFAA's best programs and plans are highlighted in this issue, such as a summary of the Summer Drive-In and plans for FA101 and the Annual Conference, as well as a Legislative Update and more practical advice from columnist Donna Fulton. Mike Johnson's article reflects on the history of financial aid, reminding us that everything old is new again. Russ Seidelman shares a different perspective on the nature of the work we do. Grab a cup of tea and enjoy!

You'll also find an article in which we share the Mentoring Committee's update as presented by Cindy Pollard at the Summer Drive-In. The Executive Council is considering hiring an experienced mentoring professional if enough volunteers step up to help. As you think about your own interest in becoming involved, consider that this particular project will serve the unique needs of some of OASFAA's members in significant ways, especially those who are eager to find ways to learn from others with experience and expertise. While there are many ways in which OASFAA already supports its members through training and learning activities and professional development opportunities, creating a new forum for this kind of synergy will benefit all of OASFAA's members as we come together to learn from one another and encourage our future leaders to grow to their fullest potential. **Contact your Segmental VP right away** to volunteer to help develop this program.

Keep sending in your news. Publication of the next issue is scheduled for January 2009!

About OASFAA

Our membership of nearly 300 individuals is currently comprised of the following representation:



Welcome New Members!

Dixie Bevington, Abdill Career College
Sharyl Borucki, Northwest College of Hair Design
Jessica Butzien, Pioneer Pacific College
Carla Cardinal, Everest College
Shamra Clark, University of Oregon
Michael Davis, Anthem College
Thyra DeHaven, U.S. Bank Student Banking
Shelley DeMars, ITT Technical Institute
Henry George, Portland State University
Rebecca Haase, Pacific Northwest College of Art
James Hadley, Northwest Christian College
Sharon Haner, University of Portland
Kathleen Herinckx, Pacific University
Jenni Houston, Everest College
Herald Johnson, University of Portland
Valerie Karnes, Portland State University
Kacy Keippela, University of Portland
Elizabeth Kilada, Pioneer Pacific College
Ron Morris, Discover Student Loans
Mary Moss, Marylhurst University
Elyse Murphy, Multnomah Bible College/Seminary
Dawn Pace, Art Institute of Portland
Kristin Schweitzer, Linfield College
Heather Smith, Pioneer Pacific College
Michael Smith, Art Institute of Portland
Craig Sneider, University of Portland
Sydney Somerfield, Linfield College
Jeannine Ufford, Central Oregon Community College
David Van Der Haeghen, Lane Community College
Tina Washington, Multnomah Bible College/Seminary
Trevor Wister, Portland State University
Melissa Wolfe, University of Portland
Jon Yackamouih, Abdill Career College

Members on the Move

Shamra Clark joined the staff of the Financial Aid Office at University of Oregon as their newest counselor.

Jennifer Christian Wright left Lewis & Clark College in October and joined the Financial Aid Office at Marylhurst University.

Peter Goss left University of Oregon for a position at Oberlin College in Ohio.

If you or someone you know has received a promotion or taken a new position, we'd like to know. Email: susan.shogren@nela.net

OASFAA Summer Drive-In

A successful Summer Drive-In workshop was attended by 64 on August 7, 2008, at Multnomah University (formerly Multnomah Bible College and Seminary). Co-chairs Jennifer Knight and Mary McGlothlan, along with their committee, did a super job of facilitating informative sessions. Good food and comfortable accommodations created an atmosphere conducive to meeting new financial aid colleagues, as well as connecting with old friends. The Training and Mentor Survey results were shared, along with special recognition of Linda Burkhardt, U.S. Department of Education, in honor of her service to OASFAA's members, especially in light of her impending retirement.



Co-Chairs Jennifer Knight and Mary McGlothlan.



Attendees visit during a break between sessions.



OASFAA President Crisanne Werner (left) and Linda Burkhardt of the U.S. Department of Education.



Crisanne Werner opens the conference by welcoming everyone.



Committee volunteers check in Summer Drive-In registrants.

College Goal Oregon

by Karen Edmonds, Oregon Student Assistance Commission



The third annual College Goal Oregon event is on **January 24, 2009**. College Goal Oregon is a FREE event designed to help Oregon college-bound students and their families with the financial aid application process.

Everyone is invited to attend this event, whether they are high school or non-traditional returning students.

Financial aid professionals--that's you!--will be on hand to help attendees complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) scholarship application. If you are interested and available to assist by being a volunteer at one of the 27 event sites, please contact the site coordinator directly.

Our fantastic, super, enthusiastic, and wonderful Site Coordinators:

- Blue Mountain Community College, **Karen Graybeal** (kgraybeal@bluecc.edu)
- Burns High School, **Ron Wassom** (wassomr@harneyedu.net) or **Deb Titus** (debitus@harneyedu.net)
- Central Oregon Community College, **Kevin Multop** (kmultop@cocc.edu)
- Chemeketa Community College, **Kate Hoerauf** (khoerauf@chemeketa.edu)
- Clackamas Community College, **Fayne Griffiths** (fayneg@clackamas.edu)
- Columbia Gorge Community College, Hood River Center, **Sharyn Anderson** (sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us)
- Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles Campus, **Sharyn Anderson** (sanderso@cgcc.cc.or.us)
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, **Luhui Whitebear** (Luhui.Whitebear@grandronde.org)
- Crook County High School, **Michael Coe** (michael.coe@crookcounty.k12.or.us)
- Hermiston High School, **Liz Marvin** (liz.marvin@hermiston.k12.or.us)
- Klamath Community College, **Donna Fulton** (fulton@klamathcc.edu)
- La Grande High School, **Pam Dodds** (pdodds@lagrande.k12.or.us)
- Lakeview High School, **Lonnie Chavez** (chavezl@lkv.k12.or.us)
- Lane Community College, **Chris Hainley** (hainleyc@lanecc.edu)
- Linn-Benton Community College, **Kim Sullivan** (sullivk@linnbenton.edu)
- Mt Hood Community College, **Christi Hart** (christi.hart@mhcc.edu)
- Portland Community College, Cascade, **Roberto Suarez** (rsuarez@pcc.edu)
- Portland Community College, Rock Creek, **Loretta Dike** (ldike@pcc.edu)
- Portland Community College, SE, **Linda Gettman** (lgettman@pcc.edu)
- Portland Community College, Sylvania, **Teresa Salinas** (tsalinas@pcc.edu)
- Rogue Community College, Redwood (Grants Pass), **Anna Manley** (amanley@rogucecc.edu)
- Rogue Community College, Riverside (Medford), **Anna Manley** (amanley@rogucecc.edu)
- Southwestern Oregon Community College, **Avena Singh** (asingh@socc.edu)
- Tillamook Bay Community College, **Pat Gross** (gross@tillamookbay.cc.edu)
- Treasure Valley Community College, **Keith Raab** (kraab@tvcc.cc.edu)
- Umpqua Community College, **Laurie Spangenberg** (laurie.spangenberg@umpqua.edu)
- Waldport Community Learning Center, **Malaia Kilduff** (melaia.kilduff@lincoln.k12.or.us)

College Goal Oregon (www.CollegeGoalOregon.org) is a part of the national College Goal Sunday™ program, which was created by the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association with funding from Lily Endowment, Inc., and with supplemental support from Lumina Foundation for Education.

Save The Date!

by Anna Manley, Rogue Community College, with a personal invitation from OASFAA's Annual Conference Committee...

What: OASFAA Annual Conference 2009

When: Sunday to Tuesday, **February 1-3, 2009.**

Where: **Salishan Resort**, Gleneden Beach on the Oregon Coast.

Who: **YOU!** All school representatives and agency partners are encouraged to participate.

Keynote Speaker: **Swil Kanim**, motivational speaker, acclaimed musician and accomplished actor who has inspired audiences in nearly all 50 states, as well as internationally, and was well-received by NASFAA annual conference attendees.

Why: Get up-to-date information on legislative changes, review best practices, collaborate with colleagues, and come away renewed and inspired to continue "**Going the Distance.**"

How: Look for registration information later this fall.

VP Report: Public 4-Year Schools

by Deanna Smith, Portland State University

Ahhh, Fall. We are seeing many changes here at Portland State University. We welcomed a new President, Wim Wiewel, to our campus this summer and he brings with him a lot of new ideas and goals. We are continuing to remodel older buildings on campus and build new ones close to campus, expanding PSU's "footprint" in the downtown area. Finally, we are remodeling the lobby of Neuberger Hall, home of the PSU Student Financial Aid Office and other administrative offices, for the first time ever (that I'm aware of). It's nice to see a pretty new "face" on the one building on campus that almost every student will visit at one time or another.

We in the financial aid industry are all experiencing challenges again this aid year, with the implementation of the TEACH Grant program and the changes in Stafford Loan limits. And we look forward to 2009-10, when significant changes to the FAFSA dependency questions will come into play, as well as more changes to the relatively new ACG and SMART grant programs. As my previous director used to say, "It's never boring."

I would like to extend an offer to my 4-year colleagues: if there are any issues that you feel need to be brought to the attention of the Executive Council, please email me at smithde@pdx.edu. I welcome the opportunity to represent our segment on the Council in a more concrete way. I am really enjoying my time on the Executive Council. We have a lot of smart, talented people on the Council who care greatly about OASFAA and all of their colleagues in the industry.

OASFAA FA101 Workshop

by Crisanne Werner, OASFAA President

The next **OASFAA FA101 Workshop** is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 14, 2009**, at Reed College. Please mark your calendars now for this training opportunity.

As a reminder, this workshop will provide financial aid personnel with:

- a beginning course in the history and philosophy of financial aid,
- an introduction to the types and sources of aid, and
- an in-depth view of need analysis, verification, and the financial aid application and processing procedures.

The target audience for this workshop is the financial aid employee who is either new to the profession, or someone in the profession for some time who has a need and desire for a professional development refresher course.

Please watch for an announcement in the next month or so directing you to our on-line registration.

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VP Report: Community Colleges

by Kevin Multop, Central Oregon Community College

One of the things I love about working in financial aid is that every year there is some completely new unexpected challenge. Sometimes it's a software conversion or a batch of new regulations. This year, especially for community colleges, it's the massive wave of new and returning students looking for aid that have presented some unique trials for our financial aid offices.

At Central Oregon Community College, we knew something big was coming when in July we found ourselves 40% ahead in applicants over the previous year. It turns out that our situation is not unique. Record numbers of aid applicants across the state of Oregon caused the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) to make an emergency request for more funds to keep the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG) fully funded. In particular, OSAC has reported a 23% increase in aid applicants for the community college segment.

Considering the huge influx of applicants, I was curious to find out how my Oregon colleagues at other community colleges were doing and not surprisingly, they were just as swamped as we were at the start of fall term. Here's some of what I heard:

"My staff is exhausted, but persistent in making sure that students get the funding they need as quickly as possible." ~ Sharon Boring, Financial Aid Director at Clatsop Community College.

"Our lines are out the door today, but everyone is smiling and excited about the first day of class. We, like many other colleges, will be working overtime to meet the demand." ~ Fayne Griffiths, Director of Financial Aid at Clackamas Community College.

"Staff is working overtime (early, late, weekends) to help! They deserve FA Purple Hearts!!" ~ Enrollment Management Services Associate Dean Kathy Campbell of Chemeketa Community College.

"We've kept pace with the application increase but have felt the pressure of so much last-minute 'Oh yeah, I need to do this' document flow from our students." ~ Bert Logan, Director of Financial Aid at Lane Community College.

Many schools noted that their processing time for reviewing files has suffered as a result. Some financial aid offices have poured more effort into streamlining their processes and/or relying more on

"...aid offices are working hard to accommodate the historic wave of students."

the latest technology. Fayne at Clackamas credits a collaborative effort between their financial aid staff and their IT department in improving their Datatel programming to see an actual decrease in processing time this year. Lane Community College is partnering with the third-party servicer Higher One to deliver refund checks via direct deposit and debit cards. Karen Graybeal, Director of Financial Aid at Blue Mountain Community College, didn't make any major technological changes,

but instead simplified their file review process and had a smoother fall despite their huge increase.

The changes to OOG, in addition to the overall increase in awards, have been a potential headache for our offices as well. At COCC, we had to work out a number of kinks to our disbursement process in Banner in order to accommodate the complicated part-time calculations for awards. So far, campuses have been rather quiet about how they are handling OOG's for the fall. Let's hope no news is good news!

Overall, it seems that our Oregon community college financial aid offices are working extremely hard to accommodate the historic wave of students. Most importantly, many of you still have your sense of humor! When I asked Avena Singh, Director of Financial Aid at Southwestern Oregon Community College, about how she's doing she offered this tongue-in-cheek reply, "My story = I'm not handling it. :)"

I believe Anna Manley at Rogue Community College sums it up for all of our offices when she says, "Staff are stretched and student expectations are high...What a great group of folks we work with. I'd like to applaud the great work we all do and encourage us to keep on keeping on...." I completely agree.

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Legislative Update

by Susan Degen, Oregon Student Assistance Commission

Federal Issues

Federal Budget for Fiscal Year 2009 — The FY '09 appropriations process has stalled. On September 30, Congress passed a continuing resolution that funds the federal government at FY '08 levels until enactment of a regular appropriations bill or until March 6, 2009, whichever occurs first. Higher numbers of FAFSA filings may mean a major shortfall in available funds for Pell Grants and the possibility of no Pell increases for 2009-10.

Reauthorization at Last! — On July 30, Congress passed the **Higher Education Opportunity Act** (Public Law 110-315), which the President signed into law on August 14, 2008. The new law contains a significant number of program changes and new reporting requirements. The Department of Education (ED) published a notice in the *Federal Register* on September 8 announcing its intention to establish negotiated rulemaking committees and to conduct six public meetings to collect suggestions for issues to be considered by the committees. Links to hearing transcripts are available at: www.ed.gov/policy/highered/leg/hea08/index.html.

After the last hearing on October 15, 2008, ED will publish a *Federal Register* notice to announce the subject areas for negotiated rulemaking and solicit nominations of negotiators. Also, as a result of the HEOA, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is making a number of changes to the IPEDS data collection surveys for 2008-09 in order to comply with legislated mandates regarding data to be posted to the College Navigator website by August 2009.

State Issues

2009-11 Budget Request — OSAC's budget request includes full funding for OOG awards; increased support for ASPIRE and student childcare; and new funding for former foster youth and expanded research projects. OSAC's budget request to the Legislative Assembly will be finalized by the Governor's Recommended Budget, due to be released December 1. The Oregon Economic Forecast, due in early December, will affect decisions on agency budgets by the 2009-11 legislature.

Highlights of OSAC Budget Request:

- **Opportunity Grant** — Our "best of all possible worlds" ask is for \$255 million. We will need about \$175 million to maintain the program at current levels. Funding below that amount may require additional cost controls.
- **ASPIRE** — We submitted two requests: one to expand the program from 115 to 175 schools and one to maintain the program at current levels. Without funds to replace the expiring AmeriCorps grant, OSAC may lose support for nearly half of the schools currently participating in ASPIRE. All Oregon postsecondary institutions should be concerned if fewer schools are able to participate in ASPIRE next biennium due to lost funding.



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- **Other Scholarships & Outreach Programs** — We requested funds to create a new program for Former Foster Youth, to expand student childcare and continue the Oregon College Access Network. We do not know which requests will appear in the Governor's budget.
- **Office of Degree Authorization (ODA)** — We proposed legislation to clarify prohibitions against use of degrees from diploma mills and ODA's jurisdiction over approval of academic programs offered by private independent institutions.

Emergency Board (E-Board) Hearing — In late September, OSAC requested and received an additional \$4 million to backfill a funding shortfall of \$1.25 million and sustain the program at current levels through the end of 2008-09. The shortfall resulted from reductions in federal and Lottery revenues and higher-than-expected disbursements in 2007-08. Total available for 2008-09 should now be approximately \$74.8 million — that compares to \$34.6 for 2007-08 or a year-to-year growth of nearly 127%!

Oregon Opportunity Grant Update

OOG Disbursement Reporting in October — That's earlier than ever before.

- Critical need for data by end of October to prepare Governor's Recommended Budget.
- **Avoid** need for Governor's letter to institutions' presidents.

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OASFAA Mentoring Program

by Sue Shogren, NELA, Chair of OASFAA Mentoring Committee

Editor's note: at the OASFAA Summer Drive-In on August 7, 2008, Cindy Pollard presented the following update on behalf of the OASFAA Mentoring Committee regarding the status of the ongoing effort to develop a Mentoring Program for OASFAA's members. Since then, the survey results referenced were posted online at: www.oasfaaonline.org

Late last year, the Mentoring Committee conducted an online survey. The actual survey results will be posted online soon for those of you who would like to view the data. For now, I'll share some highlights with you:

- approx **20% of OASFAA's membership** (64 out of 320+) responded to the survey, which is considered a very good response rate.
- The two largest segments represented were community colleges (34%) and 4-year private colleges (30%).
- About half of the respondents were Financial Aid office staff or Counselors; 20% were FA Directors.
- Almost half (47%) of the respondents had 12 or more years of experience; the next largest group (24%) had between 4 and 7 years of experience. This may be an indication of the

populations with the greatest interest in participating in a mentoring program, we'll see.

Here's where it gets more interesting:

- **92% said they believe it is OASFAA's role** to encourage mentoring relationships among its members.
- **87% said OASFAA should develop a formal mentoring program.**
- ...even though **72% had no prior experience** with mentoring at all. We've identified a need!
- 75% said their supervisor would support their involvement, fortunately.

Here's a sample of some of the comments respondents shared:

- "This sounds like a fantastic opportunity for the OASFAA membership!"
- "OASFAA's prime directive for the organization years ago was that it was a training organization."
- "I've seen several mentor programs when I've participated in various professional organizations. I don't find them to work nearly as well as people hope."
- "Mentoring colleagues will be

crucial as our profession gets more complicated and we lose good people to retirement and burnout. We need to encourage others to join our profession and STAY in the profession."

- "Strongly support and will help in any way I can!"

So what are we doing with this information? Having confirmed that the membership strongly supports the concept, we began researching various options and existing programs. We also looked at why previous efforts didn't take root, and decided it's mostly because this is no easy task! There are challenges to overcome, such as geographic distances, and the competing demands of busy financial aid offices, but the greatest challenge, as always, is time itself.

Fundamentally, mentoring is a long-term relationship. That doesn't mean that an individual mentor-protégé partnership must last a lifetime. It does mean that OASFAA's commitment to a mentoring program must outlast limited terms of service and the changes in leadership that are necessary to the vibrant health of our association. In short, any successful mentoring program must take a long-term view. It must be sustainable.

The Committee decided that launching this new endeavor – especially one designed to influence the personal and professional lives of OASFAA's members – will require expert guidance. While there are many talented individuals in our association, we recommended to the Executive Council that we turn to a mentoring professional with proven success establishing sustainable mentoring programs.

I'm very pleased to announce that, at the most recent Executive Council meeting [on July 17, 2008], the board took the bold step of

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The Relevance of Financial Aid History – One Example

by Mike Johnson, Pacific University

Most of us have heard or read that need-based aid in what would become the United States originated on May 9, 1643, with Lady Ann Radcliffe Mowlson's gift of £100 to Harvard College for the "per[petual] maintenance of some poor scholler." Few of us, however, are familiar with the ways in which Lady Mowlson's gift foreshadowed so many aspects of the next 365 years of financial aid history. For example...

Fund Raising

Lady Mowlson did not wake up one morning and impulsively decide to become an early supporter of higher education in the Colonies. In 1641 a group of men affiliated with Harvard College – William Hibbins, Thomas Weld, and Hugh Peters – sailed for England on a mission to raise funds for Massachusetts Bay Colony and for the then five-year old school. While there, they solicited funds for capital improvements, the purchase of library books and to provide scholarships. Reverend Weld, a Harvard trustee (then called an "overseer") and Pastor of Roxbury, later recorded gifts totaling £231 that the group had received. Lady Mowlson's was the largest individual gift.

Public/Private Partnerships

While we perhaps think of Harvard as the quintessential private university, during the 17th and 18th centuries there was no clear public/private distinction. Massachusetts Bay Colony controlled Harvard's funding then, making it more of a public than a private institution by modern definitions. Lady Mowlson's gift was kept in the colony's treasury until 1713. When it was transferred to Harvard, interest accrual and additional gifts had increased the corpus to £426.

Endowments

The "covenant" drawn up between Lady Mowlson and Weld contained detailed instructions for how her funds were to be used. Each year,

£10 of the interest accrued on the funds was to provide annual awards of £5 each to two scholars who would remain eligible for the funds through completion of their Master of Arts degrees. After their graduations, other scholars would receive £5 awards each year until earning their degrees, and so on "in perpetuum."

Ethical Issues

Interestingly, the covenant between Lady Mowlson and Weld named one of the first recipients of the funding: "... John Weld, now a scholler in the sd colledge...." John, a third year ministerial student, was Thomas Weld's son. It seems odd today that Weld was allowed to help funnel these funds to his offspring, but if anyone objected back then there is no record of it.



After the funds had been available for a few years, Harvard began trying to use them in ways that Lady Mowlson had not intended. In 1655, it petitioned the General Court of the colony for access to some of the funds to make repairs to the main campus building. The request was denied. Later, around 1683, it appears that the funds were commingled or confused with funds from other donors. As a result, payments of interest to Harvard stopped, and no further scholarships were awarded. In 1713, when Harvard petitioned successfully for control of the funds and their ownership was transferred, they disappeared into the general fund and continued to be used for non-scholarship purposes. It was not until 1893, when a researcher uncovered what had happened to the funds that

Harvard took \$5,000 from the general fund and resumed the awarding of Lady Mowlson's scholarships. In their new incarnation, they were awarded to undergraduates in annual \$200 increments.

Merit vs. Need

Lady Mowlson wanted her funds to assist students who were both "poore" and "deserveing." Need analysis, of course, did not exist back then, so being a minister's son was a handy – and often not unreasonable – proxy for being needy. Being a ministerial student no doubt met the specified criterion of "deserving."

Her expressed preference, though not an absolute requirement, was for the funds to go to a "kinsman," which likely meant a student who shared her religious convictions and perhaps her specific beliefs. It has been suggested that she and Weld may have found common religious ground during their conversations, so her agreement to assist Weld's son may have been a way of ensuring that she initially supported a "kinsman."

Satisfactory Progress

Unfortunately, a few months after receiving the first disbursement of Lady Mowlson's scholarship, John Weld became ineligible for continued funding. He and another student were found guilty of burglarizing two houses near campus, which led to their public thrashing and expulsion from Harvard.

"It Depends"

Our favorite answer to any financial aid-related question finds expression in the records of Lady Mowlson's gift. Spelling was relatively unregulated back then, even among the highly educated. Reverend Weld also spelled his name as "Wel" (possibly an abbreviation) and "Wells." Lady Mowlson (her spelling) is referred

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approving – in concept – contracting with a consultant to help guide us through development and implementation of OASFAA’s mentoring program.

We work in a field that demands much of us: our knowledge, our experience, our judgment, our creativity, our energy, and our individual and collective commitment to continued growth and lifelong learning. OASFAA already plays a key role in the training and development of its members and other partners in the financial aid process. We’re now poised to expand this role significantly.

Watch for further information as our plans develop. In the meantime, please take every possible opportunity to ask your questions and share your suggestions with members of the Committee or your representative on the Executive Council. Please let us know if you’re willing to help get this program under way.

To volunteer to participate in this effort, or even to simply share your thoughts on this subject, contact:

Sue Shogren (susan.shogren@nela.net)
Cindy Pollard (cpollard@warnerpacific.edu)
Andrea Maison (amaison@nationaled.net)
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OOG Update – Total FAFSAs filed by “viable” applicants – 110,826 (all of 2007-08) vs. 110,150 YTD. Over \$29.9 million advanced to schools for fall quarter/fall semester.

“Viable” FAFSAs for 2008-09 – “Viable” FAFSAs are those filed by Oregon resident undergraduates who list at least one OOG-eligible Oregon school on their FAFSA and have at least one term of remaining eligibility for the Opportunity Grant. The highest count ever of viable FAFSAs was 112,791 in 05-06, but current projections are for more than 123,000 viable FAFSAs for 2008-09! As of October 10, we had already processed more than 109,000 FAFSAs – nearly as many as all of 2007-08. The largest growth seems to be in the number of independent students under age 24 with incomes of \$0-9,999.

Reminder of OOG File Format Changes – The “FedInc” (federal total income) field will be replaced by adjusted gross income (AGI) and EFC. OSAC may also stop displaying the AcYear (Academic Year in College) field because many students misreport. Mid-January, when OSAC posts the first new lists is the best time to make file changes. OSAC will notify schools of planned file format changes several months in advance to allow for reprogramming and testing.

Fall 2008 disbursement reports – OSAC moved up Fall 2008 disbursement reporting to October at the request of Salem officials. This is a change from OSAC’s original plan to collect estimated recipient counts and disbursement amounts from all directors and was not done lightly.



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to as Lady “Moulson” and “Moulsham” in various documents. One wonders if this variation was at least in part responsible for the fact that her status as the widow of Thomas Mowlson, successful merchant and Lord Mayor of London in 1634, was not discovered until 1892; and that her maiden name, Radcliffe, and that she was the daughter of Anthony Radcliffe, Master of the Merchant Taylors Guild who had endowed a school in

London, was apparently not known until 1893. Radcliffe College (now Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study) was named in her honor in 1894.

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Goodwin, William W. “The Lady Mowlson Scholarship,” *Publications of The Colonial Society of Massachusetts*, Volume 1, December 1893:158-162.

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NASFAA Annual Conference

by Donna Fossum, Western Oregon University, President-Elect of OASFAA

During July 6 – 9, I had the opportunity to attend the NASFAA conference held in Orlando, Florida. This was my second NASFAA conference and my first trip to Florida. Though it was extremely hot and humid outdoors – which made me appreciate Oregon’s moderate climate – I enjoyed the conference and would like to share with you some highlights.

NASFAA President Phil Day stressed the importance of getting NASFAA back in the position of providing expertise for Congress. NASFAA must be at the table, especially when new aid programs are created. He wants to strengthen, revitalize and promote the FSA programs.

Other goals for NASFAA include expanding leadership training, enhancing the association’s funding base and engaging other associations as partners in support of the FSA programs. President Day wants to make college accessible to all low-to-moderate income and disadvantaged students by increasing need-based aid. For more on Dr. Day’s remarks: www.nasfaa.org/publications/2008/andaygoals071408.html

At the annual meeting, Dallas Martin, NASFAA President for 32 years, was honored for his service. An endowment will be established in his name.

During the federal update Jeff Baker shared some Department of Education’s goals. They include year-round Pell Grants, a lifetime limit for Pell Grants (16 semesters), IRS and FAFSA database matches, loans for short-term training and recall of the Federal Perkins Loan.

Jeff Baker talked about the loan crunch and the issues affecting lenders: liquidity (getting cash), profitability and

capacity (fewer lenders so those remaining are reaching their capacity sooner). As of the date of the conference, 119 lenders have stopped participating in federal student loans. You can view the federal update PowerPoint presentation at: www.nasfaa.org/publications/2008/efederalupdate071808.html



Dr. Phil Day, President of NASFAA, addresses attendees at the NASFAA Annual Conference in July 2008.

As a token of appreciation for OASFAA’s financial support to the Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (LASFAA) after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, LASFAA gave OASFAA an engraved gavel. For those of you who may not know, in late 2005/early 2006, OASFAA provided LASFAA and MASFAA (Mississippi) \$1,500 each to help these state associations with training expenses.


I’d like to close with one last observation about the opening session with Swil Kanim. A Native American story-teller and violinist, Swil Kanim was quite entertaining and moving. He told a story of a young boy he met on the plane who was terminally ill. Swil Kanim carried with him sacred paddles given to him by tribal elders. After talking to the young boy, he gave the sacred paddles to the boy to help him on his journey. The boy was quite pleased with the gift. As he talked about his encounter with the boy, he shared how we should live in the moment. We all can leave our mark. That made an impact on me. Many times while I’m at a meeting, or working on a project or meeting with a student, I am thinking of my next task. As financial aid professionals, I believe it is our duty when we meet with students and families to live in the moment and focus our attention on that student and family.


We need to remember that what we do is important and can make a difference in a student’s life.


Cents-Ability: Plan to Spend


by Donna Fulton, Klamath Community College

Encourage students to make spending money a planned event instead of an impulse. Developing this habit helps control spending.

 Prepare a list before going to the grocery (or any) store. The list should include the price that you expect to pay for each item, whether listed in a weekly/monthly sale advertisement or known from a previous purchase.

 Watching advertisements for a 'Buy one get one free' special on nonperishable items can provide a significant savings. If you purchase a \$1 item on a 'Buy one get one free' sale, the 100% tax-free return beats investing the same dollar in a savings account and receiving 3 cents of taxable income at the end of the year.

 For students who enjoy reading or have children that they want to expose to the joy of reading, *Project Gutenberg* has over 25,000 books that can be downloaded for no cost. The books can be located by author or title and include literature for both children and adults.

 The desire to give nice gifts sometimes overrides common sense and can be a budget buster. One way students can stay on track financially during the holidays is to make a 'Christmas Budget,' which is a list of the people they would like to give a gift to and the amount they can afford to spend for each gift. Homemade gifts can be fun to make and are an inexpensive alternative to purchased gifts. By updating the budget with the amount of money spent as gifts are purchased or made, the student has a tool to help control spending.

On the OASFAA Calendar

Nov 7	Support Staff Workshop
Dec 11	Executive Council Meeting
Dec 15	Newsletter submission deadline
Jan 14	FA101 Workshop
Jan 22	OPB Night
Jan 24	College Goal Oregon
Feb 1-3	Annual Conference

OPB's "Financial Aid for College" Broadcast

by Michelle Holdway, University of Oregon

The 14th annual television program, "Financial Aid for College" will air on Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) **Thursday, January 22, 2009**, at 9:00 p.m. During show time, viewers will be encouraged to call in and ask questions of a bank of knowledgeable financial aid professionals.

Please help with this most important aspect of the program by agreeing to answer phones and share your financial aid expertise when the volunteer coordinator puts out the request for volunteers.

Share your amusing or surprising financial aid anecdotes with people who understand. To protect the innocent, we will not publish the names of contributors or their institutions! Simply email: Susan.Shogren@nela.net

In Closing...

by Russell Seidelman, University of Portland

From Merriam-Webster (www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/haiku): "hai·ku: an unrhymed verse form of Japanese origin having three lines containing usually five, seven, and five syllables respectively."

Work-Study does not
mean study at work, but work
so you can study.

I got an email.
What did it tell you to do?
I did not read it.

Where is my money?
Did you read your award letter?
It's in my dorm room.

Where is the FAFSA?
You must complete it online;
January please.

I don't want a loan.
You are welcome to pay cash.
Where do I apply?

I read online that
I could get 40,000
dollars tomorrow.

Beware DTC
loans; they will affect award
amounts and Fed aid.

Why do you need taxes?
To verify your FAFSA.
I will change FAFSA.

Apply for scholarships;
those who apply have more odds
than non-applicants

When do I apply?
January would be nice,
March, if you must wait.

Satisfactory
academic progress is
required for aid.

Scholarships and grants
are available to all,
but you must apply.