2009 Conference Schedule Summary

Sunday, May 17, 2009

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Registration .............................................. Diplomat Foyer
12:00 PM – 3:30 PM Exhibitor Area Open ................................. Palladian
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Welcome from the EASFAA President .......... Diplomat
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM Opening Session: Rethinking Student Aid .... Diplomat
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM President’s Reception ............................... Empire

Monday, May 18, 2009

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast in Exhibitor Area .......... Palladian
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Exhibitor Area Open ................................. Palladian
7:30 AM – 5:00 PM Registration .............................................. Diplomat Foyer
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM National Conversation Initiative: The Next Steps . Empire
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM Concurrent Sessions ............................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Concurrent Sessions ............................ Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive
12:00 PM – 1:15 PM Lunch on Your Own .................................. Palladian
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM Concurrent Sessions ................................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive
1:15 PM – 4:00 PM Exhibitor Area Open ................................. Palladian
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM Concurrent Sessions ................................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Refreshment Break in Exhibitor Area .......... Palladian
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM General Session: Inside the Beltway ............. Empire
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Happy Hour – Cash Bar .............................. Birdcage Walk

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration .............................................. Diplomat Foyer
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM General Session: Rethinking Everything .... Empire Ballroom
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Exhibitor Area Open ................................. Palladian
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Refreshment Break in Exhibitor Area .......... Palladian
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Concurrent Sessions ............................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM Concurrent Sessions ............................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM EASFAA Awards and Business Meeting Luncheon .... Empire
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM Exhibitor Area Open ................................. Palladian
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM Concurrent Sessions ................................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Concurrent Sessions ................................. Congressional A/B, Diplomat, Executive

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Concurrent Sessions .............................. Empire, Executive, Palladian
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Federal Update ...................................... Diplomat
Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Colleagues!

Welcome to the 43rd Annual Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (EASFAA) Conference! We are excited you chose to attend this conference in the amazing city of Washington, D.C. The theme this year, “Evolution: the Transformation of Student Aid” could not be more appropriate and there could not be a better time to be in D.C.

I know the economy is impacting the budgets in your offices and that conference travel may be limited. Because EASFAA is experiencing these same economic realities, you will see that the entertainment has been scaled back and the meals may seem less extravagant. What you will also see is that the concurrent and general sessions will be second to none. The conference committee, led by Brian Lemma, has done an amazing job organizing this conference in a year with tremendous challenges.

EASFAA is very lucky to have so many exhibitors and supporters. Please take the time to visit our exhibitors and learn more about their products and processes. Also, do not miss the opportunity to ride the metro and visit your elected officials on Capitol Hill. It can be so rewarding educating our lawmakers on higher education policy issues.

I hope you enjoy this great city and this conference meets your professional development needs. As you depart D.C., you need to leave energized, rejuvenated and again ready to do the job we all do so well- creating more access and opening the doors to higher education for our students.

Let’s have fun!

Dino Koff
EASFAA President
Director of Financial Aid
Dartmouth Medical School
After taking USA Funds® Life Skills® training, Tricia Rader has money-management savvy that will pay dividends throughout her college career and beyond. She is putting to work what she learned through the USA Funds financial literacy course to help minimize her education debt. “Unfortunately, there’s no mandatory training like this in life to tell you the outcomes of taking out a student loan,” Rader says. “So any USA Funds Life Skills training a student can get definitely is worth the time.”

More than 500 postsecondary institutions nationwide have used USA Funds Life Skills to teach their students how to manage their money wisely while on campus and following graduation.

To learn more about how USA Funds can get results for you and your students, call toll-free (866) 497-USA, or visit www.usafunds.org/results.
NSLP teaches students to manage their money because it is an investment in everyone’s future. With our comprehensive on-campus seminars, online courses, financial counseling certification, and program consultations, it’s easy to see why schools turn to us as financial literacy experts.

Educating students to make wise financial decisions. We guarantee it.
Three reasons why your endorsement of the FFEL Program is vital.

1. Private sector participation provides schools and students comprehensive education financing solutions.

2. Participation of private sector lenders offers schools and students a choice in lenders and loan options to meet their unique needs.

3. Market competition results in innovations in product delivery, customer service, and pricing.

For more information on how you can get involved, visit faaonline.com or call 1-800-846-1290.
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To learn more about how you can partner with ACS, contact Sue McGrory at 877-294-9250 or via e-mail at Sue.McGrory@acs-inc.com or visit us online at www.acs-inc.com.

www.acs-inc.com
Community Service

1000 Books for Webb/Wheatley Elementary School

Once again you will have the opportunity to show your kindness and compassion and help those who need it. Please join with EASFAA in donating 1000 new books to Webb/Wheatley Elementary School in DC. To inspire you just listen to the words of the school’s new principal, Scott Cartland.

An Open Letter to EASFAA Members

Dear Student Aid Administrators and Business Partners:

I first visited Webb/Wheatley in the spring of 2008 and was literally shocked with what I saw. I witnessed a school climate that had completely broken down. Teachers were frustrated, student behavior was atrocious, and parents felt that the school was unwelcoming if not downright hostile. Student performance was hovering at a completely unacceptable 15% proficiency rates in both reading and math. The physical environment was so bleak and drab that it hardly resembled a school at all.

Visitors to the school just a year later are surprised to see how much has changed. Webb/Wheatley was restructured last year for not meeting the standards set forth by the federal “No Child Left Behind” law. The staff was “reconstituted” meaning that I had complete control over hiring and 80% of the teachers are new to the school. The classrooms received a facelift, with new bulletin boards, colorful carpets, and student work proudly displayed. In every classroom there are caring, committed teachers working hard and students are getting the type of support and instruction that they deserve.

One of the biggest changes though, is in the school’s reading program. Previously, students read out of the “basal” reading series bought by the school system. This makes very little sense when most of the kids are reading well below grade level. We’ve changed that by adding a classroom library to every room that has books at every reading level. Students are allowed to pick out books that they’re interested in and are comfortable reading. We also have a lot of gently used books that we give out to kids so that they can have books at home.

However, what we’d really like to be able to do is to give every student, all 392 of them, a brand new book of their own to have and keep, hopefully to read and re-read many times over. Most of our students have limited access to books at home and there is not a full-service library in the neighborhood. The gift of a new book would be a real treat and go a long way to demonstrate the importance of reading. You can bring books with you to the conference, buy them on site, or donate money to the school so that we can buy books directly.

Webb/Wheatley currently serves 392 students in headstart-7th grade. Over 99% of the students are African American and over 90% qualify for free or reduced lunch. Our school serves the neighborhoods of Trinidad and Ivy City in Northeast Washington and our kids struggle with many of the issues associated with poverty and violence.

Donating a book will make a tremendous difference to our children. I daresay that for many of our children, this may be the first brand-new book they’ve ever owned.

Sincerely,
Scott Cartland
Principal

Please visit the EASFAA Community Service table located in the exhibitor area. Books will be available for purchase during the conference and the Local Arrangements Committee will chart our progress. Let’s meet our goal and donate 1000 books to the wonderful children of Webb/Wheatley Elementary.
We’re here to fund their tomorrow.

And support your today.

When you work with Citizens Bank’s Education Finance Team you can be sure you’re getting the resources you need during these difficult times. Not only do we provide loans and banking products for your students, but our team is dedicated to making your job easier. To learn more about Citizens Bank’s educational lending, call 1-800-708-6684 or visit citizensbank.com/edu.
We’re here to help your students pay for college.

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) not only offers your students the best career planning and college financing available, it also delivers the unparalleled customer service you and your students deserve.

VSAC, a nonprofit organization, offers Web-based planning tools, Vermont grants, public and private scholarships, and competitive FFELP and private loans. And we assign each school its own VSAC rep, to make sure you receive comprehensive, personal service.

(We try to make your job easier, too.)

To learn more, visit our booth or contact our school services team at 888-307-8722 or schoolservices@vsac.org.

VSAC loans are available to Vermonters attending any eligible institution, non-Vermonters attending Vermont schools, and existing VSAC borrowers.

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EASFAA Concurrent Sessions at a Glance

Monday, May 18, 2009

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

College.Gov: a Demonstration ............................................ Congressional A
Financial Literacy ................................................................. Congressional B
Focus on the Future of Graduate & Professional Student Aid ....................Diplomat

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Making the Magical 7% ......................................................... Congressional A
Institutional Eligibility Issues Every Aid Administrator Should Know About ... Congressional B
Managing DL & FFELP – Simultaneous Participation ..................................Diplomat

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM

Policy Potpourri ............................................................... Congressional A
Research 101: The Basics for Solid Reporting and Data Decision Making ........ Congressional B
Preferred Lender Lists, RFI’s and Title X Private Loan Legislation ..................Diplomat
Title IV Funding: How To’s of New Program Approval ................................ Executive

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Tackling the Community College Default Issues ........................................ Congressional A
TEACH Grant Processing and Servicing ............................................. Congressional B
How to Position Yourself and Financial Aid in the Priorities of Your Dean ..................Diplomat
Customer Service, Confidentiality and Security ...................................... Executive

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Are Your Automated Records in Compliance? ........................................... Congressional A
Communicating with the Millennial Student .............................................. Congressional B
Back to Basics – What Every Grad/Professional Aid Administrator Should Know About Undergrad Financial Aid .................................Diplomat
The Benefits of Peace Corps Service ................................................... Executive

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Financing Higher Education with AmeriCorps Education Awards .................. Congressional A
Nurse Faculty Loan Program, Nursing Student Loan Programs, and Other HHS Campus Based Branch Programs .............................................. Congressional B
Rising Debt: the Future of Graduate & Professional School Education – Is It Worth the Money? .................................................................Diplomat
Treatment of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth on the FAFSA ..................... Executive

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

Understanding the Student Loan Funding Mechanism (Federal and Private Student Loans) ................................................................. Congressional A
The Post – 9/11 GI Bill ............................................................. Congressional B
PROFILE Goes Global: Aiding International Students on Your Campus ..........Diplomat
EASFAA Concurrent Sessions at a Glance

Tuesday, May 19, 2009, cont.

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Gates Millennium Scholars Program ........................................... Congressional A
- Veterans’ Affairs ............................................................................ Congressional B
- The Dangers of Fraud: How to Identify and Prevent and the Proper Procedures for Reporting ....................................................... Diplomat
- Same Old, Same Old! No, It’s Not! ....................................................... Executive

Wednesday, May 19, 2009

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Professional Judgment .................................................................... Empire
- Sibling Rivalry: Admissions vs. Financial Aid. ................................. Executive
- Federal Loan Forgiveness Program .................................................. Palladian
Over the past 40 years, we’ve worked together to help millions of people build better lives through higher education. Now more than ever, the right partner makes all the difference. In these changing times, we remain steadfast in our commitment to provide the highest level of support for professionals and students.

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PNC Bank
Sallie Mae
Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation (TG)
USA Funds
Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC)
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These organizations have provided financial support for EASFAA training and general administration. We thank them for their contribution to our association.

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Save The Date

44th Annual Conference

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May 16 – 19, 2010

MGM at Foxwoods
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See you there!