



MASFAP May 2025 Communication

MASFAP Election Time!

It's time to elect new Executive Board members to the MASFAP Board! The Nominations and Elections Committee is excited to announce this amazing slate of candidates. Thank you for agreeing to run for a MASFAP office, you make MASFAP the BEST! Regardless of the outcome, the future of MASFAP will be in excellent hands!

The election will be open for at least 15 days. MASFAP elections are held annually and voting is the responsibility of the primary member representing your institution or organization. The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages each member to read through candidate statements and discuss as an institution/organization prior to submitting the vote from your primary voting member. An official notification will be sent from our system to the voting member of your institution once the ballot is live.

MASFAP Board Candidates

President-Elect

Paula Carpenter
Jamie Davis

Vice President

Stacy Bogier
Keri Gilbert
Tony Lubbers

Treasurer-Elect

Angel Mefford
Hannah Smith
Kaley Williams

Secretary

Carly Blagg
Kari Lenz
Justin Womack

Delegate-At-Large—Institutional

Michele Logue
Ethan Miller
Jessica Weir

Delegate-At-Large—Associate

Jeff Daniels
Heather Gaumer



President-Elect



PAULA CARPENTER

Institution: Jefferson College

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: 2-year Public

Years in current position: 3 years

Years in profession: 20

Statement of Candidacy:

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I submit my candidacy for President of MASFAP. While the majority of my 20-year financial aid career was spent in Illinois, the past three years as Director of Financial Aid at Jefferson College have been exceptionally rewarding. I deeply appreciate the warm welcome I've received from the MASFAP community, and your kindness and collaborative spirit are truly remarkable.

I am deeply committed to our profession at the state, regional, and federal levels. I previously served on MASFAP's Program, Registration, and Newcomer's Committees. I participated on MASFAA's Professional Development and Advocacy Committee last year, and I'm currently serving on the Local Arrangements Committee for the upcoming MASFAA conference in St. Charles. I'm active with NASFAA as well and earned my CFAA designation in 2023.

As President, I would be dedicated to fostering continued growth, strengthening our professional network, and advocating for the needs of Missouri's financial aid community and the students we serve. It would be my distinct pleasure to build upon the strong foundation of MASFAP and work with the most amazing professionals on the planet.

Thank you for your support and consideration.



Candidacy Statements

President-Elect



JAMIE DAVIS

Institution: University of Missouri

Current title/position: Associate Director of Compliance and Operations

Institution type: 4-Year Public

Years in current position: 2.5 years

Years in profession: 14 years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored and excited to be nominated to run for the position of President-Elect. Over the past 14 years, I've had the privilege of working in financial aid, a profession I deeply value for the small part we play to transform students' lives. MASFAP has been the center of my professional growth, and I am humbled by the opportunity to give back to the organization that has given me so much.

My involvement in MASFAP has been a cornerstone of my career, providing leadership opportunities, professional development, and lifelong friends. From the moment I started in this profession, I have been actively engaged in the association, serving in a wide range of roles including Treasurer trio, Vice President, Newcomer Chair and Professional Development Chair. I was also honored to receive the Bob Berger Newcomer Award in 2016 and am proud to be a graduate of the MASFAP Leadership Development Program.

These experiences have strengthened my commitment to supporting both students and financial aid professionals. I believe in fostering inclusive leadership, encouraging engagement across all experience levels, and continuing to build upon the strong foundation MASFAP has established. I'm inspired by the passion and dedication of our members, and I'm excited about the future we're shaping together.

I am driven by the opportunity to continue playing an active role in advancing MASFAP's mission. With the invaluable experience gained from serving in multiple capacities, I am confident in my ability to continue to help lead MASFAP to remain one of the strongest state associations that serve not only students but all of us.

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

MASFAP:

Professional Development Chair 2025

Chair of Budget and Finance Committee 2024

Treasurer 2023

Treasurer-elect 2022

Professional Development Chair 2019

Vice President 2017

Newcomer Chair 2016

Bob Berger Newcomer Award recipient 2016

Awards Committee 2015-2019

Leadership Development Program 2014-2015

Newcomer Committee 2013-2021

Program Committee 2012-Present

MASFAA:

Professional Development committee 2025

Summer/Leadership Institute committee 2024

NASFAA:

scheduled to take the FAAC exam



Vice President



STACY BOGIER

Institution: East Central College

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid

Institution type: Public 2-year

Years in current position: 1.5

Years in profession: 20

Statement of Candidacy:

I am truly honored and humbled to be nominated as a candidate for Vice President of MASFAP. As a member of this organization for over twenty years, I have always appreciated the opportunities for professional development and the chance to build meaningful connections. However, during the rollout of the 2024–2025 FAFSA Simplification Act, MASFAP became more than just a professional resource—it became a lifeline.

In January 2024, I transitioned into a new role without fully grasping how profoundly these changes would impact our work in financial aid. It was through MASFAP that I found connection, support, and guidance from fellow professionals who were navigating the same challenges.

As a first-generation college student and financial aid recipient, I know firsthand the power of education and the life-changing role financial aid plays in making that education possible. I still remember the stress my parents felt over thirty years ago as they filled out the paper FAFSA. Thanks to federal student aid, I was able to pursue higher education—an opportunity that shaped the course of my life.

My career in higher education began in admissions at a proprietary school, where I quickly discovered how transformative education could be for students. I knew then that higher education was where I belonged. I spent fourteen years at Jefferson College serving in a variety of roles across advising, admissions, and financial aid. In 2018, I transitioned to Goldfarb School of Nursing, where I served as Director of Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid. In that dual role, I gained a deeper understanding of how enrollment and financial aid strategies must align to support student success. When I learned I was going to become a grandmother, I made the decision to return to the community college setting to focus more intentionally on one area of expertise. I joined East Central College in January 2024 as Director of Financial Aid.

As a candidate for Vice President of MASFAP, I am eager to give back to the profession that has given me so much. I hope to inspire and support others in this field, reinforcing the message that our work matters—and that we are never alone in it. That sense of community carried me through a difficult period of transition, and I will always be grateful for the strength and solidarity I found within this organization.

It would be a privilege to serve MASFAP in a leadership capacity and to help continue the mission that has meant so much to me—and to so many others.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, HLC Student Success Academy, NASFA, AACRAO, NACADA, AVECO



Vice President

KERI GILBERT



Institution: Stephens College

Current title/position: Associate Vice President of Financial Aid Analytics and Compliance

Institution type: 4-year private

Years in current position: 1

Years in profession: 10

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the position of Vice President for the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP). With a deep commitment to our profession and a passion for professional development, I am eager to bring my experience, creativity, and collaboration to serve MASFAP and its members in this vital leadership role.

MASFAP's mission—to serve and advocate for practitioners, users, and providers of student financial aid programs—resonates deeply with me. I believe that one of the most powerful ways we can support our membership is by providing high-quality, relevant, and engaging professional development opportunities. As Vice President, I would be honored to lead the Program Committee and work in close partnership with others to deliver a conference experience that is impactful, inclusive, and memorable.

I bring extensive experience in conference planning at the regional and national levels. In 2023, I co-chaired the Conference Program Committee for the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA), where our team was recognized with the Committee of the Year award for curating a diverse and meaningful program. In 2024, I served on the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) National Conference Program Task Force, contributing to content development for our profession's largest annual convening. These experiences have deepened my understanding of what it takes to build conferences that inspire, educate, and energize.

I am excited by the opportunity to bring that same level of thoughtfulness and innovation to MASFAP. I have the energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to lead this effort—and I believe in the power of collaboration to create something truly special for our members. Together, we can ensure the MASFAP conference continues to be a cornerstone of connection, growth, and excellence for Missouri's financial aid professionals.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be honored to serve as your Vice President.



Vice President

KERI GILBERT—CONTINUED

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP)

- Budget and Finance Committee Chair (2025-Present)
- Co-presented sessions at 2024 Annual Conference in Lake Ozark, Missouri
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Member (2023-Present)
- Treasurer (2024)
- Co-presented sessions at 2023 Annual Conference in Lake Ozark, Missouri
- Treasurer-Elect (2022-2023)
- Taught National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Credential Courses on Administrative Capability, Application Process, and Campus-Based Programs (2022)
- Professional Development Committee Member (2021-2024)
- Communications Committee Member (2021-Present)
- Taught National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Credential Courses on Administrative Capability and Professional Judgment (2019)
- Presented at 2018 Annual Conference in Lake Ozark, Missouri
- Taught National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Credential Course on the Federal Pell Grant (2018)
- Membership Committee Member (2018-2019)
- Association Governance Committee Member (2018)
- Co-presented at 2017 Annual Conference in Lake Ozark, Missouri
- Legislative Committee Member (2017-Present)

Co-Chair (2018)

- Taught National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Credential Course on Satisfactory Academic Progress (2017)
- 50th Anniversary Committee Member (2017)
- Selected for the 2017 Leadership Development Program
- Co-presented at 2016 Annual Conference in Lake Ozark, Missouri
- Newcomer Committee Member (2016)

Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA)

- Finance Task Force Member (2025-Present)
 - Co-presented sessions at 2024 Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio
 - Co-presented sessions at 2023 Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana
 - Served as a panelist on sessions at 2023 Summer Institute and Leadership Symposium in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin
- Electronic Services Committee Member (2022-2023)



Vice President

KERI GILBERT—CONTINUED

- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Committee Member (2022-2024)
- Professional Development and Advocacy Committee Member (2022-Present)

Chair (2023-Present)

- Co-presented sessions at 2022 Annual Conference in Detroit, Michigan
- Program Committee Member (2021-2023)

Co-Chair (2022-2023)

- Awards Committee Member (2021)
- Treasurer (2020)
- Co-presented at 2019 Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois
- Treasurer-Elect (2019)
- Presented at 2018 Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Summer Institute and Leadership Symposium Committee Member (2017-2019, 2021-2022, 2023-2024)

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

- State Advocacy Network Member (2024-Present)
- Named an MVP (Most Valuable Professional) (2024)
- Served as Adjunct Professor for the NASFAA U Return of Title IV Funds Online Course (2024)
- Co-presented sessions at 2024 Annual Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- National Conference Program Task Force Member (2023-2024)
- Co-presented at 2023 Annual Conference in San Diego, California
- Certification and Credentialing Test Development Volunteer (2023-2024)
- Leadership and Legislative Conference and Expo Compliance Management Track Task Force Member (2022-2025)
- Co-presented at 2022 Annual Conference in Austin, Texas
- Advocacy Pipeline Participant (2022)
- Policy Rapid Response Network Member (2018-2019, 2021-Present)
- Assisting Displaced Students Working Group Member (2018)
- Advocacy Network Member (2017-2018)
- Earned NASFAA Credentials in Administrative Capability, Application Process, Campus-Based Programs, Cash Management, Consumer Information, Cost of Attendance, Direct Loans, Gainful Employment, Need Analysis and Federal Methodology, Federal Pell Grants and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants, Packaging and Notification of Awards, Professional Judgment, Return of Title IV Funds, Satisfactory Academic Progress, Student Eligibility, TEACH Grant, and Verification

Honors, awards, and publications:

- MASFAA Committee of the Year Award – Professional Development and Advocacy (2024)
- MASFAA Committee of the Year Award – Conference Program (2023)
- MASFAA Meritorious Service Award (2022)



Vice President

KERI GILBERT—CONTINUED

- MASFAA President's Award (2021)
- MASFAA State Leadership Award (2021)
- MASFAA Committee of the Year Award – Summer Institute and Leadership Symposium (2019)
- MASFAP Committee of the Year Award – Association Governance (2018)
- MASFAP Bob Berger Newcomer Award (2017)
- MASFAP Committee of the Year Award – 50th Anniversary (2017)
- MASFAA Committee of the Year Award – Communications and Electronic Initiatives (2017)
- MASFAA Outstanding New Professional Award (2017)
- Recipient of the NASFAA 50th Anniversary Scholarship-Midwest Region (2017)



Vice President



TONY LUBBERS

Institution: University of Central Missouri

Current title/position: Director, Student Financial Assistance

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: 7

Years in profession: 29

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for Vice President of MASFAP. While having been a member of MASFAP since 2017, I have worked in Financial Aid for nearly 30 years. I have served in various positions on the state, regional, and national levels in leadership roles, conference planning, professional development, and advocacy work. I have enjoyed working in this industry and very much enjoy making connections and meeting all of the wonderful people who make up our profession. I am dedicated to helping others learn our craft and expand their skill sets to just be a better professional.

MASFAP has provided so many great opportunities, and it is always important to give back. I was honored to serve MASFAP as its President, and have also enjoyed serving on various committees, including Program, Legislative, Newcomer's, and many others. I have always said that associations are only as good as its members, and MASFAP has a dedicated group of members. This makes MASFAP's future look bright. I look forward to continuing my work with MASFAP and its members, and helping to make both achieve their goals.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

Missouri Association (MASFAP):

2025 – Archives Committee Chair

2024 – Past President

2023 – President

2022 – President-Elect

2021 – Legislative Committee Chair

2019 – Legislative Committee Chair

Midwest Association (MASFAA):

2022– Missouri Delegate to MASFAA Board



Vice President

TONY LUBBERS—CONTINUED

Kansas Association (KASFAA):

2015-16 – Past President (Association Governance)

2014-15 – Past President (Association Governance)

2013-14 – President

2012-13 – President – Elect; Conference co-Chair

2010-11 – Electronic Resources Committee Chair

2004-05 – Government Relations Committee Chair

Rocky Mountain Association (RMASFAA):

2017 – RMASFAA Conference co-Chair

2014-15 – Vice President

2013-14 – Kansas State Representative to RMASFAA Board

National Association (NASFAA):

April 15-16, 2014 - Advocacy Pipeline to Washington, D.C.

2014 - NASFAA Task Force: Public Service Loan Forgiveness

2015 - NASFAA Task Force: Annual Training (SULA)

2017 - NASFAA Task Force: Re-Examining Paradigms of Campus-Based Aid.

2020 – Certified Financial Aid Administrator (FAAC- 100 Club)

Earned 15 of 17 NASFAA credentials

Honors, awards, and publications:

2016 Opening Keynote Speaker, RMASFAA Conference (Rapid City, SD)

2014 Kansas Association of Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA) Hall of Fame Inductee

2014 Closing Keynote Speaker, Kansas Association Conference

2014 Closing Keynote Speaker, Nebraska Association Conference (Norfolk, NE)



Treasurer-Elect



ANGEL MEFFORD

Institution: State Fair Community College

Current title/position: Director of Financial Aid and Veteran Services

Institution type: 2 - year public

Years in current position: 7

Years in profession: 11

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the position of Treasurer of the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP). With a strong commitment to transparency and fiscal integrity, I am prepared to ensure the careful stewardship of MASFAP's financial resources. If elected, I will work diligently to maintain accurate financial records, support the Board's strategic initiatives, and ensure that our association's funds are managed effectively to serve and support our membership.

As an active member of MASFAP, I value the organization's dedication to advancing professional development, fostering meaningful collaboration, and advocating on behalf of Missouri's financial aid professionals. It would be a privilege to give back to an association that has significantly contributed to my own professional journey.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP)

- Awards Committee Member
- Program Committee Member
- Leadership Development Program Participant
- Membership Committee Member
- Delegate-at-Large

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

- Active Member
- FAAC® Certified Financial Aid Administrator

Other Professional Associations

- AVECO – Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials
- NISOD – National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development
- MCCA – Missouri Community College Association



Treasurer-Elect



HANNAH SMITH

Institution: Saint Louis University

Current title/position: Assistant Director – New Students, Student Financial Services

Institution type: 4-year Private

Years in current position: 4

Years in profession: 4 in Financial Aid – 9 in Higher Education

Statement of Candidacy:

I am excited for the opportunity to run for the position of treasurer-elect on the 2026 MASFAP board.

I started my career in Higher Education at my alma mater, The University of Tulsa (TU), where I spent 5 years as an Admission Counselor. Though I never imagined myself transitioning to Financial Aid, life took me to Saint Louis, where I found an exciting opportunity as the New Student Coordinator in Student Financial Services at SLU. Combining my experience in Admission and opportunities to take on the challenges of Financial Aid, I have so enjoyed my time on the “dark side”.

Given the opportunity to serve in an elected role on the MASFAP board, I look forward to learning more about the organization and its members, gaining a deeper understanding of financial best practices in organizations, and continuing our current trajectory of creating a financially independent and stable MASFAP. Thank you for your consideration!

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: Member (2021-present), Program Committee (2023), Early Awareness Co-Chair (2024 & 2025 Board), Leadership Development Program (2024 Cohort)

MASFAA: Member (2021-present), Professional Development Committee (2025), Local Arrangements Committee (2025)

NASFAA: Member (2021-present)

The University of Tulsa, Admission Counselor (2016-2021)

Great Plains Association of College Admission Counselors (2016-2021)

National Association of College Admission Counseling (2016-2021)

Honors, awards, and publications:

Great Plains Association of College Admission Counselors Rising Star 2020-2021



Candidacy Statements

Treasurer-Elect



KALEY WILLIAMS

Institution: Kansas City University

Current title/position: Associate Director

Institution type: Private Graduate/Professional

Years in current position: 5 years

Years in profession: 15 years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated to run for the position of Treasurer-Elect for MASFAP. It has been a pleasure being part of MASFAP for the past 10 years and I have loved getting to know all of the members through various committees, Drive-Ins and conferences. I started working in financial aid during my undergrad as a work study student and was called back to make a career of it a few years after I graduated. The financial aid community seems to have a way of drawing you back in and I have truly enjoyed being a valuable resource to students as they continue their education.

I am a proud graduate of the 2023 cohort of the MASFAP Leadership Development Program and through that I had the opportunity to partake in the many meetings and activities the program provides, giving me an excellent understanding of how MASFAP works and all the good MASFAP does for the state of Missouri. I have served many times as the Co-Chair for the Professional Development Committee and helped to provide learning resources for MASFAP membership while bringing in a wide variety of topics for presentations. Currently, I serve as a committee member of the Professional Development Committee and the Program Committee. Through these experiences, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and have been provided with numerous resources, connections and opportunities for growth, both personally and professionally. It would be an honor to serve as the MASFAP Treasurer-Elect for the upcoming year and give back to the organization all that it has given me.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

2020, 2021, 2023, 2024 MASFAP Professional Development Committee Co-Chair

2025 MASFAP Professional Development Committee member

2023 MASFAP Leadership Development Program Graduate

2019, 2023, 2024, 2025 MASFAP Program Committee member

2014, 2015 KASFAA Finance Committee Co-Chair

2013 RNASFAA Program Committee member



Secretary



CARLY BLAGG

Institution: Southeast Missouri State University

Current title/position: Operations Coordinator

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: almost one. Started September 2024

Years in profession: 3

Statement of Candidacy:

It is an honor to be nominated to run for the position of Secretary of MASFAP. Being part of this organization has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I am continually inspired by the collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and genuine support that exists within this community.

MASFAP has helped me grow both personally and professionally, and I would be grateful for the opportunity to give back.

I am passionate about helping students navigate the financial aspects of their education and ultimately reach their academic goals. Throughout my time in higher education, I have developed strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and a commitment to serving others, skills that would serve me well in this position.

I have enjoyed getting more involved in MASFAP and connecting with professionals who share the same dedication to student success. If elected, I would work hard to uphold the standards of excellence set by those who served before me, while bringing energy, organization, and care to the role. It would be a privilege to contribute to MASFAP's mission and support our members in meaningful ways.

Thank you for your consideration.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

2024 Leadership Development Program 2024 Newcomer Committee member 2025 Research Committee Chair



Secretary



KARI LENZ

Institution: University of Missouri

Current title/position: Senior Assistant Director of Operations

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: 1 year

Years in profession: 6 years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for Secretary of MASFAP, an organization that has profoundly shaped my professional journey and reinforced my commitment to supporting students and families across Missouri in achieving their educational aspirations.

Since beginning my financial aid career in 2019, I have actively engaged with MASFAP, serving as Co-Chair of the Newcomer Committee and Chair of the Membership Committee. My participation in the Leadership Development Program (LDP) further deepened my understanding of leadership within our field. Additionally, I have contributed to MASFAP's Newcomer and Program Committees for multiple years, as well as served on MASFAA's IDEA, Local Arrangements, and Summer Institute/Leadership Symposium Committees.

Through these experiences, I have cultivated a passion for fostering connections, strengthening our professional community, and ensuring that MASFAP remains a valuable resource for its members. As Secretary, I will bring diligence, organization, and a collaborative spirit to the role, ensuring accurate record-keeping and effective communication within our association.

I am eager to continue serving MASFAP and working alongside my colleagues to advance our mission. I humbly ask for your support in this endeavor and look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the continued success of our organization.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: Co-Chair Newcomer Committee, Chair Membership Committee, committee member of Newcomer and Program Committees. Presenter for multiple presentations and credentials.

MASFAA: Committee member for IDEA, Local Arrangements, and Summer Institute/Leadership Symposium Committees. Presenter for multiple presentations.

Honors, awards, and publications:

MASFAP Bob Berger Newcomer Award (2024)

14 NASFAA Credentials



Secretary



JUSTIN WOMACK

Institution: University of Central Missouri

Current title/position: Senior Financial Aid Coordinator

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: 3.5 Years

Years in profession: 3.5 Years

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be nominated for the Secretary position. I have enjoyed getting involved in MASFAP and want to continue to give back. Having worked in financial aid for 3.5 years, I have quickly developed a passion for serving students and collaborating with colleagues in the organization. I currently serve as Co-Chair of the Newcomer committee. It would be a pleasure to reinvest in the organization in the Secretary position. As Secretary, I will bring strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and a collaborative spirit to the Executive Board. I understand the importance of accurate record-keeping and timely communication. MASFAP has given so much to me professionally and personally, and I am excited to be given the opportunity to give back.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

LDP Class of 2023

Newcomer committee Co-Chair 2025

Delegate-At-Large—Institutional



MICHELE LOGUE

Institution: University of Missouri—Kansas City

Current title/position: Associate Director of Student Support Services, Financial Aid & Scholarships Office

Institution type: 4-year public

Statement of Candidacy

As a dedicated financial aid professional with 14 years of experience, I have had the privilege of guiding students through the complex landscape of financial aid, ensuring they have the resources they need to pursue their education. Throughout my career, I have been a member of MASFAP and have found the organization to be dedicated both to its members and to providing us with industry developments and best practices to better serve students.

Volunteering with the Newcomers Committee for two years was truly a rewarding experience, allowing me to welcome and support newcomers to our community and to learn more about the work that is being done. My involvement in 2024 included joining the Professional Development Committee and contributing to initiatives like Freshman Fridays, aimed at providing resources and networking opportunities for those financial aid administrators new to the profession.

As a recent alumnus of the MASFAP Leadership Development Program, I cannot express how rewarding and inspiring the work that takes place in that program is. It was an honor to work with professionals as we navigated a deeper understanding of the organization as well as providing a depth of networking that has been immeasurable, especially during these changing times.

Now, as I embark on this candidacy, I am eager to align my passion for championing student needs with the advocacy of MASFAP and the organization's drive for helping others. I am grateful to have been nominated for this new opportunity, and if selected, look forward to the opportunity to serve the organization and its members.

Summary of Professional Activities:

Member on the Newcomers Committee, MASFAP Conference 2023

Member on the Newcomers Committee, MASFAP Conference 2024

Member on the Professional Development Committee, MASFAP Conference 2024

Member of the 2024 Cohort ~ MASFAP Leadership Development Program

Park University, Assistant Director Financial Aid (2011 ~ 2020)

University of Missouri ~ Kansas City, Assistant Director Financial Aid & Scholarships Office (2020 ~ 2023)

University of Missouri ~ Kansas City, Associate Director Financial Aid & Scholarships Office (2023 ~ Current)



Candidacy Statements

Delegate-At-Large—Institutional



ETHAN MILLER

Institution: Southeast Missouri State University

Current title/position: Operations Coordinator

Institution type: 4-year Public

Years in current position: 3.5

Years in profession: 4.5

Statement of Candidacy:

It's hard to believe how much can change in just a couple of years. When I first ran for this position, I was still finding my footing in the world of financial aid. Today, I feel more confident and connected in this profession than ever before, thanks in large part to the people I've met and the opportunities I've had through MASFAP. So, I'm throwing my hat back into the ring to continue giving back to the organization that has already given me so much.

I've grown immensely through MASFAP's programs, events, and committees, and I know firsthand the power of being welcomed into a professional community. As Institutional Delegate-At-Large, my goal would be to help make sure every MASFAP member feels represented, heard, and supported—whether they've been in financial aid for twenty years or twenty minutes. Everyone deserves a seat at the table and a voice in the conversation, and I'm committed to building those bridges.

MASFAP has helped shape my professional journey, and I'm excited about the chance to help continue to shape its future as our next Institutional Delegate. Thank you for your consideration and for the work you do every day in support of students!

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: Leadership Development Program Graduate (2023), Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ad-hoc Committee Co-Chair (2024-2025), Program Committee Member (2024-2025), Conference Presenter (2024), Conference Moderator (2024), Newcomer Committee Member (2025)

MASFAA: IDEA Committee Member (2023-24), IDEA Committee Chair (2024-25)

NASFAA: 16 NASFAA Credentials Earned (2021-2025)



Delegate-At-Large—Institutional



JESSICA WEIR

Institution: University of Missouri (Mizzou)

Current title/position: Senior Assistant Director of Advising and Outreach

Institution type: 4-year public

Years in current position: 2

Years in profession: 2

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for Institutional Delegate for MASFAP. Being part of this community has been a meaningful part of my journey in financial aid, and I am excited for the opportunity to step into a role where I can give back, amplify the voices of our members, and help guide the future direction of financial aid in Missouri.

At the heart of my work are strong people skills, clear and thoughtful communication, and a deep sense of empathy. These qualities have helped me earn the trust of students facing tough financial choices and have also strengthened my ability to work closely and effectively with colleagues. I am committed to building stronger, more inclusive communities by leading with empathy and fostering open, honest communication.

As a delegate, I will bring a commitment to open dialogue, respectful representation, and a strong sense of community. I would be honored to represent MASFAP members and contribute to shaping the future of financial aid in our state.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

MASFAP: LDP graduate (2024), Newcomer Committee (2024, 2025), Program Committee (2025), Membership Committee (2025)

MASFAA: Program Committee (2025)

Honors, awards, and publications:

MBA (2024)



Candidacy Statements

Delegate-At-Large—Associate



JEFF DANIELS

Institution: PNC Bank

Current title/position: VP, Relationship Manager

Institution type: Lender

Years in current position: 17.5

Years in profession: 29.5

Statement of Candidacy:

I am a Vice President & Relationship Manager with PNC Bank Student Lending, where I have been since November 2007. I joined PNC after having worked in the financial aid office at University of Dayton (Ohio) for 12 years where I last served as Director of Financial Aid. While at the University of Dayton I took pride in assisting students and their families in achieving the dream of a college degree.

With almost 30 years of experience, I bring a wealth of knowledge from both the college/university perspective as well as the Associate member perspective. Based on my previous board experience I feel that I am fit to serve as the MASFAP Associate Delegate and welcome the opportunity.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

Current:

MASFAP: DEI Committee; **NASFAA:** Associate Member Advisory Board; **TASFAA (TX):** 2025 Conference Committee

Previous:

FASFAA (FL): Site Selection Chair, Global Issues Chair, Business Partners Liaison, Conference Chair

KASFAA (KY): Non-school Representative, Diversity Committee, Legislative Issues Committee

OASFAA (OH): Federal Issues Co-chair, Association Governance & Planning Co-chair

ISFAA (IN): Winter and Spring Conference Planning Committee



Delegate-At-Large—Associate



HEATHER GAUMER

Institution: Sallie Mae

Current title/position: Director of Relationship Management, Midwest

Institution type: Corporate Associate Member

Years in current position: 8

Years in profession: 19

Statement of Candidacy:

I am honored to be considered for the position of Associate Delegate on the MASFAP Board. I have worked in higher education for 19 years. For eight years I worked in financial aid and admissions and the other 11 years I've focused more on education finance and my passion, financial literacy. My current position at Sallie Mae as Director of Relationship Management for the Midwest allows me to work with colleges, universities, high schools and community organizations in Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa and North Dakota. If elected, I will endeavor to wholly represent the Associate Members and all the contributions we can bring to the financial aid family and community of Missouri and the MASFAA region.

Summary of professional activities including within MASFAP, MASFAA, NASFAA, other associations, and other professional organizations:

I have served on many committees, task forces, and Boards for state, regional and national associations:

- MASFAP Program Committee
- MASFAA Treasurer
- MASFAA Committees – Conference Planning, State Exchange & Government Relations
- NASFAA PSLF and Negotiated Rule Making Task Forces
- IASFAA President
- IASFAA Committees – Conference Planning, Communications, Site & Finance
- Iowa Jump\$tart Coalition for Financial Literacy – Board Member & Communications

Honors, awards, and publications:

- MASFAA Outstanding New Professional Award
- IASFAA Outstanding Committee Member and President's Awards