



June 2022 EASFAA Update  
2022-2023

### **Rhode Island Report to EASFAA**

#### **Executive Council:**

As of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

President – Donna Cournoyer -- Salve Regina University

President Elect - Vote done by poll and results to be announced at RIASFAA Conference June 15, 2022

Past President - Melissa Donahue – Rhode Island School of Design

Vice President - Nancy Bessette – Rhode Island College

Treasurer – Jason Martin – Providence College

Secretary – Francesca Savella – Johnson and Wales University

#### **Conference:**

Our June 2022 conference is on June 15, 2022 at Salve Regina University. We will have an EASFAA update from newly installed president Anne McDermott, a federal update from Noel Simpson, as well as special interest presentations pertaining to the fields of financial aid and higher education. At registration of 71, it will be our highest attendance in a number of years.

#### **Membership:**

Membership has remained steady. Our Development Committee (chairs Jenn Trauman, College Ave Student Loans, and Ben Loya, Earnest Student Loans) worked with our vendor partners to create mutually beneficial partnerships between our member schools and vendors. They have been compiling a database of presentations offered by our vendor partners that our member schools can utilize on their campuses. The committee, along with the Professional Development and Training committee, created a webinar series with our vendor partners, which kicked off in March and has gone well. We will continue to offer similar series for 2022-23.

#### **Training:**

We have been in contact with Robert Weinerman from ironBridge Resources and will coordinate another virtual tax workshop to be offered sometime between September and December. The previous sessions for 2021 and early 2022 were informative and well attended. We hope to again offer NASFAA Credentials training in conjunction with EASFAA again this year. We had some great training sessions with Cathy Boscher-Murphy from Montclair and Heidi Kovilick from Rowan as our trainers, for sessions in Spring of 2022. We will also continue the work done by our Professional Development Committee work with our vendors to create similar offerings this year.

#### **Special Initiatives:**

Continue any updates as needed on our website, including new events. Continue to offer more training sessions with the Professional Development & Training committee. Will also focus on generating more interest from RIASFAA members to volunteer for executive positions and committees so we can build on progress from our recent Presidents and committees members.

This past year, our President, and our committees also were able to work with our other state organizations to offer trainings together, at EASFAA council and the NAFSAA credential series which we organized with ME, CT, MA and NH. This was very successful! We hope to continue this collaboration with our EASFAA partners.

**Budget:**

Budget is in good shape. We did spend some funds from our training allotment, but we are still in good shape. We will have additional line items of insurance and NASFAA Leadership Conference for 22-23. The budget will be proposed and voted on at our next meeting on June 15, 2022.

**Committees:**

Several of our committees have a few members and some that have served multiple years. We continuously recruit new volunteers for committees, this will continue for the 2022-23 year. We will continue the Professional Development & Training Committee ( this past year, Melissa Donahue, RIASFA President, and Lisa Talbot, Sallie Mae did an outstanding job, creating new opportunities for training). We will also continue the work of the Development committee and Government Relations Committee. The Nominations Committee worked hard and we have had a vote by poll for President Elect for 2022-23 and this position will be announced at the June 15, 2022 RIASFAA summer conference.

**Submitted by:**

**Donna Cournoyer**

**President Elect**

**RIASFAA President - as of July 1, 2022**