Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
Executive Council Meeting
November 13, 2019
Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel
Springfield, MA

Executive Council: (Voting Members)
■ Kevin DeRuosi  ■ Shannon James  ■ Donna Shelby
■ Monica Blondin  □ Korinne Peterson  ■ Ross Glover
■ Melissa Metcalf  ■ Robyn Butterfield  ■ Ebony Marsala
■ Linna Tran  ■ Ben Parsons

Committees:
□ Siobhan Keenan  ■ Amy Staffier  □ Jan Combs  □ Jennifer Bento-Pinyoun
□ Brandon Cipoletta  ■ Susan Kolls  ■ Jonathan Sparling  □ Lisa Tablot
□ Betsey Mayotte  □ Thomas Hunt  ■ Ina Frye  □ Beth Feinberg Keenan
■ Sarah Bergeron  ■ Dawn Batchelor  ■ Jennifer Sheely  □ Robert Picoriello
■ Lauren Sullivan  □ Julie Wickstrom  □ Michelle Clifton  □ Ramon Soto
■ Jaron Tucker  □ Jeff Bentley  ■ Kaitlyn Ma

Other Attendees:

Meeting started at 12:14
Motion to start Ben Parson
Second: Shannon

Welcome: Kevin DeRuosi
  • Review Agenda
  • Shifting Agenda for Conference Chair to go first

Committee reports
Conference: Jonathan and Susan
  • Unconference
    o Jonathan and Susan are asking Exec Council to sell idea of unconference description and suggestions
    o Ex. athletic aid
    o This is an opportunity for people to talk about what they are interested
    o Exec council will facilitate
  • Cocktail hour is 5:15PM with two floor and at 6PM the 2nd floor will close
  • There is a photographer for headshots
  • Don’t forget to download conference app!
  • People with MASFAA vest will guide the members
  • Breakfast morning is the Business Meeting 8AM-9AM
  • Stuffing pins and postcards starts at 2pm today
  • What else does Conference need for volunteers?
    o Krysta is working with volunteers
    o Conference committee will grab people randomly in case
FAFSA Day: Amy
- 17 cites already held event
- 7 upcoming
- Lower attendance and sites
  - 34s site last year and now 24 sites this year
- 667 registrations, last year 779
- Sent registration rosters every Wednesday
- Please continue to promote on Twitter and Facebook
- Also, provide support through phone and email, about 19 phone calls a week and 10-15 emails

Access, Inclusion, and Diversity (AID): Jaron
- First meeting about 17 people
- Symposium is a work in progress
- During the first meeting a lot of ideas
  - Mental health awareness - the recent surge of documented autism
  - IEP
  - Cultural barriers
  - Equity
  - Education gap
- AID is finding people who already presented these topics and researching cost
- Tentatively setting meetings once a month

Development: Donna Shelby
- 28 exhibitors and sponsor
- One last company approached - LeverEdge
  - Appeals to graduate level MBA students
  - Founded by Harvard
- Everyone paid
- Doing puzzle again for the vendors
- 22 last year and there are 9 new vendors
- $35,600 from vendors
- Donna suggest increasing the cost because more are interested
- One vendor purchased a lot of packages and we should limit it
- Capping the number of packages

Early Awareness: Ben Prason
- Got a lot of donation
  - Feel free to send more
- Carnival date is February 7th, Southbridge
- Bag stuffing is TBA
- Request will go out for last year presenters

Financial Wellness: Sarah Bergeron
- 3 sessions in the conference
• Webinar schedule for Dec 10th
• Flyers to put out

Government Relation
• no update

Graduate and Professional Concerns: Ina Fyre
• One meeting so far
• 5 people are committed to attend next meeting
• Only Eric and Rob
• Booked a space at Northeastern - Raytheon Amphitheater
• Next week will discuss about topics
• Food and Insecurity will be one topic
• March 6th date 8:30-4ish

Membership: Dawn Batchelor and Jen Sheely
• Member does not have much yet
• All the checks are found and completed
• Only outstanding is UMASS Boston check
• Currently, over 300 membership

Professional Development and Training - Lauren Sullivan
• There is a lack of participation this year
• Lauren mentioned they are looking into other options moving forward
• Suggestion is having events and days sponsored by other committees
• They are working on getting everything done earlier
  o Next year have everything ready by July
• Just a Facts went well
• The only complaint is everything is repetitive
• TBD on Leadership Academy

Technology
• No update
• Kevin - we need to find a committee members in order to get Greg and Julie off of it

Other Comments
• Kevin - we will have a committee table for the conference
  o Kevin suggested doing an incentive for people to get on committee and if they are able to attend 4 meetings, put them on a raffle
  o This is a work in progress as Kevin is working on the logistic

Executive Council Reports:
President: Kevin DeRousi
• Kevin thanked everyone for coming as today is a huge event for the 50th year
• Almost 2/3 of membership attending
• Kevin gave an appreciation to the volunteers
• For the conference, there is a lot of moving parts so please step up
• Melissa – show up to events as there are a lot of past-presidents at the conference

**President Elected and Past President: Monica Blondin and Melissa Metcalf**

• Monica and Melissa visited Plymouth hotel 1620
  o A great hotel and got a contract
  o They are hoping to put the deposit
  o Great parking
  o Great shops in walking distant
• It is Plymouth 400 anniversary so it will be a great time to join
  o Ocean is nearby
  o Small and intimate but plenty of room
  o A town of restaurants, brewery and wine

**EASFAA: Melissa Metcalf**

• Conference in may
• In the process of getting sessions proposal
  o Melissa advised to submit any

**Treasurer: Shannon James**

• Taxes are extended
• Shannon suggest increasing membership by $10
  o Because this will assist in future finance
  o Right now, there is not enough going in the future if we leave things the same
• A suggestion is adding in bylaws to increase every 10 years by $5-10
  o Kevin - after 5 years?
• Examples:
  o EASFAA is $65
  o New Hampshire $35
  o Conn $150

*Motion to make the membership $10 more - Shannon James*
*Second - kevin*
*All oppose – none*

• Donna - should we increase vendors?
  o Kevin/Melissa - Lisa did a research that we may be higher
• Melissa - there is constant increases every year
• Shannon asked if we should motion to have every 5-10 years increase in membership cost?
  o Melissa - no, we should revisit?
  o Topic will continue in email
• Melissa - we will add about spending money on alcohol

**Other Comments**

• Melissa brought up about elections
  o We are a little behind
  o Looking for president elect for 2021-22
• Treasurer
• Member of large 4 year private
• Member at large for graduate professional
• Kevin - if you are a chair or co-chair, have an advisory role to be in meetings or have a write up

Network Event: Ebony
• Network event for December
• Ebony did a lot of research
  o Paint bar sections
  o Axe throwing - Everett
  o Bowling?
• We already did a brewery
• Two events on two different location
• Discussion:
  o Ross - I like the idea of two different location - west and east
  o The event will be around the same time
• Ebony suggested Yaymaker as they do terrain, signs, paint, and a variety of classes
  o Ebony will reach out
  o They will book facility and set it up
• We will start in February and then have an event once every other month

Open Items:
• Storage facilities
  o Melissa will rent one in Newton
• Jaron has a list of volunteers for conference
  o Please sign up for any areas

Motion to end meeting: Ebony Marsala
Second: Melissa Metcalf

End time 1:23