

Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Executive Council Meeting

May 22th, 2020

Zoom Meeting

Executive Council: (Voting Members)

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ■ Kevin DeRuosi | □ Shannon James | □ Donna Shelby |
| ■ Monica Blondin | ■ Korinne Peterson | ■ Ross Glover |
| ■ Melissa Metcalf | ■ Robyn Butterfield | ■ Ebony Carter |
| ■ Linna Tran | ■ Ben Parsons | |

Committees:

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

Other Attendees:

Meeting started at: 10:04AM

Motion to start: Ben Parsons

Second: Kevin DeRuosi

Welcome: Monica Blondia

- Touching base on meetings and what is going on
- 6-7 months how MASFAA will look like
- Questions about what we are providing our memberships
- Today's Agenda
 - Go over of what have been happening this month
 - COVID
- Updates from Exec council

Executive Council Reports:

Past President: Melissa Metcalf

- ELECTIONS
 - We have results!!
 - There were a few mishaps with who can vote
 - Associate and Grad got to vote
 - Beth won for Treasurer
 - Associate member cannot hold an Exec Council Position
 - Run the elections again?
 - Kevin does not want another election
 - This was put together quickly during pandemic
 - Official vote to accept the election result
 - Treasurer – Kevin mentioned we are going forward with Beth as Treasurer
 - If anyone has an issue, please reach out to Kevin
 - Kevin made Exec decision to move forward with an associate member, Beth
 - Betsy suggested that we should allow Exec decision to be able to allow associate members to run as Beth was the only one who stepped up
 - Great job Beth!!
 - Melissa mentioned that maybe we should consider changing and allowing members to run
 - We are limited to a lot of volunteers
 - Lawton – We should hold off and put more thoughts into this
 - Ross – This is a trend
 - Why are we separating associate members to begin with?
 - Monica – what about other associations? Do they have restrictions?
 - Yes
 - Example: In RI, they can – but the association is extremely small
- Beth won for Treasurer
- Grad Rep – had two candidates

- Ebony won president elect
- Kevin we will revisit the bylaws to see if we can allow associates members in elections – but not allowing to vote(?)
 - For now, we need Beth as Treasurer because no one stepped up and she won unopposed
 - If anyone opposed, please shoot an email
 - We are moving the association forward
- Melissa also brought up about updating the handbook to the current year
 - Kevin, Melissa, and Monica – documenting this year
 - On their agenda to go through bylaws
- Kevin – we can get people more involved because now everyone is okay with web conferences
 - Meeting online

President: Kevin DeRousi

- No updates
- Kevin put together notes and revision of the strategic plan
 - He will send this out for approval

President Elect: Monica Blondin

- We are finally combining technology and membership committees
 - Jeff, Sarah and Johnathan
- New web platform – KeyBridge
 - Contract has been signed
 - Moving full speed ahead with this

NEW COMMITTEE – Technology and Membership

Jeff Bentley

- With the frustration of the current website i.e. not able to post at certain links and the website lost its's place as a resource for the financial aid community
- The goal is to create a new website
- The Committee will commit to researching on what best meet their practices
 - Membersclick was one they were deciding
 - Going forward with KeyBridge
- The new website will be updated in July (GOAL)
 - We are in the early stages in this new website
 - We are welcoming new members so if anyone wants to join, come join
 - If you have a technology eye to come over

- Betsey Mayotte asked - do the various committee have an input on what they want on the website
 - YES!
- Kevin – 8-10 hours of support
 - More control over update the site, more autonomy
 - Looking forward to get this up and running

10:55AM Kevin moved members to 3 different breakout rooms

Group 1

Cares Act – Lauren, Linna, Katelyn, Amy, Ross, Monica, Jennifer, Melissa, Sarah, Ebony, Korinne, Monique

The big questions: How are others handling the Cares Funding? What about graduating students?

- Salem state is being specific
- Melissa mentioned BC has not taken it
- Monica – Assumption has not
 - They want to give it to the graduating seniors
 - Amy mentioned her institution disbursed before they left
- Jennifer mentioned her institution awarded all rising 3rd year students
- Lauren – title IV eligible?
 - Sent before graduation
 - Getting tons of push back about this
- Amy – Dep of Ed is constantly changing rules and regulations
 - The graduating seniors implication is not right because the student was enrolled when this pandemic happened
- Monica – we haven't given our official decision yet as the institution is worried about audit
 - Schools are being penalized for not using it right away
- Lauren – are we able to give a complaints because of the delay?
 - NASFAA undocumented, DACA – strong objection of this
- Monica – doing a set amount and focusing on undergraduate students - \$500 a student
- Amy – have both – funding was 75% undergraduate pell eligible... 75/25
 - Came up with a chart
 - Pell undergrad gets the most and then it goes down
 - Online not receiving any
 - \$123,000 left of funds and creating an application if students want more
- Ebony – we let students apply, and put a cap – food, transportation, living and let the student identify and provide documentation
 - Had a lot of students who left Boston to go back home – so provide lease contract etc.

- Had upset students who had to continue to pay rent – received funding but couldn't cover the full amount
 - Total max is pell limit
- Jennifer – awarded every rising 3rd year for \$1,000 each
 - 3rd year was the only year that their semester was push back
 - 300,000 total
 - Remaining is through application process
- Lauren – emergency funding
 - Had 200 application and then decided to select their own candidates
 - Anyone who has a valid ISIR, pell eligible and anyone who lost campus housing
 - First tier awarded \$1,000
 - Second tier \$700
 - Third tier \$300
 - A little cushion for those who believe they qualify
 - Anything else be used for summer time etc.
- How was it awarded?
 - Katelyn – through banner on their award screen
 - Coded and added to their award
 - Added Care act budget to not overaward
 - COVID application
 - Wifi bills
 - What to justify their refunds?
 - Monica – Student Accounts just pay the funding by using debit cards
 - Amy – anyone who got direct deposit got it and then email others to sign
 - Any those who don't send check
 - Korine – forcing student to do direct deposit
 - Maximum is \$1,000
- Did anyone schools used more than half?
 - BU giving it all to students?
 - No one in the room
- NASFAA – 15th guidelines – no one touched that yet
- Katelyn - \$180K
- Are anyone of your students going to bow out of the match?
 - Have any funds ?
 - Amy – we did that this current year about the changes but haven't talked about it next year
 - Ross – building from ground up
 - Goal not reduce institution match
- How are you going to deal with online or offline courses?
 - Tuition only?
 - Are we doing room and board?

- Can we wait before sending out different bills?
- Amy we are extending and waiting before sending things out
 - Amy do full year to remove online
- Lauren – tri-semester and offering free tuition next term
- Monica – manual

11:12AM Kevin – Each group take 5-10 minutes to present

Associate Members

- Betsy – We shared a lot of what our institution are doing
 - Webinar
 - Relief for private loan lenders
 - What membership might need
 - MASFAA COVID Page
 - Berklee has a good one
 - Whether the membership might find it useful for a webinar
 - PJ
 - SAP
 - Gap year
 - If this is useful, associate group can do a webinar for end of June
 - Members of this group will make sure this happens
- Jennifer Sheehy – member portal – membership expired
 - Budget restraints
 - Her school is not allowed to join other associations
 - Ben suggested there's a way to push the membership date due
- Membership is strong
 - Kevin mentioned that if people are unable to pay their membership then that will be tricky
 - Monica – having reduced cost or having it free next year?
 - Something to think about
 - Ben – we will need to be purposeful to what we are offering for this one year
 - Ross – like a financial aid grant that we cover it now and next year it's on your own
 - Kevin – institutional membership? Most schools are small so we will not want to go this route
 - We can look again at a lower rate
 - This is another discussion to crunch numbers and map out
- Kevin – Associate members – I like the webinar idea
- Monica – NASFAA is offering a webinar every couple of weeks
 - What if we do panels?
- Betsy – every two weeks we do a panel/webinar for 45 minutes about one topic
 - We will need people to volunteer to be on this panel

- The small associate group can manage the panelists
- 6 of them will do a draft topic
 - We will need Exec Council to respond quickly
 - Kevin – volunteering Salem State zoom

Elected Membership Group

- Ben and Robyn – talked about strengths and what we can offer
- Ben mentioned that he created a page for his office
 - A central place for everyone to review it
 - Ben organized it
 - Betsy – can you do that for our MASFAA page?
 - It's a google site with basic functionality
 - It has different links to FAQs, NAFSAA webinar, Dep of Ed
 - This is fully searchable
 - This is a site only the team can view
 - Google Campus – one of the google office is google site which allows you to build a website
 - Betsy – can you duplicate that? Like copy and paste? Pulling content and organizing it
 - Ben – yes I can do this!

CARES ACT

- Monica mentioned that the forum was used to talk about what our schools did
 - Half of us distributed and other half is waiting for guidelines
 - A meeting to discuss about terms, tri-semester,
 - Running things by one another
- Kevin – we are all doing things slightly different
- Ross – MASFAA is intimate setting and seeing how things are being implemented. This makes everything feel better of whether schools on track
 - Kevin – yes this small group is great with meeting and discussing about what others are doing and TRUST

Summary

- Kevin – can each person draft what their institutions are doing?
 - Kevin took half of the CARES ACT and used EFC of three tiers
 - Make a list of what people are doing at each institution
 - Offer guidelines
- In the next week, can you all answer the questions for ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS and send to Kevin and CC Monica
- Any questions?
 - Who has the ability to lock or change membership?

- Julie/Michelle? Michelle will check
 - Let's extend until the end of June
- Committee chairs – Kevin wants to set up separate meetings
 - Learning in September
 - How to adapt moving forward
 - Will set up with everyone within two weeks
 - What MASFAA 20-21 will look like
 - What events are coming up?
 - Do you think it can be virtual?
 - How will it look like virtual?
- Is there an official designation yet?
 - Kevin – we have not set that up yet
 - Usually during year-end
 - We're just trying to get things done one at a time
 - Jeff – trying to figure out membership
 - Monique/Kevin July to June
 - Ben – President January to December
 - Monica mentioned that because there are many changes, we are keeping July to June date
 - We need to solidify that
 - Do we switch membership to January to December too?
 - Monica – this is confusing
 - Example if Ebony will do president for 6 months and 6 months with committee
 - Kevin mentioned that in the next meeting we will address more of this

Motion to end meeting: Kevin

Second: Robyn

End time: 12:09PM