



MASFSA



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL
SERVICES ADMINISTRATORS

MARCH 2008

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NINE

Letter from the MASFSA Interim President

Dear Colleagues,

I am excited about the opportunity to serve as Interim President of MASFSA for the balance of this year. There are more than 81 MASFSA member institutions comprised of private, public, and community colleges and universities in Michigan along with our associate partners. It is exhilarating to see our ever-growing organization.

The board and committee members have been busy planning our upcoming conference and working to recruit schools in the state of Michigan to become organization members. We are all excited about our fourth annual MASFSA conference, June 4th through 6th at the Soaring Eagle Conference & Casino Resort in Mt. Pleasant. We have a three track agenda this year packed with valuable information and sessions that will benefit each and every one of us. Look for the finalized agenda along with registration information on our website at www.masfsa.org.

In closing, the board and all MASFSA members would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Peggy Davis of Southwestern Michigan College for all of her years of service and dedication to MASFSA. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am excited about the opportunity to serve you and get to know you.

Holly Furlo

MASFSA Interim President 2008
Saginaw Valley State University



Holly Furlo

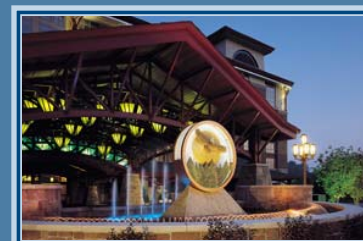
MASFSA
Interim President

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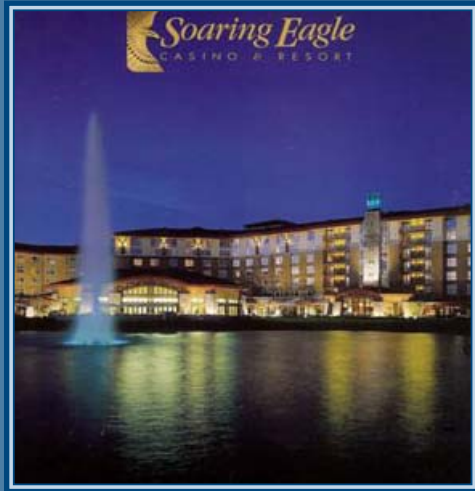
2008 MASFSA Conference



Details on page 2!

Mark Your Calendar

You're Invited...



www.soaringeaglecasino.com

What: 4th Annual MASFSA Conference

When: June 4th - 6th, 2008

Where: Mount Pleasant, Michigan
Soaring Eagle Conference Center
& Resort

Who: MASFSA Members &
Keynote Speaker, Steve Beck



Topics include...

- Sales • Change • Leadership •
- Stress Management • Balanced Living •
- Motivation • Customer Service •

Learn more at www.beckseminars.com

MASFSA Associate Members

Associate members are located all over the country and provide many valuable services to our institutional members. Associate members play an important part on our committees and volunteer many hours of work for the association. Their financial support contributes to the annual conference, which helps keep the cost very affordable for our institutional members.

MASFSA's 36 Associate Members

Abbott, Nicholson, Quilter, Esshaki & Youngblood, P.C.
ACS Education Services
Account Control Technology, Inc.
American Collection Systems, Inc
Associates Financial Solutions
Campus Partners
CASHNet (Informed Decisions Corp)
Chase Bank
Congres Collection Corp.
ConServe
Educational Computer Systems Inc.
Enterprise Recovery System Inc.
Financial Recoveries
General Revenue Corp.
Higher One
Immediate Credit Recovery
Mercantile Adjustment Bureau, LLC
Merchants & Medical Credit Corp.
National Recoveries, Inc.
National Credit Management
National Enterprise Systems
NCO Financial Systems
Niagara National, Inc
Pioneer Credit Recovery Inc.
Premier Recovery Inc.
Recovery Management Services Inc.
Regional Adjustment Bureau
Reliant Capital Solutions
Security Credit Systems, Inc.
Todd, Bremer & Lawson Inc.
TouchNet Information Systems
Transworld Systems
Tuition Management Systems
UCB Inc.
Williams & Fudge, Inc
Windham Professionals

Member News

Recognizing Our Employees

The Finance Department at the University of Michigan honored the recipients of its 2007 Quality Service Award at a lunch on January 11th at Inglis House. **Carolyn James**, Cheryl Fischer and Jason Welch were acknowledged as employees who make substantial contributions to the organization with their exceptional performance, outstanding customer service, creativity and initiative. They were chosen by a committee of peers based on nominations received by the Finance Department throughout the year. The honorees each received a plaque and monetary gift.

Our congratulations to Carolyn James, MASFSA Board Member, for a job well done.



Let's Toast Our Engagements

Jennifer Murlick (Saginaw Valley State University) received a marriage proposal from fiancé Stephen Burk and beautiful ring Friday, January 19, 2008 on a weekend holiday in Traverse City, MI.

Jennifer is planning a destination wedding in December of this year in Mayan Riviera, Mexico. Congratulation Jennifer & Stephen!



At Henry Ford Community College **Dr. David Cunningham**, Director of Financial Services and **Dr. Sherry Smith**, Public School psychologist, are making plans to marry this July. The happy couple is spending many glorious hours setting wedding plans and house hunting. As you can see in the picture above, love is truly in bloom!

Now That's Dedication

Join us in welcoming **James Marable** of the University of Michigan back to work.

James Marable is back working part time from his home. After a long journey of four surgeries, James is feeling much better and very lucky. Our thoughts and many prayers have been with him this past year. He is currently going through rehabilitation while working from home, trying to get back to work full time but is taking things slowly for now.

For those who know James, and even those who don't, I'm sure he would love to hear from you. He can be contacted at jmarable@bf.umich.edu.

MASFSA Listserv

Overview

The listserv has been established as a mechanism for information exchange and problem resolution for MASFSA members; it is intended to provide a forum for the exchange of information for it's members.

Our listserv has been in operation for over a year; from time to time our members will leave their college or university and new staff will replace them. Please take some time at your school and let individuals within you division know the benefits of our listserv. They can sign up at our website.

MASFSA Listserv Policy

MASFSA listserv, please contact Dave Wilcox of Eastern Michigan University, dave.wilcox@emich.edu. Issues not addressed here will be taken under consideration by MASFSA Membership. By subscribing to the listserv you are confirming that you have read and agree to the terms of MASFSA listserv policy statement and guidelines.

To Subscribe

To subscribe to the list, send mail to our site at: <https://list.emich.edu/mailman/listinfo/masfsa>. In the body of the message enter: *subscribe 'Your_Name'*.

To Unsubscribe

To be removed from the list, send mail to our site: <https://list.emich.edu/mailman/listinfo/masfsa>. In the body of the message enter: *unsubscribe*.

To Post A Message

Simply send your message to the address, MASFSA@list.emich.edu. It will be sent out to each member of the list. If you reply to a list message, your reply will be sent only to the sender.

Policy Statement

MASFSA listserv subscription is reserved for current MASFSA Membership. Correspondence is monitored to protect MASFSA membership and to ensure proper use of the listserv. You may post

student loan, A/R queries, discussion items, industry related organization announcements, and items that can be considered "public service" in nature to the listserv. Be considerate of MASFSA audience. Your message must be appropriate for this listserv. Off-topic posts will be considered SPAM. Any questions as to the appropriateness of a posting should be directed to the list moderator, Dave Wilcox of Eastern Michigan University at dave.wilcox@emich.edu.

Special note

Listsersv postings that promote or advertise goods or services are forbidden.

Listsersv Guidelines

"Netiquette" must always be observed. MASFSA listserv is not a forum for arguments or off-topic discussions. Take arguments and personal discussion to private exchange. Anyone who "attacks" another member on the list will be unsubscribed from the list. It is undesirable to post HTML code. It doubles the message size and does not display properly in many cases. Flaming, spamming and other inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated. Inconsiderate participants will be unsubscribed from the listserv. Sign your name AND institution at the end of your message; few will know your identity if you sign only bob@yourschool.edu. Use of the list for illegal activities is strictly prohibited. Posting of material that may be considered racist, hateful, pornographic, etc., is forbidden. Send all administrative inquiries/requests (i.e. subscription status, delivery issues, etc.) to the list moderator, Dave Wilcox of Eastern Michigan University at dave.wilcox@emich.edu.

If you have questions regarding the listserv and/or the proper use of the MASFSA listserv, please contact Dave Wilcox of Eastern Michigan University, at dave.wilcox@emich.edu. Issues not addressed here will be taken under consideration by MASFSA Membership. By subscribing to the listserv you are confirming that you have read and agree to the terms of MASFSA listserv policy statement and guidelines.

***All members have been registered on Listserv.**

We Welcome New Members!

For more information on becoming a member please visit our www.masfsa.org for an application. Or please contact Pat Gammalo pgammalo@securitycreditsystems.com

Department of Education News

President Drops Perkins

The President unveiled his budget proposal for FY 2009. Once again, the President requested the elimination of the Federal Perkins Loan Program as well as the "recall" of all federal funds held in the revolving funds of participating institutions, which it claims will save \$1.12 billion in FY 2009. The budget document says, "The program is duplicative of the larger and more broadly available Federal Family Education Loan and Direct Loan programs.

The Perkins Loan account records amounts recalled from Perkins Loan institutions and subsequent repayments on outstanding Perkins Loans, as well as reimbursements of institutional funds to participating schools." The budget says that 504,000 students received \$1.103 billion in Perkins Loans in FY 2008.

The FY2009 request includes nearly \$19 billion in combined discretionary and mandatory funding for the Pell Grant program to support awards to 5.8 million students and increases the maximum award to \$4,800. The Pell Grant discretionary increase (\$2.6 billion) proposed for 2009 reflects updated cost estimates for the program as well as a small increase needed to restore the discretionary share of the maximum Pell Grant to \$4,310. The 2009 requested increase sets the Pell Grant program on a 5-year path to a \$5,400 maximum award as implemented by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRA).

The budget also would support almost \$75 billion in new guaranteed and direct student loans.

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) Program has also been proposed for elimination by the President. The program provides need-based grant aid to eligible undergraduate students to help reduce financial barriers to post-secondary education. According to the Department, "Federal funding allocations are awarded to qualifying post-secondary institutions under an outdated statutory formula, and individual SEOG awards are not optimally allocated based on a student's financial need."



The FY 2009 budget includes \$2.1 billion for Higher Education Programs. The request provides level funding of \$885.2 million (discretionary and mandatory funding) in order to maintain college preparation and college student support services in the Federal TRIO Programs, as well as \$303.4 million for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) and \$1.17 billion for Work Study.

To view the full Department of Education budget proposal for FY 2009, please visit:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2009/pdf/appendix/edu.pdf>

More Department of Education News

President Proposes While Congress Disposes

House Reauthorization Bill HR 4137:

The House and Senate will conference this bill in the months of February and March. We may call on you to contact your senator to support the House version of this bill which benefits the Perkins Program outlined below.

Relative to the Perkins Loan Program the bill includes the following:

- The Perkins Loan Program is reauthorized through 2014.
- The Department is only required to require the assignment of defaulted Perkins Loans in cases where schools failed to knowingly maintain records or decides to not to service the loans
- Requires the Department to return Perkins funds collected from voluntarily assigned loans to the institution that assigned them within 180 days, less collection costs.
- Increases annual loan limits to \$5,500 for undergraduates and \$8,000 for graduates, with commensurate increases in aggregate levels.
- Increases the maximum Federal Capital Contribution from \$250 million to \$350 million per year (this is subject to the funds actually being appropriated.)
- Increase the allowance for books and supplies to \$600.
- Removes the requirement that requests for forbearance be in writing.
- Changing the number of on-time payments needed for loan rehabilitation from 12 to 9.

Electronic Disbursements

The Department of Education (ED) has officially updated the Cash Management-Electronic Disbursements of Title IV Funds sections (668.164 and 668.165) of regulations pertaining to Federal Student Aid Programs as of November 1, 2007. Higher education Institutions have until July 1, 2008 to modify business procedures to comply with the new regulations.

The new rules specifically recognize "automation of refund delivery" as an important development. Accordingly, ED has clarified the regulations to address new disbursement options that are now available to the higher education market. For many reasons, the changes are positive and should offer beneficial options to institutions and students. For example:

- Institutions can now establish a policy requiring students to choose an electronic method for delivery.
- A new process will require a paper check to be mailed to students 21 days after the date of refund notification, if the student fails to select another option.
- A timing change will be in effect for stale check handling.
- An Institution must "ensure that its debit, stored value, ATM card or other device can be widely used, e.g., the institution may not limit the use of the card or device to particular vendors." This is important as this may affect the way some campuses use book voucher and other programs tied to an ID card and/or stored value accounts.

Our Sincerest Condolences

The MASFSA organization would like to extend our condolences to the family members that have passed away. It is with deep regret and sadness that we report some of our members have lost the ones they love.

Darrell Hague, father of our past president, **Mike Hague** (Eastern Michigan University), passed away January 27, 2008.

Mike has been a very instrumental member of our organization; please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Kidney Foundation. Online condolences may be made at www.ansberg-west.com or sent to the Student Business Services office of Eastern Michigan University at 203 Pierce Hall Ypsilanti, MI 48197.



Joe Lipsey, husband of **Daisy Lipsey**, past Conference Chair (Western Michigan University), passed away September 23, 2007. Daisy would like to extend the following message to all MASFSA members:

"Thank you for the lovely flowers, your thoughts, and prayers during my family's time of grief. It has meant so much to know that people care and that we had many, many shoulders to lean on when needed. We thank you one and all. God Bless."

2007/2008 Board Members

Officers

Interim President	Holly Furlo	Saginaw Valley State University
President Elect	Fiona Gray	Washtenaw Community College
Treasurer	Shelia Stewart	Wayne State University
Secretary	Rhonda Cobb	Henry Ford Community College
Past-President	Sheila Atherton	Western Michigan University

Representatives for Schools and Vendor

Four-year schools	Carolyn James	University of Michigan
Private schools	Jason Broge	Adrian College
Community Colleges	Jan Wilson	Schoolcraft College
Director, Assoc. Members	Audrey Atkins	NCO Financial Systems, Inc.

2007/2008 Committee Members

Conference Committee

Teesha Montague (Chairperson)	Washtenaw Community College
Jennifer Murlick	Saginaw Valley State University
Cindy Rublingh	Central Michigan University
Jim Fariss	Recovery Management Services, Inc.
Peggy Davis	Southwestern Michigan College
Mike Kahler	Windham Professionals
Victoria Pirrung	Enterprise Recovery Systems
Holly Furlo	Saginaw Valley State University

Membership Committee

Pat Gammalo (Chairperson)	Security Credit Systems, Inc
Larry Hauser (Co-Chair)	Immediate Credit Recovery
David Cox	Campus Partners
Tom Gilmore	Niagara National
Shelia Stewart	Wayne State University
Shelia Atherton	Western Michigan University
Lary Dishaw	Associate Financial Solutions
Margie Brinker	Reliant Capital
Jan Wilson	Schoolcraft College

Professional Development Committee

Karen Reddick (Chairperson)	National Credit Management
Dave Wilcox	Eastern Michigan University
Joyce Kammerelt	Conserve
Fiona Gray	Washtenaw Community College
Audrey Atkins	NCO Financial Systems, Inc.
Peggy Finnigan	Madonna University