

SHERWIN HIBBETS

I consider it an honor to have this opportunity to solicit your vote for the office that provides leadership of, and representation for VASFAA.

VASFAA has a record of strong leadership. I have been privileged to serve with several of VASFAA's effective leaders while filling the role as chair of various committees, such as Training, Loan Issues Advisory, Strategic Planning and Assessment (for two years), and Electronic Services. All of these opportunities have given me a broad view of VASFAA. Additionally, I have experience as a state association president (North Dakota) and other positions of leadership, including treasurer of the Rocky Mountain Regional Association and as commission director on the board of NASFAA. These responsibilities have helped prepare me to serve you.

VASFAA has several core values: education, students, access, integrity and professionalism. It is intended that, with your assistance, each area will be one in which progress is made while I serve in leadership for you. Training has been discussed extensively this year. It must remain a key element in VASFAA. Likewise, with state budget concerns and Reauthorization on the horizon, integrity and access for students must also be retained in our focus.

It is evident that an association such as VASFAA depends upon qualified leadership. However, leadership many times comes in the form of volunteers serving with excellence on the numerous committees that help achieve VASFAA's mission and vision. The load gets much easier when we all are involved. I ask for your participation in keeping VASFAA great as we work to serve those who are interested in post-secondary education.

I am ready to do all I can to be of assistance to you, while providing effective leadership for the association. I would be honored to receive your vote for VASFAA president-elect.



TOM MOREHOUSE

I am again honored and humbled to be asked to serve the membership of VASFAA. My sincere thanks to the Nominations Committee. I am greatly indebted to this organization for the professional growth it has offered me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my service to VASFAA and the profession, and would be honored to continue to serve you. It is you, the members, both individually and collectively, who have made involvement and service to VASFAA so enjoyable.

My first year in VASFAA, I served on the Conference Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee. I then was fortunate to serve a special one-year term as treasurer, followed by a regular term in office of treasurer. Last year, you elected me as a representative-at-large, and this year, Tim Freeman asked me to serve as a special appointee. My involvement in the activities of VASFAA provides a background to serve all the constituencies of our organization and our profession. I welcome the opportunity to continue to serve as your president-elect.

The association continues to have challenges strewn in its path of achieving its mission. We have the Commonwealth's budgetary dilemma, which may affect our public institutions and their ability to participate in VASFAA, as well as reauthorization just around the corner, and the myriad of other changes that are continual in our profession. Strong leadership and active participation from all sectors are vital to continuing the significant role VASFAA has played in the Commonwealth in serving our constituencies. I hope to be a part of the leadership, but regardless, I will be an active participant. Thanks for your support!



JOHN CROWLEY

It is a personal and professional honor to be a candidate for VASFAA's treasurer. I have enjoyed my membership in this association for the past 10 years. During the past 10 years, we have seen the profession of financial aid go through numerous changes in regulatory compliance. VASFAA has served as a reliable resource to work through these issues and has provided the necessary training for aid administrators to do their jobs.



I have enjoyed my work in VASFAA over the past decade. My involvement has included the planning of several conferences, coordinating the actions of our vendors and sponsors, and participating in financial aid awareness activities. It has been a professional pleasure to participate in these events, but more importantly, I have enjoyed getting to know my colleagues on a professional and personal level.

The strength of VASFAA has come from the tireless efforts of its members. In order to make our association a strong and reliable resource, I believe it is our responsibility, as individual members, to support VASFAA's activities and to take an active role in its leadership. If elected, I would proudly serve this membership as its treasurer. I am prepared to undertake all the responsibilities and activities this role requires. Additionally, it is in line with my goal to take a more active role in VASFAA's activities. I look forward to your support.

MELISSA ELLYSON

To be nominated for the position of treasurer of VASFAA is a great honor. I truly appreciate the confidence and encouragement so many of you have expressed in me. I have always enjoyed being a part of VASFAA and interacting with many of you on various committees. I find it refreshing that there are people so willing to devote their time and energy to this organization and to each other!



Recently, I was listening to the song "House at Pooh Corner" with my daughter. The last verse goes something like this, "You know, it's hard to explain how a few precious things seem to follow throughout all our lives." As I thought about what to say to you, the VASFAA membership, I realized how true this is. Whenever I have the chance to talk with long-time VASFAA members, I hear stories about prior times at various conferences and meetings, but I hear the same names over and over. I have been with VASFAA for many years and consider myself fortunate for the many mentors and friends I have met along the way. I have watched the agency grow, change and adapt to the many challenges facing us in our profession. I believe that VASFAA will continue to be a place where we can turn to a trusted and familiar colleague to guide and assist us through the changes ahead.

I assure you that if I'm elected to serve as your treasurer, I will do so with the highest level of integrity and the best interest of the membership at the basis of every decision. Thank you for this opportunity.

ANITA AYMER

This past year I have had the privilege of representing the VASFAA membership as a representative-at-large. Your expression of confidence allowed me the opportunity to serve you and share my insights with the board. I have enjoyed working with the board and would be most honored to continue my service to VASFAA.



These past six years, I have attended each Fall and Spring Conference, and enjoyed working with the Membership Committee for two years. This involvement enabled me to grow in my professionalism and become part of the “team.”

As an adviser to families at the high school level, I offer a view of financial aid from a different perspective. It is this perspective that I bring to the decision-making process.

Currently, I am the ACCESS coordinator for Tidewater Scholarship Foundation (TSF), which provides financial aid advisers to 12 high schools in the South Hampton Roads area. Last spring, through the money tree project, I was able to share my enthusiasm for our program with VASFAA and give a broader picture of TSF’s services in the community.

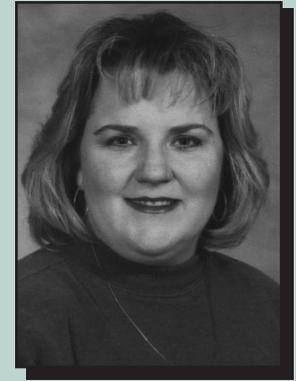
As representative-at-large this year, I feel I have come to understand the mechanics of VASFAA, and it would be a privilege to continue serving the membership. If chosen, I would bring my positive outlook and enthusiasm to all our VASFAA endeavors.

BRENDA BURKE

I am honored to be nominated for the position of representative-at-large for the 2002-03 year. I have been an active VASFAA member since 1989. During this time, I have served on the Membership Committee and the Conference Committee.

My financial aid experience has included working in the proprietary sector, the two-year public sector, and now the four-year public sector. This diverse background enables me to be open to new ideas and possibilities for the entire financial aid community. Through VASFAA, I have met people who I now call my friends, and I would have not otherwise had the pleasure to meet and share ideas with. I believe in VASFAA and the goals and mission of the organization.

I can promise that, if elected, I will promote VASFAA’s objective to increase professional development of its members, and to assist in the promotion and development of student financial aid programs. I would appreciate the opportunity to represent my colleagues, assist in the growth of our organization, and offer my experiences to the position of representative-at-large.



JEANNE HOLMES

Twenty-one years of Virginia financial aid experience has afforded me the pleasure of working with our professional association in multiple capacities over the years. Having served as VASFAA's treasurer, served on multiple committees (both in chairing and as a member), presenting on various topics at our annual conferences, and currently serving as co-chair of the 2001-02 Training Committee, I continue to appreciate and value my affiliation with VASFAA.



As we continue to grow in our professional association, I believe that part of VASFAA's mission is to serve as a conduit for the sharing of information between our financial aid professionals in the state. Because of this, I strongly believe in the mentoring, both formal and informal, that takes place among the membership to foster professional growth of the total membership. I also believe that active, rather than passive, membership participation is a critical component to the success of VASFAA.

If elected to serve, I hope to be a catalyst who encourages TOTAL membership participation, to work with the board in all matters affecting the financial aid community, and to be a representative of the board to serve all sectors of VASFAA ... our professional association.

YVONNE HUBBARD

I walked into our offices the other day and heard someone say, for approximately the tenth time in as many days, "we'll manage." As employees of higher education institutes, our future may seem cloudy. Resources are short; the amount of work to be done continues to grow (as does student expectations); and we often feel that we must reinvent every wheel to cope with our own particular situation.



But, "we'll manage" is an interesting expression, and one that you can take a couple of ways. Either, each of us will individually figure out how to cope with all the changes, budget woes and student discontent, or alternatively, we will collectively support each other, and together, we'll figure out ways to get each other through the hard times.

I have always enjoyed VASFAA, and I believe it plays an important part in our professional lives. We have an opportunity with VASFAA to provide support to all our colleagues during the coming years, to serve as the collective voice for professional advice and guidance, and to be a clearinghouse for the open exchange of ideas and the discussion of common problems with the goal of finding solutions. I hope that after we weather the difficulties of the next couple of years, we look back and find that VASFAA played an integral part in our professional survival.

VIRGINIA STEVENS

First, I would like to thank my colleagues who have graciously asked me to run for the one-year position as representative-at-large for VASFAA. It is a true compliment to be nominated. It shows me that I am accepted and respected by those I admire the most — my peers in financial aid.



Financial aid is an ever-changing, challenging profession. The support of our peers to help each one of us in our tasks is crucial. Fortunately, we have that support through VASFAA. I am continually impressed by how the VASFAA membership and financial aid community collectively work together to ensure that the financial aid process is as “user friendly” as possible for everyone.

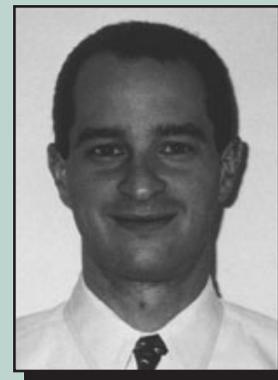
I believe my work experience in financial aid and participation in VASFAA will be an asset to the organization. I have worked in the financial aid office at Southwest Virginia Community College (SVCC) for more than 10 years, the last eight of which have been in the role of administrative program and support specialist. I am very much on the front lines in dealing with the students and am acutely aware of any problems associated with the financial aid process.

As a member of the Classified Staff Association at SVCC, and even serving as its president in 1998-1999, I can offer a unique perspective to VASFAA. SVCC has one of the largest pell programs in the community college system. Community colleges constitute an important segment in our organization and need dedicated representatives.

Furthermore, I have been a very active member in VASFAA itself. For three years (1998-2001), I served on the Membership Committee. I also served as membership junior chair for one year and as membership co-chair for two years. Currently, I serve on the Nominations Committee. With this experience, I feel that the position of representative-at-large is a logical progression of responsibility — one that I am prepared and eager to handle. I would appreciate your support in this election. Thank you.

BRAD BARNETT

As a current representative-at-large for VASFAA, I can honestly say that this experience has created an even deeper desire inside of me to stay involved in our association. This is why I am honored to have been nominated to continue serving our association in this fashion.



From the moment I began working in financial aid, I found something very satisfying about the profession. I tried to get away from it by pursuing another career, but I just couldn't shake that “feeling” you get from being in the financial aid field. So, I finally gave in and came back to the fold a few years ago ... I couldn't be happier.

I have served VASFAA in several capacities, but the VASFAA services I have enjoyed the most were coordinating the New Aid Officer's One-Day Workshop for the 2000 and 2001 Fall Conferences and being a representative-at-large. I have also had the opportunity to serve as a session presenter and/or committee volunteer for SASFAA, NASFAA and AASFAA, as well as a SASFAA New Aid Officer's Summer Workshop faculty member.

This past year has taught me a lot about VASFAA, and I believe the membership survey conducted by the board is another step toward improving what we can all do for each other and our students. I am impressed by how the VASFAA membership and financial aid community collectively work together to make the financial aid process more “user friendly” for everyone. Continuing to serve VASFAA in this capacity would be an honor.

JOLENE BURKE

I am excited and honored to be running for the position of representative-at-large for VASFAA. VASFAA is a necessary and important part of the support network of the financial aid community. This network of professionals gave me the confidence necessary to serve the students at The College of William and Mary



in the best manner possible. However, it was not until I became involved in committee work that I realized how truly valuable was my membership. Being an active member allows us to assist each other in continuing to have a first-rate association. VASFAA has given me many opportunities for professional development as an aid officer and lender, and the personal enrichment that comes from making friends out of colleagues.

There are several reasons why I have accepted this nomination. I admit to a feeling of indebtedness to return service to an association that has served me well; I also am eager for new challenges. It has been my privilege to serve VASFAA as either a chair or member of the following committees: Program, Strategic Planning, Nominations, Diversity and SASFAA Local Arrangements.

I would like to thank the Nominations Committee for their consideration, and if elected, I pledge my support and the commitment necessary to serve VASFAA to the best of my ability.

MICHAEL POMA

I would like to begin by thanking the VASFAA Nominations Committee for my nomination for representative-at-large. I am proud to be a member of VASFAA and feel the support from colleagues is one to value.

Before writing this, I thought about explaining why you should vote for me. Well, I am sure most candidates are going to ask for your vote. So, I will explain why I would like to be one of the leaders in the association and how listening and obtaining your feedback can help us get to the next level.

I am involved for many reasons. First, I enjoy learning from others. Second, the friendships I have made while serving on committees help me today as issues arise. Lastly, obtaining feedback has provided me some new ideas and assisted others in looking at what they do.

Looking back, I was told the best way to get to know people was to get involved. So, upon being hired at James Madison University, I contacted one of the committee chairs and became a member of the Secondary School Relations Committee. Well, the advice was correct and has paid off. Since then, I have served on the Awareness Committee for two years and the Training Committee for two years, and served as co-chair of the Training Committee this year. The contacts I have made and the friends I have made attending the conference enjoyable and provide a quality learning experience for me.

The involvement has allowed me to provide feedback to the appropriate individuals, and to work side by side with current and past leaders in the association. I feel I can help you understand what the association is about and ways to help **MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**



PHILIP ROOF

My name is Phil Roof, and I represent student loans for CHASE. I have been involved in financial aid since I started as a work study student in 1984. From a work study experience to a professional career in financial aid, I've had a chance to experience nearly every facet of the financial aid office. I can't imagine a more rewarding time working than I have had in financial aid.



During all of these years, I have always been active with my state association, NCASF AA. State associations provide the critical support, training and networking necessary to keep financial aid the vibrant close knit community that it is today. That is why I am honored to be considered a candidate for representative-at-large of VASF AA. If elected, I would work diligently with the other members of the board to insure that VASF AA remains a strong and active state association.

State association experience:

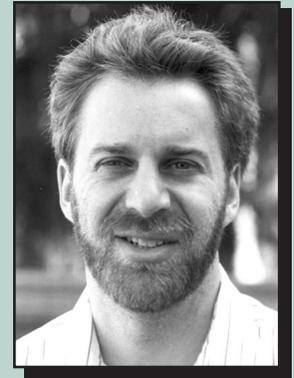
- New aid training
- Intermediate aid training
- Program chair
- Membership
- Bylaws

Financial aid experience:

- Berea College, work study student, 1984-88
- Lees-McRae College, assistant director, 1988-91
- Duke University, assistant director, 1991-96
- Meredith College, director, 1996-2000
- CHASE Student Loans, 2000-present

JEFF SCOFIELD

I would like to thank VASF AA for the opportunity to run for a representative-at-large position for the coming year. It is an honor to be included on the ballot with such a distinguished group of candidates. As a relatively new member of VASF AA, I look forward to this opportunity to serve the VASF AA membership.



Before moving to Virginia, I served on the TASFAA (Texas) Board of Directors, Conference, New Aid Officers Workshop and Legislative Issues committees. Also, I am currently a member of the NASFAA Graduate and Professional Issues Committee.

VASF AA and its members provide an outstanding service to the higher education community and the students of Virginia. It is a pleasure to be a part of this organization.

Thank you for your consideration.