

In-Line With LASFAA

Spring 2011 Edition
March 2011

Letter From the President

I want to start by saying THANK YOU for electing me as your President. Accepting and serving in the position as President of LASFAA for the year 2011 is such an honor, privilege and pleasure, and I do not take this opportunity lightly. My goal is to uphold the foundation and motto on which LASFAA stands...Integrity, Professionalism and Service. I will strive to give more than 100%, to do my best and do it with excellence, as with any task I am assigned.

I want to encourage those of you who are not currently involved in LASFAA to get involved. We need LASFAA and LASFAA needs us. This association is a body – and just as a physical body requires a working heart to survive, so does this association. We are the heartbeat of LASFAA, and we must keep it viable, alive and well. Volunteers are needed and welcomed!

I also want to extend my thanks to the 2011 Board members, who have volunteered to serve LASFAA – working to help me make necessary accomplishments throughout this year. The Board and I have set many goals, and have already started implementing some... Just to name a few:

1. Providing essential training to our members
2. Keeping our members updated on Federal Regulations
3. Finding effective cost reductions during these economic times, which will allow our members the opportunity to attend the spring conference
4. Making Financial Aid Awareness a creative concept to promote to our staff and students
5. Developing innovative ways to reach our students



I must say, we are already off to a great start.

Presently, details are being finalized for the Spring 2011 conference and Boot Camp. In an effort to make the Spring Conference affordable for our members, we have opted to host our Annual Spring Conference and Boot Camp at the University of Louisiana in Monroe (ULM). The theme is “**On a Solid Foundation: A Path to a Brighter Future**”. The conference will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2011, and Boot Camp will be a full day of training on Wednesday, March 23, 2011. Please plan to attend!

Additional training for our members: LASFAA will host the U.S. Department of Education training on Regulatory Updates, April 27-28 at the University of Louisiana Lafayette.

Please watch for more upcoming events and updates.

Once again, thank you for your support and dedication. I look forward to a GREAT year!

Sincerely,

Denise B. Spellman

LASFAA 2011 President

Associate Director of Student financial Aid
University of New Orleans

Federal Perkins Loan Program: An IFAP Update

The following Dear Colleague Letter was published February 17, 2011 and provides information about the duration of the authorization for the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

Dear Colleague:

We have received inquiries about the status of the Federal Perkins (Perkins) Loan Program, in light of the several dates in sections 461(b) and 466(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). This letter provides the Department of Education's determination that, under section 461(b), the Perkins Loan Program is authorized through September 30, 2014. If Congress does not enact legislation extending or repealing the authorization of the program before that date, the program would be eligible for a one-year extension, through September 30, 2015, under section 422(a) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA).

The Department of Education considers section 461(b) of the HEA, which authorizes appropriations for the Perkins Loan Program for fiscal year 2009 and for each of the five succeeding fiscal years, to control the duration of the program. Under section 461(b), Congress may appropriate funds for the Perkins Loan Program through fiscal year 2014. The Department believes that this authority controls the duration of the program, despite the outdated language in section 466(b) of the HEA, which provides that institutions participating in the Perkins Loan Program return to the Secretary, after October 1, 2012, the Federal share of amounts that they have collected on Perkins Loans made from their revolving funds.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Gail McLarnon by phone at (202) 219-7048, or by e-mail at gail.mclarnon@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Eduardo M. Ochoa
Assistant Secretary for
Postsecondary Education



ALSO AVAILABLE ON IFAP:

Participant materials are now available for Regulatory Update 2011 Training Workshops.

To download and print the participant materials, visit the following site and select the materials for the Regulatory Update 2011 training:

<http://www.ed.gov/FSA/trining/downloads.html>



START HERE
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FEDERAL STUDENT AID®

SEE YOU AT THE CONFERENCE!

LASFAA's Spring 2011 Conference is being held Thursday, March 24, at University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Campus, in the Student Union Building. Please try to attend this informative conference, which will include Federal Updates from the U.S. Department of Education.

This conference's theme is "**On a Solid Foundation: A Path to a Brighter Future**".

As a result of having the conference at ULM, we were able to provide a discount on the registration fee for our members to attend the conference. There are many colleges and universities experiencing a budget shortfall/cuts: therefore, with the reduced conference registration rate, there will be many members who will now be able to attend.

BOOT CAMP:

Boot camp will be held Wednesday, March 23. The theme for Spring Boot Camp is "**Setting the Pathway for Success**". Boot camp will be a full day training session which will cover: Student Eligibility, Federal Methodology, Verification, Cost of Attendance, Default Management, and Professional Judgment. Registration/check-in begins at 8 am.

ELITE TRAINING

LASFAA President Denise Spellman conducted our Annual Essential Leaders in Training Emerging (ELITE) Institute on Thursday, December 9, 2010 at ULL. The theme was "Leadership: On a Path to Reach Higher Heights". This training is designed for the LASFAA Board Members (Executive Board, Delegates and Committee Chairs). The training included Policies and Procedures, Team Building, Goals and Planning for the Year 2011, and included a guest presenter, Ms. Zena Dickerson, who did an awesome job on presenting "Developing the Leader in You!".

FSA TRAINING BEING OFFERED

The U.S. Department of Education will be providing training on the upcoming Winter Regulatory Update information. Information on the 2011-2012 application processing system, required consumer information disclosures, and certain Pell Grant and Direct Loan issues will also be discussed.

The Louisiana training will be **April 27-28** at University of Louisiana-Lafayette but you must register at the FSA website prior to attending. Please feel free to view the locations where the training will be offered in other states and different dates.

Continued on next page...

FSA TRAINING CONT.

Some Frequently Asked Questions regarding FSA training (provided by IFAP Dear Colleague Letter published January 28, 2011):

Q: Who should attend the training workshops?

A: This training is specifically designed for financial aid administrators who work with the Title IV federal student aid programs. Staff from the institution's business office may also find value in this training.

Q: Is there a cost to attend the training workshop?

A: No, there is no cost to attend the training workshop. Participants are, however, responsible for their own travel costs, including accommodations and meals.

Q: How does an individual register for the training workshop?

A: Due to limited capacity, registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that it is important to register for these workshops, rather than traveling to a workshop site and taking a chance that space will be available on a last-minute basis for unregistered persons. A workshop may be full, in which case there would not be room for non-registered persons. When a workshop is held in a federal regional office, security procedures will prevent non-registered persons from entering the facility.

Once registered, you will receive an e-mail confirmation. be sure to retain this as it contains important workshop information, including how to cancel your registration if you will be unable to attend. *If you will be unable to attend, please take the time to cancel your registration so that individuals who wish to attend will be able to register.* We expect a high demand for this training and want to accommodate as many as possible at each site.

To register for the training workshop, please copy and paste the following link into your browser:
<http://www.fsaregistration.ed.gov/profile/web/index.cfm?PKwebID=0x11458a8b8&varPage=info>

Q: What does a trainee need to bring to the training workshop?

A: Prior to the training, each participant will need to print the training materials. In an effort to reduce waste as well as to provide the most current information in our training, we will not have printed materials available the day of training- participants must bring their own copies to the session.



LASFAA would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter holiday.

Miss Black Louisiana

LASFEE's Tiffany Magee is the state director of Miss Black Louisiana USA.



The Miss Black Louisiana, USA organization is one of the state's leading and foremost successful scholarship programs providing assistance to young women of color. The goal of Miss Black Louisiana, USA is to promote educational, financial, and leadership status state wide and on a national level within the African-American community. The organization promotes a pageant that allows women of color the opportunity to display their beauty, talents, and accomplishments.

Miss Black Louisiana, USA is an advocate of scholastic achievement and we truly believe that education is the primary key to success. We help identify scholarships and funding opportunities to help women of color to pursue their higher educational goals, while maintaining a healthy financial status through financial literacy. The pageant also offers scholarships to its winners.

Please feel free to pass along this information to any students who you feel would make good candidates for Miss Black Louisiana. The application deadline for Miss Black Louisiana 2011 is **June 30, 2011**. Qualifications include:

- A resident of the state of Louisiana during year of pageant
- Between the ages of 18 and 27
- Single and never been married
- Have a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher at the time of application

For more information, please feel free to visit the website and application at:

<http://www.missblacklouisianausa.org/>

Your 2011 LASFEE Executive Board Members are:

President: Denise Spellman, University of New Orleans

1st Vice President: Dawn Eubanks, Northwestern State University

2nd Vice President: Misti Adams, Northwestern State University

Immediate Past President: Patrick Gorman, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans

Treasurer: Lynette Viskozki, Centenary College of Louisiana

Executive Secretary: Stephanie Battaglia, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans

LAICU: Delegate-at-Large: Theodis Wright, Our Lady of Holy Cross College

LCTCS: Delegate-at-Large: Alvina Thomas, Louisiana Delta Community College

LSU: Delegate-at-Large: Paul Monteleone, Louisiana State University- Alexandria

ULS: Delegate-at-Large: Cindy Perez, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Grad/Prof: Delegate-at-Large: DeAnna M Cooper, Louisiana State University Health Sciences

Proprietary: Delegate-at-Large: Rhonda Mayers, Career Technical College, Shreveport

Southern: Delegate-at-Large: Raymond Clarke, Southern University, Baton Rouge



Financial Aid Awareness 2011

FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY

The month of February is designated as Financial Aid Awareness month, where Financial Aid Administrators encourage students to “Apply Early” and explore college financing options.

This year, LASFAA is going to reward you for encouraging students to apply for assistance. Once you have planned and executed your Financial Aid Awareness event for the month of February 2011, please send your Financial Aid Awareness plan/flyer and your Kodak moments from your Financial Aid Awareness Event to Financial.Aid@ololcollege.edu for your chance to win an office party.

All submissions must be received by 5 PM on Friday, April 15, 2011.

We know that there is a growing need to provide financial aid literacy. A post-secondary education plays an essential role in cultivating productive citizens for a better tomorrow~



LASFAA In Pictures

Here are some memories from LASFAA's Fall Conference held in
Lafayette!





BOSTON 2011

**NASFAA NATIONAL
CONFERENCE**
★ JULY 17-20, 2011★

UNITING FOR FINANCIAL AID'S FUTURE



**Thank you to the Publications Committee and
all LASFAA members who contributed to this
edition of In-Line with LASFAA.**

**Have something you'd like to see published? Please e-mail all
articles and photo submissions to JESSICA CIUFI at
jciufi@selu.edu and be included in the next edition of In-Line
with LASFAA!**