

# THE NCASFAA BEACON

Elections Edition

## Positions on the Ballot:

- **President-Elect**
- **Vice President**
- **Nominations Committee Representative—Two Year Public**
- **Nominations Committee Representative—Proprietary**

## Message from the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee



Cathy Shell, Immediate Past President and Chair of Nominations and Elections Committee

NCASFAA was founded in 1966 on the following purpose statements and is going strong 50 years later due to the willingness of our members to volunteer their time to serve our great association:

1. *To develop and strengthen the professional competency of student financial aid administrators employed by North Carolina postsecondary institutions, agencies, and private and community organizations.*
2. *To promote the strengthening and enhancing of programs of student financial aid so the end that no qualified person desirous of a postsecondary education shall be denied that opportunity due to a lack of financial resources.*
3. *To facilitate communication among educational institutions, agencies, and sponsors of student assistance funds, through the exchange of ideas, information, and the performance of such studies as may be appropriate.*

The 2015-16 Nominations and Elections Committee is pleased to present a qualified slate of candidates for the upcoming election and expresses our thanks to each person who has stepped up to serve NCASFAA. More details on electronic voting will be provided soon and I encourage all of you to exercise your right and responsibility to vote.

I would like to extend my thanks to the 2015-16 Nominations and Elections Committee members:

Bonnie Adamson, Methodist University  
Bruce Blackmon, UNC Charlotte  
Kirstie Bryant, ITT Technical Institute  
Brenda Long, Carteret Community College  
Laura Misner, College Foundation, Inc.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the spring conference,

*Cathy Shell*

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## President-Elect — Jason Johnson



Jason Johnson

I am truly honored to be nominated to serve as the President-Elect of NCASF AA.

To serve my fellow financial aid administrators is a job that I am ready to pursue on multiple levels now and in the future.

I wore many different hats in the private sector before I found my calling. The one common theme in all of my previous jobs outside of higher education was customer service. That one skill is what opened the door for me in this amazing field.

I began my pursuit of a career in financial aid at UNCG on July 5th of 2004. By the time I attended my first NCASF AA conference in Durham that year I had found my career. It was at UNCG that I built my foundation of knowledge in regards to financial aid. In doing this I cemented myself into this career learning all I could about financial aid. I needed more though. I found it at Guilford Technical Community College where I became the Assistant Director of Financial Aid Operations in January of 2010. I have now been at GTCC for five years and in the profession for twelve. It was my honor last year to accept the position of Interim Director of Financial Aid at GTCC. With this additional responsibility I have gained valuable knowledge of the other facets of higher education administration.

It has been an honor to serve as the Vice President of NCASF AA for the past year. In so doing I initiated a single day support staff training to educate those staff members who are unable to attend conferences and other training opportunities. It was well received and attended at all three locations across the state and I hope this is something we can continue doing each year.

I believe we are all put on this earth for a purpose and my purpose is to help people achieve their goals and dreams. Together we can accomplish anything and I look forward to many more years of serving you, NCASF AA and the current and prospective students of North Carolina.

### **Education:**

Bachelor of Science, Communication/Advertising, Appalachian State University

### **Experience:**

Financial Aid Counselor, UNCG 2004-2010

Assistant Director Financial Aid Operations, GTCC 2010-2016

Interim Director of Financial Aid, GTCC Nov 2014-July 2015

### **Professional Involvement:**

Financial Aid information sessions at area high schools, college transfer events and other public forums.

Member of NASFAA and SASFAA

Presenter for NCSEAA New Aid Officers Training

SASFAA Management Institute

GTCC President's Leadership Seminar

### **NCASF AA:**

Two Year Public Sector Representative on Nominations and Elections Committee

Presenter Spring 2015 NCASF AA conference

Session Moderator at several conferences

NCASF AA Support Staff Trainer

## Vice President — Kali Brown



Kali Brown

Thank you, Nominations & Elections Committee, for the nomination of Vice President. It will truly be an honor to serve NCASFAA, its membership, and fellow financial aid administrators.

My first part-time job at Arkansas State University was an assistant to the Scholarship Office. (Who knew where that part-time job would lead me?!) In 2004, I began my full-time career in financial aid at Pulaski Technical College as a Financial Aid Advisor and Work-Study Coordinator. Following my time at Pulaski Tech, I worked at both Arkansas State University and Arkansas State University – Newport. In 2011, my husband and I relocated to North Carolina where I began working at Vance-Granville Community College (VGCC). I am beyond thankful for my VGCC family and the friends I have made through NCASFAA.

We have a special privilege to serve the students and families who walk through our doors. If elected, I look forward to continuing the work of NCASFAA and impacting the lives of North Carolina college students.

### **Education:**

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, Arkansas State University

### **Experience:**

Financial Aid Advisor/Work-Study Coordinator, Pulaski Technical College May 2004 – July 2007  
Financial Aid Counselor, Arkansas State University, July 2007 – August 2008  
Student Services Specialist, Arkansas State University – Newport, August 2008 - November 2010  
Financial Aid Assistant, VGCC, January 2011 – October 2012  
Assistant Director of Financial Aid, VGCC, October 2012 – January 2013  
Director of Financial Aid, VGCC, January 2013 – present

### **NCASFAA/Misc. North Carolina:**

NCASFAA Membership Chair, 2015 - 2016  
NCASFAA Middle School Enrichment Scholarship Committee, 2013 – 2016  
NCASFAA Fall 2014 Conference Presenter  
NCSEAA New Aid Officers Training Presenter, Fall 2014  
NC Community College System (NCCCS) Financial Aid Review Team  
NCCCS FA Administrators Training Presenter, June 2015  
NCCCS Financial Aid Task Force and Training Presenter, Fall 2015

## Vice President — Jamie Pendergrass



Jamie Pendergrass

Thank you to the Nominations and Elections Committee and members of NCASFAA for the nomination to serve as Vice President for 2016-17. I am very humbled and honored by this nomination.

As some may know, I was the first person in my family to attend college. If it was not for the help and kindness of my financial aid counselor, Rosanna Thompson, and NC State's Director of Financial Aid, Julie Mallette, I may never have come to college or finished my degree. Their support and willingness to go the extra mile helped me choose a path of service.

I graduated in August 2004 and began working in October 2004 in the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at NC State University. I consider my job as one of utmost importance in serving students and their families with hopes of securing a higher education and the means to pay for it.

This great organization is filled with committed, hardworking individuals who strive to do the best for their students and the financial aid profession. NCASFAA has been a great resource to me, not only through the information I've learned at conferences, but the friendships and networking with such an amazing group of professionals. I'd be honored to serve as your Vice President.

### **Education:**

January 2007 – December 2009: NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
Earned a Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies

August 2000 – August 2004: NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
Earned a Bachelor's of Science in Political Science

### **Work Experience:**

Senior Assistant Director, NC State University, September 2015 – Present  
Assistant Director, NC State University, June 2011 – September 2015  
Technology Support Technician, NC State Education Assistance Authority, August 2007 – June 2011  
Administrative Support Specialist, NC State University, August 2005 – August 2007  
Office Assistant, NC State University, October 2004 – August 2005

### **Association Experience:**

NCASFAA, 2011 – Present  
Publicity and Publications Chair; 2014-15, 2015-16  
Technology Chair; 2015-16  
Recipient of the New Member Award; April 2014  
Served on previous conference committees, moderator for numerous conference sessions, and as a panelist for a conference session

SASFAA, 2011 – Present  
Attended Leadership Symposium, 2014  
Conference Committee, North Carolina Representative; 2015-16

## Nominations Committee Sector Representative — Two Year Public Pam Ellis & Ann Peacock



Pam Ellis



Ann Peacock

### **Pam Ellis**

It is a pleasure and honor to accept the nomination for the office of Nominations and Elections Committee Representative for the two year public institutions. I have been in Financial Aid serving our students for 14 years and am currently the Director of Financial Aid at Isothermal Community College. What we do to help others is so important and I appreciate each person in this great organization. I would be honored to serve NCASFAA as the two year public sector representative on the Nominations and Elections Committee and appreciate your support.

### **Ann Peacock**

I am truly honored to be nominated to the Nominations and Elections Committee as a 2-Year Public representative! My financial aid experience began just like many others as a work study student (in the VA/Financial Aid Office) back in 1988. Thanks to two wonderful supervisors, they encouraged me to learn as much as possible when they saw my interest and abilities. My official career or full-time employment started in 1992 and quickly became a member in NCASFAA in 1993. NCASFAA has been and is a profound part of my life and has helped me in my professional endeavors. I have met a lot of wonderful people over these years through NCASFAA who have become great friends. I encourage you to do the same. I look forward to another great year in NCASFAA and participating in this capacity to the best of my ability.

### **Education:**

Master of Science in College Student Affairs, 2007 - →NOVA Southeastern University  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Business Management, 1997 – University of →Mount Olive  
Associate in Applied Science in Accounting, 1990 - Wayne Community College

### **Experience:**

Associate Dean of Financial Aid – Wake Technical Community College, February 2016 – Present  
Director of Financial Aid – Central Carolina Community College, May 2012 – January 2016  
Director of Financial Aid – Roanoke-Chowan Community College, March 2011 – May 2012  
Director of the Career Center/Adjunct/Academic Advisor – University of Mount Olive, August 2006 – March 2011  
Assistant Financial Aid Director – Appalachian State University, 2001 - 2006  
Assistant Financial Aid Director – Wayne Community College, January 1992 - 2001

### **Professional Memberships:**

Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, 2011 – Present  
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, 1992 – 2007, 2011 – Present  
North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, 1993 – Present

- Conference Committee-2015-2016 and 2014-2015
- Charity Committee-2015-2016, 2014-2015 and 2013-2014
- Moderator-2014-2015, 2013-2014, 2012-2013 and 2011 - 2012

## Nominations Committee Sector Representative — Proprietary Debby DiLalla & Irwin Silver



Debby DiLalla



Irwin Silver

### **Debby DiLalla**

It is a pleasure to accept the nomination for the office of Nominations and Elections Committee Representative for the proprietary sector. I am the Financial Services Senior Officer at Miller-Motte College in Cary, NC. I have been in the financial aid profession since 2010 and look forward to being actively involved in NCASFAA. I appreciate your support.

### **Irwin Silver**

I would like to thank the Nominations and Elections Committee for the nomination to serve as Nominations & Elections Proprietary sector representative. I have over 12 years of experience in Financial Aid, specifically in the Proprietary Sector, and have been a member of NCASFAA since 2007. The assistance I have received from the NCASFAA community has proven to be invaluable. I look forward to sharing my knowledge and experience with the membership community.

### **Experience:**

Campus Director of Financial Assistance, ECPI University, 2009 to Present  
Financial Aid Advisor, DeVry University, 2003-2007

### **Education:**

Masters of Business Administration, Banking and Finance  
Dowling College, Oakdale, NY, 1998

Bachelor of Science, Biology & Psychology  
SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY, 1995



## More Information Coming Soon!

Polls will be opening soon and the candidate information will also be updated on the website. Be sure to stay tuned to the listserv as the information about voting procedures and polls opening will be sent to you by Cathy Shell, Immediate Past President and Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. If you have any questions, you can reach Cathy at [Shell@LMC.edu](mailto:Shell@LMC.edu). Don't forget to vote once the polls open!

### Have an Idea for an Article?

Contact the Publicity and Publications Chair

Jamie Pendergrass  
[jamie\\_pendergrass@ncsu.edu](mailto:jamie_pendergrass@ncsu.edu)



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