

Charter: Graduate & Professional Issues Caucus

June 2014

Timeline & Commitment

Start date: June 2014
End date: January 2015

We expect one in-person meeting for the entire caucus at the NASFAA conference and one additional in-person meeting in the fall for the steering group. Conference calls and emails will round out the extent of the work.

Composition

- Chair, Mary Fenton, Director, Student Financial Aid Services for Health Sciences, The University of New Mexico
- Members:
 - Linda Bisesi, Assistant Dean/Director, Financial Aid, University of California Hastings College of the Law
 - Bob Coughlin, Director of Financial Aid, Harvard Medical School
 - Deidra Cummings, Financial Aid Counselor, Lipscomb University
 - Jamie Esquibel, Financial Services Associate Director, University of the Rockies
 - John Garcia, Director, Michigan State University College of Law
 - Emily Osborn, Director, Northwestern University Chicago Campus
 - Joseph Sanchez, Director of Financial Aid, University of North Texas Health Science Center
 - Meredith Schor, Director of Financial Aid, The George Washington University Law School
 - Phyllis Schulz, Director, Financial Aid, New York University School of Medicine
- An additional 10-12 members from graduate and professional schools who will serve in an advisory capacity
- NASFAA Board Member and Commission Director, Margaret Rodriguez, Senior Associate Director, Office of Financial Aid, University of Michigan
- NASFAA Staff Liaisons: Karen McCarthy and David Futrell

Background & Purpose

For many years NASFAA has convened a committee to specifically focus on graduate and professional issues. This group has been very active and supported and led several NASFAA policy initiatives, particularly on loans. While many of these issues are acute to graduate and professional schools, they are not necessarily unique to graduate/professional institutions. NASFAA leadership hopes to better understand the unique needs of graduate and professional schools and understand how it can best meet those needs.

Task Force Members' Duties & Responsibilities

- Attend all committee meetings and participate in the deliberations. Notify the committee Chair and the staff liaison if circumstances prevent attendance at a particular meeting.
- Adhere to deadlines for submission of committee assignments;
- Review all agenda items and background documents prior to each meeting and come prepared for the discussions;
- Serve as recording secretary for a committee meeting if requested by the task force chair;
- Utilize the most economical means of transportation when attending a meeting and promptly file a travel reimbursement request;
- Submit multiple conference sessions for NASFAA's National Conference

Indicators of Success & Outcomes

Produce a report to the NASFAA Board of Directors by the spring meeting that identifies the unique needs (training and policy) of graduate and professional schools and provide recommendations on how NASFAA can best support these institutions moving forward.

Budget

Planned expenditures are roughly \$10,000