

Agenda

Day 1		Presenter	Room
8:00-ongoing	Registration		Lower Lobby
8:00-9:00	Breakfast		Oscar III
9:00-9:15	Welcome	Melaney Wald	Oscar III
9:15-10:30	Keynote: The Science of Happiness	Andrew Rosenfeld	Oscar III
10:30-10:45	Break	snacks sponsored by College Ave	Prefunction Northstar
10:45-12:00	Breakout Sessions		
	The Roots of Rural Reality in Vermont	Marti Kingsley & Martha McCaughin	Northstar 1
	How to Advance in Financial Aid	Kristi Jovell	Northstar 2
12:00-1:15	Lunch		Oscar III
1:30-2:45	Breakout Sessions		
	Did the Graduates Graduate? Lessons and Reflections from a 4-Year Follow Up on Vermont's High School Class of 2012	Robert Walsh & Wanda Arce	Northstar 1
	Innovation & Retention Panel	Kristi Jovell & Cathy Diamond	Northstar 2
2:45-3:00	Break		Prefunction Northstar
3:00-4:15	General Session - VASFAA Mission and Meeting		Oscar II
4:15-6:00	Free Time		
6:00-7:00	Cocktail Hour		Pool Area (if rain, Oscar III)
7:00-	50 th Anniversary Gala	Sponsored by VSAC	Oscar III

Day 2			
8:00-ongoing	Registration		Lower Lobby
8:30-ongoing	Breakfast/Welcome		Oscar III
9:00-10:30	General Session: State Update/Federal Update	State Rep TBD & Stephen Payne	Oscar III
10:30-10:45	Break		Prefunction Northstar
10:45-12:00	Breakout Sessions		
	2018 Tax Changes	Matt Desorgher	Northstar 1
	How to Make Student Communications Stick	Mark McGinnis	Northstar 2
12:00-1:15	Lunch and EASFAA Update		Oscar III
1:30-2:45	Breakout Sessions		
	Advance Vermont: Working Together to Increase Postsecondary Attainment	Tom Cheney	Northstar 1
	Developing Innovation in Staff or Getting Your Ideas Heard	Marie Johnson	Northstar 2

Session Descriptions

Session	Description
Keynote: Science of Happiness	<i>Andrew Rosenfeld is a family psychiatrist at the Vermont Center for Children, Youth & Families at the University of Vermont Medical Center. He practices the Vermont Family Based Approach, promoting wellness in all families and offering evidence-based therapies and medication interventions where indicated. He teaches and supervises all levels of medical trainees and professionals and is the instructor for an undergraduate course on The Science of Happiness. The keynote session will describe the history of positive psychology and its holistic outlook on human well-being. Ancient wisdom will segue into modern psychology and the neuroscience underlying practical strategies that may help you to build well-being and resilience into your day-to-day life and your vocational mission.</i>
The Roots of Rural Reality in Vermont	<i>This workshop will focus on the rural influences in Vermont. The unique landscape of Vermont brings with it unique challenges for our residents. This workshop will unpack the demographic data of Vermont, the three types of rurality, and the respective impact on post-secondary education and training for individuals. Information will be provided in charts, participants will process information in small groups (3 minute time slots) and then return their focus to the large group to share (at will) their thoughts/concerns/ideas (in the spirit of continuing the conversation, not reporting out). The charts will present rural population data; educational attainment data; unemployment/income data and social problem data. The purpose of this workshop is to uncover access ideas and best practices at a time when many rural residents are gripped by a struggling local economy and lack of necessary credentials to access a livable wage.</i>
How to Advance in Financial Aid	<i>Do you have a plan for your growth in the financial aid profession? Do you know what it takes to make it to the next level? Develop your strategy for improving upon what you know, who you know, and how to act.</i>
Did the Graduates Graduate? Lessons and Reflections from 4-year Follow up on Vermont's High School Class of 2012	<i>In 2014, VSAC issued a report on the aspirations of the Vermont High School Class of 2012. The following year, 2015, VSAC issued a report on the post-secondary enrollment of the Class of 2012. This third report looks at the Class of 2012 four years after high school graduation and describes the percentage of graduates who enrolled in post-secondary education, along with the percentage who attained a degree within four years. This report also discusses some of the factors associated with the timely completion of a degree. The study provides some encouraging data about the four-year graduation rates of matriculated members of the class as a whole. However, the data also reveals wide variation in the success rates between students from different socioeconomic groups and between students attending different institutions of higher education.</i>
Innovation & Retention panel	<i>Financial aid services can play a large role in student experience and consequently improve student retention at higher education institutions. Representatives from Champlain College and University of Vermont will discuss innovative student retention programs and practices.</i>

VASFAA Mission & Meeting	<i>Mission/Purpose is a statement of why the organization exists, at the most meaningful level. At this 50th anniversary event, we will revisit VASFAA's mission statement and the vision of our future as an organization.</i>
2018 Tax Changes	<i>The IRS made significant changes to the layout of federal income tax returns following the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Reviewing a 2018 tax return can be a disorienting experience...fields such as AGI, exemptions, taxes paid and signatures are no longer in their familiar locations. In this session, we will review changes to the tax code which were implemented in 2018 and impacted 2018 tax returns. This session is designed to help prepare you for 2020-21 verification by becoming familiar with the revised tax return/transcript formats and changes to the tax code, which will impact both verification and review of professional judgment appeals.</i>
How to make student communications stick	<i>Communicating effectively with students requires first getting their attention. A consistent message in a multi-channel approach can help. Learn about the channels that drive student engagement at the right moment in the financial aid lifecycle. Work through a sample scenario and leave with immediately implementable tips you can use to optimize your communications and drive results.</i>
Advance Vermont: Working together to increase post-secondary attainment	<i>Advance Vermont, formerly known as 70x2025vt, is a statewide partnership of leaders from business, education, government, non-profits, and philanthropy united behind the state goal to increase educational attainment in Vermont to 70 percent by 2025. This session will bring more in depth knowledge of this initiative, while highlighting the importance of increasing equity in educational attainment, and the value of strengthening connections between education, training, and employment.</i>
Developing Innovation in Staff or Getting Your Ideas Heard	<i>This session will introduce a model to be used by individuals that have ideas but they may not be fully formed, vetted by key stakeholders, etc. Too often when ideas are not adopted, individuals can become frustrated, disengaged and lose interest in coming up with new ideas. Budgets are tight everywhere and we need to leverage the knowledge and talents of those around us to find more effective and efficient ways of accomplishing our work. Bring with you real problems that we can work through together utilizing this framework.</i>