



Vermont Association of Student
Financial Aid Administrators

Live & In Person

2022 VASFAA Conference

June 7th - 8th, 2022

Killington Grand Hotel

Killington Vermont

Dear VASFAA Colleagues:

It's been a long three years since our last conference here at Killington. During that time we've seen scores of ED guidance, millions of dollars in pandemic aid to our institutions and, most importantly, our students. VASFAA has not been without changes too. We have seen friends and colleagues retire or change positions, hosted our first ever virtual conference last year, and approved significant changes to our by-laws to propel us forward.

One of the hallmarks of VASFAA is connections and community. Working and collaborating with each other makes our student work stronger and our organization more vibrant. Now that we are back in Killington, live and in person, I hope you embrace the opportunity to build and sustain that community that makes VASFAA what it is.

Welcome, and enjoy,

Ryan Dulude
VASFAA President

Agenda

Day 1, June 7th

Time	Session	Presenter
8:30 - 9:00	Registration	
8:30 - 9:15	Breakfast	
9:00 - 9:15	Opening and Welcome	Ryan Dulude
9:15 - 9:25	Break	
9:25 - 10:30	Keynote: Good n' You?	Rusty DeWees
10:30 - 10:50	Break	
10:50 - 12:00	U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General Financial Aid Fraud Overview	Mark Deckett and Jeffrey Yung
12:00-1:30	Lunch	VASFAA- Ryan Dulude EASFAA - Anne McDermott
1:30 - 1:40	Break	
1:40 - 12:45	R2T4 Changes in Regs for Modules	Greg Rinderle
2:45 - 3:05	Break	
3:05 - 4:15	Identifying and Supporting Students of Concern	Joe Russell
4:15 - 5:15	Free time	
5:15 - 6:30	Cocktail Hour/Cash Bar	
6:30 - 10:30	Dinner and Entertainment	

Day 2, June 8th

Time	Session	Presenter
8:00 - 9:00	Registration	
8:30 - 9:15	Breakfast	
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome	Ryan Dulude
9:15 - 10:15	Federal and State Update	Scott Giles
10:15 - 10:30	Break	
Breakout Sessions		
10:30 - 11:45	Communications Management Round Table	
10:30 - 11:45	You can't do these PJs in your sleep: All about professional judgment	Matt DeSorgher
11:45 - 12:50	Lunch and Charity Recognition	
12:50 - 1:00	Break	
1:00 - 2:15	Negotiated Rule Making, Loan Forgiveness, & Gainful Employment	Jill Desjean

Session Descriptions

Keynote: Good n' You?

Rusty DeWees offers anecdotes both poignant and mirthful of his personal and professional background, and how reasoned choice regarding nutrition, rest, movement, and relationships to humans and nature ... are the total of his life.

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General Financial Aid Fraud Overview

This presentation will provide background on the Inspector General's Office, explain how you can report fraud allegations to us and give examples of our latest investigations. We will also share some tips on how your school can identify financial aid fraud.

R2T4 Changes in Regs for Modules

Change keeps the financial aid community moving forward, but it can be difficult to keep up with everything. A new set of Federal Student Aid regulatory changes went into effect on July 1, 2021. Join us to learn about the changes and get answers to your questions during the session, "R2T4 Changes in Regulations for Modules: What has Changed & What You Need to Know."

Identifying and Supporting Students of Concern

College students face increasingly difficult academic, social, societal, and internal pressures throughout their time in school. More and more, staff far outside the college counseling center are being asked to help identify and support students who may be struggling, in the hope that appropriate interventions and resources can be brought to bear to achieve positive health and academic outcomes. This presentation will help participants identify best practices for staff in identifying, supporting, and referring students with behavioral and/or mental health concerns (primarily with a focus on how this happens in the context of student financial aid advising). This presentation will discuss current mental health trends and challenges in today's college student population and explore some of the factors contributing to stress, distress, and crisis among college students. It will address ethical and legal concerns in managing students at risk, as well as how to effectively partner with and refer students to campus resources as part of a campus-wide and interdisciplinary approach to student success.

Federal and State Update

Hear the latest about what's happening at the national level and in the Vermont legislature as it pertains to the work we do in financial aid, higher education, and as Vermonters and those who serve Vermonters.

Communications Management Round Table

This session will provide the opportunity to discuss communications management in a round table format. Learn about the strategies, techniques, and technologies schools are using for effective financial aid communications.

You Can't Do These PFs in Your Sleep: All About Professional Judgment

This session will provide an overview of the professional judgment authority invested in financial aid administrators. Learn how to use professional judgment to support your students and institutional completion and retention goals. The session will cover approaches to common professional judgment circumstances, PJ dos and don'ts, and documentation recommendations. In addition, the session will preview changes to professional judgment which are on the horizon.

Negotiated Rule Making, Loan Forgiveness, & Gainful Employment

Join your colleagues for an update from NASFAA on several timely federal policy updates—negotiated rulemaking, gainful employment, and loan forgiveness. Participants will learn what transpired over ED's two negotiated rulemaking sessions for 2021-22, which included discussions on reinstating the gainful employment rule. We'll also discuss the policy landscape surrounding broad-based loan forgiveness and options being explored in Congress and at the White House.



Vermont Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Mission.

Membership includes Education Institutions of Post-secondary Education in the State of Vermont and VSAC and those educational associations, government agencies and organizations providing direct services that promote and support administration of financial aid to post-secondary institutions in Vermont.

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Special Recognition.

Each year at its summer conference, VASFAA recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the association and financial aid profession in Vermont.

2021 Melaney Wald (Special Recognition)
Chris Barry (Outstanding Volunteer Award)
2020 Ryan Dulude (Special Recognition)
2019 Pam Chisolm (Lifetime Achievement Award)
Donna Stevens (Outstanding Volunteer Award)
2018 Jill King (Outstanding Volunteer)
2016 Deborah Lessor (Volunteer of the year)
2015 Renee Blanchet (Volunteer of the year)
2014 Ryan Gates (Volunteer of the year)
2013 Don Vickers (Lifetime of Achievement)
2012 Cathy Mullins (Volunteer of the year)
2011 Natalie Young (Volunteer of the year)
Jason Stuart Walt (Special Recognition)

2010 Kit Ardell (Volunteer of the year)
2009 Marcia Vance (Special Recognition, posthumous)
2008 Michael Ireland (Volunteer of the year)
Yvonne Whitaker (Special Recognition)
2007 Cathy McCullough (Person of the Year)
2006 Dino Koff (Person of the Year)
2005 Marilyn Cargill (Person of the Year)
2004 Dave Myette (Person of the Year)
2003 Yvonne Whitaker (Person of the Year)
2002 Maureen Gardner (Person of the Year)
2001 Pam Chisholm (Person of the Year)
Ted Franzeim (Person of the Year)
2000 Ken Moulton (Person of the Year)

Please don't forget to
complete the conference
survey with your
valuable feedback!



We will e-mail the survey link
after the conference.

Keep an eye out for it!

Inside VASFAA

Elected Officers



Ryan Dulude
President



Marie Johnson
President - Elect



Judy Buxton
Secretary



Martha Hinchman
Treasurer

2022 Conference Committee



Lynda Ossola



Chris Barry



Jade Leighty



Martha Hinchman



Jeani Stella-Devani
Co-Chair



Deborah Lessor
Co-Chair



Lisa Talbot



Marilyn Cargill



Tanner Matchus



Linda Thatcher

conference@vasfaavt.org

Get Involved!

Join a committee

VASFAA Executive Committee

President: Presides over all meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee and performs other duties that pertain to leading VASFAA as President. They are a member of all committees and also the official voting representative of VASFAA to any regional or national association.

President-Elect: In the temporary absence or disability of the President, this person shall have the powers and perform all duties and responsibilities of the President. If there is not a President-Elect in office, these functions are performed by the Past-President until election of a President-Elect.

Treasurer: Responsible for disbursement and receivables for VASFAA under policies approved by the Executive Committee and is responsible for keeping record of receipts and disbursements.

The Treasurer should also be prepared to submit a financial report at each regular Association meeting.

Treasurer-Elect: Shall perform duties of the Treasurer in the event the Treasurer is unable to serve and performs duties as assigned by the President.

Secretary: Responsible for developing, distributing, and maintaining the non-financial records of the Association. This person also assumes responsibility for maintaining VASFAA's P&P Manual, administering the election of officers and any other voting requirements, and works closely with the President in planning VASFAA business and Executive Meetings.

Join a committee

Website Committee

Responsible for the upkeep of the VASFAA website and monitoring the web email inbox for requests. Common updates include, yearly committee updates, meeting minutes, conference and event updates, and job board updates. This committee also works with the VASFAA website provider for updates to forms.

Conference Committee

Plans the annual summer conference which includes financial aid updates, trainings, and professional development opportunities. Monitors the conference email inbox and works closely with the Website Committee for conference page updates.

By-Laws Committee

The By-Laws committee reviews both the by-laws and Association activities annually to confirm that the Association is acting within the by-laws. The committee also recommends changes to the by-laws, as needed.

Government Relations Committee

Monitors and influences government financial aid activities and informs and educates the membership. Also keeps the VT delegation aware of issues affecting our students and campuses.

Training Committee

Enhances the professional development of the membership by recommending and soliciting training topics and sees them through to implementation.

Circle is a community-based non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence. Circle provides advocacy, support services, and shelter to help abuse survivors build on strengths to shape fulfilling lives for themselves and their children. Our 24-hour confidential hotline and shelter services empower individuals to move beyond the initial crisis through non-judgmental, emotional support provided by staff and volunteers on an individual basis. Operating in partnership with related Washington County Vermont organizations and agencies, Circle strives to mobilize community awareness, sensitivity, and response to domestic and sexual violence.



To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.

You can make a difference! Circle is always looking for committed volunteers to help with our crucial work.

With the help of our dedicated volunteers, Circle provides 24-hour hotline services, ensuring that those in need can contact a trained advocate whenever necessary. Volunteers also spend time in our shelter, are active members on our Board of Directors, provide childcare, and assist with public awareness events.

If you or someone in your life is interested in volunteering with Circle, please call us today or go to our website, www.circlevt.org, to find out more about volunteer opportunities!

Ways to donate to Circle include:

Circle is Listed with AmazonSmile!

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select Circle Inc. Location: Barre, VT in order for us to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

Employer Matching Gift Program

Find out if your company has a matching gift policy to increase your support of Circle!

Making Circle a beneficiary in your will or living trust enables you to support our mission and make a difference in the lives of women and families.

Circle can now accept gifts of stocks, mutual funds or electronic transfer of cash gifts.

Please call us at 877-543-9498 or go to our website www.circlevt.org for more information.

Keynote

Rusty DeWees



Rusty grew up in Stowe, Vermont and lives up the road in Elmore with Mikaela, his cat.

Rusty worked eleven years in New York City as assistant to William J. Doyle at Doyle New York Auction House while working extensively in television and film (check www.IMDB.com for partial film list) including co-starring turns in a handful of Law and Order episodes and an episode of Saturday Night Live. He was a guest on NPR's Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me.

Rusty recently wrapped-up his role as Asa Locke for LOST NATION - a new Jay Craven Film about Ethan Allen, shot in Nantucket and Brattleboro, Vermont.

Since 1996 Rusty DeWees tours New England with THE LOGGER, his "... inventive, exceptional" says The Boston Globe, original one-man comedy and music show, acting as writer, director, producer and performer.

He's written two books, SCRAWLINS and SCAWLINS TOO.

Rusty runs Rusty D. Inc., an Entertainment Production Company through which he writes and produces radio and television campaigns for Vermont businesses that include Heritage Ford, Aubuchon Hardware, Smuggler's Notch Distillery, NeighborWorks of West Rutland, Thomas Dairy of Rutland, and Power Shift Online Services out of Stowe. Rusty has appeared in more than thirty national television ads working for Coke, Wendy's, Kellogg's Corn Flakes, Chevrolet, Renault, Citroen, and many others.

DeWees performs THE LOGGER shows, and also presents Motivational talks to students in elementary school up through college, and businesses of all types.

He donates time at Meals On Wheels, Capstone, Elder Care Facilities, among others, and enjoyed playing three tours of Vermont's six Correctional Facilities.

Mark Deckett

Special Agent, Office of Inspector General, Department of Education

Mark Deckett has been employed as a Special Agent for the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General for twenty-three years. He is assigned to its regional Boston office which covers New England and serves as its Resident Agent in Charge. Mark has conducted a variety of financial aid fraud investigations that has resulted in several criminal convictions and millions of dollars in court-ordered civil fines and financial recoveries. His work has caused the Education Department to take administrative action against several entities and has been asked on multiple occasions to provide the Department with training and recommendations to improve its programs. Mark has a master's degree in Administration of Justice, is a certified technical surveillance specialist and is a certified fraud examiner.

Jeffrey Yung

Special Agent, Office of Inspector General, Department of Education

Jeffrey Yung is a professional Federal Law Enforcement Agent with over twenty years of experience in policing and investigative methodology. Expertise in financial crimes, intelligence gathering, counter surveillance and risk mitigation.

Greg Rinderle

Audits Director, McClintock & Associates

Gregory is a Director within our Audit Department and has over 16 years of experience in the public sector. Clients value his views on internal controls and processes, Title IV regulations, proactive solutions for meeting regulatory covenants, interpretation of regulations, and suggestions to minimize compliance findings in student financial aid audits.



Gregory is an active presenter at numerous national conferences and conventions. Outside of the firm, he is the Board member for Hillside Christian Community and has been Youth leader for the past 13 years.

Gregory earned his Bachelor of Science Degrees in Accounting & Finance from Pennsylvania State University. He is a member of several different financial aid associations. He enjoys Martial Arts which he has been teaching and studying for over 25 years. He also likes to spend time with his wife Jamie and two sons Jacob and Jackson, camping, riding his ATV, playing baseball, golfing and exercising.

He enjoys helping his clients with the new compliance regulations which makes the schools more efficient so they can focus on their students' education and career dreams.

Joe Russell

Associate Dean of Students, UVM



Joe Russell is the Assistant Dean of Students at the University of Vermont, where he has worked for 15 years. His primary focus is leading the University's Care Team: a group of staff dedicated to supporting students who are in crisis or experiencing distress. He also serves as the Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Students and is part of the institutional response to campus crises as a member of the Emergency Operations Group. Joe's work is highly relational, and he is actively involved in campus social justice initiatives, student leadership development, and support for the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities at UVM. Prior to his current role, Joe's career in Higher Education spanned several functional areas, including Residential Life and Enrollment Management.



Scott Giles

President and CEO of VSAC

Scott A. Giles has served VSAC since 2003. Mr. Giles was appointed president and CEO of VSAC after serving as vice president of operations, social marketing, and strategy. Mr. Giles previously served as deputy chief of staff of the Committee on Science of the U.S. House of Representatives and as senior professional staff member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, where he authored the student loan provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1998. He was appointed by the Secretary of Education to serve on the Federal Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance and was elected chair. A national expert in higher education policy, regulation, and servicing, he has been designated by Secretary Spellings and Secretary Duncan to represent the nonprofit student loan lenders and servicers in three rounds of negotiated rule-making. Mr. Giles has a BA from St. Lawrence University and an MA and PhD from the University of Virginia, as well as certificates in finance and management from the Harvard Business School and the Kennedy School of Government.



Matt DeSorgher

Associate Director, Student Financial Services, UVM

Matt's financial aid career began at VSAC in 2003 where he worked as a loan counselor and financial aid advisor. In 2007, Matt moved to the University of Vermont where he worked for seven years as both a financial aid counselor and Assistant Director for Compliance. From 2014 through 2019 Matt worked in the Student Financial Services office at Saint Michael's College as Associate Director and Director. Matt returned to UVM in 2019 where he now serves as Associate Director of Student Financial Services. Having landed in financial aid through the curious twists and turns of life, Matt has stayed in the field because he enjoys helping students and families and because of the great comradery among those who work in the profession. Matt lives in Saint Albans with his wife and two daughters.



Jill Desjean

Policy Analyst, NASFAA

Jill Desjean is a Policy Analyst with the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. In her role, Jill works with NASFAA's members to develop policy recommendations, provides feedback to Congress on legislative proposals, and interprets financial aid-related policy issues for NASFAA's members and other audiences. Prior to joining NASFAA, Jill enjoyed a 20-year career in financial aid administration, having held roles in the financial aid offices at Tufts University School of Medicine, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Brandeis University and the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts as well as The New School in New York City. Jill joined NASFAA in 2016 and lives in Maryland with her husband and three children.

2022 Sponsors

