



DECEMBER 2019

Bits & Bytes

Newsletter of the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association

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ISFAA Counselor Workshops Continue to Grow in 2019

Nearly 800 people registered to attend a 2019 ISFAA Counselor Workshop! The workshops concluded a few weeks ago with the event at IUPUC. The events were well attended across the state, but surveys also show attendees were very pleased with the events themselves too. Like in past years, many ISFAA members volunteered their time and expertise to make the workshops a success.

Again in 2019 the workshop series was a partnership between ISFAA and presenters from the Commission for Higher Education. At 5 of the 13 sites there was also an after-

noon workshop put on by the Department of Education. ISFAA presenters discussed Federal Financial Aid Information, FAFSA changes as well as a section covering data about the current state of how education is being funded. Presenters from CHE spoke about Indiana Financial Aid and changes to the state programs in addition to a section specifically devoted to the Twenty-First Century Scholars Program.

Work will begin in early 2020 to set sites and content for hopefully another great year of ISFAA Counselor Workshops!

A few pictures from the 2019 events with more inside this edition:



more photos on page 3

President's Perspective

2019 – What a year! To describe 2019 in one word, the word is.....Transitions

As we all know from working in financial aid, things don't always go as planned. This was definitely a year for plans to go astray. My President-elect year quickly turned into my year as President of ISFAA and we started off running. The by-law changes certainly made this year interesting. For those of you who may not know, ISFAA members voted to change our fiscal year to match up with a calendar year, January – December. Since we were only looking at having a full conference once a year, we wanted to make sure the changing of the elected positions took place during our annual conference. We knew there would be other areas and events affected by this change. As the year progressed, it became evident that this was a much bigger transition than any of us realized.

I want to give a big SHOUT OUT to the current members of the Executive Committee and the Committee Chairs who so graciously continued on in their role for an additional 6 months as we transitioned to our new fiscal year and to the members who stepped up to fill any open positions we had. I truly appreciate the way you all stepped up and supported me this year. I would love to list you all individually, but I am so afraid I would leave someone out. I definitely felt like I had a big family to lean on and reach out to. ISFAA members ROCK!!!

I have enjoyed representing ISFAA at the NASFAA Leadership & Legislative Conference & Expo in Washington, DC in February 2019, NASFAA National

Conference in Orlando, FL in June 2019 and MASFAA annual conference in Chicago, IL in October 2019. If you ever get a chance to attend any financial aid conferences, please do. You will be amazed by the number of financial aid professionals you will meet who have a desire to help students. Trust me, you will learn something new, too!

As my year of being ISFAA President comes to a close, I am grateful and thankful for the opportunity to serve you all in this role. I appreciate the support I receive from the leadership at Ivy Tech Community College, Terre Haute. Leah Allman, Vice-Chancellor for Enrollment Services, and Lea Anne Crooks, Chancellor are great leadership role models and have always supported my enrollment with ISFAA. Thank you to my staff which includes Jan Benton, Heather Frye, Angie Snapp and Vicki Strack. I have had to be away from the office more this past year so they have had to do some additional work in the office to keep it going. They have done a great job!

As we get ready to begin a new year and the new Executive Committee gets ready to take over, remember what we do makes a difference. We may not always hear it or see it, but we know a lot of students would not make it through the financial aid process without the help of financial aid professionals like YOU!

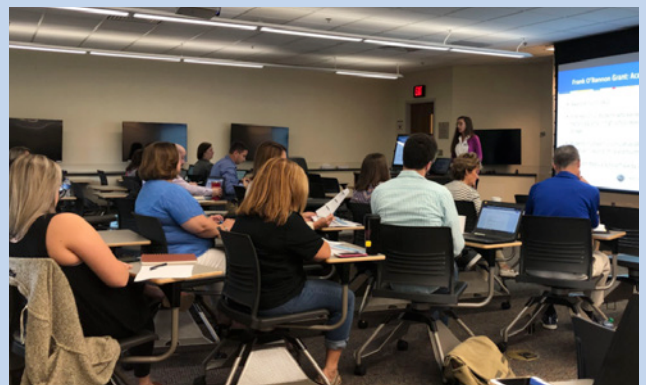
Merry Christmas (or insert your favorite greeting) and a Happy New Year! See you in Indy at the end of January!



Julie Wonderlin

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ISFAA Counselor Workshops Continue to Grow in 2019



Pat Wilson Scholarship

The Pat Wilson Memorial Scholarship committee is excited to announce a variety of fundraising opportunities this year. We've been working hard to create fun and inclusive activities for all to enjoy. As in years past the majority of our efforts will be held during Winter Conference. However, there are plenty of opportunities for everyone to participate.

Back by popular demand is the annual silent auction. This particular event will take place during winter conference. In addition to the various donations from sports teams, restaurants and community favorites we will feature themed gift baskets. These baskets will vary in size and theme and are sure to be a big hit. Some featured baskets this year include "coffee addict", a "cozy night in", "grill master", "game night", "wine lover" and

an Indiana theme. Come prepared to place your bids in January!

Making a comeback at the conference is the ever popular "jail bail." With its success from a few years ago the committee decided this year's Harry Potter theme was the perfect opportunity to revive this classic activity. Law enforcement will be on the lookout for any suspicious activity so be sure to have cash on hand in order to "lock up" any criminals. Or, if you're feeling generous you may want to save your money and post bail for a friend. Either way, all funds raised will be put towards the Pat Wilson Memorial Scholarship.

We are also excited about a new opportunity with the Indiana Pacers. Enjoy an exciting night of basketball, hang with

friends and family, meet or catch up with fellow ISFAA members and take your shot at a free throw after the game. The Pacers take on the Cleveland Cavaliers Saturday, March 21st. Tipoff at 7pm. It's also family night so each ticket includes a free Pacers hat and a Chick-fil-A meal voucher. A portion of each ticket will be donated back to the Pat Wilson Memorial Scholarship.

Tickets are now on sale and available for purchase online. <https://pacers.formstack.com/forms/isfaa>

We hope that you will support the Pat Wilson Memorial Scholarship. For those unable to attend the conference but, still interested in supporting the Pat Wilson Memorial Scholarship with a donation simply contact Kelly McGuire at m McGuire@trine.edu.

Save the Date!



LAS VEGAS, NV | JUNE 29-JULY 2



www.nasfaa.org/conference

Coming Soon

2020 MASFAA Annual Conference



OCTOBER 18-21, 2020
DETROIT, MICHIGAN



People, Purpose, & Passion - A PATHWAY TO SUCCESS



Mark Your Calendar! ISFAA Winter Conference

“The Wizarding World of Financial Aid”

January 29th -31st, 2020

at the Drury Plaza Hotel



Winter Conference

The ISFAA Winter Conference is just a little over a month away. Our conference theme is *The Wizarding World of Financial Aid*. It will be held at the Drury Inn located in Indianapolis. This year the conference will be over the course of three days, January 29-31st. The training committee is offering two FREE pre-conference NASFAA credential training sessions Wednesday morning. Kicking off the official conference at 1:30 is motivational speaker, Tina Patton, and you won't want to miss President Julie Wonderlin's reception Wednesday evening!

The program committee has been hard at work to present a variety of sessions for you. Topics include the federal aid staples from the Department of Education trainer to the latest issues impacting schools such as homelessness, trans-

gender students and finding funding for undocumented students.

Speaking of Department of Education trainer! We have a new trainer this year. Some of you may know that our previous trainer, Zac Goodwin, accepted a position with a university in Vermont this fall. We will miss him, but look forward to meeting our new DOE trainer, Anita Olivencia. She comes to us with over 28 years of experience in financial aid and 15 years as a Federal Training Officer. She will be a great addition to our conference program!

We hope that you will make it to our *magical* conference. It will be jam-packed with valuable information, as well as, time for networking and lots of fun! You can review the agenda and register for the conference, as well as, the pre-conference at www.isfaa.org



**Mischief
Managed!**



Executive Committee Member Focus

Doug Hess



Doug Hess

1) Please tell Bits and Bytes about your current position at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

I am currently the Director of Financial Aid at Purdue Fort Wayne.

2) How did you get your start in Financial Aid?

Like many of our colleagues I started out in financial aid as

a work study student in 1991 at Indiana State University. I remember receiving a letter stating that if I don't find a college work study job within the next two weeks they were going to pull my work study funds. I had been looking for a FWS position since my arrival on campus, but with no luck. So, I walked into the financial aid office one afternoon to see what my options were and to plead my case that I was actively looking for a position. That is when Brenda Hall felt sorry for me and said that they had a position in the office. As you might imagine, I jumped at the chance so my aid was not pulled (you might say I was receiving some pressure from back home). I remember her stating that I didn't even know what the position was. It turned out to be answering phone calls and then directing them to a staff member in the office. I was fortunate enough to work all four years in the financial aid office and, once I was about to graduate, Brenda approached me again to see if I was interested in a full time position. Yes, you guessed it, answering phones. The rest is history.

3) Tell us about your current role(s) with ISFAA and being on executive committee.

My current role on the executive committee is that of President Elect. I will take over as President at the end 2020 Conference in January. As President-Elect I serve as Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee and the Bylaws Committee.

4) You have been involved with financial aid for 25 years. Do you have a memory about a student(s) you helped that stands out in your mind that shows the good work that FA folks do?

When you have been doing this as long as I have there are just too many that stand out and it would be impossible to narrow it down to just one. The one thing that I have always enjoyed (there are many) was doing high school nights throughout the state. Personally, I believe one of the best attributes of ISFAA is the fact that no matter what institution a student is looking to attend the financial aid professionals are there to assist all students.

5) Please tell us about any other leadership roles you've had involving financial aid.

I have had several leadership roles within the financial aid organization. I have served as a delegate at large position, served as a co-chair of both site (several times) and program and I have done many Financial Aid Nights and College Goal Sunday events.

6) You joined ISFAA in 1995. Please share your thoughts about the organization after 25 years as a member.

Financial Aid folks are just an amazing group. I have found them to be open and willing to answer questions and to share knowledge with anyone. ISFAA is truly an amazing organization with hard working individuals that want to help students. I think that ISFAA does a great job at trying to provide resources to both support and professional staff.

7) What is your favorite thing about your profession?

I enjoy talking to prospective students and their families. They have the excitement of starting a new chapter in their lives and you can feel the enthusiasm.

Continued on page 7

8) Do you have a least favorite thing about your profession?

I actually have two. The first one is all the red tape that we have to go through, and the second one is seeing students not finishing their degree. A majority of the time the students that do not finish their degree are in debt and that is a hard obstacle to overcome.

9) Do you have any thought or message that you would like to pass along to the other ISFAA members?

I am really excited about the upcoming year and I am truly humbled to be serving as President. With that being said, there are a few things I would like to mention. Number one, get involved; ISFAA is a great way of meeting your

colleagues, finding a mentor or simply increasing your knowledge regarding an ever changing financial aid world. Secondly, I really want to focus the next year on recognizing, supporting and providing training to the Support Staff. This coming year we will be having the Support Staff Workshop (a one day event in Indianapolis) and in my opinion they are the backbone of the office.

A College Goal Sunday Done & Another Coming

The first of two College Goal Sunday events in the 2019-20 school year took place in early November with the second one coming soon in February. At the 37 sites across Indiana over 500 FAFSAs were submitted!

More than 1,000 attendees were helped by the 287 ISFAA volunteers on November 3rd. Survey responses were overwhelmingly positive with many messages of “thank you” to the ISFAA members who gave up part of their weekend to help with FAFSA filing.

Again this year \$5,000 in scholarship money was offered to those attending College Goal Sunday on November 3rd,

and another \$5,000 will be available for those filing during the February 23rd event.

Follow Indiana College Goal Sunday’s social media pages to keep up with the latest information as planning for the next College Goal Sunday is already taking place. The Facebook page is [Facebook.com/IndianaCollegeGoalSunday](https://www.facebook.com/IndianaCollegeGoalSunday) and our Twitter page is [Twitter.com/CGS_Indiana](https://twitter.com/CGS_Indiana).

Enjoy some pictures from the November sites sent in to us from all over Indiana!



We Need You!

College Goal Sunday February 23rd, 2020

collegegoalsunday.org

Thank you to all the November 2019 College Goal Sunday Volunteers

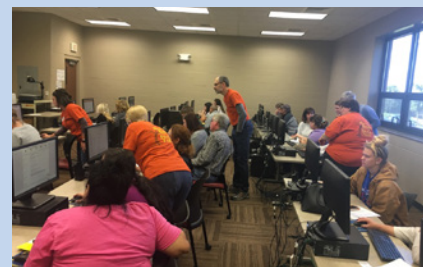


Ezalea Allen	Sara Certano	Caleb Fendrich	Hilary Hillenbrand
Sue Allmon	Mary Champion	Connie Fidanza	Meg Hinkey
Brian Allred	Beth Ann Chaney	Travis Fisher	Niki Hockenberry
Christine Allred	Paula Clark	Amanda Fishman	Kathy Hollander
JoAnne Alvarez	Jourdan Cleaver	Cari Foust	Annette Hoopingarner
Stephanie Amos	Jazmine Clifton	Sarah Fox	Emily Hoover
Datreena Anthony	Kim Cloud	Kayleigh Francis	Marcy Hopple
Micayla Argo	Brittany Collins	Suzanne Frank	Josh Horn
Brennan Argo	Christina Coon	Ann Franzen-Roha	Tanika House
Aja Armstead	Heather Cooper	Vanessa Freeman	Amy Houser
Michelle Ashcraft	Nicole Corey	Chris Fresch	Daphney Hubbard
Barbara Auman	Wesley Corrie	Heather Frye	Emily Hutsell
Donna Bakel	Raymond Coryell	Kahra Furrer	Fred Jackson
Claire Baker	Alexandra Cuadra	Gabby Gabrielson	Stacey Jamili
Robert Bandelt	Zachary Cullum	Marissa Gallardo	Grace Jerrell
Deborah Barabas	Mike Culver	Todd Gambill	Brianna Jobe
Elizabeth Barrett	Candace Curry	Pat Garvin	Amy Jobst
Sherri Barrow	Erik Decker	Cindy Gil	Dara Johnson
Tashia Bell-Hunter	Cathy Dedmon	Edmond Gooch	Shawnie Johnson
Janetta Benton	Kristina Delbridge	Christopher Greer	Amy Johnston
Donna Bevington	Jamie Dick	Taylor Gross	Tene Jones
Nate Bickel	Laurie Dickerson	Courtney Gullion	Dr. Verleash Jones
Iesha Billups	Arlonda Dickerson	Maria Gutierrez	Ellen Jones
Josephine Blockson	Meredith Dittfield	Debbie Harding	Kelli Kalisik
Christian Blome	Cheryl Dixon	Marquita Harmon	Lenae Kavanaugh
Chris Boylan	Aurora Doan	Mary Harper	Kara Kern
Lesley Bricker	Lori Donoho	Greg Harrell	Robbie King
Lisa Bridgewater	Tressie Dunbar	Kurt Harris	Shelly Kooi
Kates Brommeland	Ilea Dunbar	Elizabeth Harvey	LuAnne Kramer
Todd Brown	Sue Dunn	Penelope Hash	Ann Kreicker
Tashawnda Brown-Weston	Melissa Dwight	Maggie Hatter Furr	Mike Kreicker
Kathleen Burnell	Denise Ebert	Jill Haughawout	Matt Krieg
Mark Camp	Rolene Eddy	Mary Haynie	Brandon Kuntz
Lentine Campbell	Abd-tawab Elebute	Karen Heavin	Kathrine Kurosky
Nikki Cardinal	Sara Ellinger	Kim Heldt	Connie Lachner
Kathy Carr	Christine Ellis	Dan Herr	Angela Lane
Marty Case	Abby Englert	Ron Herrell	Cyndi Lang
Donette Cassman	Ed Ertel	Jamy Hess	Kaitlyn Lantz
Lorena Ceballos	Lark Farlee	Autumn Hill	Julianna Larson

Thank you to all the November 2019 College Goal Sunday Volunteers



Stanley Law	Alysha Oglesby	April Russell	Chelsie Timm
Mary Lechner	Blessing Olagundoye	Angie S	Katelyn Todd
Kimberly Lewis	Cynthia Oliva	Cindi Sabo	Christy Tollett
Jayne Lindauer	Mary Omosegbon	Claudia Saenz	Felix Torres
Heather Lisco	Silquia Otero	Jill Sammons	Casey Trela
Nicole Lodewyk	Melissa Pace	Alex Samuel	John Turner
Nina Loesch	Amy Parraga	David Sarah	Terencia Turner
Heidi Lovellette	Elaine Parrish	Rachel Scanlon	Kaitlyn Ude
Paul Lovellette	Carla Perkins	Johnny Schaefer	Jessica Underwood
Jaimee Maddox	Matt Perry	Abigail Schwieso	Jesse Underwood
Kelly Manning	Ashley Pezan	Colby Shank	Terri Vasquez
Angie Martin	Karen Pierce	Jennifer Shelley	Nicole Vaughn
Karen Matthews	Laura Ping	Janna Shepard	Timothy Vaughn
Brittany May	Gina Pirtle	Liska Shilling	Julie Wade
Susan Mayberry	Sally Ponce	Michelle Short	Kayla Wall
Patt McCafferty	Evan Ponce	Joel Short	Sarah Wandless
Michael McClure	Melissa Pruitt	Erin Simon	Charmaine Wardell
Morgan McCombs Jones	Wendy Railing	Marilyn Simpson	Virginia Washington
Josh McGuire	Anita Reed	Kristyn Slesseman	Trudy Weddle
Rachel McHenry	Zachary Reel	Anita Smith	Randa Wells
Jose Medina	Brad Remmenga	Jennifer Snay	Shannon Wentzell
Pam Meek	Zachary Renteria	Y Solis	Stan Werne
Rachel Meyer	David Reseigh	Elvia Solis	Shederick Whipple
Melinda Middleton	Sarah Rice	Y Solis	Mary Lynn Whitcomb
Kathy Miller	Caren Richeson	Robert Sommers	Ian Whitfield
Donny Mimms	Kelsey Richey	Sarah Soper	Sam Whitton
McKalaiah Mitchell	Karen Riddle	Amy Sowders	Ashley Wight
Sara Monday	Gary Rigley	Lori Sprague	Kim Wilhelm
Will Moore	Joanna Riney	Dustin Stewart	Mary Ann Williams
Judy moore	Maria Rios	Vicki Strack	Lorie Williams
Theresa Morning	Kristy Rock	Jonothann Strange	David Wilson
Jose Muniz	Tammy Robbins	Dawn Suggs	Mara Wolff
Richard Nash	Lynn Roberson	Ashley Suggs	Julie Wonderlin
Denise Ndukwu	Sarah Roberson	Mattie Sullivan	Gale Wood-Ward
Jill Neidlinger	Nickie Roberts	Candice Sutliff	Deb Woods
Jennifer Ng	Vernita Robinson	Susan Taylor	Clara Woolley
Cathy Nickens	Kristen Robson	Anne Taylor	Bill Wozniak
Mary Nucciarone	Timothy Ross	Alli Tempel	Elaine Yednak
Gracen O'Neal	Laci Rowe	Catrina Terrell	Lora Zoll
Katie O'Neil	Tamara Runyan	Jasmine Thomas	





ISFAA at FSA



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WELCOME TO
RENO



Comings and Goings

...and other tidbits of association news

Sue Allmon

Promotions

Michelle Concepcion, after 12 years in the trenches as a financial aid advisor, has been promoted to Assistant Director of Financial Services for Calumet College of St. Joseph. Congratulations!

Births



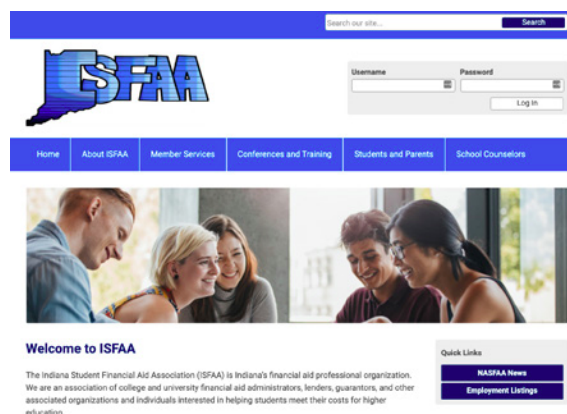
Cole Mathew Irvine

Doug Irvine, retired financial aid officer, is pleased to announce the birth of his latest grandson, Cole Mathew Irvine. Cole was born on September 23, 2019 and is grandson #3 for his son Rob and daughter-in-law Bethany.

Deaths

As many of you read via the ISFAA listserv, we lost a colleague and friend, **Norm Newman** the first week of December. Norm "was a beloved employee of IPFW and Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and will be missed by many".

Website Quick Tip



To access an invoice (for the ISFAA winter conference or your membership renewal or both), log in with your username and password to isfaa.org. Click on the "My Profile" button in the Quick Links section on the right-hand side of the page. Your personal ISFAA profile should appear. Hover over the grey "My Profile" button in the middle of the screen and click on "Invoices". Your current and historical invoices should appear.



Bits and Bytes

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