



Iowa Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

THE INFORMER

The Quarterly IASFAA Newsletter

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Fall IASFAA Conference

The fall IASFAA conference is coming up quickly! The full conference agenda with session descriptions is available on the conference page of the website. Be sure to select Tentative Agenda (updated 10/7/21) to view. You'll find it is jam-packed with interest and general session topics for both seasoned and new financial aid professionals.

Registration is still open but has a **strict deadline of 11:59 pm October 21**, which is necessary for meal planning. If you've already registered, thank you! Please kindly make any meal changes prior to October 21. We can't stress enough how accurate meal counts are so vital in keeping conference costs as low as possible.

To make changes to your registration or meal selections, contact Mary Jacobsen ([mjacobson@aspireresourcesinc.com](mailto:mjacobsen@aspireresourcesinc.com)) or Chris Ditter (chris.ditter@drake.edu).

If you haven't registered, head to the conference page and secure your spot at our first in-person conference since the fall 2019 conference in Dubuque. We'll be Together and Moving Forward!

Our fiscal friends are registering for their first-ever conference participation in a special session track on Thursday. Thank you for inviting them! If you haven't forwarded previous conference information to billing/bursar/business officers, now is your chance! The only way they will know they're invited is if YOU extend the invitation!

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Fall IASFAA Conference cont.

Billing/bursar staff do NOT need to be an IASFAA member to attend. The \$85 daily rate covers three interest sessions, a networking session, access to exhibitors, a keynote speaker and a presentation regarding implicit bias, as well as lunch and refreshments. Please note there are TWO separate registration functions on the website - Financial Aid Officers and Business Officers.



Hotel Kirkwood, the site of the fall 2021 conference

Don't forget your Mystery Auction item and/or household supply, personal care item, or non-persishable food item to donate to Together We Achieve, our charity recipient for this year.

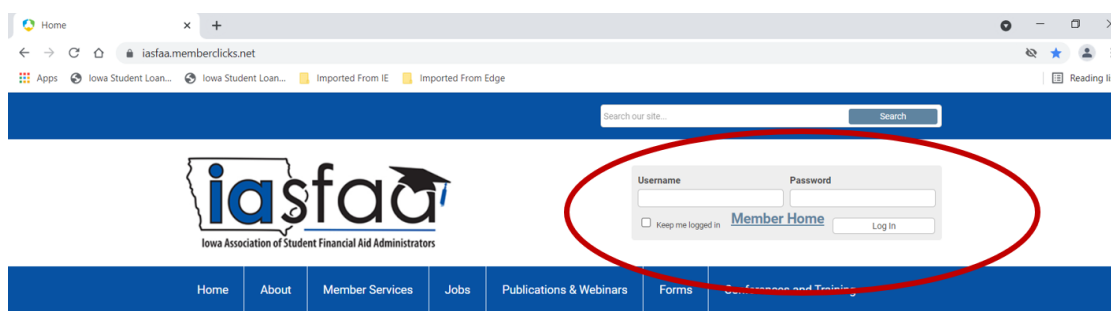
Join us in Cedar Rapids at The Hotel at Kirkwood on the Kirkwood Community College campus October 27 - 29, 2021, we hope to see you there!



IASFAA Website - Membership Profile

Now that we are into our first conference registration using the new IASFAA website, below are some things you can find under your membership profile.

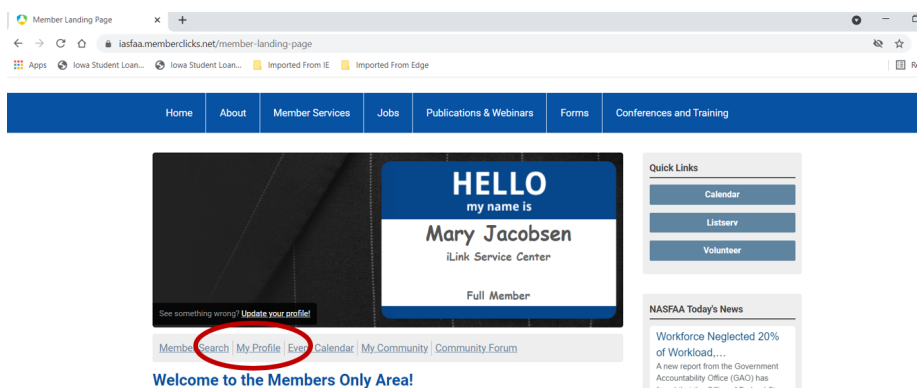
Login at the top of the homepage:



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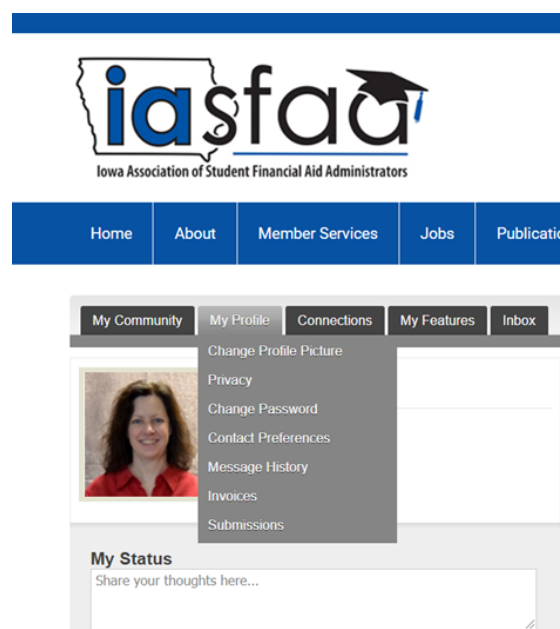
Membership Profile cont.

Click on My Profile:



Hover over the "My Profile" tab for different options:

- Change Profile Picture – Upload a photo so other IASFAA members can put a face with a name. A formal photo is not necessary, any clear photo will work.
- Message History – See a list of the different messages you have received from the IASFAA site. This includes Listserv messages, registration messages, etc.
- Invoices – If you need a copy of an Invoice they can all be found here.
- Submissions - This shows a list of items you have submitted through the IASFAA website, like election ballots, registrations, award nominations and things like that.



If you have questions or suggestions for the website, please email the Electronic Services Committee co-chairs: Mary Jacobsen (mjacobsen@aspireresourcesinc.com) or Chris Ditter (chris.ditter@drake.edu).

Announcements

Grinnell College would like to extend our best wishes to **Gretchen Zimmermann**, Associate Director of Financial Aid, on her retirement. Her last day at Grinnell was September 7, 2021. Gretchen began her career in financial aid in 1985 at the University of Iowa. In 1986, Gretchen started her 35 years of service to students at Grinnell College. She has been an invaluable member of the financial aid community and especially Grinnell College. She held the offices of IASFAA Treasurer-Elect and Treasurer. Her knowledge, innovative nature, and love of helping students was the perfect fit for a career in student financial aid, and her work has made a lasting, meaningful impact on thousands of lives. Thank you Gretchen!

Buena Vista University would like to thank **Leanne Valentine**, Director of Financial Assistance for her 39 years of service to students. She will retire on Friday, September 3. She truly left an impact on all those she touched. Thank you, Leanne! We wish you all the best in your retirement.

Announcements, cont.

Sara Edwards, Citizens welcomed new granddaughter, Ella Monroe Edwards on June 11th 2021. Her first grandchild!

Bev Hickman has retired. She was a thirty year financial aid veteran at **Simpson** and she will be missed!

In the past 18 months, **Kirkwood Community College** has welcomed three new financial aid advisors: **Dan Erickson, Randi Weber, and Jeremiah Fields.**

Desmond (Des) VanArsdale joined **Hawkeye Community College** on August 16, 2021, as a financial aid specialist. Des was born and raised in Waterloo, IA and is a 2013 graduate of East High School. He is the youngest of five, and claims to be extremely spoiled! He also says he is the pickiest eater you'll ever meet, and his favorite color is white. Des is expecting a son in early October whose name will be Aubren Braxton-Joy VanArsdale. Des loves sports, cooking, traveling and meeting new people, so he says if you see him around Hawkeye campus, please say hello! He is very excited for what the future holds for him at Hawkeye Community College!



Ella Monroe



Des Van Aresdale

Member Voices

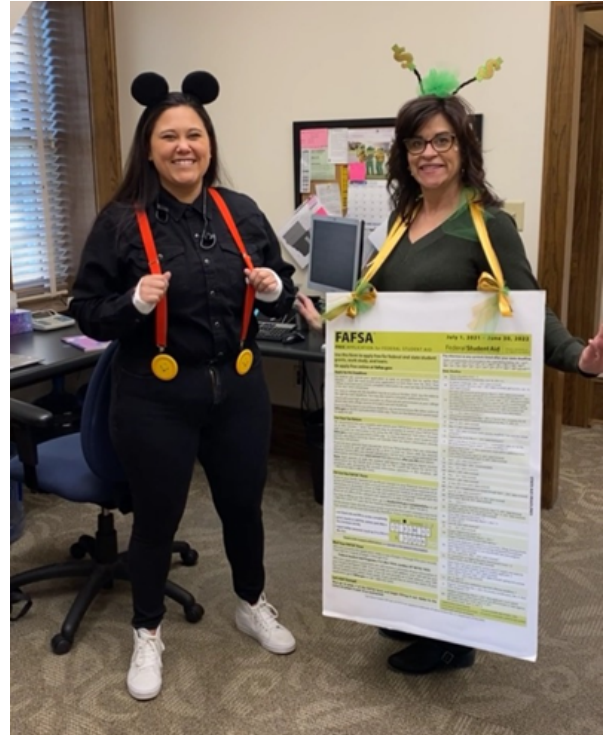
We asked about your favorite Halloween costumes!



Here are some pics from when we dressed as dominos in 2017. I have no idea who came up with it, except it definitely wasn't me. Sadly, I don't think we won the costume contest that year. That's Bridget Dusek, Ami Westcott (no longer in financial aid), Cindi Reints (retired), Matt Falduto, and Cassie Brown.

Member Voices, cont.

Tracie Pavon (Simpson) "Here is a fun costume of me as a FAFSA – we actually did this for Halloween and FAFSA awareness. We handed out candy bars with the FAFSA url."



Sarah Freestone (Grandview) "Here are our 2020 winning Halloween costumes. Left to right: Angie Dickinson, Dustin Reis, Chad Peters Sarah Freestone."

Duane Polsdofer, Jr. (Waldorf) "Here is Uncle Fester from a couple of years ago."



Connect with us!

Please send content suggestions or member updates to tristan.lynn@iowa.gov.



Like the IASFAA page on Facebook for more updates and photos!