

# Ethics Commission Members

## December 2014



National Chair Eileen O'Leary nominated the following individuals for the Ethics Commission, and the NASFAA Board confirmed this group on a Dec. 15 conference call:

### **Mary Sommers (chair)**

Director of Financial Aid, University of Nebraska at Kearney - [sommersm@unk.edu](mailto:sommersm@unk.edu)

Mary Sommers is currently the Director of Financial Aid at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She has been working in financial aid in Montana and Nebraska for 26 years. Prior to coming to UNK she was the Director of Financial Aid and also an Admissions Counselor at Rocky Mountain College, Billings, MT. Mary has served as a representative at Large on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). She also served as chair of NASFAA's Task Force on the Code of Conduct and Statement of Ethical Principles. She is the proud recipient of NASFAA's Meritorious Achievement Award. In her state and region Mary has served on two occasions as the President of the Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. She was the President of the Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA) in 2004. Over her career, Mary has presented at state, regional and national conferences on a number of financial aid and higher education topics.

### **Runan Pendergrast (1 year)**

Chief Financial Aid Director at Bluegrass Community & Technical College - [runan.pendergrast@kctcs.edu](mailto:runan.pendergrast@kctcs.edu)

Runan is the Chief Financial Aid Director at Bluegrass Community & Technical College. Runan has been with Bluegrass for nine years. Prior to working at Bluegrass she worked as a Financial Aid Counselor at Eastern Kentucky University for two years and at the University of Louisville for 10 years as an Application Process and Student Worker. Runan has been a member of the KASFAA since 1997. She has presented at KASFAA workshop and conferences. She has served on many KASFAA Committees as member, co-chair and chair. She was one of the founding committee members of College Goal Sunday in Kentucky. She was elected as KASFAA Vice-President for Training in 2005-06. She served as KASFAA President in 2006-07. She was KASFAA New Aid Member Workshop curriculum coordinator for two years. Runan has been a member of SASFAA since 1997. She served as volunteer on the Community Service Project for Kentucky, conference presenter, member of the SASFAA Board in 2006-07, SASFAA New Aid Officers Workshop instructor for three years, SASFAA New Aid Officers Workshop curriculum coordinator, and is current serving as SASFAA Vice President for training. Runan believes in education. Her goal is to make a difference in the lives of all students regardless of age, race, or gender. She views financial aid as tool to assist all students in meeting their educational goals. This is what drives her to work and learn as much as she as can about the field she loves.

### **Janice Dorian (1 year)**

President and Financial Aid Administrator, Mansfield Beauty School - [jdorian@mansfieldbeautyschools.edu](mailto:jdorian@mansfieldbeautyschools.edu)

Janice Dorian is the President and Financial Aid Administrator of Mansfield Beauty Schools where she has worked for over 30 years. Janice has served in various state and national positions, for the proprietary sector as wells as for financial aid organizations. She chaired the first Government Relations Committee for the American Association of Cosmetology Schools. She also is a Past President of the American Association of Cosmetology Schools. She was a member of the advisory committee for the Massachusetts Higher Education Assistance Corporation as well as a member of their first their Student Loan Task Force which she later co-chaired. She is currently a member of the executive board of the National Direct Student Loan Coalition (NDSLCL) and a member of the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance advisory board. She is a recipient of many awards from the property sector as well as the financial aid community. She has been a non-federal negotiator on two Negotiated Rule-making teams that focused on Direct Loans and Student Financial Aid General Provisions. She is a former Commissioner for the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts & Sciences and a former Board member of the Massachusetts Board of Cosmetology. Janice was a trainer for the NASFAA Training Workshops and most recently served on NASFAA's FIC.

### **Jim Brooks (2 years)**

Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships, University of Oregon - [brooksja@uoregon.edu](mailto:brooksja@uoregon.edu)

this role since August 2011. Previous to that he was the Director of Student Financial Aid at the University of Missouri, and prior to that, served as a Senior Associate Director of Financial Aid at Indiana University. He has served on the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Board in various capacities, most recently as a Commission Director. He has also served on NASFAA committees, and currently serves on the 2014-15 AGC. During his time in the Midwest, he served as President and previous to that Treasurer, of the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA), as well as serving on various committees. He has also served on committees at the state association level, and served as faculty on regional and state association training programs.

### **Jim Swanson (2 years)**

Director of Financial Aid, The Colorado College - [jswanson@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:jswanson@coloradocollege.edu)

For the past 37 years, Jim has lived his passion of helping students, parents, high school counselors and fellow college administrators with the student financial aid process and advocating access to higher education for low-income families. He began his financial aid career at Eastern Montana College (now Montana State University- Billings) in 1977. In 1986, he left his home state of Montana to re-locate to Atlanta, Georgia where he worked for the College Board in the Financial Aid Services division conducting financial aid training workshops throughout the US. Jim went back into the trenches of administering financial aid programs and directly helping students by becoming the Director of Financial Aid at Colorado College in 1993. For the past 21 years, he has served in that position assisting students finance their education to attend that small private liberal arts college located in Colorado Springs, CO. Jim has volunteered on numerous state, regional and national association's committees and task forces as well as on the College Board National Council and Financial Aid Standard and Services Advisory Committee (FASSAC). In leadership positions, Jim has served as president of state and regional financial aid associations and, on the national association level, as a member of the NASFAA Board of Directors as NASFAA Commission Director and Representative-at-Large.

### **Pam Fowler (3 years)**

Executive Director, Office of Financial Aid, University of Michigan - [pfowler@umich.edu](mailto:pfowler@umich.edu)

Pam Fowler is the Executive Director of Financial Aid at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, and was the NASFAA National Chair for 2011-2012. Pam has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in financial aid administration, having also served in senior financial aid management at Eastern Michigan University, the University of Missouri – St. Louis, and Ivy Tech State College. She has been active at the state, regional, and national levels in a wide range of advocacy roles, and has published several articles in the NASFAA *Student Aid Transcript*. A former MASFAA president, her MASFAA recognitions include having been honored with the Purdy Distinguished Service Award and the Meritorious Service Award. NASFAA recognized Pam's service with their Regional Leadership Award, Meritorious Achievement and Distinguished Service Awards. She has also been an active member of the College Board, the National Direct Student Loan Coalition, former national chair of the Coalition of State University Aid Administrators, and has served as a trainer and a negotiator for the U.S. Department of Education. Pam brings a passion for the support of need-based financial aid, and has an inclusive outlook in her service to NASFAA as she tours the various regions and identifies ways to support various types of institutions in managing the administration of financial aid.

### **Lisa Hopper (3 years)**

Mrs. Lisa Hopper, National Park Community College (SWASFAA President- 2014) - [lhopper@npcc.edu](mailto:lhopper@npcc.edu)

Lisa Hopper has been at the National Park Community College since 1998 and has over 22 years of experience in the higher education profession. Over the years she has been active in state, and regional professional associations. She has been the recipient of several awards including the AASFAA Distinguished Service award and the AASFAA Rookie of the Year award. She is a former AASFAA President and Treasurer, has also served on SWASFAA's Board of Directors as both a state president and a representative-at-large. Hopper has served on the regional financial affairs and strategic/long range planning committees and the national code of conduct and ethics, board handbook, and nominations and elections committees.

National Chairs: Eileen O'Leary, Ron Day (replacing Craig Munier), Dan Mann

NASFAA President: Justin Draeger, President & CEO, NASFAA

NASFAA Secretary: Beth Maglione, VP, Communications, NASFAA