***Region II Meeting (Zoom)***

***April 14, 2023***

17 attendees: David Rocca (UR), Hali Conrad (UR), Margaret Christian (URM), BJ Revill (URM), Kimberley Willis (Brockport), Nora Bell (Brockport), Carrie Welch (UR), Joe Bevilacqua (UR), Kris Ohman (RIT), Jane Gilliland (Alfred University), J’Dale Berner (Syracuse), Jen Roberts (Brockport), Deidre Strutz (Brockport), Heather Allen (Brockport), Renee Swift (Fisher), Jon Heininger (Geneseo), Shalena Clary (Corning)

Special guest: Patti Donahue, NYSFAAA President

***President’s Welcome, Patti Donahue***

Happy to meet with the region. February Advocacy Day coincided with Valentine’s Day, met with state and HESC leaders; talking points: expand reach of TAP (increase minimum from 500 to 1000, increase NTI from 80K to 110K, reimagining Grad TAP, expanding PT TAP for all degree seeking students including those at proprietary schools, eliminating disparity in TAP awards [ex. Returning adult students cannot have TAP with more than 10K in NTI]); continued support of opportunity programs (EOP, SEEK, HEOP); talked about PJ authority (empowering HESC with greater PJ authority aligned with us, they are limited in their capacity to appeal); ensure eligible students whose loans have been in pandemic forbearance would still be eligible with Back on Your Feet loan forgiveness, nothing in legislation that accommodated pandemic payment pause; refocus Bundy Aid funding (increase funding by 10%)

Recently, government relations compiled a statement of comments for Third Party Servicer guidance (email sent last week); Submitted comments within deadline, ED got over 1000 comments; start date no longer September 1

President’s Goals: continue to refresh/revamp/revitalize website; get to “have fun” with website; with help of web team trying to de-clutter and make it easier to navigate; take a look when you have a chance; changes and new layouts are based on survey feedback; still a work in progress; Sean Sherwood will do a demo for ExecCouncil on Monday; send feedback to Patti or Jane

Nominations for President Elect and Treasurer Elect open now; any questions, reach out to Patti; please consider these positions or other positions or other volunteer opportunities

Novice is in-person, registration open, June 4 – 9 at Mercy College

Note calendars for 55th annual NYSFAAA conference, October 11 – 13, Albany Marriott; had a great time last fall, so great to be in-person; please consider and consult budgets and hope to see you there

Questions?

Thanks to our regional service representatives! Please encourage others to serve to keep us collaborating!

***Secretary Report, Renee Swift***

Minutes sent out after last meeting. Any questions let me know.

***Treasury Report, Jon Heininger***

$6717.66 in treasury, received revenue sharing check for $565 (will be deposited); needs EIN number for W9. Shalena shared that Joe can provide updated W9, email treasurer@nysfaaa.org.

***Executive Council Report, Jane Gilliland***

Next meeting is Monday, April 17. No updates or meetings since last region meeting.

***Vendor Updates***

None in attendance

***Region Chair Updates, David and Hali***

In-person in May or June (last meeting for summer break); location hosts? RIT had previously offered when we were set for February SWT. Can look at an outdoor meeting location for get-together/business meeting. Could push it out to September if no takers for in-person. Would suggest June versus May. Let’s loosely plan for September to be in-person and consider schedule moving forward (hybrid). June 16th at Geneseo for in-person. Jon will coordinate. If June date for in-person does not work out, we will plan for September in-person.

***Fresh Start***

***Loan Forgiveness***

***Payment Pause***

***Simplified FAFSA***

Jon – any trainings by ED that can be accessed? Hali said they just released a summer series of webinars and roadmap. Anyone doing any outreach or other plans about FAFSA Simplification? J’Dale said they are starting next week to devise plans. Fisher planning on FAFSA campaign notifications shortly. Software updates for work-study reporting. Ellucian updates for work-study reporting. COD will have to release file layout.

***Third-party Servicers***

***New business***

Looking for region II membership representative; please email Hali or Dave for more information.

Any ideas on future meeting topics? Speakers?

Please attend the DEI webinar, Collaborative Leadership, Individual Ownership: Approach to DEIA.

***Next meeting: June 16th, Geneseo, 11am, in-person***

*Submitted,*

*Renee Swift*