



Newsletter

Submitted by
Jacquie Carroll and Renee Baker
NAFAA president and vice-president

People Updates

Laura Whitelaw as agreed to served on the NAFAA board as past president, to fill the position vacated by Marsha Dupree. Thanks, Laura for your willingness to serve. We appreciate your knowledge and expertise.

Christina F. Twelves transferred to Nevada State College as the new Director of Financial Aid on August 2, 2004. She began her financial aid career as a federal work-study student 14 years ago at UNLV and has experienced many opportunities while working within the field of financial aid. She is very pleased to have been asked to join the NSC family and looks forward to watching this gem in the desert shine brighter and brighter. She enjoys working with the NSC Student Financial Services team, which consists of two Financial Aid Advisors, Anita Daphnis and Jennifer Tubwell. Together they will create an environment that promotes access to higher education for all students using the various means available to students through federal, state, and private funding.

The University of Nevada, Reno Financial Aid Office brought on several new staff members over the summer. The three new financial aid advisors are Nicholas Boschert (formerly of Sonoma State), Corinne Soltis (formerly of Pacific Lutheran University), and Stephanie Nichols (formerly of Dyersburg State Community College). Kathy Imasaki and Jannine Haggard have each joined the UNR staff as Administrative Assistants, for scholarships and student employment respectively.

Earlier this summer, Paige Hurley and Pat Barnett, both of Truckee Meadows Community College, were recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Attorney General's office for being instrumental in uncovering a \$1 million student loan scam. The Las Vegas Review Journal article detailing the incident can be found at http://www.reviewjournal.com/lvrj_home/2004/Jun-08-Tue-2004/news/24057256.html .

Also this summer, Truckee Meadows Community College welcomed Summer Willis, their new full-time administrative aid for application processing.

Conference News

Planning for the 2004 NAFAA Conference is well under way. The theme is “Reflections of Change” and our keynote speaker Eileen Kean, with Kean Government Services promises to provide some interesting insights from the Financial Aid lobbyist perspective.

We have also selected the school for Project Starfish: Reynaldo Martinez Elementary School in Las Vegas

This school enrollment is 785 children--Kindergarten to 5th grade. The school has a 71% student transience. This is the highest school transience in the State of Nevada. The school has the highest population of homeless children in the state. Many of the Reynaldo Martinez School children are residents of The Shade Tree.

We encourage everyone who donate as many books as possible. Books may be shipped in advance to Rhonda Groce at UNLV, Department of Financial Aid, 4505 Maryland Parkway, NV 89129.

Training

WASFAA Training is schedule for both southern and northern Nevada at the times, dates and location listed below:

Southern Nevada

Location: UNLV

Date: October 29, 2004

Time: 9:00- 5:00 p.m.

Northern Nevada

Location: Career College of Northern Nevada

Date: November 5, 2004

Time: 9:00- 5:00 p.m.

Scholarships

USA Funds awards \$192,000 in scholarships to Nevada residents

Submitted by: Ryan Chase, USA Funds Services

USA Funds[®], the federally designated guarantor of education loans in Nevada, has awarded 132 new and renewal scholarships totaling \$192,000 to deserving college-bound students in Nevada. USA Funds Access to Education Scholarships[®] assist students in financial need — particularly students who are members of ethnic-minority groups or are physically disabled — as they finance their higher education.

Because USA Funds serves as Nevada’s designated guarantor, residents of the state receive priority consideration for the scholarships.

The awards include 60 new scholarships totaling \$86,250 and 72 renewal scholarships totaling \$105,750 to Nevada residents.

The scholarships provide each full-time undergraduate and graduate student with \$1,500; each half-time undergraduate receives \$750. Students who maintain grade-point averages of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale may receive renewal scholarships annually until the students receive their final degrees or certificates, or until the total award to a student reaches \$6,000.

Scholarship Management Services, a program of Scholarship America, the nation's largest private-sector scholarship and educational-support organization, administers the program.

Visit the USA Funds Web site — www.usafunds.org — for a list of scholarship recipients. Information about USA Funds' 2005 scholarship program will be posted on the USA Funds Web site beginning Oct. 1.