

CCCSfAAA

news

President's Message

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 MAY 2002

The following is text from the speech given by CCCSFAAA president Joaquin Jimenez at the 2001 CCCSFAAA Conference in San Francisco.

I want to thank you for the faith you showed in me by electing me your President. Why did I run? I've been in this profession, on two coasts, for thirty-one years and have had a hell of a time, so I figure I needed to give something back before I'm too old to remember what I do.

I hope you realize what you did when your regions chose your reps and the body, as a whole, elected this slate of officers. It's a hell of a board. I'll need a lot more than a gavel to quiet this group. However, that's OK, because that's why you elected them and me, to speak out for the profession, you and more importantly—our students.

I know that the Board will be vocal but we need more than them to be active if we're going to be successful. The board needs you to speak out and to get out:

- Get out to training workshops!
- Get out to your local area high schools and organizations!
- Get out and speak the financial aid "word" not only to the populace but also your local, state and national legislators and lawmakers.

We'll need you to help us by hosting workshops, writing newsletter articles and becoming active members of CCCSFAAA committees.

Every year, we say it can't get worse, in terms of regulations, workload and the minutia we face. And some how it does. However, as we also do every year, we need to prepare for it.

Our theme for next year's conference is "Catch The Wave." Having the conference in San Diego makes it a little easier to catch some of the wet ones. However, there will be many more waves, not so wet, that we'll be facing next year and in the near future.

We'll also be facing the wave of technology that is already consuming us. Our students are growing up in an era where they can do most, if not all, of their shopping, play, studies, and arrangements for who to date on the web without

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HOT NEWS

2002-03 Student Guides are now available on the internet. More information is available at www.ifap.ed.gov.

Check out the site for the 2002 Negotiated Rulemaking via www.ifap.ed.gov. It provides the Negotiated Rulemaking agenda, a list of the negotiators, the fed up project and much more.

Dear Colleague Letter (CB-01-15 (NOV) provides the latest version of the new Federal Perkins Loan promissory notes. The new promissory notes can be obtained in pdf format at www.ifap.ed.gov.

For the Seventh straight year, CSAC/EDFUND's Default Rate has declined.

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CCCSFAAA NEWSLETTER

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CCCSFAAA welcomes member views, articles, photographs or reports. Submissions are subject to some modification.

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CCCSFAAA Web Page: www.cccsfaaa.org

Federal Issues Update

I hope that the start of the spring semester or quarter is going well at your campuses. Since the spring semester start-up is freshly behind me, I can now roll up my sleeves to begin a busy year of work ahead for the Federal Issues Committee. I have sought volunteers to serve on the 2002 Federal Issues Committee and enlisted some help from veteran federal legislative experts such as Sandy Ninemire of EDFUND, Lisa Fuller of CSAC, and Linda Michalowski from the Chancellor's Office. With their expertise in monitoring federal issues, they will be a valuable resource for the Committee and to the association. We also have savvy veterans such as Susan Lipsmeyer of Grossmont College and Pat Hurley of Glendale Community College, who is an alternate Negotiated Rulemaking representative for Team II representing the 2-year public colleges. Rounding out the committee is Anafe Robinson of LA Mission College and Karen O'Neal of Miracosta College who will contribute their talents to the group.

I will be working closely with Jack Millis, CASFAA Vice President and Federal Issues Chair and Susan Jones, CASFAA Community College Segmental Representative to make sure we communicate our segmental concerns and the work of our Committee between us.

I want to acknowledge the efforts of the 2001 Federal Issues Committee led by Glenn Schenk of West LA College. They left us a roadmap in the joint CASFAA/CCCSFAAA Priority Listing of FED.UP initiatives that we will use to begin framing our discussions of federal issues.

Now that Congress has begun working on the budget and the first round of Negotiated Rulemaking meetings have convened, we are working to set up our first meeting in mid-February. We will use the e-mail list-serves, your CCCSFAAA Regional Representatives, and CCCSFAAA News to keep you informed. I look forward to an exciting and busy year in serving you as Vice President and Chair of Federal Issues for 2002.

Craig Yamamoto
CCCSFAAA Vice President 2002

2002 CCCSFAAA Executive Board

President: Joaquin Jimenez, Fresno City College | Vice President: Craig Yamamoto, Sierra Community College | President-Elect: John Muskavitch, Crafton Hills College | Treasurer: Toni DuBois, Long Beach City College | Secretary: Sandy Clark, Victor Valley College

CCCSFAA Conference Appreciation

I don't know about you, but I've been to a few association conferences and each time I'm impressed by all of the organization that takes place. Unlike my daily schedule, just finding time to read the calendar is a challenge. So I ask myself, who was responsible for this marvel of organization skill that put so many people in right place at the right time? The CCCSFAAA Conference Committee, of course.

I have always wondered who took the time to make sure Session 122 was in room #1 or Session 144 was moved from room #3 to room #5. The number of creative, innovative individuals with cell phones and two-way radios; communicating such verbiage as who is speaking where and when and "what do you mean they can't set up a sound system in that room!" Through it all, the committee gets things done smoothly and calmly. The juggling of duties alone amazes me because there is always so much going on I become engrossed in the how calm and professional the committee members remain throughout the conference.

My goodness, I think and marvel at the themes, the coordination of people, meals and entertainment. The entire event deserves awards and recognition

for the tireless efforts our members give. To those who participate on past, present and future conference committees, I say, thank you and congratulations! You do a wonderful job of taking care of your members and making these events appear problem free.

So what if there's one typographical error in the program or the vendor I was looking for wasn't there; I found a new vendor. I got to the session I wanted to attend and along the way made new friends

with colleagues from all over this wonderful state.

So this issue of the CCCSFAAA newsletter is dedicated to the hardworking members of the CCCSFAAA 2001 Conference Committee. It was much appreciated! 🍀

Kim Miles
Pasadena City College

Whatta Conference...

Another year has come and gone. Where does the time go? This year's conference turned out great, but wait a minute... Don't we say that every year? Starting off with our guest speaker George Takei things got rolling. Our student success stories were indeed stories of success. Our professional success stories really show that "WE" do, can and have made a difference.

I had the opportunity to meet so many colleagues this year that I know I can never remember all their names. However, I can recall two from Diablo Valley: Eva and Edie. When I told them I knew their boss, I was only kidding. I didn't even know we had a Diablo Valley college, let alone the Director but as it turned out I did know their boss and did I get them in trouble. They were forced to smile at me for the rest of the conference. Oh, how I enjoyed it! Can't wait to see you this December, remember: keep smiling or I'll have to speak to your boss again!

I really need to thank all the conference committee members once again for a job well done. Once again the members were:

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Also, I need to send a special thanks to my staff and my work-study workers. One in particular, Cerelle Alborn, who dedicated the last several weeks of the year working diligently on

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Whatta Conference ...

not only the conference, but also her regular work study duties. I hope someday she will be a guest speaker at one of our conferences for a future success story. After working in Financial Aid and with me, I am sure she has no desire to pursue a career in financial aid although she has the potential.

There is so much that goes on behind the scenes of the conference to make every event a success. Did you know EDFUND sends and pays for their own audio/visual staff to come to the conference and work on set-up, etc.? Shon Wilcox and Kim Tran are the techie specialists that EDFUND provides both CCCSFAAA and CASFAA to assist us in the workshops. Their hard work should not go unrecognized or unnoticed.

Our "Bags for Books" campaign gathered over 5,000 bags for the inner city students of San Francisco. A huge thank you goes out to CASFAA for joining in such a worthy cause.

Our smallest ideas can and do make such a world of difference. This is why I am asking you to please join CCCSFAAA as a volunteer as your support is needed. I had the opportunity to meet so many new people at this year's conference and Santa Rosa College has offered to assist in the planning of the 2003 conference. Two gals from UCI, yes...this is not a typo UCI have also offered to assist CCCSFAAA. Let's face it, regardless of what segment we are from, the main goal is to work for the student. We all serve the same student. They are the future. We can all work together to assist them, not only helps us, but also the economy and the future for all.

I once again want to ask you to step forward and volunteer for YOUR organization to help make it the best and the strongest in the nation. No matter what or how you contribute your time, your college or your knowledge, the smallest contribution helps make the greatest difference. To volunteer please contact Sandy Clark at: Victor Valley College, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92392-9699, (760) 245-4271 or sclark@victor.cc.ca.us.

By John Muskavitch
Crafton Hills College

Region III

Welcome to our new colleague, **Kristin Shear**, Financial Aid Director at Santa Rosa Jr. College.

Laney College is currently knee-deep in exploring the best venue for a One-Stop Student Services Center. If any college has a particular Center design that is really working well, **Judith Cohen** at Laney would appreciate any information you can share. Our first Regional Meeting went very well. I am pleased to have the very cordial and diplomatic **Tim Bonnel** as our new Financial Aid Coordinator from the Chancellor's Office. It will be a productive year. It has been a cold winter in Northern California, and I am looking out at a particularly beautiful day in February. Bring on Spring! I look forward to seeing you and your support staff at our CCCSFAAA Spring Fling. 🌱

By Judy Cohen

Region V

The Fresno City College financial aid office wants to congratulate Joaquin Jimenez, our Associate Dean of District Financial Aid Services, as CCCSFAAA's new president this year. Joaquin has been a financial aid administrator for 30 years and has served in New York state and the past 13 years at State Center Community College District. I know Joaquin will serve us well as our new CCCSFAAA President. 🌱

By Frank Ramon

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HOT NEWS

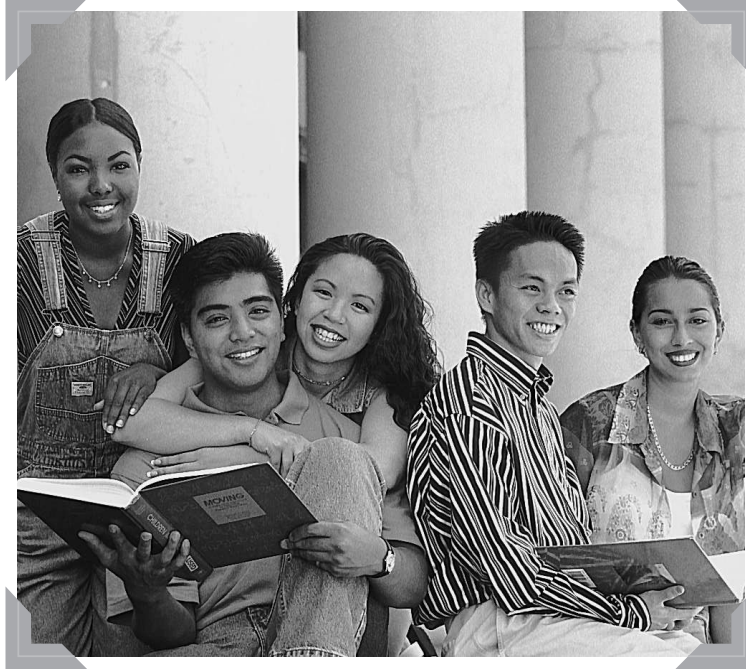
Hard work has paid off with a full percentage point drop from 7.3 to 6.3 percent.

Look at the exciting news about the EDSHARE™ program at www.edfund.org. According to their website news, "EDFUND will contribute up to \$4 million a year for the next three years to help higher

education institutions with default prevention programs for their student loan recipients."

The NASFAA 2002 Conference is scheduled for July 21-24 in New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information about NASFAA 2002, go to www.nasfaa.org. 🌱

STUDENTS FIRST



At EdFund, it's more than a motto. It's the mantra that helps us to focus on the solutions that benefit you and your students. It's on everything we produce: award-winning default prevention videos... financial aid workbooks... our annual student financial aid calendar. It's in everything we do: front-line service... training workshops... online products. Whatever it takes to make you more productive in serving your students. And through our Voluntary Flexible Agreement, we continue to create innovative solutions to serve your students.

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www.edfund.org

Dennis' Web

finding information and finding it fast are important in our very busy workdays. Sometimes we are helping students complete the various financial aid forms, and instead of having a printed source of information, the internet has the information we are looking for, and NOW.

The working web:

One of my "most visited" websites while helping students complete their Master Promissory Notes is the U.S. Postal Service (www.usps.com). Most students know where their family/references live, but they never seem to know the zip code. Finding a zip code is fast and easy here.

Helping our students complete their *FAFSAs* can be daunting. Sometimes we have students who are relatively new to the U.S. or have parents overseas. In these cases the Universal Currency Converter (www.xe.com/ucc) comes in handy. And it can convert just about any currency out there in our world.



In financial aid we sometimes can't obtain all the information we need from a tax form. A site I found (by accident) is Domainia (www.domainia.com). This web site allows you to find the recent sale prices for property across the U.S. Sometimes I use this site to confirm the value of properties that our students and/or their parents list for rental properties. You can also get an idea of local property values.

The site has sales prices going back to 1987 in many cases. As a hint for using the site: use a ZIP code in place of a city name to make your searching more exact.

Let it be known that I don't advocate "spying" on our students. I mention the above web sites *only* as a reference because situations arise every now and then when we need information not found elsewhere.

The fun web:

Considering the money I spend on premium cable channels (HBO, Showtime, etc.), I hate it when I miss a showing of a movie that I like. So when I found My TV Taxi (www.mytvtaxi.com) I knew I had found exactly what I needed. My TV Taxi allows you to see your local TV schedule or search for specific airdates of shows and movies. And the site has movie reviews and direct links to most of the cable networks. I think it's better than most TV related sites.

Due to the timing of this CCCSFAAA newsletter publication we are offering a two-for-one special on Dennis's Web articles. Enjoy.

Every once in a while you need to find someone. Or you receive a request of information about a student. Are there sources of information on the internet for this purpose? Of course!

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New to CCCSFAAA

Let's send an extended welcome to our new Community College colleagues:

✦ Carmen Connell has accepted the position of Financial Aid Assistant at Los Medranos College. Carmen has been on staff at Los Medranos for nine years, is an avid football fan (her youngest grandson is a defensive end for the Chicago Bears), and loves her job, movies and watching television. At Los Medranos, the students affectionately refer to Carmen as "Grammy."

✦ Dennis Franco has accepted the position of Financial Aid Assistant at Los Medranos College. Dennis grew up in the Bay Area and transferred from Diablo Valley College, to the University of San Francisco where he graduated with honors. Dennis has held a variety of positions in the Contra Cost Community College District and is delighted with the opportunity to work in the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

✦ Patricia Shannon has accepted the position of Financial Aid Technician at Lassen College. Patricia was formerly the Administrative Assistant and now coordinates the student loan, is the VA representative and Cal Grant Coordinator.-

✦ Katherine Lister has accepted the position of Financial Aid Officer at Barstow College. Katherine replaces the David VanLandingham who retired.

✦ Donna Holloway has accepted the position of Assistant Director at Pasadena City College. Donna hails from Cal State Channel Islands where she handled everything from orientation to scholarship coordinator. Donna is the proud parent of an 11 year-old daughter, Megan.

A special welcome to all of the new additions at Fresno City College:

✦ Otha Lewis is the new Financial Aid Programmer Analyst

✦ Jessica Silva is the new Financial Aid Assistant I is responsible for our loan program and student intake.

✦ Gary Nicholes is the new Financial Aid Assistant I is responsible for Outreach and student intake.

✦ Howard Barile is the new Account Technician I responsible for all reconciliation. 🍀

Congratulations!

To Bettie Rodriguez-Quiros a Financial Aid Advisor at Rio Hondo College who was married on November 16, 2001 to her long time boyfriend. The happy couple is expecting their first child in August.



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Dennis's Web

The working web:

CBS owns and operates the Switchboard (www.switchboard.com). AT&T has AnyWho (www.anywho.com), and Yahoo! has People Search (<http://people.yahoo.com>). If you need to find a mailing address, e-mail address or telephone number, these sites can help. I've used them to find long lost friends

from Wisconsin since moving to Missouri then California. These websites may not always find the person, but they often do.

When it comes to searching for information other than specific people, there are many, many, many websites out there to help you. A favorite of mine is Dogpile (www.dogpile.com).

This site allows you to do a meta-search of multiple search engines. This way, you can look at results from Yahoo!, AltaVista, InfoSeek, and other websites all at once and decide who has the best results for you.

Stay tuned for the another in this series of articles, coming in your next CCCSFAAA newsletter. 🍀

Disclaimer: Web sites mentioned in the above article have not solicited or paid for their endorsement. Opinions expressed by Dennis Schroeder are not necessarily those of CCCSFAAA or of the CCCSFAAA newsletter staff. Usage of information or services of the mentioned Web sites are at the users' own risk. Surf on, but surf safely.

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President's Message

stepping out of their homes. While some may say that they need to get out more and catch some fresh air (and I would agree), we still need to "Catch That Wave" and see how we can provide our students with a more efficient and effective way to apply for financial aid without having to jump the number of hoops we place in front of them.

I realize staff, or better said the lack of staff, is always a problem, but we have to make sure that we do the best with the technology that is available now to most of our students with the staff we have. We also need to "catch the technological wave" from the Department of Education or we'll be eaten up by a heck of big COD fish.

We'll also be facing that wave that hits every five years from Washington, D.C.: Negotiated regs and whatever evolves from "FedUp" and Reauthorization. Not to mention what faces us as the wave of terrorism grows.

However, interestingly enough, resources for education and students in this country have, historically seen it's greatest moments as the result of threats to the nations security and freedom. The Second World War produced the G.I. bill in 1946. The Russian threat to the space race in the form of Sputnik in the late fifties produced the National Defense Act and the National

Defense Student Loan. The civil rights movement and freedom riders of the early sixties helped produce the Civil Rights act of 1965 and the Educational Opportunity Grant and Federal Work Study. The marches against the war in Viet Nam, race riots of the late 60 and the aging of the baby boomers (Remember the G.I bill-it's all related) to college age in the early seventies produced the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant in 1972 later to become the Pell grant.

Therefore, although we may fear threats to our way of life, we also know how to face them. So let's be sure to "catch the waves" that we'll be facing in the next year. It's a daunting challenge.

Thank you for allowing the board and me to be in a position to ride that wave.

So as I close this meeting, I ask you to help us all "catch that wave" in San Diego a year from now.

Thank you and see you all in San Diego on December 13, 2002. 🌿

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