

April 8, 2024, and April 9, 2024

University of Utah Alumni House
155 Campus Drive
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112



UASFAA

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

SPRING CONFERENCE 2024

UASFAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA MONDAY, APRIL 8

Kevin Howe
UASFAA PRESIDENT

Christina Ayres
UASFAA PRESIDENT-ELECT

Nate Blanchard
UASFAA PAST-PRESIDENT

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:00 - 9:00	Conference Registration	Atrium
8:45 - 9:00	Welcome Kevin Howe - UASFAA President	Ballroom A & B
9:00 - 9:15	Conference Welcome Dr. Mitzi Montoya - Provost, University of Utah	Ballroom A & B
9:20 - 10:20	NASFAA Top FAFSA Simplification Questions Jill Desjean - Senior Policy Analyst, NASFAA	Ballroom A & B
10:20-10:40	Networking Break & Corporate Sponsor Visits	Atrium
10:40-11:50	NASFAA Credential Consumer Information - Day 1 Jill Robinson & Leo Howell - Western Governors University	Ballroom A
	Gen Z: It's a VIBE Jeff Lackey - Sallie Mae	Ballroom B
	GI Bill[®] and Financial Aid - Helping Veterans Andy Allen, et al. - USU Veteran Resource Office	Ballroom C
12:00 - 1:30	LUNCH	Ballroom A & B
1:30 - 2:20	USHE State Aid Programs Cassidy Dragunat & Ashley Reyes - Utah System of Higher Education	Ballroom A & B
2:20-2:30	Networking Break & Corporate Sponsor Visits	Atrium
2:30 - 3:20	NASFAA Credential Campus-Based Programs - Day 1 Alauna Bates & Nadine Sevier Pattie - Utah Valley University	Ballroom A
	An Introduction to my529, Utah Educational Savings Plan Jenny Sass - my529	Ballroom B
	Making Space at the Table: Building Belonging into your Student Support Toolkit Sam Dalton - University of Utah	Ballroom C
3:20 - 3:30	Networking Break & Corporate Sponsor Visits	Atrium
3:30 - 4:15	FTI in a non-DRT World Tracey Buskier - South Dakota State University	Ballroom A & B
4:15 - 5:00	RMASFAA Update Kelli Engelhardt - RMASFAA President	Ballroom A & B

UASFAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA TUESDAY, APRIL 9

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:00-9:00	Breakfast	Ballroom A & B
9:00-10:00	UASFAA Business Meeting	Ballroom A & B
10:10-11:00	NASFAA Credential Consumer Information - Day 2 Jill Robinson & Leo Howell - Western Governors University	Ballroom A
	Admissions and Financial Aid: A Dynamic Duo for Student Success Brittany Baker-Brousseau & Moana Hansen-Kofe - University of Utah	Ballroom B
	Atomic Habits Christina Rose - Citizens Bank	Ballroom C
11:00-11:10	Networking Break & Corporate Sponsor Visits	Atrium
11:10-12:00	NASFAA Credential Campus-Based Programs - Day 2 Alauna Bates & Nadine Sevier Pattie - Utah Valley University	Ballroom A
	Internal & External Threats Facing Title IV Institutions Damian White; Special Agent - U.S. Department of Education OIG	Ballroom B
	USHE FAFSA Night Events Dyllen Cafferty - Utah System of Higher Education	Ballroom C
12:00-1:00	UASFAA Board Meeting	Ballroom A
Thank you for coming and we wish you safe travels!		



UASFAA

Utah Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

SESSION SUMMARIES

Monday, April 8th, 2024

Top FAFSA Simplification Questions

The biggest changes to the FAFSA in history will be implemented in the 2024-25 application cycle - are you ready? Explore the upcoming changes to the FAFSA, including direct data sharing with the IRS and a streamlined Federal Methodology, and learn more about the latest updates. Discover what questions your colleagues are asking as we all prepare for the 2024-25 award year.

Presenter: Jill Desjean - Senior Policy Analyst, NASFAA

NASFAA Credential Consumer Information

Instructors will bring all of the consumer information requirements together in one place, including required disclosures of institutional information, financial assistance information, campus and fire safety, completion and transfer-out rates, and athletics. Quick quizzes, learning activities, and reflection questions help reinforce content and help individuals determine if their schools are meeting regulatory requirements. Completion of this authorized event qualifies individuals to take the corresponding NASFAA Professional Credential test.

Presenter(s): Jill Robinson & Leo Howell - Western Governors University

Gen Z: It's a VIBE

The Student Experience: Strategies for Driving Student Engagement

Delivering a positive student experience relies on understanding their service expectations. This session will focus on distancing yourself from previously held expectations and exercising empathy in your student services role. Sallie Mae and a panel of college and university colleagues will discuss strategies for increasing the engagement with the students you serve.

Presenter: Jeff Lackey - Sallie Mae

Financing Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) through GI Bill® Benefits

This session discusses the GI Bill® benefits that help qualifying Veterans and their family members pay for all or some of the costs for college, graduate school, and training programs. USU School Certifying Officials will expound upon the various GI Bill® chapters and their requirements.

Presenters: Andy Allen, Melissa Duce, Paul Klimack and Rebecca Tyler - Utah State University Veterans Resource Office

USHE State Aid Programs

This session will include an overview of fourteen state-wide aid programs that provide options for recent high school graduates and adult learners to receive financial support to attend Utah college and universities. The presentation will discuss key requirements of the programs and conclude with an opportunity for questions. There have been changes to several programs in the last few years, so join us for the most up to date information.

Presenter(s): Ashely Reyes Manager of Student Financial Aid & Cassidy Dragnat - Utah System of Higher Education

NASFAA Credential Campus-Based Programs

Instructors will review the provisions common to all three of the campus-based programs along with detailed information about the individual programs (Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Perkins Loans). Completion of this authorized event qualifies individuals to take the corresponding NASFAA Professional Credential test.

Presenter(s): Alauna Bates & Nadine Sevier Pattie - Utah Valley University

An introduction to my529, Utah Educational Savings Plan

The presentation will cover: 529s and Utah's my529, tax advantages, investing with my529, how to contribute, how to use funds, and how to open a my529 account.

Presenter: Jenny Sass - my529

Making Space at the Table: Building Belonging into your Student Support Toolkit

Building your support toolkit can be intimidating. Student support takes on many forms, in the typical sense we think of academic advisors, maybe RAs, and professors there to offer guidance through the academic experience and the eventual completion of their degrees; but student support doesn't stop at disbursement. As members of an educational community, it is our responsibility to ensure that our students understand and utilize the resources at their disposal, not just to succeed academically but personally too. In this session we will explore the concepts of

belonging and access, how to create welcoming and inclusive spaces, and provide quality, consistent support to all our students through intentional change.

Presenter: Sam Dalton - University of Utah

FTI in a non-DRT World

Where we came from with DRT to where we are going with FTI. This session will cover several different areas of Federal Tax Information. Is your office prepared? Areas of discussion will include general background information, consent to disclosure, system processing, safeguarding requirements and more!

Presenter: Tracey Buisker - South Dakota State University

RMASFAA Update

Presenter: Kelli Engelhardt, President - RMASFAA

Tuesday, April 9th, 2024

UASFAA Business Meeting

NASFAA Credential Consumer Information

Instructors will bring all of the consumer information requirements together in one place, including required disclosures of institutional information, financial assistance information, campus and fire safety, completion and transfer-out rates, and athletics. Quick quizzes, learning activities, and reflection questions help reinforce content and help individuals determine if their schools are meeting regulatory requirements. Completion of this authorized event qualifies individuals to take the corresponding NASFAA Professional Credential test.

Presenter(s): Jill Robinson & Leo Howell - Western Governors University (WGU)

Admissions and Financial Aid: A Dynamic Duo for Student Success

Join us for a session focused on the pivotal role of collaborative partnerships between admissions and financial aid offices in driving enrollment and ultimately student success. In today's complex educational landscape, the seamless integration of admissions processes with comprehensive financial aid strategies is essential for attracting, enrolling, and retaining diverse student populations. Through real-world examples and best practices, this session will explore innovative approaches to aligning admissions goals with financial aid initiatives, ultimately enhancing access, affordability, and equity in higher education. Attendees will gain valuable insights and actionable strategies for fostering synergy between these critical departments, fostering student-centered practices, and optimizing resources to support the holistic needs of students on their educational journeys. Whether you're a seasoned administrator or a newcomer to the field, this session offers practical guidance and inspiration for creating a more inclusive and effective admissions and financial aid ecosystem. Don't miss this opportunity to collaborate and learn.

Presenter(s): Brittany Baker-Brousseau & Moana Hansen-Kofe, University of Utah (U of U)

Atomic Habits: Breaking Bad and Building New

Learn to break bad behaviors and create better ones by understanding the 4 laws of creating positive changes in your everyday life. Just as atoms are the building blocks of molecules, atomic habits are the building blocks of remarkable results. This session will show you how a little habit, no matter how small, can be an important part of a larger system to succeed. Just as important is learning how to break (or change a bad habit that is barring you from success).

Presenter: Christina Rose, Citizens Bank

NASFAA Credential Campus-Based Programs

Instructors will review the provisions common to all three of the campus-based programs along with detailed information about the individual programs (Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Perkins Loans). Completion of this authorized event qualifies individuals to take the corresponding NASFAA Professional Credential test.

Presenter(s): Alauna Bates & Nadine Sevier Pattie - Utah Valley University (UVU)

Internal and External Threats Facing Title IV Institutions

How your institutions can prevent student aid fraud.

Presenter: Special Agent Damian White, Office of Inspector General

Navigating the New FAFSA Statewide: A Report on Utah FAFSA Trainings and FAFSA Event Initiatives

Join me as we dive into the preparation and execution of FAFSA outreach initiatives statewide with the new 2024-25 FAFSA Form. Together we will explore the strategic approaches, training methods, and impact of FAFSA Night events held in high schools. This presentation will review data from our trainings and high school FAFSA events, provide insight of those who volunteered at these events, and ultimately will give you a visual of how FAFSA completion efforts have been conducted during this odd FAFSA year. If you want to see how high school FAFSA outreach played out this school year, this is the session to attend.

Presenter: Dyllen Cafferty, MPA - FAFSA State Coordinator for the Utah System of Higher Education

UASFAA Board Meeting

GUEST SPEAKERS AND PRESENTER BIOS



Andy Allen is a retired United States Army Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) who served as Deputy Director of Intelligence of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Training Mission-Afghanistan, supporting Afghanistan National Security Forces' efforts to protect and secure national elections. After a 26-year active-duty Army career, he now serves as Director of Utah State University's Veterans Resource Office (VRO) since July 2022. Andy began his career as a Private and rose through the ranks to Sergeant, spending most of his enlisted years at the Presidio of Monterey, CA where he graduated as a Russian Linguist and at Fort Hood, TX as part of a cohort Intelligence Company. He then transitioned to the officer ranks, graduating as the Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG) from Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, GA. Andy served in such assignments as Counterintelligence (CI) Officer, 902d Military Intelligence (MI) Group, Commander, D Company, 229th MI Battalion, and Assistant Brigade Intelligence Officer for 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) where he provided

vital intelligence in support of combat operations and the first elections in a post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. He later served as the senior Intelligence Officer for 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (SBCT), Executive Officer of the 109th MI Battalion, 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, I Corps, both at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), WA, and Plans Officer, CI and Human Intelligence Operations Support Branch J2/SJ-X, U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), Offutt Air Force Base, NE. Andy completed his career with NATO during combat operations in Afghanistan and finally as the Senior Intelligence Planner with I Corps G2, JBLM, WA. Andy is married to Cathi Allen who also works at USU. He enjoys reading, movies, and playing pickleball.



Brittany Baker-Brousseau is the Senior Associate Director of Admissions Operations with the Office of Admissions at the University of Utah. Brittany's passion for college admissions has brought her from a college access CBD, to an independent high school, to a private university, to a public flagship (the University of Utah where she currently serves as the Senior Associate Director of Admissions Operations, Processing, and Application Review). The daughter of a college counselor and a community college instructor, she was raised to value education as not only an avenue for personal fulfillment but as a tool for promoting social justice, and looks forward to a long career in enrollment management.



Alaina Bates believes in the power of education to change lives (and even the world!) and loves being able to help students reach their educational goals through her work in Financial Aid and Scholarships. Alaina started working for Utah Valley University as a Federal Work Study employee in 2008 before moving to a regular staff position in UVU's Help Desk before graduating with a BA in Theatre Arts and BS in Digital Media. Alaina has worked as a financial aid professional since 2018 and has been UVU's Federal Work Study program coordinator for almost 5 years.



Tracey Buisker is an Assistant Director of Financial Aid at South Dakota State University. She started her financial aid career at Education Assistance Corp in 2003. She has also worked in the financial aid offices at the University of North Dakota and the University of Sioux Falls. Tracey and her husband Matt are the parents of two children, Abbigail (13) and Emma (10). In her free time, she is a volunteer coach and co-director of Brookings Youth Volleyball Club.



Dyllen Cafferty uses he/him pronouns and is native to the Southern Utah area but is happily trying to adjust to the colder climate of Cache Valley, Utah. After completing his Master in Public Administration at SUU (Southern Utah University) and serving as a College Access Adviser with UCAC (Utah College Advising Corps) Dyllen joined the state FAFSA efforts with UHEAA (Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority) which eventually placed him in the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE/USHE) as the FAFSA State Coordinator where he educates Utah high school professionals, students, and families about resources and opportunities for planning college costs, with a particular emphasis on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Dyllen believes every student should have equitable access to higher education. He hopes his efforts in training and supporting high school and college professionals, as well as helping students find ways to finance their higher education, will contribute to that access. Aside from these efforts, Dyllen loves spending time with his spouse, two boys, and his beagle. Dyllen enjoys

Mtn. Biking, hiking, pickleball, disc golf, gaming with family and friends, and nerds out over Star Wars, Spiderman, and music.



Sam Dalton (he/him/his) is an academic advisor in the College of Architecture + Planning at the University of Utah. Previously working for the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at the U of U, he currently works with undergraduate architecture and transfer students to ensure positive student outcomes and beneficial educational experiences. Sam graduated from the University of Utah in 2022 and is currently earning his master's in education for higher education administration from Franklin University, graduating in June 2024. His research interests include disability and the college experience, inclusion and student success and access initiatives for college completion. Sam is greatly looking forward to connecting again with the financial aid community and share his experiences with student success.



Jill Desjean is the senior policy analyst at the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. In her role, Jill interprets federal student aid legislation and regulations for NASFAA's members, works with NASFAA's members to develop policy recommendations, and provides feedback to policymakers on legislative and regulatory proposals. Prior to joining NASFAA in 2016, Jill enjoyed a 20-year career in financial aid administration, having held roles in the financial aid offices at Tufts University School of Medicine, MIT, Brandeis University, and the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts, as well as The New School in New York City. She earned her bachelor's degree from the College of the Holy Cross. Jill joined NASFAA in 2016 and now lives in Maryland with her husband and three children.



Cassidy Dragunat is the Scholarships and State Programs Director at the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE). She works with the state scholarship team striving to increase college readiness and equitable access to higher education for all Utah students. Prior to joining USHE, she worked in special education in New York. Cassidy earned a bachelor's degree from DePauw University in Indiana. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Educational Leadership and Policy. Outside of work, Cassidy spends her time outside with her husband and pup.



Melissa Duce is a Utah native who has lived in the Cache Valley most of her life. After a 20+ year career in pharmacy including holding the position of Pharmacy Director over six pharmacies, she decided to change careers and found the Veterans Resource Office (VRO) at USU. Implementing the skills she honed in pharmacy, including managing, courage, teamwork, and dedication to those she serves, Melissa serves as both the Program Coordinator and Lead VA Peer Mentor for the VITAL program – a program designed to reach out to student veterans to help them meet their needs and maximize their potential. She is passionate about serving the men and women who served our country, and their families, with the goal of helping each one be successful at Utah State University. She enjoys spending time with her 3 children and soaking up the sun whenever possible.



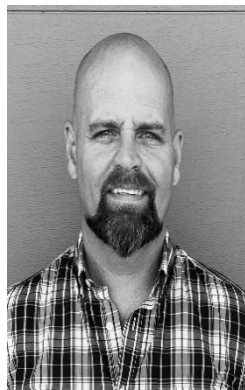
Kelli Engelhardt I was born and raised in Great Falls, MT. My husband Kenn and I have three grown daughters, four granddaughters, two grandsons and three dogs. I was lucky enough to be able to travel the world, as my husband was in the Air Force for over 26 years. We lived in locations such as Italy and Japan. We chose MT as our home after Kenn's retirement and enjoy all it has to offer! I have my associate degree from Laramie County Community College, my bachelor's from University of Maryland University College (now Global Campus), a master's in public relations from Montana State University- Billings and an MBA from Upper Iowa University. I began my financial aid career at Great Falls College – Montana State University as a Financial Aid Specialist in 2006. In September 2011, I moved to the position of Financial Aid Director at the University of Providence, a private non-profit institution. In my spare time I love to travel and spend time at our property in the Flathead area of Montana – especially with family.



Moana Hansen-Kofe serves as the Senior Associate Director of Recruitment within the Office of Admissions at the University of Utah, and has filled many roles on campus over the last two decades. As an alumna, Moana holds a Master of Public Administration with a focus on Higher Education Administration from the University of Utah. Moana currently serves as the Vice President of Recruitment for the Utah Association for Recruitment and Admissions Officers. Beyond her commitment to the university's advancement, Moana's primary focus remains on championing student success and optimizing outcomes.



Paul Klimack is a 22-year Army Veteran. He entered the Military in 1999 and was an Artilleryman for two years. In 2001, he accepted a Recruiting and Retention Position with the Utah Army National Guard (UTARNG) and continued that path for 20 years. Recruiting was his true calling. He received Top Recruiter for Utah four times and Top Recruiter for the Western United States once. He retired in 2022 achieving the rank of Master Sergeant (MSG). Throughout his military career, the well-being of his Soldiers was paramount. Regardless of how busy he was, MSG Klimack always took time to talk to his Soldiers to ensure their safety and to see if they had any issues or problems that needed his attention. That work ethic continued after retirement when Paul was hired at Utah State University's (USU) Veterans Resource Office (VRO) as a School Certifying Official (SCO). He remains dedicated to ensuring each veteran, service member, and veteran dependent receives all the GI Bill benefits they are entitled to and helping them navigate the sometimes-confusing world of academia to attain their degrees. As a SCO, Paul is trained in every facet of VA educational benefits' certification. Paul enjoys hiking, hockey and bird watching as well as working in his garden. He is also a WWII buff and likes to read every book and watch every documentary that deals with that subject.



Jeff Lackey has brought to Sallie Mae several years' experience in the higher education industry, as well as significant experience in other highly competitive industries. Most recently Jeff was the Director of Financial Aid at Peninsula College in Port Angeles, Washington and is involved with the CASFAA (California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) Graduate committee and WFAA (Washington Financial Aid Association) Student Budget committee. In his role at Sallie Mae, Jeff is a Director of Relationship Management and oversees school relationships throughout the Pacific Northwest and northern Rocky Mountain Region, working with college, university, and high school clients as well as directly with students to empower confidence in their educational journey.



Mitzi M. Montoya, Ph.D., was appointed provost and senior vice president for academic affairs in January, 2023. She joins the University of Utah with a vigor for solving problems, breaking barriers and innovating change for the greater good. Dr. Montoya is a thought leader in higher education. Throughout her career she has supported student and faculty success, enhanced entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystems and led collaborative initiatives to find solutions for social, technical and political challenges. Before joining the U, Dr. Montoya was the dean of the Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico and the Sara Hart Kimball dean of the College of Business at Oregon State University. At Arizona State University (ASU), she was dean of the College of Technology & Innovation, vice provost of the ASU Polytechnic campus and the inaugural vice president and university dean of entrepreneurship and innovation. Prior to ASU, Dr. Montoya spent 15 years at North Carolina State University where she held the Zelnak Chair in Marketing & Innovation in the Poole College of Management. She received her doctorate in Marketing and Statistics and a BS in Applied Engineering Science from Michigan State University. Dr. Montoya's

entrepreneurial approach to problem-solving is driven by her research on innovation processes and strategies and influenced by her experiences as a former American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow. As provost, Dr. Montoya seeks to inspire students, faculty and staff; lead innovation efforts; and help the U become a top 10 public university with unsurpassed societal impact.



Ashley Reyes is the Manager of Student Financial Aid at the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE). She has worked in financial aid since 2005 at the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA) and USHE, primarily focused on college outreach and state financial aid program administration. She received a Bachelor's degree in Economics followed by a Master in Business Administration from the University of Utah. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter, son, and two dogs, most especially camping during the summer.



Jill Robinson, FAAC[®] has worked in Financial Aid for 16 years. She is currently working at Western Governors University as a Financial Aid Supervisor and recently earned the FAAC[®] designation. She loves being involved in both the state and regional associations and has volunteered for various committees including communications, conferences, professional development & training, RMASFAA Summer Institute, and leadership pipeline. She enjoys making connections and the networking opportunities volunteering provides. She has a sincere love for this profession and the students we serve.



Jenny Sass brings 15 years of sales and marketing experience to my529. She has a bachelor's degree in marketing communications, with a minor in business management. After eight years in advertising sales at the Star Tribune newspaper in Minneapolis, Jenny moved to Utah to continue working in sales-and education-oriented companies. For the last 9 years, Jenny has worked as an outreach/marketing specialist at my529 working on sponsorships, contests, education, business initiatives and much more.



Nadine Sevier is a financial aid coordinator at Utah Valley University working mainly with Gainful Employment and R2T4. She began in financial aid as a student employee in 2017 at Southern Utah University and has since worked in various roles with both federal aid and scholarships. She is currently active in RMASFAA as a Leadership Pipeline mentee and a Summer Institute faculty member. When she is not working, Nadine serves as an international sorority advisor and enjoys reading and running.



Rebecca Tyler is USU's senior School Certifying Official (SCO), entering her third year with the Veterans Resource Office. She works remotely from Indiana with her fiancé and daughter. She is trained to certify military affiliated students using the GI Bill or VA Benefits such as Post 9-11, Montgomery, Dependent Education Assistance, Yellow Ribbon, and Veteran Readiness & Employment. She helps students through the process from beginning to end to get their benefits. She also assists with National Guard Waivers, Purple Heart Waivers and any other VA benefits that help with tuition. She is a work site supervisor for USU's work study program and helps resolve any student or institution debt with the VA. Rebecca earned her undergraduate degree in Business Management and a master's in Coaching & Athletic Administration. She was a collegiate basketball coach for 11 years and enjoys watching sports, movies, spending time with family and playing games.



Special Agent Damian White started his career with the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, United States Border Patrol. In 2015, Special Agent White transitioned into the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General, conducting probable cause arrests, conducting field interviews, and instruction in multiple law enforcement disciplines. Special Agent White now serves as the U.S. Department of Education Phoenix Office Resident Agent in Charge.

2024-2025 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Christina Ayres



Christina is the Director of Federal Aid at Utah State University and the current President-Elect at UASFAA. She has worked in financial aid for nine years, during which she actively served and presented at UASFAA, RMASFAA, and NASFAA. As a first-generation college student, she achieved an extensive academic and professional background in journalism and psychology, with graduate degrees from Goethe University and Stanford School of Business. Driven by a deep passion for education, Christina aims to help institutions leverage their expertise in compliance and operations and, more than anything, help students achieve their academic goals. Outside work, she enjoys writing, photography, traveling, and cherishing time with her children and grandchildren.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jayson Matlock - MPA, FAAC[®]



Deputy Chief Financial Aid Director of Admissions, Financial Aid and Scholarships with SUU Jayson is a passionate Financial Aid Administrator who has worked in the field for 12 years. As a first-generation college student, he focuses on building connections and channels for advocacy to elevate the student experience. He has had the opportunity to participate in various committees that emphasize the importance of fortifying EDI efforts, improving employee retention and morale, and creating unique opportunities for advocacy to thrive. These opportunities have come institutionally, and through participation in UASFAA, RMASFAA, and NASFAA at crucial times. In his career he has found fulfillment in the ability to foster authentic connections that can create generational change in student lives, and to create space for staff and student voices to be heard.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Lauren Andalora - LSS-GB, FAAC[®]



Financial Aid Administrator II at Western Governors University Lauren has worked in financial aid for over 7 years and is passionate about process improvement with the student and staff experience in mind. She has served as the UASFAA Conference Planning Committee Chair for over a year and is a current Mentee in the RMASFAA Leadership Pipeline program. She recently earned the NASFAA FAAC[®] designation and looks forward to continuing to grow and support the FA profession through her work and association engagement. Beyond work, she enjoys hiking, traveling, gardening, cooking, fostering animals, and spending time with her partner and furry companions.

PAST-PRESIDENT

Kevin Howe



Kevin started his financial aid career in 2010 as a work-study student processing scholarship checks. Kevin has worked at large public institutions in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest and currently is the Senior Assistant Director of Training, Outreach & Communications at the University of Utah. He has a background in financial aid program operations, fund management, training, and outreach event organization. Kevin currently serves as the President of the Utah Association for Student Financial Aid Administrators (UASFAA). He is also a member of RMASFAA's faculty for Summer Institute, the past chairperson for RMASFAA's DEI committee, and currently serves as a mentor for NASFAA's Diversity Leadership Pipeline. When he is not at work, Kevin is an avid mountain-biker and hiker with his German/Australian Shepherd mix (Luger) and American Staffordshire Terrier mix (Lulu) fur daughters! Rain, snow, or shine, they love exploring the breathtaking, unique, and remote landscapes throughout Utah.

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