

NYSFAAA Region II Meeting  
December 13, 2006

Attendees:

Kathleen O'Connell	M & T Bank
Gladys Torres	Eastman School of Music
Irvana Yunvsley	Eastman School of Music
Tina Berds	Eastman School of Music
Darcie Stephens	Bank of America
Corrine Franklin	Rochester Institute of Technology
Dan Abbot	University of Rochester
Theodore Pagano	University of Rochester
Greg Sperr	University of Rochester
Marc Woolf	HESC
Heather Allen	SUNY Brockport
Chris Alanzo	SUNY Brockport
Nora Bell	SUNY Brockport
Diana Brunson	Roberts Wesleyan
Marcie Krause	Roberts Wesleyan
Steve Field	Roberts Wesleyan
John Smith	Roberts Wesleyan
Nancy VanZetta	Finger Lakes Community College
Kristen Reed	Roberts Wesleyan
Laura McCullan	Roberts Wesleyan
Cindy Kohlman	St. John Fisher College
Brian Levy	Student loan express
Karen Blankenburg	Wachovia
Abbey Linsner	Sallie Mae
Margaret Christian	U of R Med School
Dan Dunn	Student Capital Corp.
Dawn Langdon	HESC
Jerome St. Croix	MCC
Mark Schwartz	MCC
Anne Delplato	Nelnet
Katrina Delgrosso	Student Capital
Toby Dye	RIT
Melissa Everetts	RIT
Joe Bailey	GCC
Bill Mack	RIT
Archie Cureton	SUNY Geneseo
Robin Harrington	Alfred State
Stephanie Hoyer	Alfred State
Wendy Flemming	Alfred State
Laura Giglio	Alfred State
Andrea Mason	SUNY Geneseo

**Region 2 Meeting  
December 13, 2006**

Archie Cureton's opening remarks. Welcomed the NYSFAAA guests to SUNY Geneseo and thanking everyone for coming.

**Introductions:**

John Smith- Region 2 Chair led the meeting. Made note of Steve Dodds not being able to be our rep for Exec. Counsel. Andrea Mason will be the new Rep and will attend the next meeting. Thank you to Andrea for doing this and thank you to the others who volunteered. The election for the new representative will be held in the spring.

**Exec Counsel update:** (see above)

As of last meeting, Exec. Counsel wanted us to spend down our treasury, so that the state can have a better understanding and overview of our funds. We will address the state treasury when in need of funds for trainings, etc. We have always taken care of our selves and John is proud of our self-sufficiency. Because of our good treasury and our need to spend down our account we did not need to charge for the Christmas lunch.

**Treasury Report:**

Nora Bell- Treasurer.

Profit Sharing Check: \$1,750 recently received

Overall Balance: \$3,767.41

**Other Items:**

Nancy Vanzetta spoke about the HS Counselor Workshops that were held in November. November 30<sup>th</sup> at Brockport (65 attendees) and December 1<sup>st</sup> at Alfred state (50 attendees). Attendance was down and Nancy investigated. Each year Nancy has tried to retrieve names of schools that are missing from lists to be invited. The information of the names that Nancy received from State Ed is often incorrect, and so she would like to get the names for the invitation from another source- perhaps the counselor's organizations. The dates were OK, but the counselors would like an earlier date if possible. The committee received positive evaluations. Counselors were engaged and asked many questions during the presentations.

Note....The committee has problems getting people to participate or volunteers, especially when there is not a meeting to promote it. The volunteers do this year after year and we need to get more new blood and new volunteers involved in this committee.

John mentioned that volunteerism is an issue in all regions, and Dave Canaski has addressed his.

**Mentor Committee report:**

Margaret Christian and Abby Linsner stated that volunteerism is a large concern regarding the lack of participation at region meetings and then piggyback on getting on participating committees and volunteers. Made note of the lack of attendance at region meetings. The mentor committee's focus is to strive to land more participation and drive membership attendance at the meetings. Another goal of committee is encouraging the 155 members to attend the meetings and be active. We do not want volunteers and members to burn out. Mentoring committee and training committee would work hand in hand as well. Is participation and attendance low because of training topics? A list of mentees and mentors will be developed to draw people into the meetings. Dan Abbot, Laura Giglio, Anne Barton and Cindy Kohlman are Mentor Committee members. Abby is also working on a list of responsibilities for Mentors that are required to help mentees.

Region committee meetings for Region 3 (conference host) are trying to coordinate meetings together before or after the regional meeting. Assist in time management and commitments for committee members. The region is very open to suggestions and is looking to plan a kick off event. Funds are available from NYSFAAA for this event as well. If you need to change your name or date and you are not on the list please update it.

**Membership report:**

155 members - down from last year at 175 and in 2004 was 187. If members did not pay by 11/15 they will not be included in the number and have fallen off the list serve. If anyone needs assistance please contact Margaret Christian or Joan Warren to help. Joan supplied numbers by state by region.

John Smith noted that he first became involved in support staff workshop and noted that these are once a year events and that the commitment is not that much time from the office but a great way to meet people. He encouraged us to participate and bring it back to our colleagues.

**Support staff workshop:**

We are looking for new members and volunteers and are beginning to set up for this year's workshop. Please contact Karen Blankenburg if interested. The numbers of attendance have increased over the years and the need for participation has increased as well. Nancy Vanzetta made note that to be on a committee does not mean that you have to present or public speak.

**College Goal Sunday.**

Looking for volunteers for 4 hours on Feb. 11, 2007 to assist in a computer lab to lead the group through the FAFSA to work with students and parents on this afternoon. Great place to get your feet wet. If you know people who might be interested please forward on the email to invite them. You will also receive a t-shirt for volunteering. Parents and

Students will be provided with PIN. 30 floaters will be needed. Currently 8 have signed up. No need to present- this is a one on one event.

Presenters are needed for front of classrooms and have the FAFSA on line (6 presenters needed) and another presenter in Spanish. The target audience is underserved, underprivileged students.

**HESC Update:** Dawn Langdon. **HESC Update-December 2006**

### **Redesigned HESC Website**

HESC recently created a web environment with easier navigation, targeted content and quick links for students and parents. Upgrades to the site include separate pages for students, college and lender administrators and school counselors. Students and parents can also use “hot buttons” to quickly apply for TAP to sign their e-MPN.

### **Default Management/Prevention Grant**

HESC recently unveiled a new default prevention grant initiative for Creative default prevention proposals at NYS colleges.

The grants, ranging from \$2,500 to almost \$50,000 per school, will be awarded to selected colleges and universities for creative proposals designed to identify risks that contribute to student loan delinquency and to develop and implement new programs which have the best potential to significantly reduce the dollar amount of defaulted loans.

To be eligible for consideration, grant proposals must be submitted to HESC no later than Jan. 25, 2007. The awards are expected to be made by March 26.

HESC representatives will discuss details about the default prevention grant during the ongoing statewide HESC Administrative Workshops. Locations and dates of the workshops can be found at [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org).

For more information about the new grant, colleges are encouraged to visit HESC’s website at [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org), or contact Edward Gilbert at (518) [473-3528](tel:473-3528), [egilbert@hesc.org](mailto:egilbert@hesc.org).

## **Loan Processing Updates**

A new Web screen has been added to transaction processing giving schools the ability to update a student's loan period begin and end dates and grade level. For more information on this loan processing update including other enhancements, please review HESC Financial Aid Services Bulletin 2006-015.

## **New TAP Reporting Requirements**

**NEW TAP CREDITS EARNED REPORTING REQUIREMENT- October 10, 2006**

As a reminder, a new state law requires the president of the New York State Higher Education Services Corp. (HESC) to prepare and submit an annual report on the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) to the governor and Legislature by February 2007.

The annual report will include statistics regarding TAP recipients, including the number of:

- Students receiving TAP in each term;
- Students who were granted waivers by their institution;
- Students decertified for not meeting good academic standards;
- Credits earned by TAP recipients.

HESC collects most of the information needed for the annual report except the number of "credits earned by TAP recipients." HESC will collect this data from each school.

Starting in December, HESC will provide each school with a file of their undergraduate students certified for each term of the prior year. This new outgoing TAP file, [HE8501](#) Listing of Students who Receive TAP at a Specific School—Credits Earned Reporting (Outgoing), will be available electronically as a flat file or an Excel spreadsheet. The file will be compared to the school's system and create a return file with the credits earned data populated, or to produce a summary listing.

Schools will be required to submit TAP credits earned to HESC using one of the following three file format options:

[HE8502](#) Credits Earned Reporting for Students Receiving TAP--Detail Reporting (Incoming)

This file format will be used to report the number of credits earned for each student by term and academic year.

[HE8503](#) Credits Earned Reporting for All Students at a Specific School -- School-Provided Listing (Incoming)

This file format is for schools that wish to provide all students to HESC and HESC will perform the data matching.

[HE8504](#) Credits Earned Reporting For Students Receiving TAP-- Summary Reporting (Incoming)

This file format will be used to report the total number of students who received a certain number of credits by term and academic year.

(The City University of New York (CUNY) central administration will submit the number of TAP credits earned by recipients for all students at CUNY schools).

Note: On Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, HESC will hold a TAP Webcast to discuss the new school procedure regarding the reporting of TAP credits earned ( a copy of the HESC TAP Webcast Announcement is attached below).

Questions regarding TAP questions, including the new TAP Reporting Requirements, can be directed to HESC TAP Policy at 1-518-474-3552 or at [tappolicy@hesc](mailto:tappolicy@hesc).

### **TAP Processing Schedule**

The following schedule includes the anticipated date of Rosters, Remittance Advisories, Accounting Documents and Student Status Listing. If unable to meet the scheduled date of any of the listed reports, we will send an e-mail update.

## 2006 December Processing Schedule

December 1st

2006-07 Remittance Advice/Accounting Documents

2006-07 Student Status Listing

December 8th

2006-07 Remittance Advice

2006-07 Student Status Listing

December 13th

2005-06 Remittance Advice/Accounting Documents

2005-06 Student Status Listing

December 15th

2006-07 Remittance Advice/Accounting Documents

2006-07 Student Status Listing

December 19th

2006-07 Roster (All Terms)

December 22nd

2006-07 Remittance Advice

2006-07 Student Status Listing

December 27th

2005-06 Remittance Advice/Accounting Documents

2005-06 Student Status Listing

December 29th

2005-06 Roster

2006-07 Remittance Advice/Accounting Documents

2006-07 Student Status Listing

Files will be available for retrieval the following morning. Payments will be mailed or electronically transferred within three to five weeks of the date of the associated Roster or Accounting Documents.

Consolidated Scholarship Rosters (SU8069) and Consolidated Scholarship RAs (SU8071) are now available in On-demand on the dates listed above. These documents are for scholarships such as: WTC Memorial, Robert C. Byrd Scholarship, etc.

Information regarding these documents is available in FAS Bulletin 2006 - 010 and Appendix F of our Programs, Policies and Procedures manual. Reports will be available for printing and viewing by visiting the Transaction Center area of this web site. If you are authorized to access this data, you will be required to logon with your HESC User ID and password.

For assistance in obtaining a User ID and password contact HESC's Help Desk at 1-888-NYSHESC (1-888-697-4372).

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## **HESC TAP Webcast Announcement**

(Sent 11/30/06 to all TAP Eligible Colleges)

Dear Colleagues:

**Please mark your calendar for HESC's TAP Webcast, which will be held on December 11th from 1pm (EST) to 1:30pm.** The webcast will be held via "Sametime" web access. Limited conference call access will be available for those who cannot access "Sametime" or the web during the event. The webcast will focus on the new **TAP Reporting Provision** that requires HESC to prepare and submit a statistical TAP Report to the Governor and NYS Legislature each calendar year, and the mechanism that HESC will use to collect the data from TAP participating colleges.

HESC encourages all school colleagues to participate using "Sametime" web access, since we will be unable to accept live questions from colleagues who participate via conference call. To enter the "Sametime" meeting, you must visit <http://gator.hesc.com>. The HESC TAP Web Cast will be listed under "New/Active Meeting".

Prior to the December 11th meeting, school colleagues are encouraged to review the "Sametime" navigation instructions, and test meeting tutorial information, which are attached below. Conference call dial-in instructions for those who will be unable to participate via "Sametime" is also attached below.

As a reminder, **HESC will be reviewing the new TAP Reporting Requirements during the statewide HESC Administrative Workshops.** Visit [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org) for a list of workshop dates and locations.

Regards,

Patti Ronan Thompson

**December 11th HESC TAP Web Cast Conference Call Information for non-Sametime Participants**

For access to the conference, dial (518) 408-1500 (Capital District Area), or the toll-free number (866) 266-3697 if outside the local calling area.

Date of Conference:	December 11, 2006
Start Time of Conference:	1:00pm (EST)
End Time of Conference:	1:30pm
Conferee Code:	3161438 (followed by #)
Conference Name:	HESC TAP Reporting

Marc Wolf spoke about Admin workshops re; the new default prevention grant. Information is also available on the website at HES. Org. Changes were dictated to Hesc and preceded with his holiday poem.

**Lender/Vender Update:** Katrina Delgrosso received an email from Anne Barton whose husband had hip surgery. It went well but had a blood clot in his optic never but has trouble in his eye now. She says hello and is sorry to have missed the meeting but would appreciate being kept in our thoughts. Many tests to follow. The region sent a card on 12/18/06.

Address: 235 GrayStone Lane  
#1  
Rochester, NY 14618

**Governing Document for NYSFAAA:**

John Smith led a discussion about the Governing Document. A few points to speak about it. The document is too long and more of a personal statement and not a personal statement. Some items he agreed with and others did not. John feels it should be only 1 page and more of a professional pholipshoy and organizational pholidopsy. Needs to take this info back to exec counsel.

Darcy Stevens mentioned Dave's meeting with Lenders in June to discuss ethics. Dave has received push back on this Mission. No vote is scheduled at Exec council on Friday 12/15/06. There will be a committee of past NYSFAAA presidents to draft a new mission statement and right now is not a ready document. Do we want to put this to vote on membership when the mission statement comes out? Do we vote on it across the state rather than the exec counsel? Would we like open discussion? Periodic open feedback is needed. Andrea will be bringing the updated to exec council. Dave is reaching out to lenders as well to make sure all is appropriate. Can lenders live up to this? Statement of principles has been tabled until more information is received. Dave is researching how NYSFAAA is funded and lender support. Ethics committee met on 11/30 with recommendations for ethics relating to venders, conference, but everyone has received the recommendations. Part of what is driving this is the recent attract from MRU and government officials.

**Training Topics:** Hot Topics from the General Student aid Conference/EAC Conference. Andrea mentioned that they are looking for training topics even those from outside of the financial aid arena. This is an initiative to get members to come to the meetings and learn quality professional development.

*Corrine Franklin presented on Engage and influencing urban Teens.*  
This power point can be viewed at [www.meeproductions.com](http://www.meeproductions.com)

*Karen Blankenburg spoke about the FSA highlights and FSA forms.*  
All sessions from the conference are on the web and can be located at [www.ifap.ed.gov](http://www.ifap.ed.gov) under Conference Presentations.

*Andrea Mason presented on the ACG Grant.*  
This presentation can be viewed at [www.ifap.ed.gov](http://www.ifap.ed.gov) under conference presentations.  
Discussion ensued regarding the new grant.  
She also mentioned that Marc Wolf has offered to be on the training committee.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

February 15, 2007 Thursday. Location TBD

March 29, 2007 location TBD.

**Other news:**

\* Melissa Barber broke her ankle.

\* Nora Bell announced that Craig Gallagher at Brockport will be retiring him on 1/5/07. Reception will be at the Admissions Office from 3-5 Pm., on the Brockport University Campus. In lieu of gifts Craig is asking for donations to be made to the Guiding Eyes for the Blind. The address is:

\* Guiding Eyes for the Blind  
Genesee Region  
2035 Attica Rd.  
Darien, NY 14040

\* Bill Mack spoke about Novice 2007 training. It will be a shortened week and will begin on Sunday afternoon – Friday.

- NYSFAAA will be held in NYC in October 14- 17, 2007. Bill encouraged members to come into the city a day early. Block of rooms will be available for Saturday night and Wednesday night at conference rate to encourage members to enjoy the city.

Meeting adjourned and holiday lunch followed.