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# Oz-Sociated Press KASFAA

**HELPING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.**  
[WWW.KASFAA.ORG](http://WWW.KASFAA.ORG)

The KASFAA Oz-Sociated Press gives you the information you need about your organization while providing you with the entertainment you deserve. Check out our new [Video from the President](#). If that wasn't enough, try our new [KASFAA Photos](#). The viewing is private, so the password to see the photos is **40years**.



## Debt and Credit by Debbi Johanning

The [Greentree Gazette](#) reports that the average debt for the class of 2006 is roughly \$21,100. The average debt for 2006 is 8% higher than 2005, while starting salaries increased by 4% for the same time period. (Source: The Project on Student Debt)

Not financial aid-related, but something that I tell people on an almost-daily basis as it seems to be very important these days. Everyone is entitled to one free credit report from each of the three major bureaus ([Equifax](#), [Transunion](#), and [Experian](#)) each year.

Lots of Web sites offer these reports, but you should use the only official Web site: [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com). Order each one at a different time throughout the year to maximize the benefit of checking your credit report.

## Code of Conduct by Barbara Stapleton

In case you missed it, among all the other financial aid hubbub, Kansas Attorney General Paul Morrison announced in September that "Kansas schools are acting responsibly when providing lending options to students." See, everything we know, we just might have learned in kindergarten, including how to survive and thrive in Financial Aid - minding our manners.

general's office and he stated he was "pleased with the responses provided by Kansas schools. With their cooperation, we were able to get a good picture of the student lending practices at schools across Kansas." Morrison said, "Based on the information collected in our investigation, it does not appear that Kansas schools are engaging in the types of inappropriate or unethical lending practices identified by the New York Attorney General in his investigation of schools in New York and other states. However, there's always room for improvement."

As outlined in the Kansas Attorney General's press release, "the "Code of Conduct" includes guidelines for preferred lenders, revenue sharing, gifts, lender disclosure, board memberships and lender identification. The goal is to prevent unethical practices in the future, as well as creating standards for schools to follow."

According to Morrison, all the schools which received investigation letters responded to the attorney

Read the Attorney General Paul Morrison's [Code of Conduct](#).

## Weddings, Hirings, Promotions, Retirements, Births, and Birthdays

Mandy Peterson (Regional Training Executive for USA Funds Services) & Scott Sponholtz were married on May 12, 2007.

Charly Arnold (Financial Aid Counselor from Newman University) will be married last Saturday to Brady Smith in Neosho, Missouri.

Russell E. Kuhns (Vice President of Debt Counseling Works) announces that he welcomed their first grandchild and she is great. She arrived on Feb 6th of this year and now lives full-time with us. Her name is Audrey Elyse Kuhns.

McPherson College welcomes Steven Frick as the new director of Financial Aid.

Danielle Monhollon is the new administrative assistant in the KBOR office. She has been working in this position on a part-time basis since last March and is full-time. She also happens to be Kaye Stewart's granddaughter.

Shanda Mull joins Butler Community College as a Financial Aid Officer. Myrna Perkins was promoted to Assistant Dean of Student Services/Director of Financial Aid.

After 19 years at Fort Scott Community College, Bonnie Quick has retired as of August 31, 2007! She will be getting some much needed R & R while having fun times with her grandsons. Lillie Grubb has taken her place as Director and Niki Davis is the new Assistant Director.

Julie Cooper will be retiring as Director of Financial Aid from Johnson County Community College on November 30, 2007.

Cindy Kleinsorge celebrated her 50th birthday in July with family and many friends from the office. It was a fun party!! Deb Casey also celebrated her 50th birthday in August. They can start wearing those red hats now.

Barbara Leavitt is now the Associate Dean of Students at Allen County Community College. Vicki Curry is the Financial Aid Director and Nicole Peters was hired as the Assistant Director. Anne Baer is the new Director of Outreach Student Services.

Johnson County Community College hired Jennifer Flynn, (retired nurse) as one of our advisors. She can be so helpful when the students or staff faint from the pressure! Ruthie Anderson moved from advising to processing to see how the other half lives.

The University of Kansas hires five new Assistant Directors: Clinton Everhart, Jeremy Early, Sara Vancil, Justin Brown, Jamie Harwood. Laina Edwards is a new Financial Aid Counselor. Debbi Johanning is the new Loan Coordinator. Patrick Wilbur is the new Scholarship Coordinator. Jaclyn Hackathorn is the new Senior Administrative Associate.

Nick Prewett, Assistant Director at the University of Kansas, had a baby girl (Madilynn Olivia, 7lbs. 7oz) on August 29th.

Justin Brown, Assistant Director at the University of Kansas, was married to Jennifer Kathryn Meyer on June 9, 2007 in Overland Park, Kansas.

Southwestern College welcomes two new staff additions to their Wichita, Professional Studies branch. They are Jae O'Neal and Alex Zarchan.

Lina Ossiander, from KBOR, is going to be a grandmother for the third time at the end of October. She is looking forward to a new grandson, who will join another grandson, Cayden, and granddaughter, Brooke. Lina says that being a grandmother is amazing!

From CoreFirst Bank and Trust, Erika (and Bryan) Poppelreiter had a baby boy on June 27, 2007. His name is Peyton.

### Gratitude to KASFAA from LaVerne Schmidt:

KASFAA is truly one big family. When we lost our daughter-in-law in a tragic car accident back in April, I discovered how true this is. We have received many cards, letters, and phone calls from the KASFAA membership. You will never know how much we appreciate your continued support. Your thoughts and prayers have made each day easier. A Big THANK YOU goes out to each and every member for your care during this time.

If you have membership news for KASFAA, please contact Kathy Blau at [kathy.blau@gcccks.edu](mailto:kathy.blau@gcccks.edu).

**New Member**  
**Slideshows**

# Johnny Who? Mindset List of 2011

by Barbara Stapleton

They never saw Johnny Carson live on television. MTV(r) has never featured music videos. The Berlin Wall has not divided Berlin since they've been alive. For many of us, Johnny Carson, MTV, and the Berlin Wall are touchstones of culture - but not for the class of 2011.

At the beginning of each academic year, Beloit College in Wisconsin prepares a "mindset list" for the entering freshmen class. In September, they released a 70-item list for the class of 2011 that serves to remind us how temporary many things are that we take for granted. The Beloit College's Mindset List may also remind a few of us how quickly time passes.

This year's list is a bit "tech-heavy". Today's freshmen grew up surfing the Web and their preferred means of communication is texting. Facebook<sup>(tm)</sup> and MySpace<sup>(tm)</sup> are also essential ways to "self-advertise," offering places to share photos and a bit of autobiography. However, there are some interesting bits of cultural trivia also: Bottled water is now ubiquitous; today, being "lame" means acting dumb, and not being disabled; and "Time" has always worked with "Warner," for example.

[Beloit College's Mindset List® for the Class of 2011.](#)



## Teacher Who Became President

by Barbara Stapleton

Recently, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings honored President Lyndon Baines Johnson in a ceremony officially renaming the U.S. Department of Education building at 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. in Washington, D.C., as the Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building.

This "teacher who became president" served his country as a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy during World War II, as a member of both houses of Congress, as Vice President of the United States, and as the 36th President of the United States.

In 1965, President Johnson signed the Higher Education Act (P.L. 89-329), which was the first program approved by the U.S. Congress for scholarships to undergraduate students.

Read the Department of Education [announcement](#).



## Happy Birthday KASFAA!

by Mark Hudson

Happy Birthday to KASFAA, Happy Birthday to KASFAA...You get the idea. The Fall Conference held in Hutchinson, Kansas October 10-12, was a fantastic celebration of KASFAA's 40 years.

There were many wonderful sessions and presenters as well as host of fun activities. There was a fun and exciting game night in which one could play a hand of Texas Hold 'Em, partake in Speed Scrabble, and even play a game of "clean" spin the bottle (I noticed Anthony Lyons stayed at this table all night). KASFAA members danced the Macarena, name the Brady Children, and even told "clean" jokes.

On the final night, we found ourselves out on the dance floor and even singing renditions of their favorite songs. If you felt the courage to sing "Love Shack" in front of your peers, this was the place to do it. Besides all of the fun, KASFAA also had a fundraiser for a wonderful cause. KASFAA members spun the wheel in a game of chance to win prizes and donate money to the Greensburg, Kansas Future Fund to benefit education.

All in all, it was a terrific celebration of a successful past. Now as we look to the future, the **Spring Conference in Topeka is April 2-4, 2008**. See you all soon!



# Congress Passes College Cost Reduction Access Act

by Barbara Stapleton

President Bush recently signed into law HR 2669 - the [College Cost Reduction Access Act](#) - which lowers the cost of borrowing for students and increases the amount of annual Pell Grants.

HR 2669 is a budget reconciliation bill agreed to by the House and Senate that achieves \$21 billion in savings, with \$750 million earmarked for deficit reduction and the remainder being used for increasing funding Title IV, Title III, and Title V Higher Education Act (HEA) programs, as well as new programs.

For students, the most significant provision of the legislation is a reduction in interest rates for Stafford loans. The interest rates will be gradually reduced from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent over a five-year span.

The rates, however, will return to 6.8 percent in 2012 unless Congress decides otherwise.

Pell Grants also will be increased from \$4,310 a year to \$4,700 in 2008, and eventually to \$5,400 over the next five years. The legislation also expands eligibility for year-round grants to part-time college students.

Expansion of Pell Grants and the reduction of student loan interest rates will be paid for, in part, by two provisions in the budget reconciliation bill that directly impact guarantors. These provisions are:

- A reduction in the account maintenance fee (AMF) from 0.10 percent to 0.06 percent. The AMF is what the Department of Education pays a guarantor quarterly as a percentage of the amount of the

original principle balance outstanding of loans in a guarantor's portfolio that have not defaulted.

- A reduction in the collection retention rate from 23 percent to 16 percent. The retention rate is the percentage of collected loan funds that a guarantor can retain to offset the costs incurred in collection of defaulted loans.

The legislation also provides for income-based repayment plans for hardship and poverty cases, and allows for new tuition assistance for students who become teachers in public schools located in high-poverty areas. Another provision increases the length of student loan deferments from three to six years.

# KASFAA Training

by Debbi Johanning

The KASFAA training committee has been a busy group this year. Fall 2007 brought three training opportunities in which KASFAA members could participate, both as students and trainers.

RMAFSA's Decentralized training was held the first day of the fall KASFAA conference. The topic was "Counseling Students and Families-Tackling Financial Issues," presented by Brenda Maigaard, Director of Financial Aid at the University of Kansas, and a guest from South Dakota, Monica Gannon, who is the Assistant Director of Financial Aid at National American University.

Newcomers to KASFAA were encouraged to attend the Neophyte workshop, presented by Jeanne Mott and Robert Gamez.

Attendees learned all about EFC and the elements that make up the formula and then got the opportunity to hand-calculate for EFC. Participants also learned that a year's worth of new regulations can make a really big difference in a family's EFC!

High school counselor training is scheduled for seven sites from November 7-9. Knowledgeable KASFAA trainers will present the sessions to help "Demystify Financial Aid from EFC Formula to Packaging" for the high school counselors.

If you missed any of the training opportunities this fall, there are still options available next spring. The spring 2008 Support Staff workshop will feature one of the most popular KASFAA sessions of all time, "Getting Things Done,"

presented by Linda Oldham Burns, Gail Palmer, and Jennifer Hill. If you struggle with the daily tasks of work, home, or both, this session is for you. Let these organized ladies teach you the secrets of how to get more done.

More information will be available through [KASFAA-L](#), so make sure you have subscribed.

A Neophyte training session will be held at the spring 2008 KASFAA conference. The topic has not been decided yet and will likely be dependent upon changes in federal programs or reauthorization.

If you enjoy training others, please consider sharing your knowledge by joining the training committee. They are always looking for a few good men and women!

# Fed Reg Ch..Ch..Ch..Ch..Changes! by Tanya McGee

Wanting to maintain some involvement in KASFAA during the 2007-2008 academic year, I decided to volunteer to participate in the Newsletter Committee. Let me be honest. I was hoping for committee work that would have minimal requirements, yet would keep me still actively involved. I knew what laid ahead of me for the next year in my work for the office. Something many of you have done recently ...set up, test, contribute blood, sweat and tears, to finally implement a new system! I wanted something that wouldn't add to my stress level.

However, the assignment given to me by the Newsletter Chair was to compose an article on Federal Regulations. Let me be honest again... YUCK! Why must this topic be assigned to me? Isn't there someone else with more expertise and knowledge on recent federal regulation changes or proposed legislation? I am sure this person exists, but you got me instead.

Sometimes I feel it is hard to keep up with all the proposed legislative changes. Perhaps you have shared some of these same feelings:

- Wake me up when they actually pass something.
- Another Continuing Resolution! This has got to be a record!
- Everybody's got an agenda and they all want to sponsor a bill, so we have a myriad of proposed laws
- Agendas include "I want to be your next President"

If you share the first sentiment, then it is time for me to wake you up. Congress has passed recent legislation and the President has signed it into law on September 27, 2007. Introducing the "College Cost Reduction and Access Act" (CCRAA) or P.L. 110-84.

These amendments became effective October 1, 2007 unless specifically stated. Some, not all, of the changes include:

Pell Grant funding authority extended through 2017 with appropriation increases and increases to the amount of the maximum award.

Creation of the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant, which provides \$4000 a year to be used for tuition and fees (and in some cases housing for institutionally-owned housing). There is a service requirement for TEACH Grant recipients and if the service obligation is not met, the grant will be treated as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan.

A gradual interest rate reduction on subsidized Stafford loans for undergraduate students over the next 5 years. Student Loan Deferments for members of the armed forces and Income-Based Repayment changes.

Reductions to lenders and guarantors. Some of the reductions dealt with the amount of insurance rates paid by the federal government to lenders on defaulted loans.

Student Income Protection Allowance increases through the 2012-2013 academic year and an increase to the income level (from \$20,000 to \$30,000) to qualify for Auto-Zero EFC highlight some need analysis changes.

Implementation of a competitive Parent PLUS loan auction is to be in effect on July 1, 2009 in each state.

Creation of the College Access Challenge Grants will be spent on efforts to increase college access and success with underserved students.

Funding targeted for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and minority serving institutions, such as Native American or Tribal Colleges.

NASFAA has created a [resource Web page](#) if you wish to read additional information about CCRAA.

Other newsworthy items include the permanent extension of the HEROES Act, which was originally enacted in 2003, and a recent Dear Colleague Letter (GEN-07-07) regarding enrollment requirements for SMART Grant recipients.

As far as reauthorization goes, there is some movement. The Senate has unanimously passed legislation reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, and the House has introduced a reauthorization bill (The College Access and Opportunity Act) by Howard "Buck" McKeon (R-CA).

It has been said that House Democrats will release their own reauthorization bill soon. But, alas! It seems like we have been talking about reauthorization forever! And we have...ever since Robert Gamez was KASFAA President in 2001-2002, which has continued on down the line of our esteemed KASFAA presidents. Let's just hope "feeling #2" from above doesn't continue for much longer! But then gain...what's another 4 to 5 years of continuing resolutions?!

## Your KASFAA Newsletter Committee

Ben Kohl – Chairperson  
Kathy Blau – Vice-Chairperson  
Mark Hudson  
Debbi Johanning  
Tanya McGee  
Barbara Stapleton