

Committee: Government Relations

Commissioner/Board Position: Paula Rafferty, Rep-at Large Organizational Services Year 2008-09

Committee Members:

Laurie Schiavonne, Tri-Chair, Virginia Community College System  
Pam Freund Tri-Chair, Aviation Institute of Maintenance/Centura College  
Barry Simmons, Tri-Chair, Virginia Tech

**Standard Stated Goal 1: Initiate, foster and maintain relationships with the Virginia legislative staff, State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV) and other parties with vested interests in the administration of student financial aid.**

**Objective 1** (How the committee plans to achieve the stated goal): *Involve the SCHEV contact to VASFAA in Government Relations Committee meetings/discussions to discuss state and federal legislative issues relating to financial aid.*

**Status Reports of Objective 1** (Please report your progress toward achieving the stated goals- this is where the committee provides updates to the Board, including any suggestions or modifications to the goal and/or the Strategic Plan): *Due to hardships for 2 of 3 of the tri-chairs, the committee has not made progress toward this goal. This has not changed in this final reporting period.*

**Objective 2** (How the committee plans to achieve the stated goal): *Foster and maintain relationships with Virginia legislative staff.*

**Status Reports of Objective 2** (Please report your progress toward achieving the stated goals- this is where the committee provides updates to the Board, including any suggestions or modifications to the goal and/or the Strategic Plan):

July 23, 2009 Report: Laurie is a member of the Financial Aid Strategic Team which was created by SCHEV and meets/interacts with SCHEV regularly to discuss concerns and issues relevant to SCHEV and the VA colleges and universities. Laurie is also regularly involved in discussions with SCHEV regarding the Transfer Grant Program as part of her role with the VCCS. She will continue to monitor SCHEV activity in this capacity.

**Standard Goal 2:** Disseminate relevant federal and state financial aid legislative issues to VASFAA membership and other constituencies.

**Objective 1** (How the committee plans to achieve the stated goal): *Provide relevant and timely information to the VASFAA membership through the VASFAA listserv.*

**Status Reports of Objective 1** (Please report your progress toward achieving the stated goals- this is where the committee provides updates to the Board, including any suggestions or modifications to the goal and/or the Strategic Plan): July 23, 2009 Report: *The committee has continued to distribute, via the listserv, information to the membership on a variety of topics. These have included updates on late breaking regulatory changes, HEOA guidance and updates, changes to the FAFSA, the Post 911 GI Bill, FTC Red Flag Rules, FERPA and more. The committee also provided information in the area of professional and intellectual development (points to ponder).*

**Budget:**

Item (Broad general categories): Cost-*The Government Relations Committee incurred no costs during the 2008-09 academic year.*

Board Approved Amount: \$0

Date: July 23, 2009