**NeASFAA Strategic Directions**

NeASFAA exists to:

***PROMOTE PROFESSIONALISM***

**Develop professionalism among aid officers of Nebraska – to include fostering and promoting professional standards, effectiveness and recognition. (Bylaws, History, P&P)**

- Annually examine roles and functions of Board and committees with an emphasis on efficiency, sustainability, representation, and cost savings opportunities; evaluate annual accomplishments with regards to association’s mission and report to membership at year end. (Board of Directors and Committees)

- Expand transitional meeting/retreat to encourage group development, goal setting, role definitions, and expectations. (President Elect)

- Demonstrate commitment to ethical principles by having Board and committee chairs annually sign ethics statement and conflict of interest statement. (President)

- Promote leadership and mentorship opportunities at state, regional, and national levels. (President)

- Provide training opportunities for members to practice federal and state advocacy efforts. (PDRC)

***COORDINATE AND NETWORK***

**Provide a means to bring together all aid officers, counselors and public and private agencies for the discussion of common problems related to the distribution of financial aid to students. (Bylaws, History, P&P)**

- Promote activities for members in similar financial aid roles (e.g., Directors, Associate Directors, Counselors, SIS administrators) or functional areas (e.g., Loans, Counseling/Outreach, Scholarships, Verification, Pell) to discuss issues that impact their work and facilitate new connections. (PDRC)

- Initiate discussion of current financial aid topics and issues with an emphasis on inclusion. (Sector Representatives)

- Support connections between association leadership and leadership of other state associations for benchmarking and idea generation. (President)

**Promote and facilitate coordination of student financial aid plans and programs between and among financial aid administrators, post-secondary counselors and public and private agencies. (Bylaws)**

- Evaluate relevant financial aid research topics and explore effective and meaningful ways to communicate them to members that can be translated to policy and practice. (Board of Directors)

- Direct high school counselors, parents, and students to available financial aid resources and communicate them effectively. (Membership Connections)

***TRAIN & DEVELOP***

**Stimulate, promote and encourage leadership, continuing education, conferences and other related activities for aid officers. (Bylaws, History, P&P)**

- Welcome new members to encourage volunteerism and leadership. (PDRC and Membership Connections)

- Encourage participation in state, regional, and national association training and leadership opportunities. (Board of Directors)

- Annually review and update timelines for each office and committee. (Board of Directors)

- Provide guidance for maintaining leadership and volunteer continuity. (Membership Connections)

**Provide training for aid officers. (History, P&P – indirectly in Bylaws)**

- Provide effective, timely, and relevant training. The Board will play an integral role in advising PRDC on training needs and session topics. (PDRC)

***INFLUENCE LEGISLATION***

**Influence federal and state legislation dealing with student financial programs and provide an avenue for dissemination of ideas and concerns of students and administrators in financial aid problems. (History, P&P)**

- Ensure training and awareness on the legislative process. (PDRC)

- Advocate for the needs of students on the state and federal level. (SFRC)

- Assist with preparing and providing testimony at committee hearings on behalf of NeASFAA when relevant bills are being considered. (SFRC)

- Develop briefing documents and talking points for members who meet with lawmakers. (SFRC and Board of Directors)