



2021-2022

The Illinois Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Inc.

ILASFAA CANDIDATE ACCEPTANCE

Name of Candidate: Kelly Owens

Candidate is running for the office of: Executive Vice President

Candidate's EDUCATION background -- degree, institution, year (year is optional):

I received my Associates of Applied Science degree in Executive Accounting from Northwestern Business College in 2005. I have worked at Elgin Community College for almost 14 years and started in the Financial Aid profession in 2003.

Candidate's PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (please list current position first):

I am currently the Training & Professional Development chair for 2020/2021. I have also been the Northern Regional Coordinator (19/20), a co-chair for Training & Professional Development (18/19), have served on the Conference Program committee for the last 5 years, served on the Awards and Legislative committees, and have assisted at conferences as both a presenter and a moderator.

Candidate's PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – years and activities:

This current academic year I have helped organize monthly Brown Bag discussions and have organized two NASFAA credentials for the ILASFAA membership. I have also helped plan the Fall workshops for ILASFAA in 18/19, assisted with the ILASFAA conference program for the last 5 years, and I have attended the ILASFAA conferences since 2007. At Elgin Community College, I serve on the Emergency Management Team and Hay Group committees.

What contribution do you envision ILASFAA making to the profession?

Knowledge and training. I feel that as an organization we have endless possibilities and opportunities to educate not only fellow colleagues in the FA profession, but also other educators, college staff in various areas, parents, and students. We see and hear what students and colleagues have to deal with, so we can suggest ways to improve our processes and policies whether it be at a school, state, or federal level and to always strive for efficiency.

How would you support financial aid professionals as we move into the future for ILASFAA?

Honestly, anyway I can. I am a hard worker and a team player, so stepping up and helping where needed I feel would be beneficial to all. I also am a firm believer that communication is the key to having successful events, work relationships, and support within our organization.